

CHINA (PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF)

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 1985

Organisation submitting the report

- Natural Section I:
Ministry of Construction
No. 9 Sanlihe St.,
Beijing
- Cultural Section I:
The State Administration of Cultural Heritage
10 Chaoyangmenwai Beidajie,
Beijing

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- NH: The Office of National Parks, in the Ministry of Construction, has now announced 151 national parks (in 1982, 1988, 1994, 1998) & 188 national nature reserves.
- CH: Since 1961, 1,269 properties have been declared as 'national cultural relics'. There are more than 7,000 provincial-level cultural relics, and around 50,000 county-level cultural relics.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- 85 sites revised in October 2001.
- CH, NH: Local authorities are increasingly active in the early stages of the Tentative List preparation. Local communities are also consulted.

Nominations and the nomination process

- 1986 * 2 nominations (deferred/referred)
(a) Jixian
(b) The Giant Panda Reserves
- 1987 5 nominations (inscribed)
(a) The Great Wall
(b) Mount Taishan
(c) Imperial Palace of Ming & Qing dynasties
(d) Mogao Caves
(e) Mausoleum of the first Qin Emperor
- 1989 * 2 nominations (deferred/referred)
(a) Habitats of the Giant Panda
(b) Tonglushan
- 1990 1 nomination (inscribed)
(a) Mount Huangshan
- 1991 * 2 nominations (referred)
(a) Stone Forest, Yunnan
(b) Huangguoshu Waterfalls, Guizhou
- 1992 3 nominations (inscribed)

- (a) Jiuzhaigou Valley
- (b) Huanglong
- (c) Wulingyuan
- 1993 1 nomination (inscribed)
(a) Ruins of Jiaohe Ancient City
- 1994 4 nominations (inscribed)
(a) Mountain resort, Chengde
(b) Temple of Confucius, Qufu
(c) Building complex in the Wudang mountains (d) Potala Palace, Lhasa
- 1996 2 nominations
(a) Lushan National Park (deferred)
(b) Mount Emei incl. Leshan Giant Buddha (inscribed)
- 1997 3 nominations (inscribed)
(a) Old Town of Lijiang
(b) Ancient City of Ping Yao
(c) Classical Gardens of Suzhou
- 1998 2 nominations (inscribed)
(a) Temple of Heaven, Beijing
(b) Summer Palace, Beijing
- 1999 2 nominations (inscribed)
(a) Dazu Rock Carvings
(b) Mount Wuyi
- 2000 4 nominations (inscribed)
(a) Mount Qincheng & Dujiangyan irrigation system (natural heritage deferred)
(b) Ancient villages in southern Anhui, Xidi & Hongcun
(c) Longmen Grottoes
(d) Imperial tombs of Ming & Qing dynasties
- 2001 1 nomination (inscribed)
(a) Yungang Grottoes
- 2002 7 nominations (to be examined, 2003)
(a) Ancient Architecture of Macao
(b) Honghe terraced fields in Yunnan
(c) The ruins of Yin Xu
(d) Imperial Tombs of Ming & Qing dynasties (extension)
(e) Kaiping watchtower in Guangdong
(f) Three Parallel Rivers National Park, Yunnan
(g) Earthen buildings in Fujian
- CH: When a site is to be nominated, the Government provides financial support for environmental improvements, mobilises the local population to rehabilitate inappropriate buildings, encourages & educates communities about heritage protection.
- CH: It is observed that after inscription on the WH List, some regions have over-exploited WH properties.
- NH: The main motivation for natural WH nomination is to strengthen the state of conservation of properties.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- NH: General management plans for WH sites are being revised and are expected to be completed by the end of 2003.
- NH: Numerous government agencies “increase the complexity of management” of WH properties. There are also “a lot of stakeholders whose responsibility and obligation are not defined by laws.”
- NH: Every year, site managers of national parks meet to discuss training, protection technology & management policies.
- CH: Principles of WH protection are integrated into urban development plans. WH protection and tourism plans are integrated into the urban & rural plans relevant to each site.
- CH: A recognised need to enhance inter-ministerial co-ordination for sustainable development exists.

Participation of local communities

- NH: “Some financial support” exists to assist local communities in heritage protection.
- NH: The ‘China Landscape & Historic Spots Association’ has built site-level training centres in Taishan & Dujiangyan National Parks.
- CH: Community participation is encouraged through media campaigns & recognition of the volunteers’ efforts.
- CH: The private sector & NGOs are acknowledged as contributors on heritage projects.

Tourism Development

- NH: Refer to site-specific reports.
- CH: It is observed that since WH inscription some regions have over-exploited their WH properties for tourism development.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- NH: “Most financial support” for the “preservation and rehabilitation of natural & mixed heritage comes from the provincial and local governments where the heritage sites are located.” No figures supplied.
- NH: It is noted that “there is no annual budget clearly defined for WH properties”, but the funds can be obtained from existing budgets.
- CH: The State allocates special funds for protection, research & presentation of WH properties and other national cultural relics. No figures supplied.
- CH: There is a need for “special heritage funds”.

Professional

- NH: A MOU has been signed between the Park Service of the Dept. of the Interior, USA, and the National Park Agency of China since 2000.

Numerous natural & mixed site managers have visited the USA for “professional capacity building”.

- NH: Training programmes have been implemented since 1984. Partners include different universities (20 ‘modules’ on protection & planning at Tsinghua), and the ‘China Landscape & Historic Spots Association’.
- CH: The State Administration has a staff of 20 qualified in heritage disciplines, and runs its own ‘Science, Research & Education’ division.
- CH: Principal training needs are focused on increasing international experience in WH management & heritage legislation.
- CH: The universities of Tsinghua, Dongnan, Tongji, Beijing Science & Engineering College, and the Central Academy of Fine Arts, offer courses in protection, conservation & presentation of heritage.
- CH: ICCROM & ICOMOS have both organised specialised training courses in China.

New and improved services

- NH: In 2001, the ‘China Study Report on the protection & application for Natural Heritage’ was submitted to the WH Centre.
- NH: The Ministry of Construction has initiated a national park monitoring programme “through remote sensing and GIS technology.”
- CH: Laws & regulations concerning management and planning for heritage sites have been enhanced.
- CH: Publicity on the value of heritage properties, and provision of service facilities for visitors.
- CH: Principles for the conservation of heritage sites in China adopted in October 2000.

Issues to be addressed

- NH: Needs outlined include: (i) insufficient resources to finance comprehensive scientific research in natural properties; (ii) international exchanges among WH sites; (iii) “enact practical and applicable laws & regulations”; and (iv) “commend and reward the work achievements of outstanding WH sites.”
- CH: Needs outlined include: (i) co-ordination of protection and usage for sustainable development; (ii) implementation of specific legislation for WH protection; (iii) increasing the role of ICOMOS China through a National WH Expert Committee; (iv) additional training & the application of advanced technology in heritage protection; and (v) ‘special heritage funds’.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- Since 1999, China has donated US\$1.25 million for the preservation of Angkor, Cambodia.
- Chengde is twinned with Kandy, Sri Lanka.

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

- * Since 1994, China has voluntarily donated US\$100,000 to the WH Fund.
- Support from the governments of Italy and Australia, the State Government of Bavaria, Germany, and the J. Paul Getty Trust is acknowledged.
- * International Assistance from the WHF as follows:

1986	\$15,000	Preparatory, Cultural sites nomination
1987	\$20,000	Training, Natural sites workshop
	\$7,000	Training, Architectural conservation
	\$8,000	Training, Int. seminar natural sites
1988,	\$17,000	Training, (Mt Taishan)
	\$24,800	Preparatory, Conservation plans for cultural sites
	\$30,000	Training, Natural sites
1990	\$146,000	Technical, (the Great Wall)
	\$13,000	Technical, Museology seminar
	\$20,000	Training, (Mt Taishan)
1991	\$13,412	Emergency, (Mt Huangshan)
	\$5,000	Technical, (Mt Taishan)
1993	\$15,000	Preparatory, Xi'an nomination
	\$10,000	Training, Regional conf. (natural sites)
	\$20,000	Training, (Mt Huangshan)
	\$20,000	Technical, (Mogao)
	\$26,000	Emergency, (Zhoukoudian)
1994	\$10,200	Training, Exchange with Smithsonian Institute
	\$9,000	Preparatory, Updating Tentative List
	\$20,000	Training, (Mogao)
	\$30,000	Training, Conservation of wood
1995	\$10,000	Technical, Film on cultural sites
1996	\$20,000	Training, (Chengde)
	\$25,000	Training, Historic towns management
	\$40,000	Emergency, Lijiang Earthquake
1998	\$25,000	Training, Urban planning Workshop
	\$5,000	Promotional, (Mt Huangshan)
	\$7,000	Promotional, Publication mixed sites
	\$60,000	Emergency, (Wulingyuan)
	\$35,000	Training, Cultural site managers
	\$20,000	Technical, National strategy (natural)
	\$5,000	Promotional, Mixed sites meeting
	\$34,150	Technical, (Chengde)
	\$20,000	Preparatory, Harmonization cultural nominations
1999	\$30,000	Training, GIS application (cultural)
2000	\$2,000	Training, Site managers training
2001	\$20,000	Training, Heritage management and tourism
	\$20,000	Training, Workshop for Periodic Reporting
2002	\$12,300	Training, Virtual Congress
	\$10,000	Promotional, Virtual Congress
- * International Assistance from UNESCO CLT/CH through extra-budgetary funds as follows:

1996	US\$90,000	Rehabilitation, conservation: Peking Man site, Zhoukoudian (France EDF)
2001-04	US\$623,798	Conservation, preservation: Longmen Grottoes (Japan)

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- NH: Exhibitions on the value of WH properties, and the “usual means” of news media, TV programmes, websites, academic seminars, and “exchange activities among the administrative organizations”.
- NH: It is proposed to “encourage students from universities, middle schools & primary schools to take part in backpack tours to publicize WH properties.”
- NH: It is proposed to “build a mechanism for volunteers participation” in WH properties.
- CH: Public awareness is raised through campaigns in the media, educational & academic programs.
- CH, NH: The UNESCO project ‘Young People’s Participation in World Heritage Preservation’ and Promotion has been adopted.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- NH: It is noted that “there are no specific policies on giving natural and mixed heritage a life in the community in relation to World Heritage.” However, some local & provincial initiatives are consistent with this objective.
- NH: As part of a revised ‘China Natural Heritage Protection Plan’, priority will be placed on the establishment of a monitoring system and database for natural heritage research, training & the dissemination of protection technology.
- NH: It is noted that China does not yet share WH property boundaries with other state parties.
- CH, NH: Pass and implement specific legislation for WH protection, and increase publicity about heritage values through the mass media.
- CH: Additional training & the application of advanced technical means in heritage protection. Develop international exposure through exchange programmes and mutual assistance projects.
- CH, NH: WHF support may be sought for: (i) protecting sites from natural threats; (ii) “international academic exchange activities”; (iii) education & technical training, and (iv) developing protection plans.