



UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Convention concerning the protection of the
world cultural and natural heritage



Periodic reporting on the application of the
World Heritage Convention

PERIODIC REPORT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
ON THE APPLICATION OF THE
WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

KAZAKH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
KAZAKHSTAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SECTION I: APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION BY THE STATE PARTY

I.1. Introduction

a. State Party: **Republic of Kazakhstan**

b. Year of ratification or acceptance of the Convention : **1994**

c. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report:

Kazakh National Commission for UNESCO, in co-operation with:

- Committee of Culture, the agency of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent,
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Protection of Environment.

Other national institutions and organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, also have contributed in the preparation of the present Report.

d. Date of the report: **March 2003**

e. Signature on behalf of State Party:

Kairat ABOUSEITOV
First Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Deputy Chairman of the Kazakhstan
National Commission for UNESCO

I.2. Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

a. National inventories

1) Cultural heritage

The immovable cultural properties of Kazakhstan are inscribed in the National List of Monuments of History and Culture and fall into two categories by the level of protection (namely: properties of Republican (i.e. National) significance and properties of local (i.e. oblast) significance. All immovable cultural properties are classified under the following five categories: *History, Archaeology, Architecture, Town Planning, Monumental Art*. By their complexity, all of them fall into two categories: *Single Monuments* and *Complex Monuments* (architectural ensembles, groups of structures, sites of all types).

The List has been established in 1982 by the Governmental Decree and regularly revised during the following 20 years by adding new properties. To date, in total about 24000 monuments and sites have been detected on the territory of Kazakhstan. 250 of them have the highest national listing, being inscribed in the List as Monuments of History and Culture of Republican (i.e. National) Significance. More than 8000 monuments and sites are included in the List as Monuments of History and Culture of Local Significance. All the other known monuments and sites are registered in the local Tentative Lists of Monuments of History and Culture.

The Committee of Culture is intended to revise and up-date the Lists in 2004, in order to not only include the newly discovered and evaluated properties, but also to delete those properties inscribed during the Soviet times just due to their political value for that period, while not having any scientific, artistic or other cultural values. Presently the funding is sought also for the creation of the National CIS-based Management Data Base for Cultural Heritage.

2) Natural heritage

b. Tentative List

The first World Heritage Tentative List of Cultural and Mixed Properties of Kazakhstan has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre in 1998. The List, comprising 10 cultural and mixed properties, has been prepared, under the invitation of the Committee of Culture, by the multidisciplinary target team of experts from the following several organizations, both public and private:

- 1) State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK), Committee of Culture, Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent;
- 2) "International Scientific Projects" LTD;
- 2) Institute of Archaeology, National Academy of Sciences;
- 3) Institute of Geological Sciences, National Academy of Sciences;
- 4) "Kumbez" LTD;
- 5) Almaty Pedagogical University.

The coordination of this work was by the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK). The relevant local agencies (*Inspections*) for the protection of cultural heritage and some experts from State Cultural Reserves-Museums and from local universities also took part in the preparatory work as consultants.

In 2002 the Tentative List has been updated by the inclusion of 4 natural properties.

To date, 14 properties are included in the Kazakh WH Tentative List, namely:

1) Cultural properties

- Ahmed Yasawi architectural complex and archaeological site of the medieval town of Yasi-Turkestan (*)
- Archaeological sites of Otrar Oasis
- Megalithic Mausolea of the Begazy-Dandybai Culture
- Petroglyphs of Arpa-Uzen

2) Natural properties

- Aksu-Zhabagly State Natural Reserve
- State National Natural Park "Altyn-Emel"
- Northern Tyan-Shan (Ile-Alatau State National Park)
- Steppe and Lakes of North Kazakhstan (*)

3) Mixed properties

- Archaeological complex and petroglyphs of Tamgaly (*)
- Barrows with Stone Ranges of the Tasmola Culture
- Cultural Landscape of Ulytau
- Paleolithic Sites and Geo-morphology of Karatau Mountain Range
- Petroglyphs of Eshkiolmes
- Turkic Sanctuary of Merke

(*) – The sites already nominated for inscription in the World Heritage List (see the next paragraph).

Presently, there is a need of a new revision of the World Heritage Tentative List of Kazakhstan, in order to make it more representative both geographically and thematically within the whole context of cultural and natural heritage of the Central Asian region, according to the recommendations of the *Global Strategy Expert Meeting of Central Asia Cultural Heritage (Turkmenistan, 14-17 May 2000)* and of the UNESCO Workshop *Possibilities of Nominations on Natural and Mixed World Heritage in Central Asia (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 16-18 December 2002)*. To achieve that, the complex multidisciplinary approach and co-ordination between different national agencies is necessary, especially in the case of mixed properties.

c. Nominations

To date, the following properties inscribed on the Kazakh WH Tentative List have been nominated for the inclusion in the World Heritage List:

1) *The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi* (C, nominated in 2002);

It represents the only architectural monument amongst the Tentative List sites of Kazakhstan. In opinion of both the Government and the people it had an indisputable priority for being nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List. The nomination dossier has been prepared by national experts with financial assistance from the World Heritage Fund. Mr. David Michelmore (UK), the ICOMOS expert, provided the technical assistance as an international consultant. The nomination dossier has been completed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2002. The ICOMOS evaluation mission to the site took place in August 2002, by Dr. Bagher Ayatollahzadeh Shirazi (Iran).

2) *Steppes and Lakes of North Kazakhstan* (N, nominated in 2002);

The nomination dossier has been completed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2002.

3) *Petroglyphs within the Archaeological Landscape of Tamgaly* (C, nominated in 2003).

While in 1998 the site has been included in the Tentative List as one of the most significant properties of Kazakhstan, during the period from 1991 (when the started process of conservation has been stopped by a lack of finance) to 2001 it was actually neglected. Some fragile surfaces have been damaged by visitors climbing the rocks with petroglyphs and writing their names on them. To protect Tamgaly and to prevent it from further deterioration, the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK) have prepared a project proposal for safeguarding, management and conservation of the site and forwarded it to UNESCO. To try the funding possibilities for the Project, UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage approached the Directorate for Cultural Heritage of Norway. The first mission of the Norwegian experts took place in April 2000 and resulted in the designing of the revised project proposal, followed by the decision of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to award a grant of 101990 USD to UNESCO for the implementation of the UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund Project for the Management, Conservation and Presentation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph Site (see Appendix IV). The Project didn't start yet, but the emergency works in Tamgaly started in 2001 by the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK), thanks to a special grant of the UNESCO Almaty, and then continued in 2002 due to the financial support form the Committee of Culture. As a measure of the first priority, the permanent horse guard has been established for the site, accompanied by the construction of protection barrier, preventing the rock canyon from the entry of vehicles, and by the organizing of some temporary facilities and visitor paths along the main routes.

The emergency works implemented by NIPI PMK have contributed in the promotion of the site and in the building of public awareness of the cultural heritage protection and conservation. Local community and authorities have been actively involved in those

works. They welcomed both the protective measures undertaken, the intention to nominate the site for inclusion in the World Heritage List as a property of world significance, and the visit of the UNESCO Director-General to the site in August 2001.

The nomination preparatory process also had a character of emergency. The Request for Preparatory Assistance has been submitted, under the invitation of the World Heritage Centre, in October 2001, and in February 2002 the Fee Contract between the World Heritage Centre and NIPI PMK has been signed. While the collation of materials for the nomination started immediately after that, the main fieldwork it became possible to start only in August 2002 when the first installment of 6000 USD reached the Institute. The shortage of time required prompt actions, and all the multidisciplinary team worked simultaneously and interactively. Even the site guardians and workers (local young people from the Karabastau village) contributed in the preparatory work, recording the data for the visitor statistics and assisting the experts and technicians during archaeological, geological, topographical and photographic surveys.

It must be mentioned with a special gratitude the contribution of 3 Norwegian experts – A.-S.Hygen, K.Gran and T.Bjelland, who worked on the site with the national expert team in June-July 2002 and provided technical advices on conservation and management issues.

The nomination dossier has been finally completed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2003.

The development of the Management Plan is foreseen within the framework of the UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund Project for the Management, Conservation and Presentation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph Site (see Appendix IV) that must start in 2003. Nevertheless, the works on the preparing of the plan and on the creation of the Management Database have been started by the Project team, following the guidelines given by the Norwegian Project Adviser Ms. A.-S..Hygen, who has drafted a structure of the Management Master Plan and three Management Sub-Plans. Presently the work is in the process, but it can be completed only after the Project starts.

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

a. General policy development

1) Cultural heritage

In accordance with the general State policy, the protection and conservation of cultural heritage, considered as an important part of the national culture of the Kazakhs and other peoples of Kazakhstan, is one of the main priorities among all the activities of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent in the field of cultural development. The Committee of Culture, representing an important part of the Ministry, plays a part of the State Agency for the Protection and Use of Cultural Heritage, according to the Law *“On the Protection and Utilization of Cultural Heritage”*. Measures on the protection, conservation, adaptive reuse and presentation of many important monuments and sites situated along the main routes of the Silk Road are included in the long term State Programme of the Republic of Kazakhstan *“Rehabilitation of the Silk Road Historic Centres, preservation and succession development of cultural heritage, creation of*

tourism infrastructure”, approved by the President’s Decree No 3859 of 27 February 1998.

Another important document is the mid-term “*Indicative Plan*” for the years 2001-2005 proposed by the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent and approved by the Government in 2001. It comprises a wide range of projects related to the scientific research, planning and implementation activities in the field of protection, inventorying, conservation, restoration, rehabilitation, interpretation and presentation of cultural heritage on all over the territory of Kazakhstan. The most important monuments and sites, especially those in a need of emergency, are given with a priority. The Plan is under implementation since 2001. Some of the projects foreseen by this Plan have been completed by the end of 2002, while the others are postponed due to a shortage of finance.

The built heritage of the most of historic cities of Kazakhstan has been inventoried in the Soviet times. Those inventories, along with proposals and recommendations for the protection zoning within the historic areas and appropriate use of historic buildings, have been done by the State Institute for Scientific Research and planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK, Almaty) and submitted to the relevant local authorities for consideration, approval and further integration into the Long Term Development Plans for historic cities.

2) Natural heritage

b. Status of services for protection, conservation and presentation

1) Cultural heritage

Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent, according to the Article 11 of the Law “About the Protection and Utilization of Cultural and Historic Heritage”, possesses the rights of owner on behalf of the State for all the listed monuments and sites in the territory of Kazakhstan

Committee of Culture, the agency of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent, plays a part of a State Agency for Protection and Utilisation of Historical and Cultural Heritage.

The duties of the local agencies for protection and utilization of historical and cultural heritage are performed by the *Departments of Culture* within the administrations of all the oblast governors. For that, in some oblasts the Departments of Culture have the *Inspections for Protection and Utilization of Historical and Cultural Heritage* within their structure.

Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museums, represent a special type of services devoted to protection and management of the sites of most outstanding significance. According to the current legislation, the Reserve-Museums’ mission comprises the following spheres:

1. The Reserve-Museums play a part of State Agencies for the identification, inventory, protection, management, conservation, interpretation and presentation to the public of the monuments and sites within their territories, and for the providing all necessary visitor services and facilities;
2. They are scientific institutions for studying the history, archaeology and ethnography within their territories and in the adjacent areas;

3. They establish site museums for the whole of the monuments and sites within their territories, and are responsible for collecting, storing, studying, conservation and presentation to public of archaeological finds and other items related to the history and culture of the area;

4. The Reserve-Museums are responsible for the educational and promotional activities (exhibitions of museum collections, lectures, excursions, publications, site interpretation) related to the building of public awareness in the history and culture of the area and in the safeguarding of its cultural heritage for the future generations.

«Azret-Sultan» State Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museum (Turkestan, South Kazakhstan Oblast)

Presently in Kazakhstan there are the following 7 Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museums:

Otrar State Archaeological Reserve-Museum (Otrar District, South Kazakhstan Oblast)

«*Ordabasy*» State Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museum (South Kazakhstan Oblast)

«*Monuments of Ancient Taraz*» State Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museum (Taraz, Zhambyl Oblast)

«*Zhidebai-Borly*» State Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museum (East Kazakhstan Oblast)

«*Monuments of Mangyshlak and Ustyurt*» State Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museum (Mangystau Oblast)

«*Ulytau*» State Historic, Cultural and Natural Reserve (Ulytau District, Karaganda Oblast)*

* - «*Ulytau*» represents the first and still the only example of the site legally protected at National level as a mixed property; due to this special character it comes under two Ministries – the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Protection of Environment.

The new *Tamgaly* State Historic and Cultural Reserve-Museum (Almaty Oblast) is to be established in 2003. It will occupy the territory within the boundaries of the Protection Zone, corresponding to the boundaries of the Buffer Zone proposed in the Nomination dossier.

State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK) comes under the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent. It has been established by governmental decree in September 1993 on the base of the former Kazakh Institute for Restoration Projects “*Kazproektrestavratsia*” founded in 1980. NIPI PMK continued and developed the work of the former institution in a broader range of activities. In spite of the general tendency in Kazakhstan, during the period of 1994-1997, to close agencies for protection, conservation and restoration of cultural heritage because of the economical difficulties, NIPI PMK continued to work and arrived to save its best experts, its Cultural Heritage Archive, and some of its technical facilities. The staff of the Institute includes architects, town planners, conservation architects, engineers, technologists, archaeologists and other professionals and technicians. The Cultural Heritage Archive of the Institute contains the scientific, technical and inventory documentation collected since the 1950’s; and it represents the most complete and unique “bank” of information on cultural heritage, its protection and conservation in Kazakhstan. Today NIPI PMK represents the only public institution in Kazakhstan responsible for all kinds of scientific research, surveys and planning for protection, conservation,

restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive re-use, museification and presentation of immovable cultural heritage. The Institute has contributed to the elaboration of all on-going national programmes concerning the Cultural Heritage; and also participates in their implementation, conducting the scientific, experimental and planning works on the broad range of heritage conservation and management problems. Together with the Institute of Archaeology, since May 2001 NIPI PMK participates in the UNESCO/Japanese FIT Project on the Preservation and Conservation of the ancient city of Otrar. Since 1989 the Institute coordinates the scientific research and conservation planning works on the Archaeological Complex of Tamgaly in Almaty region. In collaboration with the institutions of National Academy of Sciences, NIPI PMK has completed the preliminary stage of multidisciplinary scientific studies and surveys, and, in cooperation with the specialists of Russian Museum (Saint Petersburg, Russia), conducted the experimental conservation works on the selected parts of rocks with petroglyphs. It was the first experience of the rock art site conservation in Kazakhstan. With a financial support by UNESCO Almaty and later by the Committee of Culture, in 2001-02 the Institute implemented the emergency works in Tamgaly, in order to prevent the site from the rapid deterioration due to visitor pressure. The works in Tamgaly are to be continued under the UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund Project "Management, Conservation and Presentation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph Site". In 1998 NIPI PMK has coordinated the preparation of the first World Heritage Tentative List of Kazakhstan; in 2001-02 – the nomination of the *Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi* (Turkestan city, South Kazakhstan), submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2002. The next nomination of cultural property for inclusion in the World Heritage List, *Petroglyphs within the Archaeological Landscape of Tamgaly*, has been completed by the Institute under the contract with the World Heritage Centre and submitted in January 2003.

The *Republican Direction for Repair, Construction and Restoration (RSRU)* is also subordinate to the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Consent and devoted to the implementation of repair, restoration and conservation works on the monuments and sites in accordance with the projects developed by NIPI PMK and approved by the Committee of Culture. At local level in some oblasts there are survived the Restoration Workshops subordinate to *RSRU*.

2) Natural heritage

c. Scientific and technical studies and research

1) Cultural heritage

The continuous studies on the rock art of Central Asia during several last years, involving the archaeologists both from Central Asian and Western countries, contributed in the present state of knowledge on this important part of our cultural heritage, resulted in a series of important publications, permitted to identify the sites of outstanding significance within the regional context, and led to the initiative to create the Central Asian Regional Rock Art Computer Database. This project is coordinated by the International Institute of Central Asian Studies (Samarkand, Uzbekistan) and involves experts from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia.

The scientists from the different Institutes of the Kazakh National Academy of Sciences participate in various programmes, both national and regional, devoted to the scientific

research and studies on the history of interactions between settled and nomadic civilizations of Central Asia, on cultural heritage, history and ethnography of different geographical and ethno-cultural regions of Kazakhstan. The archaeological excavations by the Institute of Archaeology gave fresh information on many important prehistoric and medieval sites. Among them is an outstanding site of the *Sakae Barrows of Berel* in East Kazakhstan, presently identified as indisputable candidate for inclusion in the WH Tentative List of Kazakhstan.

One of the current INTAS scientific projects, involving both international and national experts from different scientific institutions, is of a particular interest in a view of the future nomination of the *Archaeological Sites of Otrar Oasis*, the Tentative List site, for inclusion in the World Heritage List – *Geo-archaeological investigations of land use and irrigation works in Kazakhstan in present and in historical times*. The general goal of the project is to reconstruct the present conditions and the historical evolution of land use and irrigation works in chosen key polygons located in four regions of KZ, today exposed to a relevant process of aridisation and characterized by different hydrological and climatic features: South Kazakhstan, Semirechie west and east, Central Kazakhstan. The Project foresees the study of the actual state of land use and irrigation in the selected key polygons, the reconstruction of the general historical background of the human occupation of the areas, the evolution of the techniques of water collection (wells, etc) and irrigation. The reconstruction of the historical evolution in land use (kinds of crops, types of agriculture) and pointing out the interrelation between their variation and the climatic, hydrological, social and political changes will permit to compare the information collected about land use evolution during history with the present conditions and problems of the sites and to point out the factors that lead to changes during history and to compare the past and the present forcing events.

The important scientific research and surveys have been done on the *Turkic Sanctuary of Merke* Tentative List site, aimed to provide the necessary data for the creation of the Merke Cultural and Natural Reserve. This work has been supported by the Merke District and Zhambyl Oblast authorities, willing to provide for this important site the highest level of protection and management.

2) Natural heritage

d. Measures for identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation

1) Cultural heritage

In Kazakhstan, as in all the other post-Soviet countries of Central Asia, major efforts have been done during the past years to protect the immovable cultural heritage. In 1992, the Republic of Kazakhstan promulgated a new *Law About the Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Heritage*. In the Soviet times the restoration and conservation of many historic monuments have been conducted during the period of late 1970s - early 1990s, but in 1993 all conservation and restoration works on monuments and sites of Kazakhstan were stopped by a lack of finance until 1997. In 1997 the budget allocations had been provided for conservation and restoration of three important Muslim monuments of Kazakhstan, namely the underground mosque of Beket-Ata in Onglady (West Kazakhstan) and the medieval mausoleums of Alasha-Khan and Joshi-Khan in

Central Kazakhstan. In 1998 the restoration works were started also on the secondary monuments surrounding the Ahmed Yasawi Architectural Complex, preparatory for the 1500 anniversary celebrations of the city of Turkestan. All those works have been completed in 2000. The conservation and restoration works on the most significant Islamic monuments and sites of the city of Taraz, the 2500 jubilee of which has been celebrated this year, have been implemented during a period of 2000-2002. The budget allocations for conservation and restoration works on monuments and sites in Kazakhstan constitute in average 100-150 mln tenge per year.

The restoration of the famous Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi in Turkestan, financed by the Turkish government, has been completed in 2000. The other examples of international assistance in the conservation of cultural heritage in Kazakhstan are the current UNESCO/Japanese Trust Fund Project for Preservation and Restoration of Otrar Tobe, the medieval Silk Road site (started in 2001), and also the UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund project on Management and Preservation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph site (to be started in 2003). Nevertheless, the state remains the main sponsor and donor in the conservation and restoration of cultural properties.

However, the attention so far placed on documentation, conservation, and presentation of numerous properties has not been sufficient to meet the needs of the variety and quantity of immovable cultural heritage, ranging from archaeological sites to monumental buildings, defensive structures, historic towns and vernacular architecture. There is a need to strengthen the protective legislation, regulations and administrative framework and to improve the present situation in the organization of conservation activities in general and in the promotion and facilitating of the scientific research in conservation in particular. The advanced approach is required in the preservation of the potential World Heritage sites, in order to maintain them according to international conservation norms.

2) Natural heritage

e. Training

1) Cultural heritage

Training of professionals in management and conservation of immovable cultural heritage is still lacking in Kazakhstan, due to a lack of the relevant training programmes and methodologies. Some of national conservation experts received training through the participation in the international training courses in Italy, Norway, Thailand, Iran and Japan. The current *UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund Project for the Preservation and Restoration of Otrar Tobe, Kazakhstan*, provides the training of the Kazakh conservationists and archaeologists in the process of its implementation. Also, within the framework of this Project, the regional training course on management and conservation of the archaeological sites is to be organized in August 2004.

To date, the main source of expertise in Kazakhstan in the field of conservation and management of cultural heritage is the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK), presently responsible for the management, maintenance and monitoring of the site and for the training of personnel for the future State Archaeological Reserve-Museum of Tamgaly, through the involvement

of local young people in the above-mentioned activities. The further training is planned within a framework of the *UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund Project for the Management, Conservation and Presentation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph Site*, with the duration of 2.5 years from 2003 to 2005.

To initiate and develop in Kazakhstan the permanent training activities for the staff and specialists at all levers in the fields of identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of cultural and natural heritage, the international assistance is required.

At the Global Strategy Expert Meeting of Central Asia Cultural Heritage (Turkmenistan, 14-17 May 2000). In particular, the Republics requested that a programme for the conservation of earthen architecture be developed through assessing the existing situation, implementing pilot projects, and elaborating a long term regional training programme aimed at introducing earthen architectural conservation within the curriculum of the existing national institutions.

Following this request, the World Heritage Centre and CRATerre EAG proposed a special Project *CentralAsianEarth 2002-2012*. This project is timely and very promising, as its main objective is to build capacity of the site-management authorities and technical experts in Central Asia for enhanced conservation, presentation, and management of the world cultural heritage or future world cultural heritage in this region through close co-operation at international, regional, and national levels. It foresees the involvement of existing training institutions, both at the academic and practical levels, that is quite essential.

2) Natural heritage

I.4. International co-operation and fund raising

1) Cultural heritage

The first International Project related to the protection and conservation of cultural heritage is the current UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund Project for the Preservation and Restoration of Otrar Tobe, Kazakhstan, with a total duration of 4 years that started in 2001. Together with the international and national experts, the colleagues from Kyrgyzstan take part in its implementation. This collaboration resulted in the revival of close co-operation between Kazakh and Kyrgyz experts and organizations devoted to the protection and conservation of cultural heritage. The Kazakh experts from NIPi PMK participate in the conservation of Shakh-Fazil, the Tentative List monument in Kyrgyzstan. The participation of the Kazakh experts is also foreseen in the proposed UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund Project for the Conservation of Krasnaya Rechka, the important Silk Road Buddhist site on the Tentative List of Kyrgyzstan.

The UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund Project for the Management, Conservation and Presentation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph Site (see Appendix IV) that must start in 2003 also foresees the partial participation of both Kyrgyz and Uzbek experts, in order to share the experience and expertise in management and conservation of the petroglyph sites in Central Asia.

It is also important to mention here the participation of Kazakhstan in the UNESCO regional project *Development of Cultural and Eco-tourism in mountainous areas of Central Asia and Himalayas*.

The existing co-operation within the region needs to be strengthened through the development and implementation of the regional projects related to the main issues of management, conservation and presentation of cultural heritage in Central Asia. The Project *CentralAsianEarth 2002-2012*, proposed by the World Heritage Centre and CRATerre EAG, responds to all those issues.

2) Natural heritage

I.5. Education, information and awareness building

In Kazakhstan, there are 25 UNESCO Associated Schools, situated in different regions, mainly in major cities. 15 of such schools are located in Almaty, the largest cultural, educational and scientific centre of the country. Their activities comprise publications, lectures, organization of ASP Summer Schools, round tables, various projects and campaigns aimed to raise the awareness and understanding of the young people about the protection and conservation of cultural and natural heritage.

A good example is the private school "BEST" (Almaty), where it was organized the Teachers' Centre for Research and Promotion of World Heritage, working since 1999. This school participates in the UNESCO Special Project *Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion*.

One of the most promising present initiatives is the special Pilot Project *Teaching Cultural and Natural Heritage in Schools of Kazakhstan*, proposed by the *International Research Programs Alumni Association (ARA)*. The Project is aiming on the working out the methodology for developing and teaching interactive multimedia Heritage Program for schools in Kazakhstan, using broadband TV/IP technology, based on the best world experience. It involves Kazakh national educational institutions, international and national experts, some private organizations and NGOs. The funds are sought, with the assistance of UNESCO Almaty, from various national and foreign foundations available in Kazakhstan.

The similar activities are foreseen within the framework of the *UNESCO/Norwegian Trust Fund Project for the Management, Conservation and Presentation of the Tamgaly Petroglyph Site* mentioned in the paragraph I.4. Those activities, planned for the years 2003-04, will represent a part of the educational programme of this Project. Their aim is to develop a programme, methodology and educational materials for teaching the local heritage to the schoolchildren of the Almaty Oblast. This programme is to be developed by the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK), the national implementation agency to the Project, and in some respects it will represent a further development of the above-mentioned Project *Teaching Cultural and Natural Heritage in Schools of Kazakhstan*.

The establishment of the permanent guide and guard and the emergency works implemented in Tamgaly in 2001-02 have contributed in the promotion of the site and in the building of public awareness of the cultural heritage protection and conservation. The

present monitoring of the site by the experts of NIPI PMK, with the participation of local people from the Karabastau village, has also an additional important aim of a social character – an interaction with the local community, targeted on the raising of their awareness and understanding of the site's cultural significance, but also on the clearing up their relations and opinions concerning the on-going process of changes to the site, their social needs, etc. It is understood that the most effective way to raise the local awareness is to talk with the most respected local people of the oldest generation and also with the young people, supporting it by the distribution of booklets and other educational materials on Tamgaly and on the history of Kazakhstan, free of charge and written in Kazakh.

Several public information initiatives have been undertaken during last two years under the UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund Project for the Preservation and Restoration of Otrar Tobe, Kazakhstan. The representatives of some foreign embassies, the South Kazakhstan Oblast and Otrar District authorities, and the journalists visited the site in the process of conservation works, and the team of international and national experts shared information about the project and future of this unique site. As a result, by reaching out to a broad public through print and television, this information helped people to understand that conservation is crucial to preserve Otrar and the importance of preserving our heritage for future generations.

In 2000 the Committee of Culture has revived the Project for the preparation and publication of *Svod Pamyatnikov Istorii i Kultury* (Encyclopedia of Monuments of History and Culture), covering all immovable cultural heritage of the country. Initially this Project started in the beginning of 1990s by the preparation and publication of the 1st volume comprising all monuments and sites of South Kazakhstan Oblast, but then it has been stopped by the economical crisis. From the first it has been planned to publish in total 20 volumes (1 volume per each of 19 oblasts, plus 1 separate volume for the city of Almaty). The revised plan foresees 15 volumes in total, because the number of oblasts in Kazakhstan has been reduced to 14. Since the revival of the Project, the 2nd volume (devoted to the monuments and sites of the Zhambyl Oblast) has been prepared by the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture (NIPI PMK) in co-operation with other scientific institutions, and a major preparatory work has been done on the collection of materials for the next publications. The Zhambyl Oblast volume has been published in 2002, both Kazakh and Russian versions. To continue the Project, in 2003 the Prime Minister has delegated to all regional (oblast) governments of Kazakhstan the responsibility to finance the preparation and publication of the next volumes related to their respective oblasts.

To raise the public awareness about the protection and conservation of cultural heritage at all levels, a number of publications, films, video, TV programmes, and also some CDs and websites appeared in Kazakhstan during the last 5 years. Some important international documents related to the protection of cultural heritage have been translated into Russian and published.

The celebration of the 1500 years Anniversary of Turkestan and 2000 years Anniversary of Taraz took place in the years 2000 and 2002, respectively, both under the aegis of UNESCO. Those major events devoted to the most important historic cities of Kazakhstan presented an important contribution in the promotion of their cultural heritage.

I.6. Conclusions and recommended action

1) Cultural heritage

Par.	Item	Main conclusions	Proposed future actions	Responsible implementig agency	Timeframe for implementing	Needs for international assistance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.2.a	National inventories	a). Revision & updating of the National List of Monuments of History and Culture; b). Creation of the National CH Database	a) Work out the criteria for the national listing of cultural properties & the format of the National CH List. Conduct the first necessary studies, develop & Publish the revised National & Local Lists of Cultural Properties b) Develop a pilot project on working out the Database, create the DB starting with the potential WH properties inscribed on the Tentative List	Committee of Culture, NIPI PMK Committee of Culture, NIPI PMK, Institutes of the Academy of sciences, Local Departments of Culture NIPI PMK	2003 2003-2005 2004-2010	Assistance in fund raising for this project would be highly appreciated
I.2.b	Tentative List	Revision & updating of the Tentative List	a) Finalize the identification of the potential WH cultural & mixed sites; b) Complete & submit to the WH Centre the revised Tentative List.	Committee of Culture, Ministry of Natural Resources & Protection of Environment NIPI PMK, Institutes of the Academy of sciences	2003-2004	Preparatory assistance from WHF
I.2.c	Nominations	a) Finalize, approve & start implementation	a) Sign the Plan of Operations and	Ministry of Culture, Information	2003	

		of the long-term Management Plans for the nominated properties b) Prepare the next WH nomination	start the implementation of the UNESCO/NTF Project for Tamgaly b) Define the site limits, develop the management plan & start collecting data for the nomination of <i>Archaeological Sites of Otrar</i> , Prepare & submit the nomination	& Public Consent, Committee of Culture, NIPI PMK Institute of Archaeology, NIPI PMK (within the framework of the current UNESCO/Jp FIT Project on Otrar Institute of Archaeology	2003-2004 2005-2006	Preparatory assistance from WHF
I.3.a.	General policy development	Integrate the protection of the potential WH properties into the future planning programmes	Establish the co-operation between different responsible agencies & organizations	Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent	2003-2005	
I.3.b	Status of services for protection, conservation & presentation	Strengthen the capacity and increase the number of the state agencies & professional organizations in the field of protection, management & conservation of cultural heritage	a) Gradually improve the professional staffing and financial support of the existing agencies; b) Create the Historical and Cultural Reserve of <i>Tamgaly</i> c) Identify the needs & priorities in the creation of other agencies	Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent, Committee of Culture Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Government of the Almaty Oblast, Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent,	2003-2012 2003 2004-2005	

			for protection, management & conservation of cultural heritage	Committee of Culture		
I.3.c	Scientific & technical studies and research	Enhance the scientific & technical studies contributing in the further process of identification of the potential WH properties and in the knowledge of their values	1) Support the historical, archaeological, ethnographical studies and surveys in different geographical & ethno-cultural regions of Kazakhstan	Ministry of Education & Sciences, Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent	2004-2012	
I.3.d	Measures for identification, protection, conservation, presentation	a) Strengthen the protective legislation b) Strengthen the protection & management of the nominated properties & the Tentative List Sites	a) Draft the relevant sub-laws and regulations	Committee of Culture, NIPI PMK	2003-2006	
			b) Delimitate the territories, establish the zones & mechanisms of protection for the Tentative List sites, develop the Management Plans for the relevant Historical & Cultural Reserves	Committee of Culture	2004-2012	
I.3.e	Training	Organize the professional training in management & conservation of cultural heritage	a) Organize the UNESCO Regional Training Course on Management & Conservation of Earth Archaeological Sites, Otrar, KZ 2004	Committee of Culture, NIPI PMK, International expert team of the UNESCO /JFIT Project on <i>Otrar</i>	2004	The additional WHF assistance in organization of training activities
			b) Initiate & develop a high education for conservation	Ministry of Education & Science, Ministry of	2005-2010	Assistance in developing the training

			using the capacity & facilities of the existing educational institutions c) Train the staff of the Historical & Cultural Reserves in Turkestan, Otrar & Tamgaly	Culture, Information & Public Consent NIPI PMK, within the framework of the current projects	2003-2005	programs & in training the staff Possible WHF assistance in organization of training activities in Turkestan
I.4	International co-operation & fund raising	Enhance the exchange of experience and co-operation between experts and organizations of the Central Asian Countries on protection & conservation of cultural heritage	1) Take part in implementation of the <i>Central Asian Earth 2002-2012</i> Regional Project;	Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent, Committee of Culture, Ministry of Education & Science, NIPI PMK, Universities and other educational institutions	2004-2012	Technical and financial assistance foreseen by the Project
			2) Provide the participation of the Uzbek & Kyrgyz experts in the works under the UNESCO/NFIT Project on <i>Tamgaly</i>	NIPI PMK	2003-2005	
I.5	Education, information & awareness building	1) Introduce programs for teaching cultural heritage in schools;	1) Develop the pilot teaching programme for schools of Almaty on Tamgaly and other cultural properties of Almaty region;	NIPI PMK, in co-operation with the Republican Institute for Improvement of the Pedagogical Staff Qualification	2004	Provided by the UNESCO/NFIT Project on Tamgaly

		2) Organize publications on the cultural heritage of Kazakhstan	2) Prepare and publish visitor maps & guidebooks on the Tentative List sites;	Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Consent, Committee of Culture, Ministry of Education & Science, NIPI PMK	2003-2006	
			3) Continue the preparation and publication of <i>Encyclopedia of Monuments of History & Culture</i>	NIPI PMK, in co-operation with other institutions and organizations with financial support from the relevant oblasts' budgets	2003-2012	

2) Natural heritage

Par.	Item	Main conclusions	Proposed future actions	Responsible implementig agency	Timeframe for implementing	Needs for international assistance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.2.a	National inventories					
I.2.b	Tentative List					
I.2.c	Nominations					
I.3.a.	General policy development					
I.3.b	Status of services for protection, conservation & presentation					
I.3.c	Scientific & technical studies and research					
I.3.d	Measures for identification, protection,					

	conservation & presentation					
I.3.e	Training					
I.4	International co-operation & fund raising					
I.5	Education, information & awareness building					

SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

While Kazakhstan have nominated already one natural and two cultural properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List, still none of them are inscribed. Therefore, we don't give in this Section the information on specific properties, while some data related to the properties nominated for the inscription in the World Heritage List is provided in the relevant paragraphs of the Section I.