



**PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE
ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE
CONVENTION**

SECTION II

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

**State Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic
Property Name: Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements Within
The Champasak Cultural Landscape**

PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- ❖ to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- ❖ to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- ❖ to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful every one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

Benefits for the States Parties

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional co-operation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

Conclusion

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

**PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE
WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION
(FORMAT)**

SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

II.1 Introduction

- a. State Party
- b. Name of World Heritage property
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- f. Date of report
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party

II.2. Statement of significance

II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity

II.4. Management

II.5. Factors affecting the property

II.6. Monitoring

II.7. Conclusions and recommended action

- a. Main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above)
- b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)
- c. Proposed future action/actions
- d. Responsible implementing agency/agencies
- e. Timeframe for implementation
- f. Needs for international assistance.

II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

II.9. Documentation attached

II.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): Lao People's Democratic Republic	001
b.	Name of World Heritage property: Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements Within The Champasak Cultural Landscape	002
c.	<p>In order to locate the property precisely, please attach a topographic map showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule. The map should be an original print and not be trimmed. The site boundaries should be shown on the map. In addition they can be submitted in a detailed description, indicating topographic and other legally defined national, regional, or international boundaries followed by the site boundaries.</p> <p>The State Parties are encouraged to submit the geographic information in digital form so that it can be integrated into a Geographic Information System (GIS).</p> <p>On this questionnaire indicate the geographical co-ordinates to the nearest second (in the case of large sites, towns, areas etc., give at least 3 sets of geographical co-ordinates):</p> <p>Centre point:</p> <p>North-west corner:</p> <p>South-east corner:</p>	003
d.	Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable): 14 December 2001	004
e.	<p>Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Organization(s) / entity(ies): Ministry of Information and Culture, Department of Museums and Archeology</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: Thongsa Sayavongkhamdy</p> <p>Address: Ministry of Information and Culture, Setthathirath Road</p> <p>City and post code: Vientiane P. O. Box 122</p> <p>Telephone: (856-21) 212 423</p> <p>Fax: (856-21) 212 408, (856-21) 212 401</p> <p>E-mail: Thongsas@hotmail.com</p>	005
f.	Date of preparation of the report: 5 March 2003	006
g.	<p>Signature on behalf of the State Party</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Name: : H.E. Mr. Somsavat LENGSAVAD</p> <p>Function: Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR</p>	007

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.2. Statement of significance

<p>At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription: Cultural criteria: i – ii – iii – iv – v – vi : Criteria C (iii) (iv) (vi) Natural criteria: i – ii – iii – iv</p>	008
<p>Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription? NO</p>	009
<p>If YES, please explain:</p>	010
<p>Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination: - Criterion (iii) The Temple Complex of Wat Phou bears exceptional testimony to the cultures of South East Asia, and in particular to the Khmer Empire which dominated the region in the 10th-14th centuries. - Criterion (iv) The Wat Phou complex is an outstanding example of the integration of symbolic landscape of great spiritual significance to its natural surroundings. - Criterion (vi) Contrived to express the Hindu version of the relationship between nature and humanity, Wat Phou exhibits a remarkable complex of monuments and other structures over an extensive area between river and mountain, some of outstanding architecture, many containing great works of art, and all expressing intense religious conviction and commitment.</p>	011
<p>Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):</p>	012
<p>Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:</p>	013

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

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II.2. continued

	<p>Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vat Phou is significant in terms of history of religion Vat Phou was the centre of Hinduism in the region from the 5th c. onwards as evidenced by number of inscriptions found at the site and at other religious sites of the same period. For example, a stone inscription found at Prah Vihear stated that before constructing the temple a stone was to be brought from Vat Phou to the site in order to receive sanctity from the mother temple. - Vat Phou was significant in terms of history because it revealed the remote era when several kingdoms started to build their strength and at that time the unified Kingdom of Lane Xang was still to be founded. - Harmony between built elements and nature is exceptional at Vat Phou. 	014
	<p>For the extension of a property or the inclusion of additional criteria a re-submission of the property may be considered. This might be regarded as necessary in order to recognize cultural values of a natural World Heritage property, or vice-versa, become desirable following the substantive revision of the criteria by the World Heritage Committee or due to better identification or knowledge of specific outstanding universal values of the property. Should a re-nomination of the property be considered? NO</p> <p>If YES, please explain:</p>	015
		016
	<p>Are the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone (still) adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values: YES</p>	017

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>If NO, please explain why not, and indicate what changes should be made to the boundaries of the property and / or its buffer zone (please indicate these changes also on a map to be attached to this report):</p>	018
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II.2. continued

	<p>Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone? NO</p>	019
	<p>If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:</p>	020

II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

	<p>Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription? YES</p>	021
	<p>If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:</p>	022
	<p>What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation):</p>	023

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.3. continued

	<p>Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? NO</p> <p>If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?</p>	<p>024</p> <p>025</p>
	<p>Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future? NO</p> <p>If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:</p>	<p>026</p> <p>027</p>

II.4. Management

	<p>How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Legal (YES)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Contractual (NO)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Traditional (YES)</p>	<p>028</p>
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.4. continued

	<p>Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal: National legislation and the Management Plan - Traditional: Traditions of keeping worship place in the best conditions as for its function and for devotion to religion. 	029
	<p>In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient? YES</p>	030
	<p>Please explain:</p>	031
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National, provincial and municipal authorities enforce national legislation; its efficiency depends on various factors such as clear and wide explanation of the regulations and strong commitment of officials and public. - Traditional character is based on belief and devotion to the religious sites as expressed by the population. 	
	<p>Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministerial Ordinance No. 1375/NE dated 14/6/1978; concerning the protection of antiquities, historic buildings and religious properties. - Decree of the Provincial Executive Board Committee concerning the rules on Preservation and Restoration of Vat Phou Monuments and Associated Sites No. 38/PG/88, dated 11/10/1988. This is the most important legal document because it has been drafted in collaboration with local authorities and population and enacted by local provincial authorities. Objectives and content of the text are also very clearly stated. - Constitution dated 15 August 1991; article 19 mentions that the Government is mandated to take care of the cultural heritage of the nation. - Penal Code, No. 29/NA date 23/12/89. Article 103 referring to sanctions to those who have violated laws and regulations concerning cultural heritage. 	032

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministerial Ordinance No. 139/IC dated 22/3/1990; concerning conservation of cultural heritage in particular museums, provincial exhibition halls, antiquities, places of worship, historic sites, landscape sites, art works and evidence of the recent historic period. - Ministerial Order to all Provincial Information and Culture Offices No. 502/IC dated 1/8/1991; to carry out inventory of antiquities, historic buildings and landmarks within their territory. - Ministerial Order to all Provincial Information and Culture Offices to inspect and supervise antiques and handicraft shops, No. 350/IC dated 29/6/1993. - Letter of Minister of Information and Culture to Minister of Communications, Transports, Posts and Constructions No. 270/IC dated 28/5/1993; requesting collaboration to preserve mansions and houses of colonial style. - Letter of Minister of Information and Culture to Minister of Interior and Minister of Finances No. 753 and 754/IC dated 16/10/1993; to request Police and Customs officers respectively to combat illicit traffic of antiquities in particular at border check points. - Government Decree on National List of Cultural Heritage, No. 174 dated 13/11/1993. - Government Decree No. 176 dated 24/10/1993; appointing the National Committee of Preservation of Historical, Cultural and Natural Heritage of the nation. - Ministerial Circular No. 943/IC dated 30/8/1995; to all ministries and provincial governors requesting their actions to implement the cultural heritage policy of the Government. - Ministerial Order No. 628/IC dated 22/6/1995; to all Provincial Information and Culture Offices to undertake inventory of colonial houses and propose their designation as protected properties and their restoration and revitalisation (to house provincial museum or exhibition hall). - Ministerial Order No. 819/IC dated 29/7/1996; to all Provincial Information and Culture Offices to continue and complete the inventory of tangible cultural heritage within their territory. - Ministerial Ordinance No. 1236/IC, dated 18/6/1998; prohibiting the transfer of inventoried items of cultural heritage from one place to another without permission from the Ministry of Information and Culture. - Law on Ownership, No. 1/90/NA dated 27/06/1990. Articles 32 and 41 concerning ownership over antiquities and items of designated cultural heritage - Law on Forests No. 01/06/NA dated 11/10/1996; concerning the protection of different types of forests including protected forests. - Law on protection of environment No. 09/NA dated 26/4/1999; Article 16 concerning sites designated as historical, cultural and natural heritage. Article 7 refers to obligation to conduct environmental impact assessment prior to construction of important project - Law on land use, No.33/NA dated 31/5/1999. Articles 34 and 35 concerning land that has been designated as cultural properties. - Governmental Ordinance No. 19/PM dated 1/11/2001; to all Governors to take appropriate measure in view of the protection

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	cultural properties in particular Buddha images that are housed in temples.	
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II.4. continued

	<p>Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organizations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Champasak Provincial Committee for Preservation of Historical, Cultural and Natural Heritage - The National Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee - The Governor Office of the Champasak Province - The Provincial Department of Information and Culture of Champasak - The District Department of Information and Culture - The Vat Phou Archeological Site Management Office 	033
	<p>Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Local (Yes) Regional (Yes) National (Yes) Other (please describe):</p>	034
	<p>Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entity: Vat Phou Archeological Site Management Office - Address: District of Champasak, Province of Champasak, Lao PDR - Phone: (856-31) 213277 - Fax: (856-31) 213277 - E-mail: 	035

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property? NO	036
If YES, explain why this is the case:	037

II.4. continued

Is there a management plan for the property? YES	038
If YES, please summarize, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Management Plan of Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlement within the Champasak Cultural Landscape - Since 2000 	039
Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):	040

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Conservation</u> Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of rain water drainage system to mitigate erosion by rain water - Construction of Repository and site exhibition hall - Construction of a Visitor Centre - Construction of fence around the Stone Monuments of Vat Phou 	041
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II.4. continued

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ownership</u> Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Change 	042
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	<p>Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:</p> <p>17 persons</p> <p>Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property? NO</p> <p>If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruit more staff. - Train current staff 	043
		044
		045

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.4. continued

	Does the staff need additional training?	YES	046
	If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?		047
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stone Monument restoration (Architect, Engineer) - Stone cutter and carver - Site Manager - Educational programme officer - Stone objects conservator - Curators - Archeologist 		

	Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:		048
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government budget - Foreign assistance, Japanese Trust in fund, Japanese Cultural Heritage Grant, Italian Government - Vat Phou Conservation Fund 		
	Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property?	NO	049
	If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property:		050
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of the monument 		

	Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage Fund: - Nil 		051

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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II.4. continued

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO International Campaign: 	052
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies: - National Budget 	053
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral co-operation: - Japan 	054
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other assistance: - Japanese Trust in Fund through UNESCO - Italian Trust in Fund 	055

	Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:	056
	<p>Are you using (multiple indications are possible):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">PC (YES)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Apple ()</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Mainframe ()</p>	057
	Please, give the number of available computers:	058
	Does an operational access to the Internet exist? NO	059

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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II.4. continued

	Is e-mail used for daily correspondence? NO	060
	Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site? YES	061
	If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used? - ARCVIEW	062

	List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:	063
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	Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:	064
	Describe how the information / results are disseminated? - Public meetings - Brochures - Press, Radio and TV programs - Mouth to mouth	065

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.4. continued

	Are there any visitor statistics for the site?	YES	066
	If YES, please summarise the statistics and attach to this report:		067
	What visitor facilities do you have at the property?		068
	What visitor facilities are you in need of? - Guided tours in Foreign languages - Site Museum		069
	Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property?	NO	070

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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II.4. continued

	<p>If YES, please summarize, if NO explain if one is needed: - A Plan for tourism development which will incorporate conservation and handicraft production and sale by local population is much needed.</p>	071
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	<p>Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-outs and/or the address of a web-page):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public meetings - Brochures - Press, Radio and TV programs - Mouth to mouth 	072
	<p>Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools? YES</p> <p>If yes, please describe:</p>	073 074

	<p>What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trends of high and rapid increase - Attract developers - Attract scholars 	075
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.5. Factors affecting the property

	<p>Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development pressure - Tourism expansion 	076
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II.5. continued

	<p>Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence? NO</p>	077
	<p>If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:</p>	078
	<p>If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property: - Vat Phou Archeological Site Management Office</p>	079
	<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of stone monuments - Sustainable development of tourism 	080

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.5. continued

	<p>Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing 	081
	<p>What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?</p>	082

II.6. Monitoring

	<p>If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:</p>	083
	<p>Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site? YES</p>	084
	<p>If YES, please give details of its organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Champasak Provincial Committee for Preservation of Historical, Cultural and Natural Heritage - The National Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee - The Governor Office of the Champasak Province - The Provincial Department of Information and Culture of Champasak - The District Department of Information and Culture - The Vat Phou Archeological Site Management Office 	085

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.6. continued

<p>If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? YES / NO</p>	<p>086</p>
<p>If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect authenticity and integrity of the site - Implement correctly the Management plan 	<p>087</p>
<p>Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property? NO</p>	<p>088</p>
<p>If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property:</p>	<p>089</p>
<p>If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect of authenticity and integrity of the site - Respect International convention and national legislation 	<p>090</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.6. continued

<p>Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional UNESCO Office Bangkok 	091
<p>Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular progress reports - Visit to the site by concerned authorities for inspection and control 	092
<p>Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efficiency 	093
<p>In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inscription or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to the observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:</p>	094

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

<p>Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Still intact - The site has been inscribed just recently and the ceremony of proclamation was organised on the 14 February 2003 	095
<p>Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urban development - Tourism expansion 	096
<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the Management Plan - Undertake conservation of stone monuments - Continue archeological survey, research and protection - Construction of a site Museum 	097
<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Information and Culture - Governor of Champasak Province 	098
<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - current and next national Five Year Plan (2003-2004) and (2005-2009) 	099

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

II.7. continued

	<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of Hong Nang Sida Monument (One complete stone monument nearby Vat Phou) - Publication of illustrated book on Vat Phou and the whole area inscribed on the World Heritage List 	100
	<p>Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your country?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">NO</p>	101
	<p>If YES, please explain:</p>	102
	<p>Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drafting Management Plan 	103
	<p>Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:</p> <p>Agency / Organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Person responsible: Mr Sisavay Akkhavong, Director - Entity: Vat Phou Archeological Site Management Office - Address: District of Champasak, Province of Champasak, Lao PDR - Phone: (856-31) 213277 - Fax: (856-31) 213277 - E-mail: 	104

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YES - Tana Toraja Meeting 	105
<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YES 	106
<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the situation - Assess strengths and weaknesses - Vision of the future 	107
<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance cooperation between the World Heritage Committee and our Government so that the most valuable cultural heritage can be best preserved and transmitted to the next generations in conformity with the ideal of the Convention and with the aspirations of the people. - Provide the World Heritage Committee with the best information and conditions to follow-up the Convention that is put into practice in the Lao PDR. 	108

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.9. Documentation attached

The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.

1. Maps and plans showing the general location of the property, its boundary and buffer zone as well as the necessary detail of the property itself (see question 003 for specifications)
2. Photo of general view (aerial view) of the property
3. Illustrations of the state of conservation of the site (photographs, slides and, if available, film/videos)
4. Details of the important aspects of the property (landscapes, animal and vegetable species, monuments etc.)
5. Photos illustrating the main threats to the site and its surroundings
6. Extracts of relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage at national, provincial and municipal levels
7. Copies of the management plan of the site as well as extracts and/or copies of other plans relating to the site (e.g. emergency plan, use plan, etc.)
8. Indicative bibliography

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).