#### **Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties**

### **KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

#### Introduction

Year of ratification 1995

#### Organisation submitting the report

National Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic for UNESCO

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720040 Bishkek.

Kyrgyz Republic

## I.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

#### The status of national inventories

 New national inventories have been prepared according to the government regulation No. 568 on 8 August 2002. There are about 4000 monument in total, 1,897 monuments have passports and 583 monuments have national significance

#### The preparation of a Tentative List

6 sites, revised in 2001

#### Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations submitted to date.
- \* Assistance of the WH Fund for the nomination of Issyk-Kul under preparation.

# I.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

#### Integration of heritage and planning

- Laws on Culture and Protection and Use of Historical-Cultural Heritage were adopted in June 1999.
- Cultural heritage management mechanisms are being introduced.
- The regional development programme Osh-3000 is part of the 10 year programme for the Osh region and has included the identification of all monuments.

#### Participation of local communities

 A pilot project led by the National Academy of Sciences, Ministries of Education & Culture and Labour & Social Protection, and GTZ in 1997-98 in the protected site of Uzgen aimed at sensitising the local community to safeguard cultural heritage.

#### **Tourism Development**

 The monuments of Issyk-Kul and Osh and the petroglyphs of Cholpon-Ata have been included in national programmes for tourism development.

#### Financial measures and budget allowance

 The annual budget estimate for cultural and natural heritage is approx US\$62,000. The Ministry of Finance makes an allocation of approx US\$8,000, which is not always disbursed.

#### **Professional**

- Training in restoration-related professions was provided as part of the Uzgen project in 1997-98.
- There is a Chair in Restoration & Conservation in the University of Construction, Architecture & Transport (first graduation in 2003), a Chair in Archaeology & Ethnology at the Kyrgyz National University (6 graduates per year), and a Chair in History & Culture at the Slavonic University (15 graduates per year).
- Some experts in cultural heritage have received international training in 2002-2003 (Trainings in Kazakhstan (Otrar), Iran, Pakistan)

#### New and improved services

- All monuments on the Tentative List have legally defined protected areas and buffer zones.
- On-site information has been improved at Sulaiman-Too, Shakh-Fazil, Uzgen and Burana Tower.
- National seminar on enhancing awareness of the World Heritage Convention in 2002.

#### Issues to be addressed

- A continued need to improve public awareness of the value of monuments on the Tentative List.
- Problems with buffer zones and protected areas are not solved at the national level.
- Co-ordination of works by national authorities.
- Synthesis of National Law and World heritage Convention.
- Capacity building and training in heritage protection.
- Limited financial, technical & laboratory resources.

## I.4 International co-operation and fund raising

#### **National and International Fund Raising**

- TV marathons have been held to raise funds to benefit and promote properties such as Sulaiman-Too, Shakh-Fazil, Uzgen and Burana Tower.
- Projects have been supported by the governments of Germany, Japan, USA, Turkey, France & Russia, Norway and by the Soros Foundation.
- \* International Assistance from WHF as follows:

2000-01 \$5,100 Preparatory, Cholpon-Ata

2002 \$10,000 Promotional, WH Convention

 \* Extra-budgetary funds mobilised by the UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage include:

2001-05 US\$745,000 (Tentative List) Project preparation mission, Chuy Valley, Silk Roads (Japan Funds in trust)

#### I.5 Education, information and awarenessbuilding

#### Information and awareness measures

- Popular scientific literature, booklets & TV broadcasts have been produced.
- Recent scientific research on sites on the Tentative List has been incorporated into school curricula and higher education institutions.

#### I.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

#### **Conclusions and proposed actions**

Under the Presidential Programme for Culture up to 2010 the priorities are: (i) improvement of legislation; (ii) legalisation & identification of cultural heritage; (iii) identification of protection zones for sites on the Tentative List; (iv) elaboration of plans for the historic cities of Bishkek, Uzgen, Karakol and Osh; (vi) preparation of nomination dossiers; (vii) preparation of sites for cultural tourism development.