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للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

# Inscription ceremony of the World Heritage Site of Shahr-i Sokhta

## Remarks

by

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**President of the General Conference  
Vice-Minister of Education  
of the People's Republic of China**

Shahr-i Sokhta (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
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Honourable Ministers and Governor,  
Excellences,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to be present here today to take part in this important celebration.

First of all, I wish to extend my congratulations for Iran's success in implementing the 1972 World Heritage Convention since its ratification 39 years ago. I would also like to sincerely thank the Government of Iran for its continued efforts in the World Heritage nomination process.

In June this year, at the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee in Doha, Qatar, Shahr-i Sokhta was inscribed on the World Heritage List. It is the seventeenth World Heritage property in Iran among the one thousand and seven other properties from one hundred and sixty one countries.

While celebrating this remarkable achievement, I think that we should not lose sight of many challenges, especially its protection and management. I would hope that the World Heritage listing would inspire your government to take up the efforts for effective protection of the cultural heritage site, with more techniques and methods and a comprehensive Management Plan.

Honourable Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The aim of the World Heritage Convention is to safeguard heritage of "Outstanding Universal Value" for future generations. For over 42 years, countries all over the world have been working in a spirit of international cooperation towards the listing and protection of cultural and natural heritage properties. To pursue this objective, it is important that the peoples of each nation, the decision-makers at international, national and local levels, and especially with the participation of local communities, all to be mindful of the wealth and diversity of our world's heritage.

Once again, I thank the Government of Iran for making a commitment to protect their heritage for the benefit of humankind.

It is therefore a great honour for me, as President of the General Conference of UNESCO, to present to you, Honourable Ministers, the Certificate for the inscription of Shahr-i Sokhta on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Thank you.

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