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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Thirty-eighth session

Doha, Qatar
15-25 June 2014

**Item 7A of the Provisional Agenda: State of conservation of the properties
inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger**

SUMMARY

In accordance with Section IV B, paragraphs 190-191 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the Committee shall review annually the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. This review shall include such monitoring procedures and expert missions as might be determined necessary by the Committee.

This document contains information on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The World Heritage Committee is requested to review the reports on the state of conservation of properties contained in this document. The full reports of reactive monitoring missions requested by the World Heritage Committee are available at the following Web address in their original language:
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/38COM/documents>

All state of conservation reports are also available through the World Heritage State of conservation Information System at the following Web address:
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>

Decision required: The Committee is requested to review the following state of conservation reports. The Committee may wish to adopt the draft Decision presented at the end of each state of conservation report.

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I. STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORTS

CULTURAL PROPERTIES

ARAB STATES

1. Abu Mena (Egypt) (C 90)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2001 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- A land-reclamation programme and irrigation scheme with no appropriate drainage mechanism, for the agricultural development of the region has caused a dramatic rise in the water table;
- The destruction of numerous cisterns, disseminated around the property, has entailed the collapse of several overlying structures. Huge underground cavities have opened in the north-western region of the property;
- A large, banked road has been built to enable movement within the property.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1279>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1279>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Identified, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1279>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/90/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2001-2001)

Total amount approved: 7,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/90/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

2002: Expert mission; 2005, 2009 and 2012: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring missions.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Rise in the water table (issue mostly solved);
- Impact on structures due to earth trembling and other forms of damage likely to result from the use of heavy earth-moving equipment (works completed);

- Lack of conservation plan, defining short-, medium-, and long-term objectives and establishing technical parameters (materials, techniques, etc.);
- Need for a management plan, to include research, presentation and interpretation, the role of stakeholders (e.g. the Mar Mena community), staffing, sponsorship, visitor facilities, access, etc.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/90/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 6 January 2014, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/90/documents> and notes progress on the following:

- *Condition survey*: A visit to the property underscored several decay factors, largely related to groundwater and other sources of humidity, and a request was made to the conservation department at the archaeological site of Alexandria to prepare a complete condition survey and preliminary conservation studies.
- *Dewatering of archaeological areas*: The Ministry of State for Antiquities has started the removal of water pumps and existing remains are being backfilled. Methodological approaches to dewatering are being prepared prior to continuing with this action.
- *Reconstruction work at the Great Basilica*: Interventions carried out with new blocks have been removed and restoration using the original blocks has commenced. No specific details have been provided regarding the intervention.
- *Inappropriate structures around the property*: Alternatives need to be explored to address the need of the local Coptic community to practice religious rites. As for illegal constructions by local Bedouin populations, meetings are foreseen to address removal of buildings within the boundaries of the property.
- *Management Plan*: The plan has been drafted and formally approved by the Director General of the Islamic and Coptic Department for implementation as soon as funds are available. The attached plan provides indications of the main objectives and an outline of policies as well as proposed implementation. A summary of factors currently affecting the property is provided. Provisions are limited and largely indicate that additional plans need to be developed or that policies should be formulated.
- *Buffer zone*: Work has started on the land survey and the use of satellite imagery and photography to define a new buffer zone for the property. Adaptations are taking into account areas taken out due to the reclamation project.

The World Heritage Centre has supported the State Party in fundraising for the preparation of a Conservation Plan for the property, which includes a conservation survey, and the undertaking of geotechnical studies of the water table; the “Fondation Arts et Ouvrages” has granted 100 000 USD for this purpose.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has undertaken a lot of work for the property. The “Fondation Arts et Ouvrages” has also contributed financially to enable the State Party to conduct the conservation condition survey and elaborate the prioritised treatment programme. The State Party should provide the re-burial strategy as part of the Conservation Plan, as a result the stopping of the de-watering. As for the work at the Great Basilica, no technical details of the intervention were provided in timely manner to be able to ascertain whether current actions are appropriate and to ensure that no further erosion of the conditions of authenticity exist.

The efforts being made to engage in dialogue with the involved stakeholders regarding inappropriate structures and illegal construction need to be continued to ensure that no new construction occurs at the property, while awaiting for a resolution on their demolition.

In terms of the Management Plan, the document sent provides useful indications. However, the Management Plan needs to be further developed to allow for clear policies and provisions, as well as associated strategies and actions with precise timeframes, costs and responsibilities for implementation. The Management Plan will also need to include provisions for the management and regulatory measures for the proposed buffer zone, as this provides an added layer of protection of the property.

Given the above, it is considered that the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger has not been fully met and that although the State Party has made commendable efforts, corrective measures have yet to be fully implemented.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.23** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the efforts made by the State Party in the implementation of measures at the property and urges it to continue with the implementation of the corrective measures, with particular attention to the following:*
 - a) *Undertake detailed condition surveys to identify priority interventions to ensure stabilization of archaeological remains,*
 - b) *Define a comprehensive strategy to address drainage of groundwater and impacts from other sources of humidity,*
 - c) *Finalize discussions with involved communities and develop a programme for the removal of inadequate new constructions and the creation of facilities to allow for religious uses in areas outside the boundaries of the inscribed property and its buffer zone,*
 - d) *Further develop the management plan to establish a clear policy framework, identify strategies and actions, with precise timeframes, costs and responsibilities for implementation, in main issues for the property such as archaeological research, conservation, maintenance, protection, visitor use, among others. The developed plan should also include clear provisions for the management of the proposed buffer zone,*
 - e) *Finalize the surveys to identify adequate boundaries for the property and buffer zones and submit, by **1 February 2015**, a proposal for a minor boundary modification, in accordance with Paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines, for examination by the World Heritage Committee;*
4. *Requests the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, details of all on-going or planned restoration interventions at the property, particularly those at the Great Basilica and the reburial strategy, for review prior to implementation;*
5. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
6. ***Decides to retain Abu Mena (Egypt) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

2. Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) (C 1130)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2003

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2003 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Nearby construction of a dam entailing partial flooding and seepage;
- Armed conflict.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet identified

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2003-2003)

Total amount approved: 50,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 6,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

November 2002: UNESCO mission for the Makhool Dam project; June 2011: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Partial flooding and seepage due to a dam building project;
- Fragile mud brick structures;
- Absence of a comprehensive conservation and management plan.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/documents> and provides information on the following:

- *Identification of factors that currently affect the conservation of the fabric, including natural elements and lack of sustained conservation and maintenance interventions:* The State Party notes that a management and a conservation plan are still lacking although it is mentioned that a plan for comprehensive interventions will be put in place. No timeframe or foreseen process for its development is mentioned in the report.
- *Construction of a shelter at the Royal Cemetery: the report includes information about the construction of a protective shelter (40 by 31 m) that now covers the entire cemetery:* The structure is composed of iron beams and covered by resistant glass plates. The State Party reports that three staircases will be fixed on the outside at the southern, eastern and western sides and that the structure will be painted a light yellow colour. It should be noted that the details for the construction of this shelter were not submitted for review in spite of the request made by the World Heritage Committee. The construction of the shelter and its results is illustrated in the report submitted by the State Party.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The situation faced on the ground makes it difficult to address the range and extent of factors that influence the conservation of the fragile archaeological remains at Ashur. While the State Party is making efforts, conservation and management plans, with precise policies and clear provisions for interventions, have not been developed.

The lack of adequate tools to guide decision-making, in response to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, is illustrated by the construction of the protective shelter over the Royal Cemetery. It is regretted that, in spite of the request made by the World Heritage Committee, the details for this intervention were not submitted for review so that options could be explored jointly with the State Party for the protection of the remains. While a protective shelter might be an alternative for protection from environmental factors, the constructed structure has a significant negative impact on the visual qualities of the property and now constitutes a dominant and intrusive element in the archaeological area.

In addition, the construction of a protective shelter may have irreversible effects on the remains themselves and does not ensure that decay factors will not continue to occur if it is not accompanied by a comprehensive drainage system. The impacts of this intervention on the conditions of integrity and authenticity of the property underscore the urgent need to define a clear conservation plan, based on the results of the 2011 monitoring mission, to identify needed interventions and an overarching conservation policy that seeks to safeguard the attributes of the property and sustain the conditions of authenticity and integrity. Given the impact of the constructed shelter on the attribute of the property, other options will need to be explored for addressing conservation factors at the sector and to reverse and/or mitigate the generated impacts.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 37 COM 7A.24 adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Takes note of the efforts made by the State Party in addressing the conservation of the property;*
4. *Regrets that the protective shelter was built at the Royal Cemetery in spite of the request made to submit details for the intervention for review prior to its construction, notes the physical and visual impacts of the shelter on the attributes of the property and requests the State Party to work with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in identifying options for the archaeological area and to reverse and/or mitigate the impacts generated by the intervention;*
5. *Reiterates its request to submit, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, details of all on-going or planned interventions at the site for review prior to implementation to ensure that no additional impacts are derived from them;*
6. *Urges the State Party to submit a request for International Assistance to support the preparation of the conservation and management plans, to include the definition of an overarching conservation policy and to define a time schedule for conservation interventions;*
7. *Also reiterates its request to the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, proposals for corrective measures and for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, together with a proposed timeframe, and to finalize the*

retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;

8. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2015, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
9. ***Decides to retain Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

3. Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) (C 276 rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2007

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2007 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

State of conflict in the country that does not allow the responsible authorities to assure the protection and management of the property.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: 0 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 100,000 USD from the Nordic World Heritage Fund for training and documentation aiming at the preparation of the Nomination File.

Previous monitoring missions

June 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Weathering and lack of maintenance affecting the fragile structures;
- State of conflict in the country that does not allow the responsible authorities to assure the protection and management of the property.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/documents/>. The report presents work carried out by the State Party for the conservation and management of the property, mainly in regard to:

- *Development of a 12 to 15-month restoration programme with a USD 10.5 million budget to address structural problems:* Objectives are centred on removing inaccurate restorations and preserving structural integrity and fabric of the mosque. Interventions started in June 2013 and have included dismantling of modern concrete columns to only mark the original column areas with new stands. The original floor of the courtyard will also be restored with traditional materials. Interventions are also foreseen for the removal of past interventions at the Minaret.
- *Development of infrastructure foreseen in site:* A 150 sq.m site unit building to have housing facilities for staff, as well as office space. A visitor centre and a “green space” with visitor facilities are also being considered. Vegetation zones, to mitigate impact of sand storms, are also being proposed for the northwest part of the site, where no archaeological features have been identified. Finally, a new outer fence to surround the site will be constructed in some parts and restored from the original remains in others.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has implemented a number of conservation interventions and has placed a lot of attention on safeguarding the historical integrity and authenticity, through the analysis of the historical evolution and documentation of prior interventions, of built heritage. However, in spite of these efforts no clear course of action has been defined to comprehensively address the overall conservation of the property and to carry out priority stabilization measures at the main components of the site. The importance of completing baseline documentation and carrying out a detailed condition survey, as requested by the Committee, to draw up a conservation action plan, should be underscored. With budgets for interventions currently secured, it would be essential that these actions be implemented promptly to establish a clear roadmap for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

New construction is foreseen at the property although no details on technical specifications or location in relation to the historic remains have been provided. Although having adequate facilities will be important to address staffing issues and future visitor use, these works need careful planning to ensure that no negative impacts on the visual qualities of the property occur.

Finally, initiating the formulation of a Management Plan for the property would provide the adequate framework to comprehensively address issues of concern, in particular a comprehensive conservation strategy, a public use plan, the potential development of infrastructure, and the definition of regulatory measures for the buffer zone to ensure the protection of the property.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.3

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **36 COM 7A.25**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party in the implementation of a restoration programme for the property;
4. Reiterates the need for the State Party to pursue its efforts and prioritise the implementation of the following, as requested by the Committee in its Decision **37 COM7A.25**:

- a) *Develop baseline documentation, including missing architectural plans and topographic surveys, carry out a detailed conservation condition survey,*
 - b) *Undertake identified preventive conservation actions to ensure the stability of the built fabric,*
 - c) *Identify regulatory measures to ensure the protection of the property and establish protocols for the approval of public works in the vicinity of the site, including the development of heritage and environmental impact assessments,*
 - d) *Initiate the planning process for the development of the Management Plan for the property, including a comprehensive conservation plan,*
 - e) *Establish a site management unit with adequate staff to implement priority conservation measures as well as maintenance and monitoring actions;*
5. *Also reiterates its request to the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, proposals for corrective measures and for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, together with a proposed timeframe for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
 6. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
 7. ***Decides to retain Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

4. Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (site proposed by Jordan) (C 148 rev)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (subject to the Reinforced Monitoring mechanism)

5. Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) (C 1433)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2012

Criteria (iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2012 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Degradation of the architectural complex of the Church of the Nativity;
- Development pressure;
- Tourism pressure.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1433/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1433/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 723,000 from Italy (Emergency Action Plan 1997-1998; Conservation and Management Plan 2006-2010).

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Degradation of the architectural complex of the Church of the Nativity;
- Development pressure;
- Tourism pressure.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1433/>

Current conservation issues

On 7 February 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1433/documents>. Progress in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in the report as follows:

- *A summary of detailed investigations of the Church of the Nativity* carried out by a Consortium led by CFR (Administrative project managing - Ferrara – Italy) which included a Laser scanning survey, and detailed analysis of historical and archaeological aspects, masonry structures, roof structures, structural aspects, decorated surfaces, mosaics and paintings. According to the report, these analyses have led to the development of relevant guidelines which can be considered as the overarching conservation strategy to guide future restoration work.
- *Restoration of the roof and windows*, for which tender procedure had been started at the time of the previous Committee session, the State Party has provided a detailed account of the progress made with illustrations. Accordingly, the work by the contractor has commenced in September 2013 and is scheduled to be completed by September 2014. On 29 August 2013, the State Party had submitted to the World Heritage Centre the tender documents, scope of work (SoW) and the contractor's technical proposal for the restoration of the wooden roof of the Church of the Nativity. ICOMOS provided their comments on 18 October 2013 recalling the Committee Decision, **37 COM 7A.27** which recalled "the need for an overarching conservation strategy for the Church of the Nativity to be developed as early as possible to guide the restoration project"; such a strategy would be based on an analysis of the church fabric and particularly its historic interest. So far such a document has not been provided.
- *Other activities:*
 - Several rehabilitation activities related to the Pilgrimage Route,
 - Bylaws for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage in Bethlehem: Bethlehem Historic Centre and Individual Traditional Buildings throughout the Town. These were reported to have been gazetted in February 2014,
 - Manual for the Rehabilitation of the Historic Centre of Bethlehem.
- *Preparation of the conservation and management plan* for the property by the stakeholders is underway and the intention is to complete this by March 2014, although few details are available.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The Church of the Nativity:

Progress has been made towards the restoration of the roof of the Church of the Nativity and the detailed investigations carried out on the overall conditions of the Church. Although considerable survey and research into the Church of the Nativity has been undertaken, this has not been used as a basis for a Conservation strategy, as requested. Such a strategy needs to set out the historic evidence and significance of the overall building and its component parts, as a guide to how conservation interventions are identified and addressed. However, details of the strategy have not been provided in the report.

Currently there is no way of telling whether the proposed structural timber repairs are taking full account of the undoubted historic character of the roof, which may possibly contain elements surviving from Justinian's construction period. Given the rarity and consequent importance of such a structure, there should be clarity about the way in which its historic character is taken into account by the repair programme. In addition, there is no reference to any research into the historical character and significance of the leadwork with which the roof is covered, or analysis of its condition and it seems that timber repairs are being carried out to the roof trusses without any reference to the condition of the roof coverings.

There is a need for a clear understanding of the way in which all the component aspects of the fabric of the building, which appear to have been investigated in detail on an individual basis by the various members of the Consortium, are understood in a holistic way. The absence of such an overall assessment makes it difficult to comment on the scope of the work presently being carried out, and its appropriateness within the framework proposed for the overall project.

The contractors who were appointed on 25 July 2013 to carry out Phase I (Roof and Windows restoration) are already half way through their programme. Details were provided for the roof project in terms of the specific techniques and areas of investigative study carried out by the various research units within the Consortium. However, the report sets out no clear conclusions drawn from the findings of these separate investigative units and no clear set of recommendations for the resultant coordinated action to be taken.

It is therefore recommended that the World Heritage Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to develop a conservation plan which draws together the conclusions of the detailed investigative reports into a comprehensive conservation strategy for the whole property and reinforces its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Conservation and management plan of the property:

Noting the reference made to the development of the property's conservation and management plan, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee urge the State Party to expedite its completion together with the overarching conservation strategy, and submit them for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to their adoption.

The State Party has not yet identified the corrective measures and Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger that would serve as a basis for planning of all future action at the property. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies are ready to assist in this regard. The World Heritage Committee may want to request the State Party to attend to this.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.5

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision 37 COM 7A.27, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Regrets that the State Party had not developed the overarching conservation strategy for the Church of the Nativity prior to the commencement of the restoration works and

requests the State Party to provide such strategy based on the analysis of the church fabric and its historic, archaeological and architectural characteristics, prior to any future conservation works;

4. *Notes the progress made towards the restoration of the roof of the Church of the Nativity but expresses its concern that this work is not being guided by a defined conservation approach;*
5. *Also requests the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to develop corrective measures, a timeframe for their implementation and a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
6. *Further requests the State Party to expedite the development of the management plan and provide an electronic and three printed copies of this plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;*
7. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
8. ***Decides to retain the Birthplace of Jesus, Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

6. Ancient City of Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 20bis)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

7. Ancient City of Bosra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 22)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

8. Ancient City of Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 23)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

9. Ancient City of Aleppo (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 21)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

10. Crac des chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1229)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

11. Ancient villages of Northern Syria (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1348)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

12. General Decision on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add

13. Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) (C 611)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1993

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2000 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Serious deterioration of the built heritage (a high percentage of the residential houses being replaced by concrete and multi-storey buildings);
- The remaining houses in the city are rapidly deteriorating, due to the prevailing low income of the inhabitants;
- Since the souq activities have been transferred outside the city, the ancient souq is almost empty and free from any type of activity and the shops are falling apart;
- The traditional economic role of the city has vanished;
- The city in general, is lacking any conservation and rehabilitation strategies.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Adopted 2011; See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4357>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted 2007; See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1282>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

July 2014 : Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4357>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/611/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 8 (from 1994-2004)

Total amount approved: 159,167USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/611/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 14,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust and the France-UNESCO Co-operation Agreement.

Previous monitoring missions

2002 and 2003: international expertise; December 2004: World Heritage Centre mission; January 2007: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission; January 2009: World Heritage Centre mission; January 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Serious degradation of the city's heritage (many houses and the ancient souq are in an alarming deterioration state);
- Large percentage of the city's houses replaced by inappropriate concrete buildings;
- Large sections of the city's open spaces have been privatized, either illegally or informally and more than 30% of these built-up;
- Lack of conservation measures and supportive development

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/611/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/611/documents>. The State Party emphasizes the extremely difficult political, security and socio-economic climate that has existed over the past three years. In spite of these constraints, the State Party has reported some positive steps forward. In response to the World Heritage Committee's specific requests, the State Party reported as follows:

- *Provision of Adequate Resources* : External donors have not fulfilled their pledges, and this has had a major impact on the availability of resources and on overall development and cultural heritage protection. Yemen is in urgent need of support from the international community and the State Party would welcome the launching of an international campaign to provide financial and technical support.
- *Law of Protection of historic sites, monuments, cities and their urban and cultural heritage* : A law on the Protection of historic sites, monuments, cities and their urban and cultural heritage was officially adopted in August 2013. Bylaw regulations are prepared and will be reviewed and approved in the coming months. Standards, measurements and guidelines for the maintenance, restoration and rehabilitation of the historic cities, sites and buildings are being drafted, and in the near future will be revised, approved and enforced.
- *Clarification of boundaries and modification of buffer zone* : The State Party reported that the General Organization for the Preservation of Historic Cities in Yemen (GOPHCY) had submitted last year the requested information on the definition of the boundaries at the time of inscription, and on a modification of the buffer zone however, the World Heritage Centre replied to the State Party asking for clearer boundaries of the property and the buffer zone and for other technical requirements. To date, no up-dated information has been received.
- *Other measures* : The State Party also reported that:
 - The Hodeida governor and local authorities in Zabid have prepared an action plan which should soon be submitted to the relevant ministries for review, fund raising and approval.
 - Key members of the Zabid development forum have participated in a planning workshop organized as part of a new German Agency for International Cooperation project (GIZ), contributing ideas for effective community involvement.
 - Work on Infrastructure projects such as stone road paving, lighting and new electricity networks are being progressed by SFD, the electricity authority, and by GOPHCY.

- The Ministry of Culture signed an agreement with the ARC-WH in Bahrain in August 2013, to assist with measures to improve conservation in Zabid. A pilot urban and architectural conservation project amounting to USD 500 000 will begin in the near future.

The State Party acknowledges that a major issue is the lack of cooperation of Zabid inhabitants with conservation initiatives. This is manifest in the increasing number of building violations. It is suggested that an awareness program is needed in order to provide a better understanding of the overall regeneration process and its benefits.

In March 2014, the State Party submitted an International Assistance Request to undertake awareness-raising activities aiming at rallying the local community around the values of the property and the requirements for its conservation and management.

In addition ICCROM reports that it is working with the State Party on building long-term national capacity for conservation professionals through university programmes.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

In spite of the extreme conditions that have prevailed over the past three years, some positive measures have been initiated and there has been a notable achievement in terms of the approval of a new Heritage Law.

It is axiomatic that sustainable progress will only be achieved with adequate resources and the support of the majority of Zabid's inhabitants.

The positive assistance of GIZ and the World Heritage Category 2 Centre in Bahrain (ARC-WH) should also be noted, but the wider support of the international community is urgently needed if the progress that has been made is to be built on in order to achieve sustainable results. The importance of undertaking pilot interventions that showcase how the improvement of the inhabitants' housing conditions can be compatible with conservation needs should also be stressed.

Since Zabid was inscribed on the World Heritage List in Danger in 2000, it has only just managed to stem the downward trend of deterioration and still has not managed to achieve progress to a sustainable level.

It would be extremely unfortunate if the enormous efforts that have been put into trying to move regeneration and conservation forward were to falter now.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.13

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.28**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Acknowledges with great concern, the extreme conditions that have prevailed in Zabid over the past three years and the way this has hindered external donors from fulfilling their pledges, and note the major impact that this had had on the availability of resources and on progress with regeneration and conservation projects;*
4. *Also notes with concern the lack of support for conservation initiatives from some inhabitants of Zabid;*
5. *Nonetheless welcomes the positive progress that has been possible and in particular the adoption of a new law in August 2013 on the protection of historic sites, monuments, cities and their urban and cultural heritage and further notes the submission of an International Assistance Request to develop local awareness-raising activities for the conservation of the property;*

6. *Also welcomes the continuing support of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the proposed collaboration of the World Heritage Category 2 centre (ARC-WH) in Bahrain and calls on the wider international community to offer what support it can to allow progress in halting deterioration and violations to be sustained and over time to allow sustainable development to be achieved;*
7. *Requests the State Party to submit revised information on the definition of the boundaries at the time of inscription, and to finalise the delineation of the buffer zone and submit a minor boundary modification proposal by **1 February 2015** for review by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015,*
8. *Also requests the State Party to pursue all necessary efforts to raise the awareness of local communities on the values of the property and the importance of their engagement in its preservation;*
9. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
10. ***Decides to retain the Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

ASIA AND PACIFIC

14. Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) (C 211 rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2002

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2002 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Lack of legal protection;
- Lack of an effective monuments protection agency;
- Lack of adequate protection and conservation personnel;
- Lack of a comprehensive management plan.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 1995-2002)

Total amount approved: 37,200 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 844,901 (2003-2012) from the Italian Funds-in-Trust; USD 124,300 (2003-2012) from the Swiss Funds-in-Trust.

Previous monitoring missions

Several annual UNESCO expert missions took place between 2002 and 2006 in order to implement the operational projects for the property. After a period of three years of inactivity from 2007 to 2009, due to the security situation, UNESCO dispatched a mission in cooperation with an Afghan local NGO in 2010 to resume the on-site operations.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Political instability;
- Inclination of the Minaret;
- Lack of management plan;
- Illicit excavations and looting.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/>

Current conservation issues

On 28 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report (available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents>) on work carried out for the implementation of corrective measures for the property as follows:

- *Conservation and management*: A team of police officers has been placed at the site, in particular to control site looting. The report mentions that deterioration of the Minaret has increased and urgent treatment for the structure and decoration is needed.
- *River Defence Project*: Part of the walls that protect the Minaret from seasonal floods, built during the River Defence Project 2006-2008, were damaged during the devastating floods of 2012. A temporary retaining gabion wall was constructed in the bank of Jam Rud River, but now needs to be removed, and the damaged existing retaining wall has to be treated.
- *Mapping and condition survey*: The Department of Historical Monuments, the Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC), carried out a survey mission in October 2013 and made a photographic documentation of the area, undertook a survey of the Minaret's structure and decoration status, determined a spot for the placement of a footbridge on the Hari Rud River and took GPS coordinates of some additional spots to be added to the buffer zone.
- *Action Plan*: based on the technical mission undertaken, work on the following has been identified as a priority:
 - Remove the new gabion wall constructed in the Jam Rud River,
 - Treatment of the existing retaining stone masonry wall on the bank of Jam Rud,
 - Construction of flood breakers at several points on the Jam Rud River to reduce the power of the flood,
 - Consolidate the South bank of the Hari Rud with gabions and planting of trees upstream of the minaret,
 - Institute a system of recording the height and flow of both rivers to facilitate planning for future seasonal flooding,
 - Carry out structural and surface intervention on the Minaret including the decorative elements.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party's efforts in the implementation of corrective measures, in particular for site security, as well as for the protection of the property against floods and river erosion are recognized.

The completion of the topographic and archaeological survey of Jam was an essential step to properly plan for, and implement, an effective conservation strategy for the property. This strategy should include the important ancient settlement, the precise extent and remains of which have yet to be defined. It is therefore recommended that the survey work is continued. The State Party also needs to adopt the detailed topography for Jam produced in 2012 within the UNESCO/Italy Funds in Trust for Jam and Heart, and to submit a minor boundary modification request to the World Heritage Centre for consideration by the World Heritage Committee.

While acknowledging that the series of activities that are currently planned are important for the conservation of the Minaret of Jam, it is crucial to establish a long-term conservation policy and action plan not only for the Minaret of Jam, but also for archaeological remains such as Jewish cemetery with Hebrew inscriptions and Ghurid castles/fortification walls and towers. Such a long-term conservation policy should be in line with the Recommendations adopted by the 3rd Expert Working Group Meeting for Herat and Jam World Heritage Property in 2012. Furthermore, the formulation of a long-term conservation policy and action plan should be undertaken using a multidisciplinary approach to address all the relevant issues in a holistic way. It is recommended that a multidisciplinary team of international experts such as hydrological engineers and architects, as well as archaeologists, assist the government of Afghanistan in these efforts. For this propose, it would be desirable to use the World Heritage Funds through International Assistance, taking into account that currently there are no extrabudgetary funds available for this property.

Upon establishing a long-term conservation policy, the government of Afghanistan shall be able to propose a revised time frame for implementing the corrective measures identified by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007) so as to achieve the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.14

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.29**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013);*
3. *Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007) and urges it to sustain these efforts to work on all corrective measures identified;*
4. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to adopt the detailed topographic map of the property produced in 2012, and finalise the buffer zone, and to submit a proposal for a minor boundary modification, in accordance to paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines, by **1 February 2015**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
5. *Requests the State Party to consider submitting an International Assistance request for the preparation of a long term conservation strategy for the whole property and the development of a multidisciplinary action plan for the stabilisation of the Minaret, in order to mobilize international expertise and comply with the recommendations adopted by the Third Expert Working Group Meeting in Turin (September 2012);*
6. *Also requests the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to revise the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures upon development of the conservation strategy and action plan;*
7. *Encourages the State Party to elaborate and implement, with the support of international donors, a capacity building programme to strengthen local and national capacity in heritage conservation and management including developing the capacity of local communities to contribute to safeguarding the site;*
8. *Calls upon the international community to continue its technical and financial support, in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in the implementation of corrective measures and in the development of a long term conservation strategy and action plan and a project to stabilize the Minaret;*
9. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the progress achieved in the state of conservation of the property, along with a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session 2015;*
10. ***Decides to retain the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

15. Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) (C 208 rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2003

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2003 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Site security not ensured;
- Long-term stability of the Giant Buddha niches not ensured;
- State of conservation of archaeological remains and mural paintings not adequate;
- Management Plan and Cultural Master Plan (the protective zoning plan) not implemented.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1287>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1287>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet identified

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (2002)

Total amount approved: 30,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 6,345,807 (2003-2014) from the Japanese Funds-in-Trust; USD 159,000 (2011-2012) from the Swiss Funds-in-Trust; USD 900,000 (2013) from the Italian Funds-in-Trust; USD 5,435, 284 (2013-2016) from the Korean Funds-in-Trust.

Previous monitoring missions

No reactive monitoring mission has been carried out; November 2010: World Heritage Centre/ICCROM advisory mission; April 2011: UNESCO Kabul/ICOMOS advisory mission; UNESCO expert missions in the context of the implementation of specific projects.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Risk of imminent collapse of the Giant Buddha niches;
- Irreversible deterioration of the mural paintings;
- Looting, illicit traffic and illegal excavations of cultural heritage assets;
- Continued use of certain heritage areas for military posts;
- Anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordinances (i.e. munitions)(issue resolved);
- Development pressure.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 28 January 2014 (available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/documents>), detailing progress made and difficulties faced in the implementation of corrective measures. National authorities and international experts also discussed

the state of conservation issues at the 12th Bamiyan Expert Working Group, hereafter BEWGM (Orvieto, Italy, December 2013).

Full-time guards of the Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) and Ministry of Interior have improved site security and the control of illicit trafficking. However, their future deployment relies on the continued support of international funds.

UNESCO Kabul and an ICOMOS Germany team signed a Partnership Agreement in 2013 for the construction of scaffolding to facilitate emergency consolidation of the Western Buddha niche. The ICOMOS Germany team was also contracted to build a platform in the lower gallery of the Eastern Buddha niche to protect visitors from rockfall and stabilize the rear wall against shearing forces caused by a major crack. As the two pillars supporting the platform were considered to be a reconstruction of the Buddha's feet and had not previously been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, UNESCO suggested in September 2013 that work be halted pending a review of the project. The appropriateness of the extensive intervention was debated at the 12th BEWGM and it was recommended that an ICOMOS Technical Advisory Mission be undertaken as soon as possible.

Conservation is underway at Shahr-i-Gholghola (with the support of the Governments of Italy). Baseline climatic and conservation data was established for mural paintings and caves of the Bamiyan Valley to inform future conservation work. Capacity building in conservation and site management for Afghan experts, and public awareness efforts, have accompanied the UNESCO extra-budgetary operational projects' expert missions.

The Management Plan is still being finalised. The Cultural Master Plan (CMP), adopted by local and national governments, is being incorporated into the Urban Development Master Plan and being used to curb development, one of the major challenges faced. The status of the enforcement of building codes and development regulations is not mentioned.

MoIC has been advising the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Afghanistan to mitigate the impact of the Foladi Valley road construction passing near and through the property, undertaking missions to survey affected archaeology and divert the road accordingly. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was conducted, apparently after construction, which concluded that the construction had no impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV): this information was not reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies at the time of this report's drafting.

The Republic of Korea is supporting a project to develop a Bamiyan Culture Centre and Museum.

The State Party report highlights future plans for improved road access and development of tourist infrastructure through portions of the property. It also reports that the mine clearance programme is complete at the property.

The State Party does not indicate the timeframe for the completion of all the corrective measures.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The progress of the State Party in the implementation of corrective measures and in capacity building should be commended, as well as the improved inclusion of stakeholders in the finalization of the Management Plan and dissemination of the CMP.

There has been progress in the conservation efforts at the Buddha niches and other component parts of the property, including Shahr-i-Gholghola and in particular, progress towards the establishment of scaffolding in the Western Buddha niche, whose consolidation remains an urgency.

Concern has been expressed at the appropriateness of the intervention in the lower gallery of the Eastern Buddha niche. The World Heritage Committee is recommended to encourage the State Party to implement the recommendations of the forthcoming ICOMOS Technical Review Mission. Long-term treatment of the Buddha niches should take into account an overall agreed approach to conservation and presentation of the property, based on its OUV, as well as on the technical and financial feasibilities. Moreover, there is an urgent need for the World Heritage Committee to review, in line with the *Operational Guidelines*, any intervention with a potential impact on the OUV of the property prior to work being undertaken.

Progress in managing development pressure within the property and its setting has taken place, yet the need for greater support and capacity building for local communities and Afghan experts to

mitigate development pressure is encouraged, as well as the incorporation of the CMP into the Ministry of Urban Development's Urban Development Master Plan. Given some recent large scale developments such as a hotel, the need to enforce building codes and regulations on development in the buffer zones of the property and its setting and to finalize the Management Plan is also underscored.

The development of an HIA for the Foladi Valley Road construction and the significance of this precedent for future development at Bamiyan are well noted. However, the HIA appears to have been completed *ex post facto*, and was not shared with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to construction. It is suggested that the Committee recommends that any decision on proposed development projects, including the proposed museum and visitor facilities, be based on an HIA in line with the *ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage Cultural Properties* and in the framework of the ongoing finalization of the Management Plan. Proposals for large-scale projects need to be subjected to HIAs and submitted for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

Finally, the continued commitment of UNESCO and the international community to the safeguarding and conservation of the property, through financial and material assistance, is appreciated and the international community should continue these efforts, not only for the Buddha niches, but for all component parts of the property.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.15

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.30**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the progress made by the State Party on the implementation of the corrective measures, notably the conservation efforts at the Buddha niches and other component parts of the property, including Shahr-i-Gholghola and others, and efforts to mitigate the development pressure;*
4. *Takes note of the continued concern expressed by the State Party on the critical condition of the large Western Buddha niche; also takes note of the need to consider the appropriateness of the interventions at the lower gallery of the Eastern Buddha niche, and future reconstruction policies for the Buddha niches; and further notes that an ICOMOS Technical Advisory Mission will shortly visit the property to assess these issues;*
5. *Reiterates its request to the State Party, when considering options for the treatment of the Buddha niches, to ensure that proposals are based on feasibility studies which include:*
 - a) *an agreed overall approach to conservation and presentation of the property,*
 - b) *an appropriate conservation philosophy based on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property,*
 - c) *technical and financial feasibilities for the implementation of the project proposals;*
6. *Regrets that Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) to assess the impacts of the development of the Foladi Road construction were carried out only after the road construction took place, and were not shared with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to construction;*

7. Requests the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, to submit detailed information, including HIAs, on any major planned developments within or nearby the property, such as the proposed Bamiyan Culture Centre and Museum as well as proposed visitors facilities, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to undertaking work;
8. Also urges the State Party to incorporate the Cultural Master Plan into the Urban Development Master Plan for the Bamiyan Valley to mitigate development pressure, and to enforce building codes and regulations on development in the buffer zones of the property and other areas protected under the 2004 Afghan Law on the Protection of Historical and Cultural Properties;
9. Further urges the State Party to finalize the Management Plan within an overall strategy of managing the property as a cultural landscape;
10. Encourages the State Party to elaborate and implement, with the support of international donors, a capacity building programme to strengthen local and national capacity in heritage conservation and management, including developing the capacity of local communities to contribute to safeguarding the property;
11. Calls upon the international community to continue providing technical and financial support for the protection and management of the entire property, in order to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
12. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
13. **Decides to retain the Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

16. Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (Georgia) (C 710)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1994

Criteria (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2010 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
Irreversible interventions as part of major reconstruction of the structure of Bagrati Cathedral

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4196>

Corrective measures identified
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4196>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4196>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/710/documents/>

International Assistance
Requests approved: 0
Total amount approved: 0 USD
For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/710/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds
N/A

Previous monitoring missions
November 2003, June 2008, March 2010, April 2012: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- General need for interior and exterior conservation work on the monuments;
- Major reconstruction of the structure of Bagrati Cathedral (completed);
- Insufficient coordination between the Georgian Church and the national authorities (issue resolved);
- Lack of co-ordinated management system (issue resolved).

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/710/>

Current conservation issues
In conformity with the Paragraph 190 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/710/documents/> and which addresses progress on a number of issues regarding conservation activities at the Gelati Monastery, such as the project on the Main Church of the Monastery, including the restoration of the cupola and the roof of the dome and transepts, and stone conservation. The World Bank programme that started in 2012 is still continuing. Within this program a budget has been agreed for further restoration and conservation of the Main Church and also for the construction of a visitor center outside the Monastery, as agreed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in 2012.

The State Party reported that, as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013), a Major Boundary Modification for the property to set out a justification for Gelatri Monastery to satisfy the criterion for inscription on its own was submitted by the State Party on 1 February 2014. The nomination was considered complete and was sent by the World Heritage Centre for evaluation to the Advisory Bodies. It will be examined by the Committee at its 39th session.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The continuing conservation programme at Gelati Monastery and the external funding that has been obtained to allow it to continue for at least a further three years is noted. It should also be noted that funding from the World Bank will allow the development of a visitor center, the proposals for which have been reviewed by the Advisory Bodies.

The Major Boundary Modification for the property requested by the Committee has been submitted in the timeframe suggested.

The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies recommend to the World Heritage Committee to retain the Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (Georgia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger, until the Committee examines the Major Boundary Modification for the property.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.16

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.32**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the progress in the implementation of the conservation programme plan for Gelati Monastery;
4. Notes that the State Party submitted on 1 February 2014 a request for a Major Boundary Modification for the property, further to the request of the Committee;
5. **Decides to retain the Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (Georgia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

17. Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) (C 708)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1994

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2009 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Lack of a management mechanism;
- Privatisation of surrounding land;
- Loss of authenticity of some components due to restoration works conducted using unacceptable methods.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4103>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4103>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4103>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/708/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1997-2010)

Total amount approved: 96,160 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/708/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

November 2003, June 2008, March 2010 and April 2012: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring missions.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of a management mechanism (issue resolved);
- Lack of definition of the property and of the buffer zones (issue resolved);
- Insufficient coordination between the Georgian Church and the national authorities (issue resolved);
- Privatisation of surrounding land;
- Natural erosion of stone;
- Loss of authenticity during previous works carried out by the Church;
- Inappropriate urban development within a sensitive historical environment (issue resolved).

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/708/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2014, the State Party submitted a detailed state of conservation report which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/708/documents/>.

The report includes final report of the investigations in Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, and a report of the project Conservation of Armaztsikhe Archaeological Site, that addresses the progress made with the implementation of the corrective measures.

The State Party reported that the project for the Waste Water Treatment Plan has been cancelled by the local municipality, in accordance with the Decision of the World Heritage Committee.

The State Party highlighted that the main factor affecting the property still remains the lack of legal management instruments, and informed that a national Law on World Heritage properties is under development by the authorities, which will offer the possibility to adopt efficient protection and management instruments.

The State Party also informed that work is continuing on the Urban Land-Use Master Plan, including zoning regulations with no-construction zones, and strict limits on development rights, and it is planned to complete this by the end of 2014. The buffer zone will be defined as part of this zoning plan.

The State Party also submitted a draft of a World Heritage State Programme, prepared in conformity with the World Heritage Committee Decisions **36 COM 7A.31**, **37 COM 7A.33** and based on the Strategic Objectives for the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* (5Cs), and requested comments from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

There has been progress in implementing the corrective measures, including the Land Use Plan, the implementation of the multi component conservation programme, and improvements to the legal framework and the Management Plan for Mtskheta, are in progress.

ICOMOS has provided comments to the State Party on the draft Management Plan which stress the need to clearly identify the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property as the basis for the Management Plan, as well as the need for legal and planning protection.

In relation to the proposed Urban Land Use Master Plan and zoning regulations, ICOMOS provided to the State Party its comment on proposed development within a zone situated between the Samtavro Monastery and Samtavro burial ground. It concluded that any development within this zone could have a highly adverse impact on the OUV of the property, and that the entire zone should be declared a zone of "absolute protection". It was further recommended that the concept of the development zones should be re-thought on the basis of a full understanding of the extent of archaeological areas, and a survey of the relationship between the sites and their landscape setting which has fundamentally shaped their development.

The State Party has also informed that all inappropriate developments within the property and its setting have been halted, including the waste water treatment plant.

It should also be noted that the State Party plans to implement all corrective measures by the end of 2014 and to submit in 2015 a proposal for a minor boundary modification of Mtskheta to allow the establishment of a unified buffer zone.

The World Heritage Committee is recommended to request the State Party to invite a ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the property in early 2015 to assess the progress achieved in implementing all corrective measures in order to reach the Desired State of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The Committee is also recommended to retain the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger until the examination of its state of conservation by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.17

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **34 COM 7A.27**, **35 COM 7A.30**, **36 COM 7A.31** and **37 COM 7A.33** adopted at its 34th (Brasilia, 2010), 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively,*
3. *Acknowledges the detailed information provided by the State Party on the progress made to implement the corrective measures and urges the State Party to finalise its work on all the corrective measures adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) by the end of 2014, including to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, the Urban Land-Use Master Plan, including zoning regulations with particular emphasis on the establishment of no-construction zones, strict limits to development rights and a conservation master plan and which should take into consideration the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, its specific landscape setting, as well as important views and connection lines;*
4. *Requests the State Party to invite a joint ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the property to assess the progress achieved in implementing all corrective measures in order to reach the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
5. *Also requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to provide advice to the State Party in finalising the Management Plan and the World Heritage State Programme;*

6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the implementation of all corrective measures, as well as a minor boundary modification proposal for a unified buffer zone of the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
7. **Decides to retain the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

18. Medieval Monuments in Kosovo (Serbia) (C 724 bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List
2004, extension 2006

Criteria
(ii) (iii) (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger
2006 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- a) Lack of legal status of the property;
- b) Lack of legislative protection of buffer zones;
- c) Lack of implementation of the Management Plan and of active management;
- d) Difficulties to monitor the property due to political instability, post-conflict situation (visits under the Kosovo Stabilisation Force / United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (KFOR / UNMIK) escort and lack of guards and security);
- e) Unsatisfactory state of conservation and maintenance of the property.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

- a) Full and permanent protection of the property in a secure and stable political environment;
- b) Agreed medium-term plan for the restoration of wall paintings (including preventive conservation regime) and conservation and rehabilitation of the property;
- c) Implementation of the Management Plan, and full establishment of buffer zones and boundaries including their legal protection.

Corrective measures identified

Urgent / short-term corrective measures:

- a) Put in place appropriate guarding and security arrangements for the Church of the Virgin of Ljevisa;
- b) Prepare a conservation status report including a condition survey for the wall paintings and the status of the conservation works and take temporary measures where there is an urgent need (for example the lead roof of the west bay of the nave of the Church of Virgin of Ljevisa, that was partly removed);
- c) Prepare a risk preparedness study, in conformity with Paragraph 118 of the *Operational Guidelines* and Decisions **28 COM 10B.4** and **30 COM 7.2**.

Long-term corrective measures:

- d) Ensure the adequate long-term administrative, regulatory protection and management of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 97 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
- e) Put in place strong protective regimes for the buffer zones;
- f) Adequately delineate the boundaries (e.g. extend the boundaries of the Patriarchate of Pec to include more of its riverside-valley settings);

- g) Prepare detailed state of conservation reports as a basis for adapted monitoring, preventative conservation measures, and specific conservation projects to reverse decline;
- h) Ensure appropriate and timely implementation of the Management Plan.

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

- a) Urgent / short-term corrective measures to be taken by the State Party, in cooperation with UNESCO programmes, UNMIK and Provisional Institutions of Self Government in Kosovo*;
- b) Regarding the long-term corrective measures to be taken by the State Party, in co-operation with UNESCO programmes, UNMIK and Provisional Institutions of Self Government in Kosovo, no specific timeframe can be given at this stage due to the uncertain political situation.

Previous Committee Decisions

See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/724>

International Assistance

N/A

UNESCO Extra-budgetary funds

Total amount granted: USD 2,798,348 in 2008-2014 following the Donors Conference for the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage in Kosovo, May 2005; USD 693,330 in 2008-2013 by the Italian Government; USD 76,335 in 2008-2013 by the Czech Government; USD 132,833 in 2008-2013 by the Greek Government; USD 2,010,000 in 2011-2014 by the Government of the Russian Federation and USD 45,000 in 2012-2013 by the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Previous monitoring missions

January 2007: UNESCO intersectoral mission to Kosovo; July 2008: UNESCO Venice Office (BRESCE) mission; January and August 2009, July 2010, July 2012, January and July 2013, January 2014: UNESCO BRESCE missions.

Main threats identified in previous reports

See above

Illustrative material

See pages <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/724> and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>

Current conservation issues

Note: *The Secretariat was informed by UNESCO's Legal Advisor that "The UNESCO Secretariat follows the practice of the United Nations, which considers that the Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999) continues to be applicable to the territory of Kosovo until a final settlement is achieved".*

At its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013), the World Heritage Committee decided to adjourn until its 38th ordinary session the debate on the state of conservation of the property (Decision **37 COM 7A.34**). The state of conservation report presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session is available on WHC's website at the following page: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2013/whc13-37com-7A-en.pdf>). The present report includes updated information and new elements.

On 31 January 2014, the Permanent Delegation of Serbia to UNESCO submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/724/documents/>. Additional information, related to the implementation of projects at the property, was provided by the UNESCO Office in Venice.

Conservation works, begun in preceding years in all four components of the property, continued in 2013-2014, with support from extra-budgetary donors listed above, as well as from UNESCO's Regular Programme funds, and with the continued involvement of the UNESCO Office in Venice.

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)

These works concerned a stone throne and restoration of various stone elements in the interior of the Decani Monastery, frescoes at the Virgin of Ljevisa Church, as well as roofing and wall paintings at the Gracanica Monastery. The report submitted by the Permanent Delegation of Serbia mentions an unresolved issue concerning a bypass road near the Gracanica Monastery, with possible impact in terms of structural stability and air pollution.

Concerning the security situation at the property, it should be noted that three components of the property are currently under the protection of Kosovo Police: the Gracanica Monastery, the Virgin of Ljevisa Church and Patriarchate of Pec, the latter having been “unfixed” in August 2013 (the “unfixing” process is the handover of security responsibility from the NATO-led Kosovo Force, KFOR, to the specific unit of Kosovo Police dealing with cultural heritage monuments). The fourth component of the property, Decani Monastery, still remains under KFOR protection.

WHC received assurances from the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) that the latter is working closely with all organizations mandated to maintain security, and is specifically monitoring all developments which may potentially compromise the security of the property.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.18

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **30 COM 8B.54, 31 COM 7A.28, 32 COM 7A.27, 33 COM 7A.27, 34 COM 7A.28, 35 COM 7A.31, 36 COM 7A.32 and 37 COM 7A.34** adopted at its 30th (Vilnius, 2006), 31st (Christchurch, 2007), 32nd (Quebec City, 2008), 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasilia, 2010), 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively,*
3. *Acknowledges the information provided by the state of conservation reports of 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, and the results of the missions of the UNESCO Venice Office (BRESCE) to the property;*
4. *Reiterates its request, in cooperation with UNESCO, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the Institutions of Kosovo, as well as future European arrangements, to continue to take long-term corrective measures, including: ensuring adequate long-term legislative, regulatory protection and management of the property and strong protective regimes for the monuments and the buffer zones, adequately delineated boundaries and the timely implementation of the Management Plan;*
5. *Also reiterates its requests, in cooperation with UNMIK, to continue efforts in completing the short-term and long-term corrective measures to achieve the Desired state of conservation defined for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
6. *Requests the submission, in cooperation with UNMIK, to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, of an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
7. ***Decides to retain the Medieval Monuments in Kosovo on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and to continue applying the Reinforced monitoring mechanism until the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2015.***

19. Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 1150)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2004

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2012 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
The proposed development of Liverpool Waters

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
In progress

Corrective measures identified
In progress

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures
In progress

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1150/documents/>

International Assistance
Requests approved: 0
Total amount approved: 0 USD
For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1150/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds
N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2006: joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission; November 2011: joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of overall management of new developments;
- Lack of analysis and description of the townscape characteristics relevant to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and important views related to the property and its buffer zone;
- Lack of clearly established maximum heights for new developments, for the backdrops of the World Heritage areas as well as along the waterfront;
- Lack of awareness of developers, building professionals and the wider public about the World Heritage property, its Outstanding Universal Value and requirements under the *World Heritage Convention*.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1150>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1150/documents/>.

The report pointed out that, while the overall Liverpool Waters scheme received irrevocable approval, no concrete steps have yet been taken towards its implementation. It explained that detailed master plans for each phase of the 30-year-scheme as well as detailed proposals would need to be elaborated first and reviewed against numerous legal obligations and planning conditions before permission for actual execution would be granted. The State Party considered that this process would still allow addressing the Committee's concerns and requests. It further informed that design and conservation bodies are being set up, which include the City Council, the developer Peel Holdings and English Heritage, to ensure the respect of the obligations and conditions for planning permissions.

In its letter of 31 January 2014, the State Party confirmed that it had received a first draft of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) prepared by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS on 29 April 2013. On 15 April 2014, the State Party submitted a draft DSOCR prepared on its behalf by English Heritage in coordination with and agreed by the property's key stakeholders, City Council, Peel Holdings and the chair of the property's World Heritage Steering Group. The State Party explained that the draft DSOCR focuses on those arrangements and controls that the English legal system allows within the terms of the non-cancellable planning permission. The draft DSOCR is currently being reviewed by the Advisory Bodies in view of its presentation to the Committee at its 39th session.

On 15 April 2014, the State Party also expressed its willingness to consider organising a consultative seminar that would gather the key stakeholders, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre.

Furthermore, the State Party reported on concerns about an approved demolition scheme for an area within the World Heritage property (Ropewalks area), for which a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) had been elaborated, based on which English Heritage recommended to refuse consent.

Finally, the State Party also informed about achievements in restoring and converting significant landmark buildings of Liverpool to new functions, in particular hotel and conference uses.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The findings of the joint reactive monitoring mission of November 2011, as expressed in the opinion of the World Heritage Committee in its previous Decisions, indicated that the Liverpool Waters development scheme, if implemented as currently planned, would irreversibly damage the attributes of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and the conditions of integrity that warranted inscription, and could lead to the potential deletion of the property from the World Heritage List.

The State Party expects detailed master plans for each phase of the overall Liverpool Waters scheme to be developed as well as detailed proposals for each plan, all of which would need specific planning permission; it also considers that this process could address the Committee's concerns. This process would need to clearly define how this can be achieved based on a revised overall vision for the entire development area.

It is noted that the State Party provided a draft DSOCR and a proposal for corrective measures, and also expressed its willingness to take concrete next steps to work in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies. It is recalled that the corrective measures must be deliverable and clearly linked to an overall vision for the property.

While the State Party submitted a draft DSOCR and a set of corrective measures, it is considered that there have been no further actions to remove the potential danger as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th and 37th sessions. The property is therefore considered under continued threat and it is consequently recommended that the Committee retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.19

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.93** and **37 COM 7A.35**, adopted at its 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively,
3. Also recalling the results of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission of November 2011,
4. Reiterates its serious concern over the potential threat of the Liverpool Waters development scheme on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and notes that the implementation of the development, as currently planned, would

irreversibly damage the attributes and conditions of integrity that warranted inscription, and could lead to the potential deletion of the property from the World Heritage List;

5. Also notes the information provided by the State Party, and requests it to:
 - a) *submit comprehensive documentation for any proposed detailed master plans and detailed planning proposals, before they are adopted, together with an overall vision for the property over-arching such master plans, as well as details of the draft legal obligations and draft planning conditions for granting permission for any future development proposals,*
 - b) *ensure that the process whereby master plans and detailed plans for the Liverpool Waters scheme, when developed, takes into consideration the concerns of the World Heritage Committee;*
6. Strongly urges the State Party to consider all measures that would allow changes to the extent and scope of the proposed Liverpool Waters scheme to ensure the continued coherence of the architectural and town-planning attributes, and the continued safeguarding of the OUV of the property including the conditions of authenticity and integrity;
7. Further notes with appreciation that the State Party submitted a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger along with a set of corrective measures, and expressed its willingness to pursue consultations with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in view of its finalisation for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
9. **Decides to retain Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) on the World Heritage List in Danger.**

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

20. Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) (C 135)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

21. Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) (C 1178)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2005 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Extremely fragile nature of the industrial buildings;
- Lack of maintenance for 40 years;
- Vandalism due to looting of re-usable materials;
- Damage caused by the wind.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Established, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2007-2012)

Total amount approved: 60,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2004: ICOMOS evaluation mission; May 2007: World Heritage Centre site visit; April 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Extremely fragile nature of the industrial buildings that were constructed using local materials such as timber for frames, corrugated iron sheets for roofs and some walls, in addition to stucco and lightweight construction;
- Lack of maintenance over the past 40 years as well as vandalism at the property;

- Corrosion of metal cladding and dismantlement of some of the structural elements. A few buildings such as the Leaching House are liable to structural collapse if no support is given;
- Very little conservation work carried out;
- Damage caused by the wind.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 3 February 2014 and notes progress on the following:

- *Comprehensive conservation plan*: The plan will be completed by 2015. Results from previous interventions as well as the recommendations from the expert meeting will be integrated.
- *Priority interventions programme*: Work will continue throughout 2014 with potential resources from the Regional Government. Several interventions were completed, including the rehabilitation of Humberstone's General Store as an Interpretation Centre on the Saltpetre Era. No indication on the rate of progress is included.
- *Management Plan and management arrangements*: The updating process is at a review stage and will be finalized in 2014 and the finalised document will be submitted for review. A team that has been involved in the property since 2012 will largely lead its implementation. Additional required resources will be identified and provisions will be made to ensure that the system is adequately staffed. A World Heritage Commission has been created at the national level to enhance coordination among different agencies to improve the implementation of the Convention.
- *Security and protection at the property*: Surveillance has continued with a total of eight guards and a system of surveillance cameras; no thefts or burglaries were reported in 2013. A risk assessment template was developed and capacity building activities were carried out for risk mitigation. Public awareness on safety measures was also implemented.
- *Visitor strategy and interpretation plan*: A project was concluded in 2013 and several visitation circuits, with necessary measures for interpretation, have been carried out including signage and use of new technologies, to provide information.
- *Buffer zone and regulatory measures*: The buffer zone will be formally protected as a Typical Zone, which will allow for the implementation of protection measures. It will encompass other heritage sectors where saltpetre works are located. Measures were identified to mitigate impacts from the new layout of Route A-16.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has implemented significant and sustained efforts in the past years to address factors that threaten the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The adoption of the Desired state of conservation and the corrective measures has constituted a clear roadmap for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Considerable progress has been achieved in regard to the definition of a conservation strategy for the property, which presents unique conservation challenges due to the nature of its fabric and location. Of particular interest will be the definition of the overarching policy for interventions and the balance between conservation needs, the conditions of authenticity and of integrity of the property. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies remain ready to continue to assist the State Party in these efforts by providing additional expertise for technical discussions. Finally, additional efforts to ensure the sustainability of management arrangements should be underscored, such as the formal adoption of the buffer zone with strong regulatory and protection measures and the creation of the World Heritage Commission, a welcomed approach to strengthening the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in Chile.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.21

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A;
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.37** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Commends the State Party for efforts made in the implementation of the corrective measures for the property and encourages it to sustain these efforts to ensure that the Desired state of conservation for the property is met within the established timeframe;
4. Urges the State Party to conclude the planning process for the formulation of the management plan and the comprehensive conservation plan and requests it to provide an electronic and three printed copies of the finalised draft management plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
5. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
6. **Decides to retain Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

22. Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) (C 366)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1986

Criteria (i)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1986 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Fragile state of conservation of earthen structures and decorated surfaces due to extreme climatic conditions (El Niño phenomena) and other environmental factors;
- Inadequate management system in place;
- Insufficient capacity and resources for the implementation of conservation measures;
- Increase in the levels of the phreatic water table.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1987-1998)

Total amount approved: 118,700 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

1997: ICOMOS mission; February 2007: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS and ICCROM mission; November 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Continuous deterioration of earthen architecture structures and decorated surfaces from lack of conservation and maintenance practices;
- Illegal occupation of the property;
- Unregulated farming activities;
- Rising water table levels;
- Delay in implementing protective measures (legislation and regulations already passed by the National Authorities).

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 6 January 2014, which is available at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/documents>. Progress on the implementation of the corrective measures is reported as follows:

- *Management system*: the Special Project for Chan Chan, in close collaboration with the regional, provincial and district governments, continues to manage the property with secured funding from the Peruvian State. The participatory update of the management plan is almost finalised and will be integrated with other planning tools at the municipal and provincial level, along with the regulatory measures for the buffer zone, which will also be adopted by the Municipality of Trujillo. The Pan-American Centre for the conservation of earthen cultural heritage is now operating and will undertake research to improve scientific and technical approaches to interventions.
- *Conservation and maintenance measures*: public investment projects were implemented for archaeological research, conservation and maintenance at different palaces. Preventive measures, as the Guidelines for an Integral Plan for Risk Prevention that have been submitted for review, were also put in place. Drains were maintained to ensure efficiency of water removal systems. Weather stations have been set up and groundwater levels are actively monitored. A strategy is in development for decorated surfaces.
- *Legislative and regulatory measures*: the multisector commission proposed regulations by Law 28261, which will address the issue of illegal occupations, continues with its approval process. Surveillance has continued to prevent invasion and expansion of agricultural areas.
- *Maintenance of physical delimitation of the site*: the perimeter hedge fence has been maintained and solid waste management is controlled.
- *Public use*: the public use plan will be finalised by March 2014 and will be integrated upon completion with other tourism planning tools drafted by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

It is noted that the State Party has systematically undertaken measures to address the state of conservation of the archaeological heritage and to improve the management system for the property. However, the earthen architecture remains will always be vulnerable to the effects of weathering and other decay factors, but with the measures currently in place these factors have been largely controlled. With the update of the management plan, its continued implementation, and the sustained functioning of the prescribed arrangements, as well as the secure funding provided by the State Party,

conditions are in place to ensure that the vulnerable nature of the property is adequately and promptly handled.

The commitment of the State Party is considered to have led to considerable progress in meeting the Desired state of conservation and the adopted corrective measures. The last remaining issues are important to ensure the long-term conservation and protection of the property. Therefore, the updating of the management plan encompassing integration with municipal planning tools and the final approval of regulatory measures require continuing cooperation with the State Party to ensure that these recommendations are finalised.

As noted before, the property will remain vulnerable but after 27 years on the List of World Heritage in Danger, the State Party, through its sustained efforts, have put in place management and conservation mechanisms to ensure that deterioration factors and threats are addressed. In light of these considerations, it is recommended that the State Party invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property with a view to assess whether the implementation of the remaining corrective measures may warrant the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.22

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.38** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the State Party for its long-term commitment and efforts to address the deterioration of the earthen architecture remains of the property and to put in place a sustainable and operational management system to continue to handle decay factors and threats;*
4. *Considers that the State Party has made considerable progress in meeting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and in the implementation of the corrective measures;*
5. *Notes however that the corrective measures, which are currently in planning stages, have to be finalized to ensure the long-term protection of the property and urges the State Party to:*
 - a) *Finalize the update process of the Management Plan and other planning tools for the property at the municipal and provincial level and provide an electronic and three printed copies of the draft revised planning tools for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies,*
 - b) *Finalize the approval process of Law 28261 to ensure that the property is adequately protected from illegal occupation;*
6. *Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property with a view to assess whether the implementation of the above-mentioned actions may warrant the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
8. ***Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

23. Coro and its Port (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of) (C 658)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (pending receipt of the draft Desired state of conservation for the property)

AFRICA

24. Timbuktu (Mali) (C 119rev)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

25. Tomb of the Askia (Mali) (C 1139)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

26. Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) (C 1022)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of supplementary information)

27. Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) (C 144)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1981

Criteria (iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2004 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Deterioration and decay leading to the collapse of the historical and archaeological structures for which the property was inscribed

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1586>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1586>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1586>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/144/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1983-2009)

Total amount approved: 56,053 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/144/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 201,390 USD from the Norwegian Funds-in-Trust for UNESCO rehabilitation project.

Previous monitoring missions

February 2004: ICOMOS mission; June 2008, March 2009, and December 2013: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS reactive monitoring missions.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of approved boundaries for the property and buffer zones linked to the land-use plans and appropriate protection;
- Deterioration of the architectural heritage fabric;
- Sea wave erosion;
- Theft of stone from ruins for use as building material;
- Lack of functioning local consultative committee;
- Lack of implementation of the conservation and management plans

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/144>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission visited the property in December 2013 (mission report available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/144/documents/>). Subsequently, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 27 January 2014. An executive summary of this report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/144/documents/>. The report indicates progress on the following:

- *Management system:* A Management Plan for Kilwa was developed in 2004 and is being implemented particularly in relation to restoration efforts and to strengthening management processes. It is reported that the Plan is currently under review to update it in relation to new conditions and will be finalised in March 2014. The Management Structure is in place since 2009. Site interpretation has improved and efforts have been made in awareness raising leading to the creation of local ruins committees. A project to strengthen social and economic development through the promotion of heritage sites was launched in 2014. This includes both infrastructures for services, promotion of other heritage assets and land planning to protect the Kilwa skyline. In terms of legislative arrangements, the State Party reports that a new law for cultural heritage is in the process of development.
- *Conservation of architectural heritage:* Inventory and documentation of the intangible and tangible heritage of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara, as well as the condition survey of all monuments and sites has been completed. The State Party reports that conservation of heritage monuments has achieved significant progress and has reached the 70% benchmark. Training of local communities in conservation has been undertaken. Interventions have been undertaken to halt sea-wave action and planting of mangrove seedlings is foreseen.
- *Boundaries and extension of the property:* The State Party reports that although boundaries have not been clearly defined, there is recognition of the importance of the property and that encroachment is not a threat. Land Use Plans are to be completed by April 2014 and the boundaries of the property will become clear after these exercises. The State Party indicates that a draft proposal for the extension was submitted in 2005.

Analysis and Conclusion of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Significant progress has been made by the State Party in implementing the corrective measures for the property that included the development of the Management Plan and Land Use Plans, the operational management system, the establishment of the boundaries and a buffer zone. The results

from the December 2013 monitoring mission that verified the progress in terms of restoration of heritage remains should be noted, together with the actions to halt sea wave erosion and the progress in planning tools for the property, which are expected to conclude by June 2014. The mission also noted that a strong relationship has been established with the local communities and that awareness has been raised with regards to conservation and protection needs.

It is considered that significant progress has been made in the implementation of the corrective measures and that the conditions that justified Danger Listing have largely been addressed. However, the State Party still has to comply with several measures to ensure the long-term success with regards to the protection of the property. These include the final definition of the boundaries of the property and its buffer zones, the updating and adoption of the updated Management Plan and finalisation of the Land Use Plans for Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara. The management structure currently in place needs to be maintained and reinforced, and resources secured to ensure the sustainability of conservation and maintenance interventions as well as the functioning of the management system. In addition, a sustainable tourism development and management plan needs to be drafted to guide current and future activities.

Given the progress achieved to date, the Committee may consider removing this property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. It might also wish to commend the State Party for the progress made in the conservation of the property.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.27

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.22**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the efforts made by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures;*
4. *Considers that the State Party has made considerable progress in meeting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
5. *Notes however that several actions are currently in planning stages, rendering the property vulnerable, and urges the State Party to implement the following:*
 - a) *Finalize the process for establishing the boundaries of the property, of the buffer zones and their regulatory measures and submit, by **1 February 2015**, a proposal for a minor boundary modification, in accordance to Paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines, for examination by the World Heritage Committee,*
 - b) *Finalize the updated Management Plan, including the formulation of a draft Sustainable Tourism Development Plan, and the elaboration of Land Use Plans for Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara and provide an electronic and three printed copies of the updated Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies,*
 - c) *Maintain and reinforce the management structure and secure resources for its adequate and efficient functioning;*
6. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including a 1-page executive summary, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016;*

7. **Decides to remove Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) from the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

NATURAL PROPERTIES

ASIA-PACIFIC

28. Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) (N 1167)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2004

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2011 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Road construction,
- Mining,
- Illegal logging,
- Encroachment.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Identified; proposed for adoption in the Draft Decision below

Corrective measures identified

Identified; proposed for adoption in the Draft Decision below

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Identified; proposed for adoption in the Draft Decision below

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1167/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2005-2012)

Total amount approved: 96,600 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1167/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 1,800,000 USD for the 3-year UNF/UNFIP Project (2005-2007) – Partnership for the Conservation of Sumatra Natural Heritage; 35,000 USD Rapid Response Facility grant (2007); 30,000 USD International Assistance for development of Emergency Action Plan (2012)

Previous monitoring missions

2006: UNESCO/IUCN reactive monitoring mission; 2007: World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission; February 2009: World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission; April 2011: World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission; October 2013: IUCN reactive monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Road construction;
- Agricultural encroachment;
- Illegal logging;
- Poaching;
- Institutional and governance weaknesses.

Illustrative material

See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1167/>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report for the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1167/documents>. From 24 to 30 October 2013, an IUCN reactive monitoring mission visited Jakarta as requested in Decision **37 COM 7A.14** (Phnom Penh, 2013). The mission report is also available at the above-mentioned web address. The State Party reports the following:

- *Road construction*: There is no ongoing road construction in Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP), and that road construction activities in Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) have been suspended. In Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (BBSNP) the development of the Way Heni – Way Haru road was authorized for the purposes of patrolling and providing the local community access to the enclave village of Way Haru. A proposal for the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been submitted in January 2014, but no detail is provided about when it is scheduled to start.
- *Boundary demarcation and law enforcement*: Issues remain with boundary markers having gone missing at KSNP and GLNP, slowing down boundary reconstruction efforts. In 2013, 120 km of the boundary of BBSNP were reconstructed. In relation to law enforcement, the State Party reports on activities that have taken place to combat illegal use, including the removal of 178 huts on a total of 396.5 hectares of encroachment.
- *Wildlife monitoring*: The State Party reports on monitoring activities for tiger, elephant and rhino, but no population trend data is provided. Orangutan rehabilitation efforts are also reported.
- *Ecosystem restoration and invasive species*: The State Party reports that 26,518 ha of KSNP and 10,000 ha of GLNP had been rehabilitated by 2013. Rehabilitation efforts have also been ongoing in BBSNP. The State Party also reports that *Meremia peltata* in BBSNP is impacting on the habitat of several species, including tiger, elephant and rhino. Ongoing efforts to control this invasive species include experimentation with different eradication methods, building capacity, and raising awareness.
- *Other issues*: No new information is provided on mining and geothermal energy.

The State Party report summarized the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), which was finalised and agreed upon during the 2013 IUCN reactive monitoring mission.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The IUCN reactive monitoring mission was able to confirm that, despite positive action by both the State Party and NGOs, many previously identified threats remain of concern and need to be urgently addressed. The principal threats were noted to be as follows:

- *Encroachment*: Land-use pressures in many areas surrounding the property are high, including pressure to expand coffee and oil palm plantations. As a result, encroachment remains the most serious threat to the property;
- *Road Development*: Although no new roads have been allowed within the national parks that comprise the property, the demand to build new routes remains high, as does the pressure to upgrade existing tracks. Following the legalization of an emergency relief road in KSNP in 2011, it has become common practice for new road construction projects to be proposed and justified as evacuation routes. On 17 February 2014, a press release by the Indonesian Parliament states that it has been promoting the possibility of a road construction by downgrading KSNP first from a National Park to a Protected Forest. It should be noted with serious concern that such a downgrade in the level of protection of the property would expose the property not only to the risks of road construction and the associated potential impacts of poaching and encroachment, but also mining and geothermal energy development, which is permitted in Protected Forests according to Indonesian protected areas legislation;
- *Mining*: The mission confirmed that illegal traditional gold mining is continuing to take place in KSNP. Although government authorities reported that these activities are small-scale and predate the property's inscription on the World Heritage List, they should be urgently removed and

rehabilitated, in line with the Committee's established position that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status;

- *Pressures on the Wider Ecosystem:* Critical wildlife habitats lying outside the three national parks (in particular in the Leuser Ecosystem), remain vulnerable to development pressure. Of particular concern is the new Aceh Spatial Plan; although the mission was unable to review a copy of the plan, it received reports that the plan is likely to propose opening up a significant area of forested land, including in the vicinity of the property, for development purposes;
- *Geothermal Energy:* A new law defining geothermal energy as an "environmental service" and thereby permitting its development within protected areas, including National Parks, is expected to be adopted in 2014. At least one geothermal plant is currently proposed within the property (in BBSNP). Geothermal energy projects would have a significant impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property; the World Heritage Centre and IUCN therefore recommend that the Committee request the State Party to ensure that any development of geothermal energy within the property remains prohibited by law.

Based on extensive discussions with the State Party and a number of NGOs, the DSOCR was finalized and agreed during the reactive monitoring mission. The DSOCR is comprised of seven key indicators, as summarized in the State Party's report, and further elaborated in the mission report. It is envisioned that a timeframe of five to ten years will be required to achieve these indicators. The corrective measures and Emergency Action Plan were also agreed with the State Party during the mission.

There have been media reports (28 February 2014) that the State Party of Australia has rescinded its existing commitment of 3 million Australian dollars (~2.7 million USD) for the conservation of Sumatran Rhinoceros. Without this funding, it will be a significant challenge for the State Party of Indonesia and its partners to achieve the target of a 3% annual growth rate by 2020 for the Sumatran Rhino population in the property. This growth rate forms part of the DSOCR and is in line with the commitment made by the State Party of Indonesia in the Bandar Lampung Declaration of 3 October 2013. In light of the impact which a lack of funding could have on the State Party of Indonesia's ability to achieve the DSOCR within the established timeframe, it is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party of Australia to continue its previously committed financial support to Sumatran Rhino conservation and call upon the international community to assist the State Party of Indonesia to reach the DSOCR in order to enable a removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

It is recommended that the Committee retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.28

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 37 COM 7A.14, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the State Party for the development of an Emergency Action Plan, which could facilitate the implementation of the corrective measures;*
4. *Expresses its serious concern about the pressure to downgrade the protection status of Kerinci Seblat National Park to a Protected Forest, which would not only expose the property to the risk of road construction and the associated potential impacts of poaching and encroachment, but would also remove the legal prohibition on mining and geothermal energy development in this component of the property;*
5. *Notes that the mission confirmed that illegal traditional gold mining is ongoing within the property, and reiterates its position that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status;*

6. *Requests the State Party to ensure that any development of geothermal energy within the property remains prohibited by law, and urges the State Party to provide information to the World Heritage Centre of any plans to develop geothermal energy in areas adjacent to the property, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, and subject any such plans to rigorous Environmental Impact Assessment, in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage advice note on Environmental Assessment;*
7. *Considers that the indicators that describe the Desired state of conservation, as established by the 2013 IUCN reactive monitoring mission in co-operation with the State Party and UNESCO, must be reached within a timeframe of 5 to 10 years, in order to enable the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
8. *Also requests the State Party to implement the following corrective measures as developed during the 2013 mission to restore the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property:*
 - a) *Significantly enhance law enforcement capacity by developing and implementing a strategic plan for the control of illegal activities, as a collaborative effort involving National Park authorities, the Natural Resources Conservation Agency, NGOs, local police forces, local government and the prosecutor's office. The strategic plan should include measures to:*
 - (i) *provide law enforcement agencies with adequate resources to expand their activities,*
 - (ii) *ensure that reports of illegal activities are quickly and efficiently responded to, and that transgressors are tried on the basis of conservation law (in addition to criminal law),*
 - (iii) *identify and prosecute syndicates, networks and businesses involved in illegal activities, in cooperation with the relevant authorities for the eradication of forest crime and corruption,*
 - b) *Strengthen property-wide monitoring of key species, including Sumatran Elephant, Tiger, Rhino and Orangutan, by:*
 - (i) *enhancing collaboration among government, NGOs and universities,*
 - (ii) *agreeing on a common methodological framework for monitoring each species,*
 - (iii) *expanding monitoring efforts to address geographical gaps in monitoring activities,*
 - (iv) *synchronizing data analyses for all key species to facilitate progress reporting,*
 - c) *Strengthen species recovery efforts by implementing habitat improvement and ecosystem restoration programmes, as required, including the control of invasive species,*
 - d) *Maintain the policy that prohibits the construction of new roads in National Parks, and conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the road network in the entire Bukit Barisan Mountain Range, in order to identify transport options and technologies for the region that do not adversely impact on the property's OUV,*
 - e) *Ensure that rigorous Environmental Impact Assessments are carried out for all proposed developments within the property (e.g. road improvement projects) and in its vicinity (e.g. mining projects), to ensure that these do not have a negative impact on the OUV of the property,*

- f) *Close and rehabilitate all mines within the property, investigate the existence of any mining concessions and exploration permits that overlap with the property, and revoke any overlapping concessions and/or permits that are identified,*
 - g) *In consultation with relevant stakeholders, including local communities, clarify in law the boundaries of each component National Park of the property, and complete the demarcation of these boundaries on the ground,*
 - h) *Ensure that all provinces, districts and sub-districts that overlap with the property recognize its World Heritage status and avoid the designation of development zones within its boundaries,*
 - i) *Ensure that the World Heritage Working Group under the Coordinating Ministry of People Welfare is taking an active role in promoting strong coordination between different ministries in the protection and management of the property,*
 - j) *Ensure that the National Strategic Areas process establishes buffer zones around each National Park in the property and identifies and protects critical wildlife habitats outside the property;*
9. *Also urges the State Party to rigorously ensure that the Aceh Spatial Plan explicitly recognizes the boundaries of the property, that no land is allocated therein for development purposes either within or immediately adjacent to the property, and that it makes adequate provisions for the identification and conservation of critical wildlife habitats that lie outside the property;*
10. *Notes with concern the reported decision by the State Party of Australia to rescind its commitment of 3 million Australian dollars for the conservation of Sumatran Rhinoceros, also considers that this is likely to significantly compromise the likelihood of achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger within the above-mentioned timeframe, encourages the State Party of Australia to continue its previously committed financial support to Sumatran Rhino conservation, and calls upon the international community to assist the State Party of Indonesia to reach the Desired state of conservation for the property;*
11. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the implementation of the corrective measures and the other points noted above, as well as on progress achieved towards reaching the indicators of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
12. *Decides to retain the **Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

29. East Rennell (Solomon Islands) (N 854)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1998

Criteria (ix)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2013 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Logging;
- Invasive species;
- Over-exploitation of coconut crab and other marine resources;
- Climate change;
- Legislation, management planning and administration of the property.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

In progress;

Corrective measures identified

In progress;

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet identified;

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/854/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2006-2012)

Total amount approved: 56,335USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/854/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March – April 2005: UNESCO/IUCN monitoring mission; October 2012: IUCN reactive monitoring mission;

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Mining
- Commercial fishing (issue resolved);
- Logging;
- Invasive species;
- Over-exploitation of coconut crab and other marine resources;
- Legislation, management planning and administration of the property.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/854/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2014, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/854/documents/>, including a field report dated January 2014 of a project to assess the state of conservation of the property. The State Party reports the following:

- Logging operations require development consent under the Environment Act 1998 and must be conducted according to the national Code of Logging Practice. It is acknowledged that logging operations in West Rennell could pose a serious threat to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property because of the inherent need to maintain the integrity of the forest throughout the entire island. There are four existing logging leases on West Rennell, and an additional one is planned.

- Black ship rat *Rattus rattus* is confirmed present on Rennell Island, where they pose a significant threat to the endemic avifauna and land snails in West Rennell, and therefore to the OUV of the property.
- There is a strong possibility that the Giant African Land Snail, which is well established in the port of Honiara, will soon be detected on Rennell Island due to the lack of biosecurity measures. The State Party notes its intention to seek support from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), but notes that it will be important to engage the community and that this will require finance and technical support.
- Continuing efforts are being made to provide communities with better management practices to address the over-exploitation of coconut crab and other marine resources, and these are addressed in a revised management plan for the property, currently under preparation.
- Climate-induced sea level rise is affecting the insular Lake Tegano, including flooding and water logging of the lake margins, increased salinity, reduced freshwater supply and food shortages. The Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environment will work with the Provincial Government on climate change adaptation and mitigation methods.
- The State Party acknowledges that the property should be declared under the Protected Areas Act 2010, but this requires the consent of the customary land owners. A community awareness campaign is being conducted to promote this.
- No information is provided relating to required improvements in the administration of the property.
- There are plans to commence bauxite mining in West Rennell during 2014.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

Progress has been made in addressing the recommendations of the Committee and the 2012 IUCN reactive monitoring mission. However, continuing and potential new logging operations on West Rennell and the confirmed introduction of rats present major threats to the integrity of the property. The likelihood of the introduction of Giant African Land Snail to Rennell Island in the absence of biosecurity measures remains a significant concern as it is virtually impossible to eradicate this species once it becomes established. Combating invasive rats and snails will require the provision of technical expertise along with financial support to ensure the necessary engagement of the local community.

Reports of plans to commence bauxite mining in West Rennell in 2014 are cause for significant concern. Although the total area is small the mining sites are widely scattered. The potential impacts on the property are similar to those of logging, and involve forest clearance, loss of wildlife habitat, introduction of alien species from barges using the logging ponds for access, and introduction of soil to replace extracted material. It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee request the State Party not to permit bauxite mining on Rennell Island if it cannot be demonstrated that such activities would not have an impact on the OUV of the property.

It is noted that, while there is Protected Areas legislation available to protect the property from logging, the local communities must resolve to apply for it to be applied to the property. It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to continue and strengthen support to the awareness raising process through the provision of additional funding and expertise, in order to strengthen the protection of the property. In the meantime, the finalisation of the Provincial Ordinance prepared in 2009 should be given priority by the Provincial Government, and additional technical assistance sought as required. It is recommended that the Committee also request the State Party to immediately put in place interim measures to mitigate the impacts of existing logging operations, halt new logging operations, and to defer consideration of bauxite mining licence applications until the new management plan has been approved and is being implemented.

Noting the elaboration of a new management plan, including better management practices to address over-exploitation of coconut crab and other marine resources, it is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to finalize the new management plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre and IUCN for review. The State Party's intention for an inter-agency and intergovernmental approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation is also noted.

It is considered that the assessment of threats undertaken with support from the Australian Government, and attached to the State Party report, could provide a basis for the development of corrective measures and a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List

of World Heritage in Danger. Successful implementation of these measures will take time, and require additional resources and full support from all levels of government, the local community, other stakeholders of the international community. IUCN, through its Oceania Regional Office (ORO) is in a position to provide further technical advice to the State Party, as required.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.29

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.14**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Notes with appreciation that some progress has been achieved in the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee and the 2012 IUCN reactive monitoring mission;*
4. *Welcomes the assessment of threats to the property undertaken with support from the Government of Australia, and considers that the findings and recommendations of this assessment could provide a basis for the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, as well as a set of corrective measures;*
5. *Notes with concern the reported plans to commence bauxite mining in West Rennell in 2014, which is likely to have similar impacts to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as logging, and requests the State Party to undertake rigorous Environmental Impact Assessments for these plans to demonstrate that they will not have an impact on the property, in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to urgently put in place interim measures to mitigate the impact of exiting logging operations, halt new logging operations, and to defer consideration of bauxite mining licence applications until the new management plan has been approved and is being implemented;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to undertake urgent action to halt the further spread of rats on Rennell Island and prevent them from entering the property, and to put in place the biosecurity controls necessary to prevent further introductions of invasive species to the island, and reiterates its invitation to the State Party to apply for International Assistance to support this work;*
8. *Urges the State Party to expedite the completion and implementation of the revised management plan for the property, and requests furthermore the State Party to provide an electronic and three printed copies of the draft revised management plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;*
9. *Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
10. ***Decides to retain East Rennell (Solomon Islands) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

30. Everglades National Park (United States of America) (N 76)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1993 -2007; 2010 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

The property was re-inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, on the request of the State Party, due to concerns that the property's aquatic ecosystem continues to deteriorate, in particular as a result of:

- Alterations of the hydrological regime (quantity, timing, and distribution of Shark Slough inflows);
- Adjacent urban and agricultural growth (flood protection and water supply requirements that affect the property's resources by lowering water levels);
- Increased nutrient pollution from upstream agricultural activities;
- Protection and management of Florida Bay resulting in significant reduction of both marine and estuarine biodiversity.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4348>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1062>;

Updated: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4348>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1062>;

Updated: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4348> and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4958/>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/76/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: 0 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/76/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

April 2006: IUCN participation in a technical workshop to identify benchmarks and corrective measures; January 2011: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Quantity and quality of water entering the property;
- Urban encroachment;
- Agricultural fertiliser pollution;
- Mercury contamination of fish and wildlife;
- Lowered water levels due to flood control measures;

- Damage from hurricanes;
- Exotic invasive plant and animal species.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/76/>

Current conservation issues

A report on the state of conservation of the property was requested by the World Heritage Committee for its 39th session in 2015. The Committee's request (Decision **37 COM 7A.15**) for a report in 2015 rather than 2014 was based on the view that the implementation of the corrective measures and improvement of the indicators of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, would likely take at least another ten years.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The World Heritage Centre and IUCN recommend that the World Heritage Committee retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.30

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 37 COM 7A.15, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Reiterates the request that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2015, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures and in meeting the indicators developed for the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
4. ***Decides to retain Everglades National Park (United States of America) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

31. Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) (N 764)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1996

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2009 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Sale and lease of public lands for the purposes of development within the property leading to the destruction of mangrove and marine ecosystems.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet identified

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1825>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet identified

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/764/documents/>

International Assistance

N/A

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 140,000: i) USD 30,000 from the Rapid Response Facility for the monitoring of unauthorized activities in the Bladen Nature Reserves which were impacting the property; ii) USD 30,000 for emergency conservation actions in favour of the critically endangered wide sawfish (2010); iii) USD 80,000 in support of public use planning and site financing strategy development for the Blue Hole Natural Monument (2008-2009).

Previous monitoring missions

March 2009: joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN reactive monitoring mission; February 2013: IUCN reactive monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Sale and lease of public lands within the property;
- Destruction of fragile ecosystems due to resort / housing development;
- Oil concessions within the marine area;
- Introduced species.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/764/>

Current conservation issues

On 5 February 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/764/documents> and reports on the following issues:

- *Sale and lease of public lands within the property; unauthorized development activities:* The State Party reports a range of measures that were undertaken to prevent sale and lease of lands within the property and to eliminate the impacts of past unauthorized activities, including a number of

enforcement activities aimed at requesting developers to cease activities and at binding them to an Environmental Compliance Plan. Concerning the Yum Balisi resort, the State Party confirms that even though the project had been approved, the development is dormant.

- *Oil concessions within the marine area:* According to the State Party report a petroleum exploration planning framework is currently being developed to manage petroleum exploration both on land and offshore. It is expected that the first draft of the framework document will be completed in April 2014. The State Party notes that it is not prepared to eliminate all oil concessions within and adjacent to the property. The report, however, mentions that large areas of two Petroleum Sharing Agreements (PSAs) have been relinquished. The report does not mention the Supreme Court Decision which according to media reports dating from April 2013 had declared offshore oil contracts void. No recent information on this is available.
- *Invasive species:* The State Party reports significant progress in the control and eradication of the lionfish population following the development of the National Lionfish Management Plan.
- *Integrated management framework:* A number of legislative instruments and policy documents have been identified as highly important for the establishment of an integrated management framework for the property. The State Party reports that most of them are still being finalized, including the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Land Use Policy Implementation Plan and the National Protected Areas Bill which are anticipated to be passed into law by the end of 2014.
- *Expansion of no-take zones:* The State Party reports that an initiative was launched to expand the coverage of no-take and replenishment zones to at least 10% of Belize's territorial waters by 2015. However, more detailed information on the location of the zones is required to understand how this would contribute to the conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

The Draft Statement of OUV has been finalized and it has been submitted for adoption by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The ongoing commitment of the State Party to implement the corrective measures is well noted. However, several issues remain of high concern.

The State Party's statement that it is not prepared to eliminate all oil concessions within and adjacent to the property is a matter of concern. It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee reiterate its established position that oil and gas exploration and exploitation are not compatible with World Heritage status and request the State Party to ensure that any oil concessions overlapping with the property are rescinded, and to also ensure that no oil exploration or exploitation takes place outside the property if it negatively impacts on the property's OUV.

The threat of sale and lease of new lands within the property and new unauthorized development activities remains high unless a comprehensive legislative instrument is established and enforced that guarantees permanent cessation of sales and leases of any lands within the property. The Cabinet's Decision to ban development on shoals is a positive step but does not ensure a permanent cessation throughout the property as requested by the World Heritage Committee. It is understood that certain lands were sold or leased before inscription of the property on the World Heritage List and the State Party should be commended by the Committee for its efforts to eliminate unauthorized development on those lands and to bind developers to an Environmental Compliance Plan. The State Party should also consider the recommendation of the 2013 reactive monitoring mission that stricter regulation procedures for developments within or affecting the property should be developed.

The efforts of the State Party to address the threat of invasive species, particularly Lionfish, should also be commended.

However, there is some concern that the crucial policy documents, namely the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Land Use Policy Implementation Plan, the National Protected Areas Bill and the Fisheries Resources Bill have not been finalized. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to adhere to its commitment to pass them into law by the end of 2014 or early 2015, since these documents are essential to ensure the long-term conservation of the property.

The commitment of the State Party to expand the no-take and replenishment areas to at least 10% of Belize's territorial waters is highly commendable. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide additional information on the distribution of these zones in relation to the

location of the property and the expected effects of the initiative on the conservation of the property's OUV.

It is finally recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, to develop a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger in which the above-mentioned issues are addressed.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.31

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **37COM 7A.16** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Commends the State Party for the progress achieved in the implementation of certain corrective measures, particularly those regarding expansion of no-take zones and eradication and control of invasive species; and for its efforts undertaken to control unauthorized development activities and eliminate their impacts on the property;
4. Urges the State Party to establish, as a matter of priority, a legislative instrument that will guarantee permanent cessation of the sale and lease of lands throughout the property and a clear definition and strict control of development rights on existing private and leased lands;
5. Welcomes the State Party's commitment to finalize the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Land Use Policy Implementation Plan, the National Protected Areas Bill and the Fisheries Resources Bill by the end of 2014, and requests the State Party to submit copies of these documents to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**;
6. Expresses its serious concern about the State Party's statement that it is not prepared to eliminate all oil concessions within and adjacent to the property and reiterates its position that oil exploration and exploitation within or affecting the property is incompatible with its World Heritage status, and also urges the State Party to remove any oil concessions that could have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
7. Also requests the State Party to ensure that the Petroleum Exploration and Development Framework clarifies that petroleum concessions overlapping on the property will not be permitted, and that no oil exploration or exploitation will be allowed to take place outside the property, in particular within its outer boundaries, if it is likely to have a negative impact on its OUV;
8. Further urges the State Party to prepare, as a matter of priority and in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a draft proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property, including progress made in implementing corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;

10. ***Decides to retain the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

32. Los Katios National Park (Colombia) (N 711)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1994

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2009 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Illegal logging;
- Unauthorized settlements;
- Fishing and hunting;
- Threats from major infrastructure projects.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4628>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4628>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet identified

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/711/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2002-2009)

Total amount approved: 73,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/711/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

November 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN reactive monitoring mission to Bogota in lieu of visit to the property.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Armed conflict;
- Illegal extraction of natural resources;
- Threats from major infrastructure projects;
- Lack of control of management agency.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/711/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 30 January 2014, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/711/documents>. The State Party report details progress towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as follows:

- Direct communication between indigenous leaders and governmental representatives has further consolidated a shared understanding of the conditions of the Wounaan settlement of Juin Phu Buur located within the property. A promising framework is in place for cooperation aimed at simultaneously ensuring the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and community needs and rights.
- Surveillance and law enforcement to curb illegal logging, hunting and fishing has been further consolidated based on increased presence on the ground and inter-institutional agreements with the Armed Forces, as well as regional environmental authorities. A combination of research, regulations and agreements with communities is stated to be resulting in a reduction of fishing pressure.
- There are no current proposals for mega projects overlapping with the property. However, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments are being conducted for a large electricity transmission corridor which would connect Colombia and Panama.
- The security situation has significantly improved over the last years based on multiple activities, such as inter-ethnic dialogue and conflict resolution, removal of illicit crops and land mines, as part of the broader peace process.
- The State Party has allocated additional resources to the property and also benefits from external project support.
- Furthermore, the Draft Statement of OUV for the property has been submitted for adoption by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

There has been significant progress with the implementation of the corrective measures. There is a well-documented and promising basis to ensure a future of the indigenous settlement within the property, compatible with both community rights and World Heritage status. However, user agreements remain to be negotiated and are likely to remain an integral and potentially contentious element of the future management of the property. The ongoing process therefore is fully adequate and of major conceptual and practical interest to the *World Heritage Convention*.

While illegal activities are not fully under control, the increased governmental presence at the property has considerably reduced illegal logging. The efforts to better understand and regulate fishing in the Tumaradó swamps and the Atrato River are likewise encouraging. Even though catch by unit of effort is reported to indicate acceptable catch levels, further agreements remain to be negotiated and complied with in practice.

No major projects are currently planned within the property, however impacts on OUV, as understood in the *Operational Guidelines*, do not require physical location of a project within the property. The information on the electricity transmission corridor between Colombia and Panama provided by the State Party does not permit any conclusion on its potential impacts on the OUV of the property. The ongoing Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) conducted for this project should include an assessment of potential impacts on the OUV of the property, as well as the OUV of the adjacent Darien National Park in Panama, in line with IUCN's *World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment*, and its results should be submitted for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN as soon as they are available.

The State Party has made important further progress with regaining control of critical parts of the property. The consolidation of management translates into a systematically growing compliance with the indicators set for the DSOCR. Funding and staffing levels have been increased and that additional support could be rallied through projects. While encouraging, this raises the question of the long term availability of adequate resources. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to make a clear commitment to the long term maintenance of the increased level of attention, funding and management in order to ensure that further progress in restoring and securing the OUV of the property can be maintained beyond the achievement of the DSOCR.

Recalling the recommendations of the 2011 reactive monitoring mission to the property, the State Party is encouraged to formalize a buffer zone for the inscribed property. Such a step would formally acknowledge that challenges and management responses to them cannot be strictly separated from the surroundings of the property, as recognized by the legal and policy framework in Colombia.

In view of the significant progress reported by the State Party towards achieving the DSOCR, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property, in order to assess progress with achieving the indicators of the DSOCR and with the implementation of the corrective measures, with the possibility to make a recommendation regarding the possible removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger at the Committee's 39th session in 2015.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.32

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.17**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the progress reported by the State Party in the implementation of the updated corrective measures and towards achieving the indicators established for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);*
4. *Requests the State Party to make a clear commitment to the long-term securing of adequate funding, management and staffing levels, in order to ensure that progress in restoring and securing the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property can be sustained beyond the eventual achievement of the DSOCR;*
5. *Encourages the State Party to formalize a buffer zone around the property according to paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines, as a minor boundary modification for review by the World Heritage Committee, and as a means to further embed the conservation and management of the property into a broader landscape approach;*
6. *Notes with appreciation the external support already granted to the property, invites the international community to further support the State Party to effectively address the existing and potential threats to the property, and urges the States Parties of Colombia and Panama to ensure enhanced coordination and cooperation between the property and the contiguous World Heritage property of Darien National Park in Panama;*
7. *Also requests the States Parties of Colombia and Panama to ensure that the ongoing Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the electricity transmission corridor include a specific assessment of potential impacts on the OUV of the property, as well as the OUV of the contiguous Darien National Park in Panama, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to submit the results of the ESIA to the World Heritage Centre as soon as they are available, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property, in order to assess progress with the implementation of the corrective measures and towards achieving the indicators of the DSOCR, and regarding the status of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
9. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*

10. **Decides to retain Los Katíos National Park (Colombia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

33. Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) (N 196)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of supplementary information)

AFRICA

34. Manovo Gounda St. Floris National Park (Central African Republic) (N 475)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (report of the State Party on the state of conservation of the property not received)

35. Comoé National Park (Côte d'Ivoire) (N 227)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1983

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2003 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Unrest in Côte d'Ivoire
- Poaching of wildlife and fires caused by poachers
- Over-grazing by large cattle herds
- Absence of effective management

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1050>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1050>

and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4336>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1050>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/227/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 1988-1999)

Total amount approved: 97,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/227/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 50,000 from the UNESCO Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme and Rapid Response Facility

Previous monitoring missions

January 2013: IUCN Reactive monitoring mission; June 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Conflict and political instability;
- Lack of management control and access;
- Poaching;

- Encroachment: human occupation and agricultural pressure;
- Bush fires.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/227/>

Current conservation issues On 26 January 2014, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report on the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/227/documents>. The State Party reported on the following:

- Steps have been taken vis a vis the Ministry of Mining and Energy to identify the mining exploration permits allowing encroaching the property.
- Since 2010, several projects implemented within the property have considerably decreased threats. Other projects are foreseen in 2014, including sustainable management, local measures and boundary marking of the property.
- The surveillance patrol missions have observed the presence of wildlife on several occasions in the property, including elephant. The presence of chimpanzees and lions in the perimeter of the property remains to be confirmed.
- The aerial inventory of the property was unable to be carried out in 2013; it is foreseen in March 2014. A biological monitoring methodology is being developed. The indicators proposed for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger will be reviewed on the basis of the results of the inventory.

The report also informs on the progress achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures:

- Important rehabilitation efforts as regard the control posts, trails and boundary markings are mentioned as well as the availability of equipment.
- The updated management plan, including the rehabilitation plan, is not yet available. The establishment of the zoning and the boundaries of the property was not carried out in 2013, but should be effected in 2014, with UNESCO's financial support.
- The Village Conservation and Development Associations (VCDA) were established for most of the 25 neighbouring villages surrounding the property. In 2013 the villagers were involved in approximately 20% of the surveillance patrols and their involvement in the management of the property will be further strengthened in 2014.
- Awareness raising activities have been carried out to seek a sustainable solution as regards illegal grazing pressure within the property. Further, several agricultural occupants have accepted to abandon 100.62 ha of illegally used land, and natural regeneration of this land is progressing.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

Further progress has been made in the security situation and management of the property. Numerous indications of animal activity have been reported by the State Party including information concerning the presence of elephants within the property. In the absence of an updated inventory, it is however impossible to confirm this information and establish a monitoring procedure. The census requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013) is an absolute priority. The results of this inventory should then permit the identification of indicators for the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. Also, the monitoring activities to be established following this inventory will enable a record of progress accomplished in the achievement of these indicators.

It is, however, unfortunate that the updating of the management plan and notably the rehabilitation plan, to be implemented together, has not been carried out in accordance with the foreseen timetable. This is also another priority objective to efficiently coordinate all the control, rehabilitation, inventory and monitoring activities.

It is also unfortunate that despite the urgent request of the World Heritage Committee, the State Party has not yet provided information on the granting of mining exploration permits within the property. Also, the State Party has provided no information on the result of the impact studies on mining research permits granted for the northern sector of the property. Further, it is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to provide all the necessary official information on these two issues.

Finally, it is considered that, although important progress has been achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures and other priority actions, the rehabilitation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and in particular the wildlife populations, is taking time. The results of the inventory will enable to specify the proposed indicators for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and to establish a realistic timetable. It is recommended consequently that the property remain on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.35

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.2**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the State Party for the efforts undertaken in the implementation of the corrective measures and the actions carried out with the local populations in establishing the Village Conservation and Development Associations (VCDA) and their involvement in surveillance patrols;*
4. *Notes with concern the delay in carrying out the wildlife inventory to enable the identification of value indicators for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and requests the State Party to give priority to this inventory;*
5. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with IUCN, a proposal for the value indicators for the Desired state of conservation, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
6. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to officially confirm as soon as possible, that no mining research or exploitation permit, industrial or artisanal, affects the property and to submit to the World Heritage Centre the results of the impact studies on mining research permits granted in the northern part of the property on its Outstanding universal value, in conformity with the IUCN's World Heritage advice note on Environmental Assessments;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to urgently update the management plan and the establishment of the rehabilitation plan so as to coordinate efficiently all the control, rehabilitation and monitoring actions;*
8. *Furthermore requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the corrective measures and the above-mentioned issues, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
9. ***Decides to retain Comoé National Park (Côte d'Ivoire) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

36. Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire/Guinea) (N 155 bis)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (report of the State Party of Côte d'Ivoire on the state of conservation of the property not received)

Note : the following reports on the World Heritage properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) need to be read in conjunction with Item 42 of Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add.

37. Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 63)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

38. Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 137)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1997 to present

Application of the reinforced monitoring mechanism at the property since 2007 (31 COM 7A.32)

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Adverse refugee impact
- Irregular presence of armed militia and settlers at the property
- Increased poaching
- Deforestation

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

A draft has been developed during the 2009 reactive monitoring mission (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents>), but the indicators still need to be quantified based on the results of a census of large mammals.

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4081>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 7 (from 1980-2000)

Total amount approved: USD 119,270

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 980,000 from the United Nations Foundation (UNF), and the Governments of Italy and Belgium and by the Rapid Response Facility (RRF)

Previous monitoring missions

1996 and 2006: several World Heritage Centre missions in the framework of the DRC Programme; December 2009: joint IUCN/World Heritage Centre reactive monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Presence of armed groups, lack of security and political instability rendering a large part of the property inaccessible to the guards;
- Attribution of mining permits inside the property;
- Poaching by armed military groups;
- Villages in the ecological corridor between the highland and lowland sectors of the park;
- Illegal mining and deforestation.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2014, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents/> (pages 13 – 28).

The report notes a general improvement of the security situation in particular in the lowland sector of the park following the defeat of the M23 rebellion. Other local armed groups have also been disarmed and integrated in the national army. This improved security situation has allowed park staff to start patrolling the lowland sector and resulted in a significant increase in patrol efforts in 2013 compared to 2012. Currently patrols cover 28,4 % of the park area.

The report also provides information concerning the implementation of corrective measures, in particular:

- In order to reactivate surveillance activities, training sessions of park rangers are underway;
- Several illegal artisanal mining operations have been closed down but illegal mining remains an important issue. No progress is reported on the cancelation of mining concessions covering the park;
- No progress has been reported on the evacuation of the corridor area. 17 farms have been inventoried inside the corridor and 7 more are infringing on the boundaries of the park. However, in the few farms that have been removed earlier, the ecological restoration is reported to be in progress;
- As a result of the fighting, many of the villages inside the park have been abandoned and the park is currently re-assessing their situation;
- 3 expeditions to the lowland have been undertaken in 2013 to inventory the great mammals. Their results are currently being analysed and should be available this year. A new overall inventory is planned in 2014;
- In 2013, pedestrian traffic on the road through the park increased by almost 50 % whilst vehicle traffic diminished by 25%. All traffic on the road is checked at the gates of the park;
- The management plan is currently being revised and implemented but more funds need to be mobilized to ensure its full implementation.

The report notes that the main challenge for the management of the park is currently the lack of staff and equipment, in particular arms and ammunition for surveillance activities.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The improvement in the security situation has allowed the park staff to again start patrolling the areas previously out of control. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN note that restoring the security is a pre-condition for implementing the corrective measures and restoring the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. They further note that at the moment the area covered by patrol remains limited and that the park is reportedly lacking patrol staff and equipment, in particular arms and ammunition,

necessary to substantially increase patrolling efforts. They consider that it is crucial to take advantage of the current improvement in the security situation to step up surveillance efforts and to curb illegal activities, in particular poaching and mining, which increased during the period of insecurity.

While no progress was made in evacuating the ecological corridor, which is crucial to ensure ecological connectivity between the highland and lowland sectors, it is hoped that with the improvement of security, progress can be made swiftly on this important corrective measure. The report provides no information on the results of the inter-ministerial committee to deal with land use disputes, which was reported in the 2012 State Party report. The need to cancel all mining concessions encroaching on the property, in line with the Committee's established position that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status continues to remain an outstanding issue.

Efforts are underway to undertake a comprehensive survey of fauna and flora in the park. The results of this will provide information on the current status of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and on how much time would be needed to restore it. It is recommended that a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission is invited to the property once the results of this inventory are available, in order to update the corrective measures, establish a timeframe for their implementation and finalize the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

It is also recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.38

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.5**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the reported improvement in the security situation which has allowed the park staff to again start patrolling the areas previously out of control and notes that restoring the security is a pre-condition for implementing the corrective measures and restoring the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*
4. *Also welcomes the ongoing efforts of the State Party to carry out a survey of the main populations of wildlife in the lowland sectors of the property to enable an assessment of the state of its OUV, as well as the establishment of a timetable for the rehabilitation of the property;*
5. *Also notes that the area of the property covered by ranger patrolling remains limited, and requests the State Party to take urgent measures to improve the efficiency and security of patrols and curb the illegal activities, in particular poaching and mining;*
6. *Expresses its concern that no progress was made in evacuating the ecological corridor, which is crucial to ensure ecological connectivity between the highland and lowland sectors, nor in the cancelling of mining concessions and reiterates its request to the State Party to cancel land rights illegally granted in the property as well as mining concessions encroaching on the property, in conformity with the commitments made in the Kinshasa Declaration, and the Committee's established position that extractive activities are incompatible with World Heritage status;*
7. *Urges the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures to restore the OUV of the property;*

8. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property as soon as the results of the wildlife survey are available, in order to re-assess the state of conservation of the property, to update the corrective measures, to establish a new time frame for their implementation and to finalize the Desired state of conservation of the property for removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property, including an update of progress achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
10. Decides to continue the application of the Reinforced monitoring mechanism to the property;
11. **Also decides to retain Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

39. Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 136)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (vii)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1984 -1992; 1996 to present
Property subject to the reinforced monitoring mechanism since 2007 (31 COM 7A.32)

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Increased poaching
- Pressure linked to the civil war, thereby threatening the flagship species of the property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

A draft was prepared during the 2010 reactive monitoring mission (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/documents/>) but indicators need to be quantified on the basis of the results of the aerial surveys.

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4082>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 12 (from 1980-2000)

Total amount approved: 248,270 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 910,000 from the United Nations Foundation, the Governments of Italy, Belgium and Spain and the Rapid Response Facility.

Previous monitoring missions

2006 and 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Armed conflict and political instability;
- Poaching by nationals and transborder armed groups;
- Unadapted management capabilities.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2014 the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/documents> (pages 6 – 12).

The report notes a significant improvement of the security situation both in the park and the wider region, following a military operation by the Congolese army with support of the regional Taskforce set up to track down the rebels of Lord Resistance Army (LRA). The Taskforce includes the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Central African Republic, Uganda and South Sudan and is backed by the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) and the African Union. This has allowed increased patrol coverage of the site to 70%; mainly thanks to some aerial patrolling of the northern sector of the park.

The report also provides information concerning the implementation of corrective measures, in particular:

- Joint aerial and terrestrial patrols with the Congolese army and MONUSCO forces;
- Supply of new arms and ammunitions for the eco-guard force;
- Re-opening of surveillance tracks and rehabilitation of infrastructure in the areas previously out of control of the park staff;
- 40 new eco-guards recruited, bringing the total number to 180;
- Development of a conservation strategy for the hunting areas under preparation;
- Efforts for community conservation projects have been increased, including environmental education activities and the development of social infrastructure;
- Management plan is still awaiting final validation. Significant financial resources for its implementation have been mobilized by the European Commission, World Bank, Spain and also UNESCO.

The report includes the result of two aerial surveys done in 2013, which show a slight increase of the elephant population compared to the 2012 survey. The report also notes that poaching levels in 2013 have stabilized compared to 2012 levels.

The report notes that the timeframe for implementation of the corrective measures needs to be revised, but does not propose a new timeframe.

The State Party did not submit a finalized Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The improvement in the security situation as a result of the military operations to contain the LRA is welcome. However, improving the security situation is a key condition to halt poaching in the property and start the rehabilitation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). Important efforts have been made by the management authority to extend the surveillance to 70% of the site but this coverage was reached mainly by resuming aerial patrolling in the northern sector. At the same time, the State Party reports that patrolling coverage of the surrounding hunting areas has decreased. An increase of the terrestrial patrol coverage of both the northern sector and the hunting areas now that the security situation is improving would be recommended, as well as the continuation of efforts to rehabilitate patrol roads and other patrol infrastructure in these areas. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN also note that the hunting zones not only have an important function as buffer zone but also as dispersal

areas for key wildlife species, including elephants, in certain seasons. The increasing pressure on the hunting areas by artisanal mining and the increasing human population are of concern; the importance of developing a conservation strategy addressed to these issues should be reiterated.

They also note the efforts to increase the number of guards for the property and to provide them with equipment. In this sense, the fact that new arms and ammunition were provided to the eco-guard staff is welcomed, responding to a long-standing request by the World Heritage Committee. The World Heritage Committee is therefore recommended to commend the different donors for their continued strong financial support for the property, despite the difficult security context.

Poaching levels, following several years of increase, are reported to be brought under control. The elephant population is also reported to be on a slight increase compared to the 2012 survey but, as no statistical error range is given, it is difficult to make any conclusion. The OUV of the property remains extremely threatened and the reduction in wildlife numbers, and in particular northern white rhino (whose presence has not been confirmed for several years and is feared extinct) and elephants (reduction of 85% compared to the number indicated at the time of inscription) remains dramatic. Significant time and effort will be needed to bring back wildlife numbers. It is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism.

While last year the State Party had reported that the management plan had been approved, the current report mentions it is awaiting validation. Given the improvement of the security situation and the fact that funding is available to allow for the implementation of the management plan, the basic conditions are met to again start the rehabilitation of the property. It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to re-assess the state of conservation of the property, to update the corrective measures and establish a new timeframe for their implementation and to finalize the Desired state of conservation of the property for removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.39

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.6** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the improvement in the security situation as a result of the military operations to contain the Lord Resistance Army and considers that it is a key condition to halt poaching in the property and start the rehabilitation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*
4. *Commends the State Party for its efforts to strengthen the operational capacities of the Congolese Nature Conservation Institute (ICCN), in particular by making available arms and ammunitions for surveillance activities, in line with the Kinshasa Declaration of January 2011, and also commends the management authority and its partners for their efforts to extend the surveillance area in the property and halt the poaching;*
5. *Thanks the European Commission, the World Bank, the Government of Spain and other donors for their continued strong financial support for the property, despite the difficult security context;*
6. *Reiterates its concern regarding the alarming reduction of the elephant population by 85% compared to the number present at the time of inscription of the site on the World Heritage List, and the fact that Northern White Rhinoceros is likely to be extinct;*

7. Urges the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures to rehabilitate the OUV of the property;
8. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property to re-asses its state of conservation, to update the corrective measures and establish a new time frame for their implementation and to finalize the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and on the progress achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
10. Decides to continue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
11. Also decides to retain **Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

40. Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 280)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1984

Criteria (vii)(ix)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1999 to present

Property subject to the reactive monitoring mechanism since 2007 (31 COM 7A.32)

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Impact due to armed conflict
- Increased poaching and illegal encroachment affecting the integrity of the site

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/280/documents/>. However, core indicators of the results of the inventory of flagship species still needs to be quantified.

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4575>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/280/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 9 (from 1985-2000)

Total amount approved: USD 149,900

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/280/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 320,000 from the United Nations Foundation and the Governments of Italy and Belgium

Previous monitoring missions

2007, 2012: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Armed conflict, lack of security and political instability;
- Poaching by the army and armed groups;
- Conflicts with local communities concerning Park boundaries;
- Impact of villages located within the property.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/280/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2014, the State Party transmitted the state of conservation report of the property, available (pages 29 to 40) at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/280/documents>.

The report notes a distinct improvement in security within and around the property through the establishment of mixed ICCN (Congolese Institute for Nature Preservation) and FARDC (Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo) patrols. The report indicates that these patrols have reduced professional poaching and notes signs of increase in the elephant population, as well as an increased number of bonobo nests. However, the report indicates that there remain pockets of resistance and new incursions. A renewal of systematic inventories of wildlife is foreseen in 2014.

The State Party also provides information concerning the implementation of other corrective measures, in particular:

- Recovery of the remaining zones under the control of rebels and poachers: destruction of camps, seizure of arms and game;
- Establishment of patrol posts, rehabilitation of infrastructures, in the two blocks of the property;
- Installation of the SMART monitoring software and training of twenty guards in this tool as well as for MIST;
- Pursuit of the process for the participative demarcation of the boundaries of the Park (30 km) and establishment of a co-management mechanism with the fishermen association;
- Deployment of patrols in the new sectors of the Park.

The report makes mention of the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the corrective measures, notably:

- distance from the principal chief towns, and the absence of financial means;
- insufficient collaboration between the political, legal and administrative institutions; and
- conflicts between ICCN and local populations concerning the demarcation of the boundaries of the property and the management of fishery resources.

Finally, in 2014, the State Party envisages the extension of activities of fishermen in other territories of the property and to carry out socio-economic studies to evaluate the ecological impact of the communities established within the property.

The report gives no indication as to the oil exploration and exploitation projects in the central basin that could encroach upon the property.

Analysis and conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The efforts of the State Party to sustain the security of the property and reduce professional poaching, notably elephants, deserves recognition. The efforts of the patrols and the anti-poaching measures are concentrated in the trouble spots of the property but the financial and human resources remain limited to ensure an effective management of the property and a more important surveillance for a park of this size. Although submitted several years ago, the Management Plan for the Salonga National Park has

not yet been validated by the Direction General of ICCN, whereas the present conditions of security would allow the management authority to begin its implementation.

Positive indications of an increase in the elephant population have been reported but these analyses remain limited given the area observed, because they do not provide general data concerning the state of the wildlife. This is why it is important to carry out a new inventory of key species in order to quantify the state of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and to quantify the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and establish a realistic timetable.

The difficulties encountered are noted, especially concerning the demarcation of the boundaries of the Park and participatory management. Indeed, it is important to implement a community conservation strategy that involves all the stakeholders concerned for both the demarcation of the boundaries of the Park and the management of fishery resources. Moreover, it is recommended that the State Party rapidly undertake studies concerning the communities installed in the Park and formalize the statute for the protection of the ecological corridor between the two sectors of the Park.

In the absence of information regarding oil exploration and exploitation projects in the central basin of the property, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to provide information on these projects in conformity with Decisions **36 COM 7A.7** and **37 COM 7A.7**, adopted in 2012 and 2013.

The Committee is also recommended to retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and to continue with the application of the reinforced monitoring mechanism.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.40

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.7** adopted during its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes with satisfaction the important efforts of the State Party to secure the property and the efforts of the patrols to reduce professional poaching of elephants, and encourages the State Party to continue these efforts and to reinforce them where pockets of resistance still remain;*
4. *Takes note of the difficulties reported by the managers of the property concerning the participatory management of natural resources and their implication in the demarcation of the property and also encourages the State Party to establish a community conservation strategy;*
5. *Urges the State Party to continue to implement the corrective measures, as updated by the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission in 2012 to rehabilitate the Outstanding universal value (OUV) of the property;*
6. *Launches an appeal to donors to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the site manager for the implementation of the corrective measures;*
7. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to undertake inventories of flagship species to quantify the state of the OUV of the property and the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger as well to establish a realistic timetable;*
8. *Regrets that the State Party has not provided detailed information regarding the oil exploration and exploitation projects in the central basin that risk encroaching into the*

property, as requested by the Committee at its 36th and 37th sessions and urges the State Party to provide this information;

9. Recalls its position that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status, which is supported by the International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM) international position statement of not undertaking such activities within World Heritage properties;
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the points mentioned above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
11. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring mechanism;
12. **Also decides to retain Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

41. Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 718)

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

42. General Decision on the properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

See Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

43. Simien National Park (Ethiopia) (N 9)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1978

Criteria (vii)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1996 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Depletion of the *Walia ibex* population and of other large mammals
- Phenomenon of encroachment
- Impacts of road construction

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4085>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1057>
and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4085>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/9/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 10 (from 1978 to 2013)

Total amount approved: USD 323,171

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/9/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

USD 100,000 in support of community conservation and development of the grazing pressure reduction strategy (Spain and Netherlands) with important co-financing from Global Environment Fund (GEF).

Previous monitoring missions

2001, 2006 and 2009: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Declining populations of *Walia ibex*, Ethiopian wolf and other large mammal species;
- Increasing human populations and livestock numbers in the park;
- Agricultural encroachment;
- Road construction.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/9/>

Current conservation issues

On 13 February 2014, the State Party submitted a detailed state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/9/documents/>. A number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions are presented in this report:

- Re-gazettal of the Park boundaries is now being submitted to the Council of Ministers, and scheduled to be finalized by June 2014. Once the re-gazettal process is completed, the boundary modification dossier will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre;
- The necessary financial means to implement the already developed grazing pressure reduction strategy are still lacking, while livestock health and wildlife protection measures have been taken;
- A number of activities to support alternative livelihoods for local communities have lessened pressures on the park, but limited funding reduces the scale of implementation;
- Gich village, which consists of 418 households and is situated in the middle of the property, was prioritized for the voluntary resettlement, given its impact on the property. Mutual agreement was reached with the community to resettle to the nearby town of Debark. Field operations have recently started, but significant additional resources would be needed to complete the action, both to cover the legal compensations and the alternative livelihood options;
- Following the 2012 donor conference, the Global Environment Fund (GEF) Small Grant Programme in Ethiopia in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre set up a community conservation programme at the property. The State Party is also following up with other potential donors and conservation partners;
- The regular internal census shows that numbers of key wildlife species have continuously increased over the past 10 years, with current population numbers estimated at about 900 *Walia ibex* and about 100 Ethiopian wolf;
- A re-alignment of the Debark - Mekan Berhan - Dilyibza Road is currently being constructed by the Ethiopian Roads Authority outside of the property;

- The property has great potential as a tourism destination, bringing considerable revenue to local communities and government. A new tourist management plan has been developed in collaboration with conservation partners;
- Park management has improved thanks to increased human and financial resources.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The World Heritage Committee is recommended to welcome the State Party's commitments to implement the remaining corrective measures. The re-gazettal of the park boundaries is near completion and the boundary modification dossier is in preparation for which international assistance from the World Heritage Fund has been provided.

The successful initiation of voluntary relocation with the local inhabitants of Gich Village inside the park, the reduction of unsustainable agricultural pressures on the property and the efforts to promote alternative livelihoods are also welcomed.

The World Heritage Centre has been able to mobilize some limited funding to support the Committee's recommendation to review the grazing pressure reduction strategy in order to identify priorities for immediate implementation. The State Party should also strengthen the follow-up with donors, who participated in the 2012 donor conference and expressed interest in supporting the development of alternative livelihoods and grazing strategies, in order to secure the long-term ecological integrity of the property and to create the conditions to remove the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. Considerable efforts and financial means are urgently needed in order not to lose momentum in the current initiative and the Committee is recommended to reiterate its call on the international community to provide the necessary funding.

If sufficient financial resources are secured to complete the implementation of the corrective measures, it should be possible to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger in the next 2 to 3 years. Meanwhile, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.43

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.10**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the State Party's efforts to complete the re-gazettal of Simien Mountains National Park in 2014 as well as its sustained efforts to strengthen the management effectiveness of the property and to implement the corrective measures;
4. Considers that if sufficient financial resources are secured to complete the implementation of the corrective measures, it should be possible to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger in the near future;
5. Notes with appreciation the support already provided by different donors to assist the State Party with the implementation of the corrective measures, and reiterates its call to the international community to increase the financial support to the property for a speedy implementation of the remaining corrective measures;

6. *Requests the State Party to follow up with the interested donors and conservation partners who attended the 2012 donor conference in order to mobilize the additional funding required; reiterates its request to review the Grazing Pressure Reduction Strategy in order to identify priorities for immediate implementation;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2015, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
8. ***Decides to retain the Simien National Park (Ethiopia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

44. Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) (N 1257)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2007

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2010 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Illegal logging of precious wood species (ebony and rosewood) and its secondary impacts; poaching of endangered lemurs were identified as threats for the site's integrity.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4344>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4344>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4344>

Previous Committee Decisions

See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1257/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 2000-2010)

Total amount approved: 155,000 USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1257/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,890,000 from the United Nations Foundation and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation.

Previous monitoring missions

May 2011: Joint monitoring mission World Heritage Centre / IUCN

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Encroachment;
- Fire;

- Hunting and poaching;
- Artisanal mining;
- Illegal logging;
- Governance.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1257/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property on 3 February 2014; the summary is available at the Internet address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1257/documents/>

The implementation of the corrective measures and progress achieved concerning some conservation problems are indicated in the report, as follows:

- In August 2013, the Steering Committee responsible for the management and clearing of the precious wood sector defined strategic actions to implement the policy of “zero stock, zero logging, and zero movement” notably through the application of exemplary sanctions for traffickers, awareness raising of the general public, ensuring security of the exit roads and the strengthening of the Committee to provide increased legitimacy;
- The State Party confirms that it foresees the sale and exportation of the seized stocks of wood following the inventory and marking process. The sale is to be organized by an international body and the major portion of the income will be allocated to governance, conservation and community development activities. Three studies supported by the World Bank are currently ongoing: a feasibility study for the inventory, a legal study and an assessment of the options for liquidation. The State Party has also requested the opinion of the CITES Secretariat concerning the procedures to follow. CITES has, in fact, confirmed that eventual exportation must be approved by its Permanent Committee, after presentation of an audit and plan for the use of stock, in conformity with the action plan adopted at its 16th Conference of Parties (COP16);
- The control system is strengthened through patrols of the mixed brigade, agents of the Madagascar National Parks with involvement of the local vigilance committees, overflying of the five components of the property (with the exception of Marojejy) and two raids to eradicate mining exploitation at the Zahamena National Park;
- A cooperative protocol between the three ministries concerned is signed, for the establishment of a maritime surveillance and control mechanism and an international society has been retained for satellite surveillance of maritime traffic;
- An evaluation process of the property using the tools “Enhancing our Heritage” is ongoing, with support from the Africa Nature programme of the World Heritage Centre, IUCN and the African World Heritage Fund;
- A resumption of illegal logging of rosewood was reported at the end of 2013, at the Masoala and Marojejy Parks. This increase appears to be linked to the withdrawal of the police force from their positions around the site due to the elections. The State Party noted that following the elections these positions had not yet been resumed;
- The annual clearing level is 0.031% (threshold = 0.01%), or the equivalent of 253 ha cleared in the property and the threat level still remains high for the Masoala and Andohahela National Parks;
- Poaching has been reduced by 46% in comparison to 2011;
- The management units of each of the components of the property are implementing ecological monitoring programmes. Restoration activities of the cleared zones are carried out over 43 ha and actions against invasive species conducted on 158 ha;
- The stability of the management effectiveness index is noted.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The Committee is invited to warmly commend the political will of the State Party, as expressed by the President of the Republic of Madagascar, to undertake strong measures to halt the traffic of rosewood. The important progress in the implementation of the corrective measures should be noted, particularly

the development of a management and clean-up strategy for the precious wood sector by the Steering Committee and the establishment of appropriate mechanisms and tools for the conservation, surveillance and monitoring of the components of the property. Note should be taken of the steps proposed for the sale and exportation procedures of the illegal stocks of precious wood. An eventual decision for the sale should be based on the results of the three studies mentioned above and take into account the recommendations of the CITES Secretariat.

There is concern as regards the resumption of illegal logging since the end of 2013; the notifications provided by the CITES Secretariat on 4 September 2013 and 26 February 2014 confirm that the illicit exportation of wood continues despite the embargo established in the framework of the CITES action plan.

However, in this regard one must be content with the request of the President of the Republic of Madagascar of 18 February 2014 to the diplomatic missions and consulates to inform the port and airport authorities of their respective capitals on the fraudulent nature of the exportation of rosewood from Madagascar.

The Committee is recommended to request the State Party of Madagascar as well as the recipient State Parties of the illicit traffic of rosewood to strengthen efforts to respect the embargo established in the framework of the action plan and to request the State Party of Madagascar to postpone the sale and exportation of the illegal stocks until receiving the endorsement of the CITES Permanent Committee. The reinforcement of the surveillance mechanism that was weakened since the elections is also recommended.

It should also be noted that the elimination of illegal logging, stocks and movement of wood constitutes a key condition for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. It is recommended that the Committee also request the State Party to invite a joint UNESCO/IUCN monitoring mission to the property to evaluate progress with these actions and progress achieved in the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and to update, if necessary the corrective measures and the timetable for their implementation.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.44

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.11**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the efforts undertaken by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures and the commitments contained in the action plan annexed to the decision of the Conference of Parties of CITES in Bangkok (COP16);*
4. *Welcomes the clear political will of the State Party as expressed by the President of the Republic of Madagascar to undertake the necessary measures to halt the illegal traffic of rosewood;*
5. *Notes with concern an increase in illegal logging since end-2013 and the continued illegal exportation despite the embargo established in the framework of the CITES action plan and requests the State Party to strengthen the surveillance mechanism that has been weakened since the elections;*
6. *Urges the State Party of Madagascar as well as the recipient States Parties of the illegal traffic to reinforce efforts to respect the embargo and to inform the port and airport authorities of their respective capitals of the fraudulent nature of the exportation of rosewood from Madagascar;*

7. Also requests the State Party to postpone the sale and exportation of the illegal stocks until the results of the current studies as well as the endorsement of the CITES Permanent Committee have been obtained and reiterates the importance of the consultation process with all the stakeholders;
8. Also reiterates that the elimination of illegal logging in the components of the property and the illegal stocks constitute a key condition for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Further requests the State Party to continue its efforts in the implementation of the corrective measures and the recommendations of the 2011 joint UNESCO/IUCN mission that have not yet been entirely implemented;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a joint UNESCO/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property to assess this progress and the progress achieved in the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and to update, if necessary, the corrective measures and the timetable for their implementation;
11. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary on the state of conservation of the entire serial property, including an evaluation of the implementation of the corrective measures, and information on progress made towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
12. **Decides to retain the Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) on the List of World Heritage in Danger**

45. Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) (N 573)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1991

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1992 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

The region having recently suffered from military conflict and civil disturbance, the Government of Niger requested the Director- General of UNESCO to launch an appeal for the protection of the site

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/325>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/325> and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4623>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 7 (from 1999-2013)

Total amount approved: 172,322USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

May 2005: IUCN reactive monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Political instability and civil strife;
- Poverty;
- Management constraints;
- Ostrich poaching;
- Soil erosion;
- Demographic pressure;
- Livestock pressure;
- Pressure on forestry resources.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property on 18 February 2014, available at the following Internet address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/documents/>. The progress achieved on a certain number of conservation problems raised by the Committee at its previous sessions are presented in this report, as follows:

- The conduct of a complete inventory of wildlife is foreseen in May 2014 to confirm and quantify the presence of flagship species, like the white antelope (*Addax nasomaculatus*), the dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*) and the Saharan cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus hecki*). As the results of this inventory are essential for a reactive monitoring mission to assess the present state of conservation of the property, the IUCN reactive monitoring mission requested by the Committee at its 37th session has been postponed until a later date;
- A manager of the property, based at Iferouane, has been appointed with regard to the gradual establishment of a Management Unit. The physical presence of forestry agents within the property and at its periphery has also been strengthened, including the availability of equipment, in particular motorized vehicles to facilitate anti-poaching activities, as well as control of the exploitation of forestry and archaeological resources. The State Party has provided no information concerning the preparation of a management plan;
- The State Party reaffirms that there is no permit for oil research or exploitation in the property;
- The State Party highlights the efforts carried out in the restoration of land with protection of the plantations of local ligneous species. The first stage of the Co-Management of Natural Resources in the Air and Ténéré (COGERAT) project has been completed, and the second stage of this project is under preparation to continue these actions;
- Demining work is underway, but no details have been provided;
- The impact of climate change on the property requires the implementation of adaptation programmes. However, it is not clear whether such programmes are being prepared.

As with previous reports, the report does not provide information on the implementation of several of the corrective measures.

Furthermore, the State Party indicates that it has received funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the implementation of the Niger Fauna Corridors Project (NFCP) for the creation of corridors between the three protected areas of the Saharan biome of Niger, including the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The Committee is recommended to welcome the efforts of the State Party to reinforce the physical presence of the forestry agents within the property and the continued efforts in defence and restoration of land. However, there is a lack of information as regards the implementation of some of the corrective measures and the Committee is therefore recommended to request the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures and strengthen the management structure of the property, by providing the necessary human, material and financial resources for its efficient operation.

Although concerns linked to insecurity have been reduced, the current conservation problems of poaching and illegal logging still constitute a real threat to the conservation of the property. The measures implemented to curb illegal logging are not clearly referred to in the State Party report. The combat against these illegal activities must be considered as a priority.

The State Party demonstrates a clear willingness regarding the establishment of a more complete wildlife inventory to gather information on the flagship species. It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property as soon as the results of the afore-mentioned inventory are available, to assess the current state of conservation of the property, and to revise the corrective measures and the timetable for their implementation, in consultation with the State Party. The inventory will also serve as a baseline to prepare an action plan with support from the IUCN Species Survival Commission and other appropriate partners detailing the activities to be implemented for the restoration of the property and integrally recover the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Measure are undertaken to demine the area; it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide more information regarding these efforts, including a precise mapping of the sites being demined.

According to the State Party, no oil research or exploitation permit exist in the property. It is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.45

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.10**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the efforts undertaken by the State Party in the areas of defence and land restoration, demining and reinforcement of the physical presence of forestry agents in the property, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures and strengthen the management structure of the property, by providing the necessary human, material and financial resources for its efficient operation;*
4. *Expresses its deep concern regarding the degradation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property linked to the illegal activities such as poaching and abusive logging, and requests the State Party to prioritize the combat against these illegal activities;*
5. *Takes note of the information provided by the State Party according to which an inventory mission is foreseen for 2014 to confirm and quantify the presence of flagship wildlife species (white antelope, dama gazelle and Saharan cheetah) within the*

property, and reiterates its request to the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property as soon as the results of this inventory are available, to assess its state of conservation, update the corrective measures and establish a timetable for their implementation, and to develop a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;

6. Also requests the State Party to provide more information together with maps concerning the demining activities within the property;
7. Also takes note of information provided by the State Party concerning the absence of extraction activities in and on the periphery of the property and further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015** a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above-mentioned points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
8. **Decides to retain the Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

46. Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) (N 153)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1981

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2007 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Poaching
- Livestock grazing
- Dam construction project at Sambangalou

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4087>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4087>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4087>

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 7 (from 1982-2004)

Total amount approved: 147,125USD

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

2001, 2007 and 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN reactive monitoring missions.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Poaching, capture and relocation of wildlife;
- Drying up of ponds, and invasive species;
- Illegal logging;
- Livestock grazing;
- Road construction project;
- Potential dam construction;
- Potential mining exploration and exploitation.

Illustrative material See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2014, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/documents>. It concerns progress achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures:

- Strengthening effective surveillance through staff and logistical has permitted the extension of the area of the property covered by the patrols and the State Party has provided information on the number of offenders arrested in 2013;
- The 25 additional officers transferred to the property in March 2013 had training in, among others, anti-poaching methods. They were reinforced by 18 trainee agents;
- A steering committee for the park, open to all stakeholders, is being constituted. Several training and awareness-raising sessions with the local communities have been held in the framework of the project "Animal husbandry as livelihoods" in partnership with IUCN. This project aims to strengthen animal husbandry around the property and the improved conservation of natural resources;
- The ecological monitoring carried out in 2013 confirms the presence of elephants (3 individuals observed by camera trap) and chimpanzee (6 observations) but the rarity of these observations is a cause for concern. More regular observations of three key species rarely observed before (lion, African wild dog and the hartebeest) are encouraging. Achieving a general inventory of large and middle-size wildlife is scheduled for the beginning of 2014;
- A project to improve the boundary marking of the property is currently underway;
- Rehabilitation activities of the ponds in the perimeter of the property have been carried out to improve the quality of the grazing land available for the wildlife;
- Tracks and guard posts have been rehabilitated in the framework of the emergency plan for the rehabilitation of the park. A large amount of equipment has been made available including vehicles and communication equipment to improve control of the park;
- The State Party has provided no information on the Sambangalou dam project, nor on the rehabilitation of the basalt quarry located in the territory of the property and closed in 2012.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The efforts undertaken by the State Party to reinforce surveillance and curb poaching that led several key species on the brink of extinction should be noted. The results of the ecological monitoring suggest that the situation of certain key species could be improving while that of the elephants and chimpanzees remains very worrying. However, these observations generally cover small number of individuals per species and the data simply indicates that some sectors of the Park still contain certain species without being able to assess precisely the number and their variation throughout the property. The inventory operation is crucial and a priority, and it is recommended that the State Party seek technical support from the IUCN Species Survival Commission.

Furthermore, it is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission as soon as the results of this inventory are available, recalling that the Committee had requested that such an inventory be carried out since its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010), because of its deep concern that the Outstanding universal value (OUV) of the property is seriously degraded and without such an inventory it would be impossible to evaluate the current state of the OUV, nor its potential to recover.

The Committee is recommended to encourage the State Party to rapidly formalise the steering committee for the park to associate more closely the different stakeholders of the territory concerned and in particular the local communities.

Finally, it is recommended that the Committee express its deep regret as regards the lack of information provided by the State Party concerning the dam project at Sambangalou and the restoration of the basalt quarry located within the property; and that the property be retained on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 38 COM 7A.46

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7A.13**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the efforts of the State Party to strengthen surveillance and curb poaching, notably the progress achieved in the rehabilitation of the surveillance tracks and guard posts, as well as the strengthening of surveillance staff;*
4. *Reiterates its serious concern as regards the state of conservation of the key species in the park, notably the elephant and chimpanzee and requests the State Party to urgently implement an inventory of large wildlife with technical support from the IUCN Species Survival Commission, and to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the property as concerns the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and to update the corrective measures once the results of the afore-mentioned inventory are available;*
5. *Requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010);*
6. *Further reiterates its request to the State Party to provide detailed information on the dam project at Sambangalou, as well as the restoration of the basalt quarry located within the property and closed in 2012;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a detailed report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*
8. ***Decides to retain the Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***