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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Forty-third session

Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan
30 June - 10 July 2019

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/43COM/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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NATURAL PROPERTIES

ASIA-PACIFIC

1. 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 -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

Adopted; see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5970>

Revised, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/7213>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted; see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5970>

Revised, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/7213>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5970>

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

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2005-2012)

Total amount approved: USD 96,600

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

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,800,000 for the 3-year UNF/UNFIP Project (2005-2007) – Partnership for the Conservation of Sumatra Natural Heritage; USD 35,000 Rapid Response Facility Grant (2007)

Previous monitoring missions

February-March 2006: joint UNESCO/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; March 2007: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; February 2009: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2011: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; October 2013: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2018: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Ground transport infrastructure (Road construction)
- Land conversion (Agricultural encroachment)
- Illegal activities (Illegal logging; Poaching)
- Governance (Institutional and governance weaknesses)
- Renewable energy facilities (Geothermal development license adjacent to the property)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1167/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1167/documents/>, providing the following updates:

- The moratorium on new logging concessions in primary forests and peatlands continues to be in place, and efforts to rehabilitate degraded forests in the property are ongoing through community participation and stakeholder partnerships;
- Deforestation data shows continued loss across all three components of the property notably due to land use conversion and expansion of bushland including *Merremia peltata*, an Invasive Alien Species (IAS), with a higher rate in buffer zones and lower rate in Intensive Protection Zones;
- The Provincial Government of Aceh has committed to prioritize the prevention of further deforestation in the Aceh part of the Leuser Ecosystem;
- The State Party commits to not grant permits for geothermal energy exploration within the property;
- The State Party will consult IUCN on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Karo-Langkat road improvement in Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP). The construction work for the upgrade of Bukit Tapan road in Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP) is on hold due to a discrepancy in documents;
- The State Party will consult the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to propose a significant boundary modification to better reflect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and the modifications made via Ministerial Decrees, however a governmental decision has been taken not to include the wider Leuser Ecosystem;
- A guidebook for monitoring Sumatran Tiger populations has been published and 30 staff from national parks in Sumatra have been trained for its implementation. Equivalent guidebooks for Sumatran Orangutan, Elephant and Rhino populations are being developed;
- A 2018-2021 Emergency Action Plan for the breeding and reintroduction of Sumatran Rhino has been developed;
- A national strategy on IAS was developed in 2015 as part of efforts to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by 2020, and a specific guideline on controlling *Merremia peltata* was developed in 2016;
- Patrolling efforts in all three components of the property increased in 2018, which recorded a corresponding decline in poaching incidents and illegal logging in the patrolled areas;
- Some boundary demarcation activities were undertaken in KSNP in 2018, the results and map for which are under development.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The continued efforts to strengthen the patrolling activities within all three components of the property are welcomed, as is the commitment of the Provincial Government of Aceh to prioritize the prevention of further deforestation in the entire Leuser Ecosystem. Continued efforts are needed to curb the ongoing deforestation within the property and its buffer zones, and scale up the forest restoration activities with priorities given to ecologically sensitive areas, wildlife corridors and road sides. It is also critical that the geographic coverage of patrols is enhanced in line with the corrective measures. The State Party report does not provide clear information on progress towards achieving these specific, targeted activities nor on 2018 forest cover data, which forms the baseline for measuring progress towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) indicator.

The State Party's commitment not to grant permits for geothermal energy exploration within the property is welcomed, and the State Party should be encouraged to reflect this commitment through legislation to rule out the possibility of future geothermal development proposals within World Heritage properties. The Committee should remind the State Party to ensure that all planned projects or works are subject to EIA processes in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and that information about any planned projects that could have an impact on the OUV of the property

is submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN before any decisions are made that may be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

The development of a guidebook for the monitoring of the Sumatra Tiger is noted, but further training appears to be needed to ensure that it is systematically applied across the three national parks to provide consistent monitoring methods. The surveys are currently spatially limited and therefore cannot measure range occupancy, which is one of the DSOCR indicators. It is also of concern that a consistent monitoring process for the other three key species is still missing.

The State Party's intention to consult IUCN on the EIA for the Karo-Langkat road is noted. It is regrettable that approval for the road upgrade has already been issued, even though it contradicts the approved DSOCR and has a high likelihood of negatively impacting the OUV of the property. It is therefore critical that the State Party does not start the project before an EIA is undertaken in consultation with IUCN to review the impacts on the OUV. The upgrade of Bukit Tapan should have also been subjected to an EIA with a specific assessment of its impact on the OUV. The State Party should therefore be requested to ensure no further construction is carried out until a specific assessment on the OUV has been completed and appropriate mitigation measures identified, and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN.

The 2018 IUCN mission identified encroachment as the most serious long-term threat to the property, and it is evident from the State Party's report that encroachment continues to be a major driver for deforestation. Very limited progress on boundary demarcation appears to have been made, with the only activities reported in KSNP. Noting the importance of a clear boundary demarcation to enforce the law and in particular stop further encroachment, the State Party should be requested to expedite this activity.

While some positive progress has been made by the State Party, it is clear that considerably more effort is required to measure its indicators and achieve the DSOCR and associated corrective measures. It is therefore recommended to retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision 42 COM 7A.40 adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
3. Welcomes the progress achieved by the State Party on increasing patrols within the property to reduce poaching and illegal logging, and the commitment of the Provincial Government of Aceh to prioritize the prevention of further deforestation in the Aceh part of the Leuser Ecosystem;
4. Takes note of the Emergency Action Plan for Sumatran Rhino and guidebook for monitoring Sumatran Tiger but notes with concern the continued spatial limitation of the surveys that do not allow for comprehensive monitoring of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), and requests the State Party to monitor range occupancy of the four key species (Sumatran Elephant, Tiger, Rhino and Orangutan);
5. Notes with significant concern the ongoing forest loss and strongly requests the State Party to scale up efforts to halt encroachment and to implement control measures to prevent further proliferation of the invasive species *Merremia peltata* while prioritizing increased patrolling, monitoring and forest restoration activities of ecologically sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, and road sides;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre the 2018 forest cover data that will form the baseline for measuring progress towards achieving the

indicator for the DSOCR, and to also report on the forest cover in the property, to allow a consistent comparison across the years;

7. *Also welcomes* the State Party's commitment not to grant any permits for geothermal energy exploration inside the property, and *encourages* the State Party to legislate against possible future geothermal development proposals inside World Heritage properties;
8. *Further requests* the State Party to ensure that all planned projects or works are subject to Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) processes in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and that information about any planned projects is submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. *Notes* that the State Party will consult the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to develop a proposal for a significant boundary modification to better reflect the OUV of the property and the modifications made to the national park boundaries via Ministerial Decrees;
10. *Reiterates its concern* that two road upgrade projects have been approved without the necessary EIA process and *urges* the State Party:
 - a) Not to start the construction of the Karo-Langkat road upgrade until an EIA, including an assessment of the OUV of the property, has been undertaken in consultation with IUCN,
 - b) To ensure that a comprehensive assessment of the impacts on the OUV for the Bukit Tapan road upgrade is undertaken and appropriate mitigation measures identified and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN prior to further construction taking place;
11. *Requests furthermore* the State Party to enhance the geographic coverage of patrols in the property, to expedite the boundary demarcation of the property to halt encroachment, and to continue implementing all other corrective measures;
12. *Finally requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
13. ***Decides to retain the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

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

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1982

Criteria (vii)(viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1996-2007, 2011-present

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

- Illegal logging
- Illegal occupation
- Lack of clarity regarding land tenure
- Reduced capacity of the State Party
- General deterioration of law and order and the security situation in the region

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

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6236>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6236>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6236>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 8 (from 1982-2015)

Total amount approved: USD 223,628

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 80,000 (in addition to approximately USD 100,000 of in-kind technical assistance) under the management effectiveness assessment project “Enhancing our Heritage”

Previous monitoring missions

November 1995 and October 2000: IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions; 2003, 2006 and 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions; October / November 2015 and October 2017: Independent Advisory missions facilitated by the World Heritage Centre

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Financial resources
- Human resources
- Illegal activities (Illegal settlements, illegal livestock grazing and agricultural encroachment, drug trafficking, illegal logging, illegal commercial fishing, poaching and wildlife trade)
- Invasive/alien terrestrial species
- Land conversion (deforestation and forest degradation)
- Legal framework (Lawlessness and lack of law enforcement)
- Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals
- Management systems/management plan (Lack of clarity of the boundaries of the property, lack of clarity regarding land tenure and access to natural resources)
- Water infrastructure (Potential impacts from hydroelectric development projects Patuca I,II and III)
- Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community

- Overlap with important archaeological sites implying a need to harmonize management of cultural and natural heritage

Illustrative material see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/>

Current conservation issues

On 4 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/documents>, supplemented on 14 February 2019 by information on a hydropower project.

The State Party responds to Decision **42 COM 7A.44**, as follows:

- The Ad-Hoc Committee for the protection of the property, initially built upon Executive Decrees from 2011 and 2013, was re-activated to coordinate priority actions for the property and its surroundings. Two meetings in 2018 brought together the Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Honduras, the Directorate of Indigenous People and Afro-Hondurans and numerous governmental institutions, including the Defense Forces and National Police;
- A presidential campaign branded “SOS Honduras: Stop the Destruction of Forests” was launched on 8 November 2018 with the objective to enhance financing, capacities and coordination between sectors, institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and cooperation actors. Tangible objectives include checkpoints involving multiple agencies and the implementation of a national ranger programme;
- Supported by the German government, the longstanding cooperation with indigenous peoples and local communities continues to allocate rights to land and access to natural resources, and to promote so-called life plans (“planes de vida”), as an integral part of the governance and management of the property and its surroundings;
- Recognizing the conservation significance of the Honduran Mosquitia region, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) support the State Party through technical capacity-building and equipment for field personnel;
- Overflights and ground level surveys to detect illegal activities were continued in 2018 and a cooperation agreement between the Instituto Nacional de Conservación y Desarrollo Forestal (ICF) and the Secretary of National Defense is under negotiation, aimed at strengthening monitoring and surveillance activities.

The State Party renewed its commitment to continue actions towards the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and the elaboration of a Significant Boundary Modification (SMB). An updated Tentative List was submitted, as a necessary requirement towards the future nomination.

The Patuca III hydropower project is reported to be under construction and its potential environmental impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property have not been evaluated in accordance with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment. However, the State Party expresses its commitment to comply with this Committee’s request and is seeking financial assistance through international cooperation to undertake the assessment, although no resources have been secured so far.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The continued efforts to grant rights to indigenous peoples and local, including Afro-Honduran, communities in and around the property, as well as the bi-lateral cooperation in support of innovative governance and management solutions are welcomed yet again. It is recommended that the Committee commend the support of international governmental and non-governmental conservation partners, such as the WCS, GWC, and USFWS, which strongly re-affirms the extraordinary conservation significance of the property. Further, the re-activation of the Ad-Hoc Committee accompanied by the Presidential Campaign SOS Honduras is noted as another positive step.

The State Party, however, does not elaborate on the effectiveness of coordination efforts and the systemic underfunding and understaffing, which have been hampering the management and protection of the property since 1996, when the property was first inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. There is little evidence that the State Party’s response, since the second inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2011, is resulting in a turn-around of the worrying trends in this vast and remote

property. Whilst acknowledging the results of earlier attempts to induce decisive change through the Ad-Hoc Committee, it will be critically important to sustain the political momentum of the Ad-Hoc Committee and the SOS Honduras Campaign and to support follow-up with adequate governmental resources, complemented by externally-funded projects.

While the activities, including those proposed in the framework of several international cooperation programmes, are welcomed, it is becoming clear that an alternative approach is required to make sufficient progress towards completing the corrective measures and achieving the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). Recalling that the Committee recommended the consideration of a Significant Boundary Modification (SBM) as a crucial step in this process and further to its general endorsement of this recommended approach, the State Party has since successfully updated its Tentative List by the inclusion of Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve. It is recommended that the Committee strongly encourage the State Party to initiate the proposal for a SBM in an adequately resourced participatory process, coordinating the many ongoing efforts, sectors, projects, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities in and around the property. Given the simultaneous recognition as a Biosphere Reserve, it will be important to harmonize the process with the formal requirements under the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme.

In light of the Committee's concerns about the Patuca III (Piedras Amarillas) hydropower project expressed in several decisions (including Decision **42 COM 7A.44**), it is alarming that the project has advanced in its construction. While the readiness of the State Party to undertake an assessment of potential impacts of the project is noted, it is regrettable that no progress has been achieved to date in initializing the required assessment. It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its utmost concern and request immediate clarification of the current situation in terms of current and potential impacts on the OUV of the property.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.4

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.3** and **42 COM 7A.44**, adopted at its 41st (Krakow, 2017) and 42nd (Manama, 2018) sessions respectively,*
3. *Commends the State Party on the re-activation of the Ad-Hoc Committee dedicated to the management and protection of the property, as well as the Presidential Campaign "SOS Honduras: Stop the Destruction of Forests";*
4. *Also commends the governmental and non-governmental partners on their continued support for the conservation of the property and progress made in land titling and granting negotiated local access to natural resources in the buffer and cultural zones of the Biosphere Reserve;*
5. *Notes with concern that the efforts to date have not resulted in significant progress towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), and urges the State Party and governmental and non-governmental partners involved to ensure that the proposed activities match the scale and complexity of the well-documented challenges, in order to make progress towards the completion of the corrective measures and achievement of the DSOCR;*
6. *Welcomes the inclusion in the State Party's Tentative List of Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve as a requirement for the planned Significant Boundary Modification of the property and strongly encourages the State Party to continue the proposal for a*

Significant Boundary Modification as a crucial step towards achieving the DSOCR, and in particular to:

- a) *Coordinate the many governmental sectors and institutions involved at various levels,*
 - b) *Seek support from the World Heritage Centre, Advisory Bodies and other States Parties, as appropriate,*
 - c) *Ensure the full involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities as a core component of the proposal,*
 - d) *Guaranty full consideration of the archaeological heritage of the property and corresponding actors;*
7. *Reiterates its utmost concern that the State Party did not report on the possible impacts of the Patuca III (Piedras Amarillas) hydropower project, despite repeated requests, at a time when construction is reported to be ongoing or completed, and strongly requests the State Party to immediately report on the status of the project and how it will ensure that current and potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are specifically assessed in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;*
8. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;*
9. *Decides to retain Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.*

AFRICA

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

12. Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) (N 801bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1997

Criteria (viii)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2018-present

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

Potential irreversible loss of the property's OUV caused by impacts of various development projects (Kuraz irrigation project, Gibe III dam) on the water flow

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 identified

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/801/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2000-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 35,300

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/801/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March 2012 and April 2015: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Impacts of the Gibe III dam
- Other planned hydro-electric developments and associated large-scale irrigation projects in the Omo region
- Oil exploration
- Wildlife populations and pressure from poaching and livestock grazing
- Impacts of the larger development vision for Northern Kenya
- Management capacity of the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and National Museums of Kenya (NMK)
- Redesigning the boundaries of the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/801/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/801/documents/>, reporting the following:

- All projects within the Lake Turkana Basin in Kenya are monitored to manage threats to the property;
- The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Corridor project (LAPSSET) is under revision. An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Lamu-Lokichar Crude Oil pipeline from Turkana county to Lamu is underway;
- There is continued delay in commissioning the SEA to assess the cumulative impacts of the multiple developments in the Lake Turkana Basin on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of

the affected properties due to pending agreement on funding by the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia;

- The implementation of the property's 2018-2028 Management Plan and its action plans, including for the management of livestock grazing and recovery of giraffe, has started;
- Mapping and demarcation of fish breeding areas amongst other measures, aim to sustain the lake's fisheries;
- The Lake Turkana Wind Power Project has an effective environmental monitoring and management system.

On 20 September 2018, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN had a call with Olsuswa Energy Limited, which is developing a 140 MW of geothermal power station at the Barrier Volcanic Complex, south of Lake Turkana.

On 12 October 2018 and 15 February 2019, the World Heritage Centre sent letters to the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia, requesting an update on the implementation of Decision **42 COM 7B.92**, notably the status of the SEA, the bilateral meetings and an invitation letter for the Reactive Monitoring mission. On 15 April 2019, the State Party of Kenya responded, requesting postponement of the mission until 2020 once the SEA has begun, and reporting that a joint Kenya-Ethiopia report was not possible due to stagnant bilateral discussions. No response has been received from the State Party of Ethiopia.

In response to reports that UN Environment had confirmed its intention to fund and coordinate the development of the SEA, the World Heritage Centre sent a letter to UN Environment on 22 March 2019, providing a background note on the past Committee decisions regarding the SEA and the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

While it is positive that the property's new Management Plan for 2018-2028, and corresponding action plans, is under implementation, these were not submitted to the World Heritage Centre and limited information is provided on the activities undertaken. Hence, a comprehensive assessment on management effectiveness or implementation of the outstanding 2012 and 2015 mission recommendations is not possible. In particular, it is of utmost concern that there is no mention of monitoring the water flow and water quality downstream of the Gibe III dam, and its impacts on the seasonal wetlands in the property to ensure the sufficient flow, as recommended by the 2015 mission.

No information was provided on the impounding of the Gibe III dam, mitigation measures or progress with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Kuraz Sugar Development Project in Ethiopia, as requested by the Committee (**42 COM 7B.92**). While a hydrological assessment will be included in the SEA, ongoing monitoring is crucial to inform management and mitigation measures. According to the data provided to the Committee in 2018, the impounding of the Gibe III dam had already disrupted the seasonal water flow patterns, leading to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger at the 42nd session.

It is therefore of utmost concern that the SEA continues to be delayed due to disagreement on funding and stagnated bilateral discussions between the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia. The reported intention of UN Environment to assist with the development of the SEA is therefore welcomed. The Committee has repeatedly expressed its concern over the potential negative impacts of development projects in Kenya and Ethiopia on the Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) and Lower Valley of the Omo (Ethiopia) World Heritage properties. Recalling that the Committee has been requesting the States Parties to undertake the SEA since 2012, there is an urgent need for it to be conducted, in conformity with the Committee's past decisions and with IUCN and ICOMOS guidance on impact assessments.

The revision of the SEA for LAPSSET and the development of the Lamu-Lokichar Crude Oil pipeline are noted. No information is provided on the proposed geothermal power project at the Barrier Volcanic Complex. All EIAs for projects, including for geothermal energy, LAPSSET and its sub-projects, which may have potential impacts on the property, should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before taking any decision that may be difficult to reverse. Based on the State Party's report, the Lake Turkana Wind Power Project appears to have a robust environmental monitoring and management system to address potential impacts or concerns.

While noting the reasons given to postpone the mission, it is important to undertake it as soon as possible, particularly considering the 2018 state of conservation report to the Committee warning that the property's OUV could degrade quickly. Noting that the condition of the property remains largely

unknown, it is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party of Kenya to invite the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, without further delay. It is important to note that the last full mission to the property was undertaken in 2012, as the 2015 mission only visited the Gibe III dam site in Ethiopia.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.12

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.4**, **40 COM 7B.80** and **42 COM 7B.92**, adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 42nd (Manama, 2018) sessions respectively,*
3. *Acknowledges the State Party of Kenya's efforts to implement the newly approved Management Plan for 2018-2028, and requests the State Party to submit it and the Action Plans, to the World Heritage Centre, together with details of its implementation;*
4. *Deeply regrets the continued lack of a consolidated response by the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia to the Committee's past requests, and reiterates its request to the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia to provide a consolidated response on their progress to address the outstanding 2012 and 2015 mission recommendations as well as an update on the current status of the impounding of the Gibe III reservoir, and any mitigation measures being implemented;*
5. *Also deeply regrets that the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to assess the cumulative impacts of the multiple developments in the Lake Turkana Basin on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the affected properties, continues to be delayed;*
6. *Welcomes the reported proposal by UN Environment to assist with the development of the overdue SEA, strongly urges the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia to cooperate in this process, and also requests the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia, with the collaboration of UN Environment, to undertake the SEA in conformity with the Committee's past decisions and the IUCN and ICOMOS guidance on impact assessments, to report on the projected timeline and progress in undertaking the SEA, and to submit the draft SEA to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN as soon as it is available;*
7. *Notes the ongoing revision of the SEA for Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Corridor Project (LAPSSET), the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Lamu-Lokichar Crude Oil pipeline from Turkana county to Lamu and the proposed development of the geothermal power station at the Barrier Volcanic Complex south of the property, and further requests the State Party of Kenya, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, to submit all related impact assessments of projects, which may have potential impacts on the property, to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, before taking any decision that may be difficult to reverse;*
8. *Urges again the State Party of Ethiopia to halt all activities in relation to the Kuraz Sugar Development Project until an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including a comprehensive assessment of potential downstream impacts on the OUV of the property, has been completed and reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;*

9. *Whilst noting the State Party of Kenya's request to postpone the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property until 2020 once the SEA is at more advanced stage, considers that the mission should be undertaken as soon as possible to provide an up-to-date assessment on the state of conservation of the property under potential severe threat;*
10. *Also reiterates its request to the State Party of Kenya to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess the property's state of conservation, to review the impacts of the development projects in Ethiopia and Kenya on the property and the progress made to implement the past mission recommendations, and to develop, in consultation with the State Party of Ethiopia, a proposed set of corrective measures and a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), for examination by the Committee at its 44th session in 2020;*
11. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;*
12. ***Decides to retain Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

13. 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-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 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4344>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <https://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: USD 155,000

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; USD 1,039,000 from the Government of Norway (2014-2016)

Previous monitoring missions

May 2011, September/October 2015: Joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Encroachment
- Fire
- Hunting and poaching of endangered species, including lemurs
- Artisanal mining
- Illegal logging of precious wood species (ebony and rosewood)
- Weak governance and law enforcement to prevent the illegal logging and export of precious wood species
- Need to strengthen the engagement of and benefit-sharing with local communities

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

Current conservation issues

On 4 February 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, the summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1257/documents/>, and reporting the following:

- Implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Action Plan and the Biodiversity Management Plan is ongoing. Eight cases of offences have been referred to the now operational special court for rosewoods and ebonies, and 79 cases are in progress in the general courts of law (2017-2018). So far, 1/6 of the existing stockpiles have been inventoried. Madagascar submitted reports to the 71st session of the CITES Standing Committee (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/fra/com/sc/71/F-SC71-14.pdf>, in French only) and to the 18th meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties (COP18) (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/18/doc/E-CoP18-030-01.pdf>);
- A protocol signed in August 2018 between the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and Madagascar National Parks appointed 16 Judiciary Police Officers in sites prone to illicit exploitation of precious timber and poaching;
- Strengthened surveillance patrols cover almost the entire property, with 51 patrols undertaken by mixed brigades and 1,732 by park rangers in 2018. Aerial surveillance remains a challenge due to the elevated costs;
- Illegal logging of precious wood, mainly palisander, increased in 2018 (116 trees) compared to 2017 (83). The shift from rosewood to palisander can be attributed to rosewood with commercial value becoming rare, and the strengthening of enforcement measures to prevent the illegal logging of rosewood;
- In 2018, 22 lemur species were subject to ecological monitoring carried out with the use of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tools) and 179 lemur traps were recorded, which although much higher than in previous years, the State Party argues can be partly explained by increased surveillance;
- 48 ha of degraded areas were rehabilitated in the property. Funding for the implementation of a rehabilitation project was secured in June 2018;
- The percentage of forest clearance remained below the 0.01% indicator as defined in the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
- Some measures were taken in response to illegal mining in Ranomafana National Park, such as an information by the local police on prohibitions and sanctions for exploiting the park's natural resources. Three offenders have been arrested and brought to justice;
- Management plans are being developed for each national park, followed by an integrated management plan for the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party's continued efforts to address the factors affecting the property and implement the corrective measures are appreciated. Surveillance, ecological monitoring and rehabilitation of degraded areas have continued and the projects and measures put in place to strengthen the management of the property, to increase community involvement and to promote sustainable development, with the support of international donors, are welcomed.

The results of the ecological monitoring of 22 lemur species and information that deforestation rates remain below the 0.01% indicator of the DSOCR are well noted. However, the State Party does not provide clear data on the deforestation rates for each component of the property since 2009, as requested by the Committee, and the data and map for the changes in annual deforestation only refers to the 2010-2017 period. The 2018 report had also indicated higher deforestation rates for the 2016-2017 period compared to the 2019 report. While the rehabilitation of an additional 48 ha of degraded areas is appreciated, the State Party did not report on the remaining sites to be rehabilitated, as requested by the Committee (**42 COM 7A.53**).

In spite of the State Party's efforts, the increasing number of reported cases of illegal logging of precious wood and lemur traps is of significant concern. The total number of reported traps (179) is considerably higher than any other figures reported since 2009, and the number of illegal logging cases (116) is highest since 2014. The State Party should continue to strengthen control and law enforcement measures against these illegal activities.

Some progress appears to have been made towards the implementation of the CITES Decision 17.204 and recommendations of the CITES Standing Committee despite the limited resources available. It is particularly noteworthy that the special court for rosewoods and ebonies is now functional, hopefully strengthening the rule of law. However, the audited inventories of at least one third of the stockpiles of precious woods has not yet been completed, hindering progress towards both the implementation of the CITES decision and the DSOCR. It needs to be recalled that previous monitoring missions considered that undocumented stockpiles were the main driver behind continued illegal logging and exports. It will be important for the State Party to fully implement the CITES decisions in relation to ebony (*Diospyros* spp.), palisander and rosewood (*Dalbergia* spp.). The report of the CITES Standing Committee to the CITES COP18 is available online (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/18/doc/E-CoP18-030-02.pdf>).

The State Party report offers limited information concerning threats from illegal mining and does not include an update on the implementation status of the five-year Action Plan on illegal mining as requested in Decision **42 COM 7A.53**. It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request that such information is provided. Furthermore, it is important to assess the damage from past and on-going mining activities, notably in Ranomafana National Park and undertake the required restoration activities.

The on-going work on the development of the Management Plans for each component and the Integrated Management Plan for the property is welcome. It should be used as an opportunity to revise the outdated timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures by developing a costed and time-bound action plan as part of the Integrated Management Plan. All draft Management Plans should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review prior to approval.

Whilst acknowledging the State Party's progress, further efforts are still required to meet the indicators for the DSOCR, and therefore it is recommended that the Committee retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.13

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.53**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),

3. Welcomes progress achieved by the State Party towards the implementation of the corrective measures, in particular the strengthened surveillance, ecological monitoring and rehabilitation of degraded areas;
4. Notes the reported decrease in the 2018 deforestation rate for the whole property but reiterates its request to the State Party to provide further information on deforestation rates for each component of the property since 2009, including an analysis of satellite imagery, and to report on the results of ecological monitoring and remaining sites to be rehabilitated;
5. Regrets that the State Party did not provide information on the implementation status of the five-year Action Plan on illegal mining, which was previously considered to be an increasingly severe threat to the property, in particular Ranomafana National Park, and also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide an update on the implementation status of the Action Plan as well as an assessment of the damage from mining activities to the property, and to undertake the required restoration activities;
6. Urges the State Party to continue implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Action Plan and Biodiversity Management Plan, and strongly encourages it to implement all the CITES decisions in relation to ebony, palisander and rosewood;
7. Notes with concern the significant increase in the reported number of lemur traps and cases of illegal logging demonstrating that poaching and illegal logging remain persistent threats to the property, and requests the State Party to strengthen control and law enforcement measures against these illegal activities;
8. Also requests the State Party to update the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures by developing a costed and time-bound Action Plan as part of the new Integrated Management Plan, and to submit the draft Management Plans for each components of the property and the Integrated Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre, for review prior to approval;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
10. **Decides to retain Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

14. 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-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
In progress

Corrective measures identified

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

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress; Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 7 (from 1999-2013)

Total amount approved: USD 172,322

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

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

May 2005 and February 2015: IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Political instability and civil strife
- Poverty
- Management constraints (lack of human and logistical means)
- Ostrich poaching and other species
- Soil erosion
- Demographic pressure
- Livestock pressure
- Pressure on forestry resources
- Gold panning
- Illegal activities (increase in poaching threats and timber harvesting)
- Proliferation of the invasive exotic species *Prosopis juliflora*

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

Current conservation issues

On 3 February 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/documents/>, which provides the following information:

- As part of the involvement of local communities in the management of the property, some local opinion leaders have been chosen as valley leaders to accompany the surveillance and awareness-raising activities in collaboration with the Protected Area Management Unit (UGAP);
- A conservation and reintroduction strategy for the red-necked ostrich and a funding plan have been developed. The captive breeding programme continues at three sites, including Iférouane, and funding opportunities are being explored. Three release sites in the property have been identified as part of this strategy;
- Research and exploitation permits for uranium, oil and gold have been granted at the edge of the reserve over a distance of between 100 and 400 km. These permits have been the subject of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA), and missions are regularly organized as part of the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP);
- The extent of illegal activities (poaching, logging and gold panning) in the property decreased by half from 0.14 index / km in 2017 to 0.07 index / km in 2018. This is mainly due to the regular presence of surveillance teams in key areas affected by gold panning, the development of community initiatives (involvement of valley leaders in the property's monitoring strategy) and the organization of several awareness-raising sessions for neighboring communities;
- Two ecological monitoring missions located in the Mount Takoukouzat area combining direct and indirect observation were carried out in 2018. With the exception of the red-necked ostrich, cheetah and addax, all the other species characteristic of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)

of the property, including the dama gazelle, the dorcas gazelle, the bighorn sheep and the jackal, have been observed;

- A project proposal for funding was submitted to the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) to develop an Invasive Alien Species Management Plan (IAS) for the species *Prosopis juliflora*. In 2018, 40 ha colonized by *P. juliflora* and 524.2 ha of degraded land were treated with the participation of various stakeholders, including local communities;
- A revised international assistance request has been submitted by the State Party to update the management plan for the property, develop an action plan for the implementation of corrective measures, and develop a Desired State of Conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party has made significant efforts to operationalize the management body of the property. The positive collaboration with the local authorities marked by the effective involvement of the valley leaders in the surveillance strategy of the property should be continued.

Despite these efforts, the property still does not have a development and management plan integrated with a monitoring plan. In addition, the property is still vulnerable to poaching, illegal logging, the proliferation of invasive alien species, and threats related to the exploration and exploitation of uranium, oil and gold near the property. Although the report mentions that the extractive activities are carried out in close proximity to the property in all legality since they are covered by a certificate of environmental compliance are regularly monitored, it is regrettable that the State Party has not transmitted to the World Heritage Centre the EIA reports of these different mining projects in order to assess their potential impacts on the OUV. In addition, the Committee had previously requested the State Party to provide maps clearly indicating the location of the sites associated with these permits in relation to the property, but these have unfortunately not been submitted. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to ensure that no new mining exploration or exploitation permits around the property are granted without a Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (SEIA) being conducted to assess the impacts on the OUV of the property, including the cumulative effects of these projects.

Regarding the extent of poaching and logging, the State Party report indicates that they have decreased compared to 2017, without specifying the area covered by the monitoring for a better assessment of these two pressures. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide maps showing the location, severity, and extent of these threats. The State Party should put in place an effective ecological monitoring system using the SMART tool to better understand the extent of anthropogenic pressures, and the evolution trends of the OUV of the property as a whole.

Regarding the mammalian fauna, although some ecological monitoring efforts have confirmed the presence of several characteristic species of the OUV, it is feared that the red-necked ostrich, addax and cheetah are locally extinct, as they have not been reported for many years. The situation of the cheetah and the red-necked ostrich is disturbing and deserves detailed investigation to determine the true status of these two species.

The State Party has also made efforts to develop the strategy for the conservation and reintroduction of the red-necked ostrich, but these documents have unfortunately not been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit them. While it is positive that the State Party is exploring funding possibilities, it is disturbing to note that this has not yet been assured, and it is imperative that the State Party clarify the situation of this financing agreement with the Sahara Conservation Fund for the development of the red-necked ostrich restoration strategy.

In addition, the proliferation of the species *Prosopis juliflora* remains a major concern. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to include in the management plan a strategy to combat the spread of invasive species.

The State Party is continuing its efforts to implement the corrective measures, but given the magnitude of the threats to the OUV, further progress is needed. The development and implementation of the development and management Plan of the property integrated with a monitoring plan, the intensification of community initiatives with the neighbouring communities, as well as the strengthening of the technical and operational capacities of the management team remain imperatives. It is also urgent to define the DSOCR for this property, in accordance with paragraph 183 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

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

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.14

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.54**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
3. Takes note of the efforts made by the State Party to implement the corrective measures, and the positive collaboration with the local communities through the involvement of the valley leaders in raising awareness and monitoring of the property, but considers that further progress is needed in view of the magnitude of the threats to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
4. Notes that ecological monitoring has confirmed the presence of several characteristic species of the OUV, but reiterates its deep concern that other species appear to be extinct locally and requests the State Party to continue ecological monitoring efforts;
5. Also requests the State Party to develop and implement as a matter of urgency the General Management Plan of the property and the monitoring plan, as well as a strategy to combat the spread of invasive species;
6. Expresses its concern about the proliferation of exploration and exploitation permits for uranium, oil and gold in the immediate vicinity of the property, as well as the pursuit of illegal gold panning and further requests the State Party:
 - a) To provide further information (location maps, concessions, permit details) on these different mining projects,
 - b) To ensure that the impacts of these projects on the OUV of the property are assessed in the framework of Strategic Environmental Impact Assessments (SEIA), in accordance with the IUCN World Heritage Advisory Note on Environmental Assessment before new permits are granted,
 - c) To submit, as soon as available, a copy of these SEIAs to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN,
 - d) That no new mining exploration or exploitation permits be granted around the property without a SEIA being conducted to assess the OUV impacts of the property, including the cumulative effects of those projects;
7. Regrets that the report submitted by the State Party does not provide detailed information on poaching and logging in and around the property, as well as on actions taken to combat these threats, and request furthermore it to provide maps showing the location, severity, and extent of the main identified threats;
8. Reiterates its encouragement to the State Party to seek the advice of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to prepare a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;

10. **Decides to retain Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

16. Selous Game Reserve (United Republic of Tanzania) (N 199bis)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

CULTURAL PROPERTIES

ARAB STATES

17. 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-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 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1279>

Corrective measures identified

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

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1279> but outdated and needs to be revised

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

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2001-2014)

Total amount approved: USD 7,000

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: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; 2018: UNESCO and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Rise of the water table, and ensuing damage
- 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.
- Encroachments within the property and inappropriate recent constructions
- Lack of engagement with local communities and other stakeholders

- Management activities
- Management systems/ management plan
- Failure to implement corrective measures

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

Current conservation issues

On 28 January 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation, which is available at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/90/documents/> and provides information on a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions, as follows:

- The Supreme Committee for the Management of World Heritage Sites in Egypt has been established, including relevant ministries and officials, to facilitate and coordinate Egyptian authorities involved in World Heritage property management. The Supreme Committee has addressed the problem of the rising underground water table and experts from the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Antiquities have visited the property;
- An urgent plan has been prepared to address the problem of the rising underground water table, and a contract for the necessary study has been concluded with the Mechanical and Electrical Research Institute. Substantial financial resources have been allocated to re-operating a dewatering project, including the importation of 170 high quality pumps, which are being installed and expected to be operational later in 2019;
- Specialists from the Ministry of Antiquities have conducted a condition survey to assess the current state of conservation of archaeological remains, and to prepare an Action Plan. Conservators from the Ministry of Antiquities will assist in any necessary mitigation measures during the forthcoming de-watering project. A Conservation Plan for the archaeological remains will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre after its approval by the Permanent Committee of Antiquities;
- A multi-disciplinary Advisory mission, involving UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), visited the property in May 2018 and recommended improved communication within the government, protection of the tomb of Saint Mena, and fencing of the archaeological site. The mission also recommended considering for the longer term, the use of solar power for pumps, drip irrigation, planting trees that absorb water, as well as the development of infrastructure. The mission also proposed the development of a sustainable Management Plan using geophysics and enhanced reality technologies, and a comprehensive and sustainable development plan;
- The Ministry of Antiquities is to commence work on developing a comprehensive Integrated Management Plan;
- All illegal constructions within the property and its buffer zone have been removed, except for a wooden chapel, which will be demolished following the de-watering project.

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

The State Party has commenced implementation of some corrective measures (adopted in 2006), including the removal of new constructions and a condition survey and Action Plan to address physical conservation of archaeological remains, but a comprehensive Conservation Plan addressing all of the significant components of the property is still required. Although the Ministry of Antiquities is to work on developing a comprehensive Integrated Management Plan, this has now been sought for more than a decade, including through Decisions **41 COM 7A.32** and **42 COM 7A.17**. The attributes that contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property have deteriorated over this period. The timeframe for the completion of corrective measures (adopted in 2007 for completion by 2010), requires updating.

The establishment of the Supreme Committee for the Management of World Heritage Sites in Egypt, the preparation of the urgent plan to address the rising underground water table, the contract for necessary investigations and the allocation of funds for a de-watering project are all positive steps in addressing longstanding and substantial threats to the OUV of the property and should contribute to the implementation of corrective measures.

A long-term sustainable solution for the rising water level needs to be pursued. The condition survey, completed by specialists from the Ministry of Antiquities, and the resulting Action Plan should assist with the implementation of appropriate monitoring and mitigation measures needed to avoid further deterioration.

The recommendations of the 2018 expert mission are welcome, and should be promptly addressed and implemented. Further removal of encroachments is also welcome, as is the decision to defer construction of the visitor centre.

Despite the progress noted above, the State Party has not yet submitted details of all on-going or planned restoration interventions at the property, particularly at the Great Basilica, nor information about the reburial strategy, for review prior to implementation, as requested in Decisions **40 COM 7A.9**, **41 COM 7A.32** and **42 COM 7A.17**. It is recommended that the Committee remind the State Party of its obligations to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, detailed information, including Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), for projects proposed within the property or its buffer zone, before commencement, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

The previous proposal for a minor boundary modification, first proposed in 2016, will be considered by the newly-created Supreme Committee for the Management of World Heritage Sites in Egypt as part of a wider programme to prepare detailed maps of all Egyptian World Heritage properties. It would be necessary to consult with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS regarding any proposed modification of the boundaries of both the property and buffer zone, in line with Paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.17

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.32** and **42 COM 7A.17** adopted at its 41st (Krakow, 2017) and 42nd (Manama, 2018) sessions respectively,
3. Notes that the State Party has commenced the implementation of a number of the corrective measures to protect and conserve the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including the removal of inadequate new constructions and the preparation of a condition survey and resulting action plan for ensuring the conservation of archaeological remains;
4. Continues to express great concern regarding the state of conservation of the property and the slow implementation of other corrective measures, including particularly the preparation of a comprehensive Management Plan and preparation of a Conservation Plan and therefore, urges the State Party to proceed with the comprehensive implementation of all corrective measures, to protect and conserve the OUV of the property;
5. Welcomes the appointment of the Supreme Committee for the Management of World Heritage Sites in Egypt, the preparation of the urgent plan to address rising underground water table at the property, the contract for investigations, and the allocation of funds for the de-watering project, as well as the involvement of conservators from the Ministry of Antiquities in monitoring and mitigation measures needed to avoid further damage to archaeological features;
6. Also welcomes the 2018 Advisory mission, involving UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and also urges the State Party to adopt and implement

fully the mission recommendations, including advice on appropriate irrigation and water management technologies towards a sustainable and long term solution;

7. *Reminds the State Party of its obligations to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, details of all on-going or planned restoration interventions at the property, particularly at the Great Basilica, the reburial strategy, and initiatives arising from the project for restoration and rehabilitation of the property, as well as any new envisaged constructions, for review prior to implementation;*
8. *Requests the State Party to consider any proposed minor boundary modification request in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and in line with Paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines;*
9. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;*
10. **Decides to retain Abu Mena (Egypt) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

Note : the following reports on the World Heritage properties of Iraq need to be read in conjunction with Item 21 below.

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

19. Hatra (Iraq) (C 277rev)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

21. General Decision on the World Heritage properties of Iraq

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

23. Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) (C 190)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

24. Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna (Libya) (C 183)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

25. Archaeological Site of Sabratha (Libya) (C 184)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

26. Old Town of Ghadamès (Libya) (C 362)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

27. Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus (Libya) (C 287)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

28. 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-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
Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6244>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6244>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

To be submitted according to <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6244>

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

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2014-2016)

Total amount approved: USD 30,000

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); USD 205,000 from the Government of Sweden for building rehabilitation

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
- Housing
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation
- Management activities
- Management systems/ management plan
- Water (rain/water table)

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

Current conservation issues

On 6 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1433/documents>. Progress in addressing a number of conservation issues identified by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in the report, as follows:

- Physical conservation works have been carried out at the property since 2013, including restoration of the roof, the Narthex, joinery, external stone façades, internal wall plastering, wall mosaics, Basilica doors and architraves, restoration of 46 columns with their paintings, and 8 capitals, floor mosaics, in addition to the installation of lighting and smoke detection systems. Remaining works are progressing according to available funds. The report was accompanied by a chronological construction progress report (2013-2018) and an extensive dossier providing comprehensive documentation of investigations, conservation work and interventions;
- Although more than 250 samples from the structural wooden elements have been analysed, using dendrochronological and radiocarbon analysis, it has not been possible to reach specific conclusions about interventions made over the centuries. Nevertheless, as much as possible has been conserved of the existing building fabric. All of the internal elements have been treated with extensive care by experienced and specialized conservators;
- A draft Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the property was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2018. ICOMOS provided comments in its technical review in April 2018. All of the comments have been taken into consideration in the revised draft CMP that has been re-submitted;

- The proposed tunnel between the Manger Square and the Nativity Square has been cancelled;
- Ongoing projects include 3D documentation and restoration of the historical and religious centre of the city. They also include the revival of Star Street and its branches to attract inhabitants and shop owners to activate abandoned properties, as a tool to encourage tourism, in addition to a Transport and Mobility Master Plan;
- The new national cultural heritage legislation (Tangible Cultural Heritage Law) will contribute to the ongoing protection of the property.

Based on the fact that actions required by Committee decisions and the corrective measures to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage Danger (DSOCR) have been substantially completed, the State Party requests the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

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

The conservation work at the Church of the Nativity and its narthex, which has been systematically undertaken since the property was inscribed in the List of World Heritage in Danger, is of a high technical standard. Comprehensive details of the works undertaken have been submitted to the World Heritage Centre, in accordance with the Committee's request. This documentation includes analysis of the historical research and physical evidence revealed during the conservation work and conclusions regarding the dates of particular building components, as well as the techniques used to minimize intervention to existing fabric. It is recognized that the building has been much altered over the centuries and that, despite extensive investigations, it is not possible to reach specific conclusions about the chronology of the extant fabric and specific interventions over time.

The integrated Conservation Management Plan (CMP) is well organized and demonstrates commitment to conserving the property. The revisions and additions requested by ICOMOS, including analysis of the values and attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), planned projects, and provisions for disaster risk management with risks related to fire, have all been made. The revised CMP has been submitted by the State Party, and accordingly, comments shall be provided by ICOMOS as necessary.

The cancellation of the Manger Square Village Tunnel project is welcome.

ICOMOS has provided a technical review of the information submitted by the State Party regarding the Star Street revival. While noting that the programme is welcome, as it addresses the overall urban management of Bethlehem's Old City Centre, the technical review expresses some concerns and provides specific recommendations about implementation of the proposed works.

The DSOCR has been achieved because the roof of the Church of the Nativity has been conserved and the corrective measures are now complete. It is therefore recommended that the Committee consider the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.28

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 42 COM 7A.27, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Reiterates its previous commendation of the State Party on the implementation of the high-standard conservation works that have occurred at the Church of the Nativity, and notes that the State Party has submitted comprehensive details of investigations and conservation works;*
4. *Commends the State Party for submitting the revised Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the property, which has been amended in accordance with the comments and advice provided by ICOMOS;*

5. *Also notes that the Manger Square Tunnel project has been cancelled;*
6. *Requests the State Party to address the recommendations of the ICOMOS technical review of the programme for revival and activation of Star Street and its branches;*
7. *Encourages the State Party to use the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) approach to integrate the Conservation Management Plan with the Masterplan for city development;*
8. *Further notes that the corrective measures are now completed, and the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage Danger has been achieved;*
9. ***Decides to remove Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;***
10. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, 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 45th session in 2021.*

29. Hebron/AI-Khalil Old Town (Palestine) (C 1565)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

30. Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir (Palestine) (C 1492)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

Note : the following reports on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic need to be read in conjunction with Item 37 below.

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

36. Site of Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 23)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

39. Old City of Sana'a (Yemen) (C 385)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

40. Old Walled City of Shibam (Yemen) (C 192)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

ASIA AND PACIFIC

41. 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-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 (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 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1287>

Corrective measures identified

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

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1593>

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

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (2002)

Total amount approved: USD 30,000

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

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 7,324,120 (2003-2018) from the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust; USD 159,000 (2011-2012) from the UNESCO/Switzerland Funds-in-Trust; USD 6,845,121 (2013-2021) from the UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust; USD 7,336,166 (2013-2019) from UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in Trust; USD 1,500,000 (2017-2026) from the Government of Afghanistan.

Previous monitoring missions

November 2010: World Heritage Centre/ICCROM Advisory mission; April 2011: UNESCO Kabul/ICOMOS Advisory mission; May 2014: ICOMOS technical Advisory mission; UNESCO expert missions in the context of the implementation of specific projects.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Commercial development, Housing (Development pressure around the property and in the buffer zone)
- Ground transport infrastructure
- Others (Risk of collapse of the Giant Buddha niches; Irreversible deterioration of the mural paintings)
- Looting, illicit traffic and illegal excavations of cultural heritage assets (issue resolved)
- Military Training (Continued inappropriate use of certain heritage areas for military posts) (issue resolved)
- Anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordinances (i.e. munitions) (issue resolved)

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

Current conservation issues

On 9 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/documents>, which provides the following information:

- In 2018, the State Party implemented preliminary consolidation work for parts of the Western Buddha niche (*ghol ghoza*). Consolidation of 8 other sites, including Foladi Valley, was postponed to 2019. The *Délégation archéologique française en Afghanistan* (DAFA) and national experts excavated some part of Shahr-i-Gholghola, within the framework of UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust (FiT) project. A treatment plan is being developed to address erosion at the site and at some important mud brick buildings, which are gradually collapsing; this plan will also aim to ensure safer access and provide information points for the public;
- On 1-3 October 2018, the Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) and UNESCO conveyed a workshop on the Management Plan with government stakeholders, supported by the UNESCO/Japan FiT, to harmonize the Management Plan with the Cultural Master Plan and the recently completed Strategic Master Plan (SMP) for Bamiyan. An action plan for the establishment of the Management Plan is under preparation. The increasing role of the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing was mentioned in view of the proposed extension of the boundaries of the property. The SMP was developed with the support of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and Florence University, and the State Party indicates that it has been endorsed by the President of Afghanistan;
- On 3-5 December 2018, the International Technical Meeting on the future of the Bamiyan World Heritage property was held in Salalah, Oman, co-organized by UNESCO and MoIC with the support of Japan, the German University of Technology (GUTech) of Muscat and its Research Centre Indian Ocean, the office of the Adviser for Cultural Affairs to His Majesty the Sultan, and ICOMOS Oman. The meeting issued a set of recommendations, which defined necessary actions for a better coordination and governance in the management of the property. A decision and action plan concerning the future treatment of the Bamiyan Buddha statues and niches, created by a national technical working committee, were also mentioned ;
- Funding from Italy allowed the deployment of several guards at Shahr-i-Gholghola. Twenty police officers were appointed by the Ministry of Interior Affairs to monitor and safeguard the component sites within the Bamiyan Valley;
- Several workshops on heritage management were organized in Bamiyan in 2018 to engage local communities in the management of their heritage;
- Funded via the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust, the Cultural Creative Hub in Bamiyan (Bamiyan Cultural Centre) is scheduled to be completed in late 2019;
- The State Party acknowledges the lack of financial resources to implement conservation activities at each of the component sites simultaneously and requires continued assistance from the international community;
- The State Party also considers large-scale development and its multifaceted impacts as one of the greatest challenges for the conservation of the property.

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

The recent progress with consultations on the Management Plan and its harmonization with other management tools is welcomed. The recommendations of the International Technical Meeting on the future of the property are noted, yet progress must be made first on the following points:

- The SMP for Bamiyan needs to be officially submitted by the State Party for review by the Advisory Bodies. In particular, a traffic plan component and a proposed bypass road included in this Plan require further technical, geological and economic feasibility studies, including Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessments (EIAs/HIAs), in accordance with the national regulations and the ICOMOS and IUCN guidelines;
- The use of GIS-based cultural mapping and zoning information, such as the one prepared for the Cultural Master Plan, is recommended for the future development of planning tools in Bamiyan; for example, the map used in the Nomination dossier for the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List in 2003 needs to be revised;

- Closer collaboration between stakeholders is necessary in order to ensure a coordinated effort to preserve the property and address various development issues;
- Effective regulating mechanisms to address population growth and industrial development in the vicinity of the property remain vital, although the State Party's report did not allow to evaluate progress on this point.

It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request that the State Party proceed with a boundary modification and revise its national legislation in order to enhance the permanent protection of heritage resources, notably the cultural landscape in the Bamiyan Valley that currently is not within protected zones.

It is suggested that the Committee strongly recommend the submission of all decisions adopted, as well as the Action Plan for the future treatment of the Buddha statues and niches, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, once the National Working Committee's decision has been endorsed by the authorities. These decisions should bear in mind the outcomes of the September 2017 meeting held in Tokyo, Japan, which highlighted the need for further studies on any possible reconstruction, yet made no specific or final recommendation on the future treatment of the Bamiyan Buddha niches and/or statues, considering that "*extensive consultation [should] be conducted by the local and national government with local communities, civil society, as well as spiritual leaders so as to ensure that all stakeholders' interests are taken into consideration*".

One of the greatest concerns remains the shortage of resources for preservation, in particular the lack of additional budgets to continue the stabilization of the Western Buddha niche and to conduct other much-needed conservation activities for component sites under serious threat of collapse, and which would be necessary to achieve the adopted Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

The permanent deployment of on-site guards for all components of the property remains vital. As almost all significant activities for the property have been realized through international assistance, and while the existing financial constraints should not be underestimated, it is recommended that the Committee remind the State Party to prepare a long-term strategy to ensure that the necessary resources for the most important operations are continuously available.

Although, regrettably, no information was provided on the Bamiyan Cultural Centre, despite the provisions of Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* and repeated requests from the World Heritage Centre and the Committee (see Decisions **38 COM 7A.15**, **39 COM 7A.39** and **41 COM 7A.54**), the soon-to-be-completed building could also serve as an enhanced interpretation centre for the World Heritage property, providing information on the property's tangible, and associative values.

Finally, the Committee may note with regret that a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures was not presented.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.41

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.1**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Notes the initiatives taken by the State Party and international partners towards the conservation of important component parts of this serial property;*
4. *Welcomes the establishment and regular meetings of the National Working Committee tasked with reviewing proposals for the Bamiyan Buddha statues and, also recalling the outcomes of the September 2017 International Symposium held in Tokyo, Japan, on the future of the Bamiyan Buddha statues, requests that the State Party submit any adopted*

decision and Action Plan for the future treatment of the Bamiyan Buddha niches and statues to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;

5. Also welcomes the progress made with the establishment of the Management Plan and its harmonization with other management tools, in particular the Strategic Master Plan (SMP), endorsed by the President of Afghanistan, and also requests the State Party to:
 - a) *Maintain close consultations with all stakeholders to ensure an integrated approach towards heritage preservation in relation with the urban development and other, broader development initiatives;*
 - b) *Submit the SMP to the World Heritage Centre for review of the Advisory Bodies, and;*
 - c) *Submit to the World Heritage Centre all necessary documentation concerning the traffic plan component and the bypass road included in the SMP, which require further technical, geological and economic feasibility studies, including Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessments in accordance with the national regulations and the ICOMOS and IUCN Guidelines;*
6. Further requests the State Party to use the GIS-based cultural mapping and zoning information, as was done in the Cultural Master Plan, for future development of planning tools in Bamiyan;
7. Further welcomes the recommendations of the International Technical Meeting on the future of the Bamiyan World Heritage property (Salalah, Oman, 3-5 December 2018);
8. Notes with regret however that the State Party did not provide a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the Committee at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008);
9. Regrets the absence of progress with the development of effective regulating mechanisms to address future population growth and industrial development in the vicinity of the property, and reiterates its request to the State Party to proceed with a boundary modification, in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines, and revise national legislation in order to enhance the permanent protection of heritage resources, and notably the cultural landscape in the Bamiyan Valley that is currently not within protected zones, along with its setting;
10. Notes with great concern that work to stabilize the Western Buddha niche has been pending and calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support for the conservation of component sites that are threatening to collapse, in order to assist the State Party in achieving the adopted Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
11. Also notes that security personnel is currently funded through international cooperation and strongly urges the State Party to identify and use national financial resources to allocate security staff to all components of the property on a permanent basis;
12. Further notes that most significant technical activities for the property have been realized through international assistance mechanisms, and strongly encourages the State Party to prepare a long-term strategy to sustainably secure resources for the most important operations, and to coordinate international cooperation funds to help carry out high-priority actions;
13. Reiterates its deep regret that irreversible decisions concerning the Bamiyan Cultural Centre and Museum were taken without informing the Committee, despite the provisions

*of Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines and its repeated prior requests, and that construction progressed without the preparation and submission of a Heritage Impact Assessment for review by the Advisory Bodies, and **recommends** that the State Party carefully plan the Cultural Centre's content by harnessing the opportunity for visitors to learn not only about the region's cultural values, but also about the World Heritage property wherein the Cultural Centre is located;*

14. ***Finally requests** the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;*
15. ***Decides to retain Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

42. 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-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 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1286>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1286>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

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

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2002 to 2015)

Total amount approved: USD 93,750

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 UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust; USD 124,300 (2003-2012) from the UNESCO/Switzerland Funds-in-Trust; USD 16,800 (2017) from the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund

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 two missions in cooperation with an Afghan local NGO in 2010 and 2014 to resume on-site operations; September 2017: mission within the framework of the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Civil unrest (Political instability)
- River erosion (Inclination of the Minaret)
- Management systems/ management plan (Lack of management plan)
- Illegal activities (Illicit excavations and looting)
- Erosion and siltation/deposition

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

Current conservation issues

On 9 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents> and provides information on the implementation of the corrective measures and other elements as follows:

- In terms of preservation and conservation, in 2019, the Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) plans to produce an Action Plan for the emergency conservation work of the property on the basis of the documentation work of September 2017, using 3D data on the minaret and its surroundings. The tiles and stuccos on the outer parts of the property should be protected and restored. The lack of reliable electricity in the remote area of the minaret and the deteriorating security situation have hindered the installation of *in-situ* monitoring equipment to record the movement of the minaret. Its stabilization will be helped by reinstalling the wooden elements of the staircase and the frames to the openings, and through masonry work. The cantilevers of the openings and the inner parts will be protected, as they require emergency stabilization. Due to the risk of possible flooding of the Hari Rud, the extension of gabion walls and the planting of trees upstream of the property were planned to prevent or lessen floodwater damage. The installation of equipment to record water levels and the flow of the Hari Rud and Jam Rud is planned for 2019;
- As regards community development, the much-awaited construction of the footbridge over the Hari Rud to enable year-round access for inhabitants of nearby villages, and for future conservation work, has not been realized. Its construction depends on the national budget allocation in 2019 as well as on the security situation on site;
- The MoIC and the Ministry of Interior Affairs have deployed 20 police officers to monitor and safeguard the property, and in particular to address the issue of illicit traffic of movable cultural properties below ground;
- Concerning the guesthouse project, the reconstruction of the damaged site office of MoIC will commence after the receipt of funding. It will provide basic accommodation for experts and staff.

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

Actual conservation work, as specified by the 2017 Conservation Action Plan (CAP), and the implementation of corrective measures, as recommended by previous Committee Decisions, were not realized due to the lack of financial resources and the continued difficulties in accessing the property. It is regrettable that the data collected in 2017 may become obsolete if no action takes place in the immediate future. The CAP should serve as a basis to revise the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the Committee in Decision **31 COM 7A.20** (Christchurch, 2007), so as to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

The actions recommended by previous Committee Decisions, such as the installation of a monitoring device at the minaret, emergency stabilization work on the wooden staircases, the construction of a footbridge over the Hari Rud, and the rehabilitation of the guesthouse, were not realized. Nonetheless, the deployment of 20 security personnel has been ensured.

As has been repeatedly pointed out by the Committee, the adoption of clear boundaries is an essential step towards developing an effective conservation strategy. The lack of progress on this makes it necessary for the Committee to reiterate its request to the State Party to increase its efforts to clearly delineate the boundaries of the minaret, the other three components of the property, and the encompassing buffer zone. This work should take into consideration the topographic map produced in 2012 and lead to the submission of a minor boundary modification, allowing the identification of the boundaries in relation to archaeological investigations that have been undertaken since inscription, in conformity with the CAP and in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines.

There was no report on capacity building or new national or international assistance funds for the property.

Considering the consistent lack of financial resources, strong mobilization of international cooperation remains critical in order to implement the abovementioned CAP and to help to achieve the corrective measures previously adopted by the Committee.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.42

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.2**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
3. Notes that actual conservation work based on the 2017 Conservation Action Plan (CAP) and other activities repeatedly recommended by the Committee could not be realized, due to the lack of the necessary financial resources and the security situation, and urges the State Party to seek means to implement the following:
 - a) Installation of a monitoring instrument on the Minaret of Jam to measure its inclination,
 - b) Emergency stabilization work for the wooden staircases, in order to prevent further destabilization of the minaret's structure,
 - c) Construction of a footbridge over the Hari Rud and a guesthouse at the property, in order to improve access to the property and provide site security;
4. Also notes that an Action Plan for emergency conservation work at the property, on the basis of the documentation work of September 2017 and comprising 3D data on the minaret and its surrounding, will be produced in 2019;
5. Also recalling that a topographical map was realized for this purpose as part of a UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust project in 2012, regrets that the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone remain to be precisely defined, and also urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, a proposal for a minor boundary modification, in conformity with the CAP and in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Notes with serious concern that actual conservation work and corrective measures have not progressed for several years, requests the State Party to deploy its efforts in seeking the means of allocating the necessary financial and human resources, and encourages it to seek International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund and other extra-budgetary resources to address conservation issues at the property;
7. Calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, for the implementation of the above-mentioned CAP, which will be part of the strategy to implement the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007);
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;

9. ***Decides to retain Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

43. Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (Micronesia, Federated States of) (C 1503)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2016

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

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2016-present

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

- Management system/Management Plan
- Management activities (Overgrowth of vegetation, Stonework collapse)
- Storms (Effects of storm surge)
- Erosion and siltation/ deposition

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/1503/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (2017)

Total amount approved: USD 30,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1503/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided: USD 120,000 for the preparation of a nomination file and the management plan for Nan Madol by the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust. USD 26,232 for Technical Support to Nan Madol, Micronesia (Danger list) by the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

January 2018: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of legal framework (legislation LB392 not yet passed and implemented)
- Management system not extended enough
- Lack of a risk preparedness strategy as well as of a comprehensive tourism strategy into the management plan
- Need to remove silt from the waterways without jeopardizing possible cultural layers on the sea floor

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1503/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property in January 2018 (mission report available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1503/documents/>).

On 5 February 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation, which is available at the abovementioned web address, and describes the steps taken to implement the Decisions of the Committee and the recommendations of the 2018 mission, as follows:

- Progress has been made with amendments to draft legislation LB392, which will be passed at the next legislative session and will create a Nan Madol Historic Preservation Trust with ownership and management under traditional oversight by the Nahnmwarki Chief with a Board of traditional authority;
- The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) National Historic Preservation Officer has been designated as temporary “Property Manager”;
- A draft Conservation Plan (2018) has been completed and submitted;
- The State Party has secured funding from Japan to construct a Visitor Centre.

The report also describes progress in relation to responses to the phased programme recommended by the 2018 Reactive Monitoring mission, with funding from the US Ambassadors’ Fund for Heritage Conservation for a LiDar (“light detection and ranging”) survey of the property and the island of Temwen (in the buffer zone), and for the construction of sea wall reinforcements, ongoing maintenance, the improvement of walkways, opening of additional culverts, silt fencing, and clearing in highlands to prevent sedimentation from entering Madolenihmw Bay. The work will be carried out under the direction of the Pohnpei Historic Preservation Officer and the FSM Historic Preservation Division.

The World Heritage Centre has been informed through third party information of the construction of a resort hotel on an island situated in the buffer zone of the property. Clarifications were requested from the State Party on this matter on 21 February 2019. At the time of writing this report, no response had been received yet.

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

The state of conservation of the property is poor and deterioration processes are ongoing. Severe invasive plant and tree growth is causing movement, displacement and collapse of structures. Siltation of channels between the islets has rendered most of them dysfunctional, further accelerating invasive growth. Wave action, forecast to increase in severity due to climate change, is causing washout and is undermining the monumental retaining walls in exposed seafront areas, adding to the impact of damage by vegetation.

The 2018 Reactive Monitoring mission report advised that tackling the property as a whole is impossible and impractical, and that the maintenance required would be virtually impossible. A staged recovery programme is proposed which encompasses short-term, medium-term and long-term actions to rehabilitate key parts of the property. The report advocated achievable goals as the first phase of the multi-phase project for areas where intervention is needed and maintenance is feasible. There has been significant progress in undertaking the suggested short-term phase of the works in 2018.

The mission also considered that, before corrective measures could be defined, there needs to be a much clearer idea of how the conservation of the property will move forward with the augmented resources available to reverse the danger arising from a lack of conservation and ongoing management that the property now faces. Therefore, given the range of unknown elements at this stage, the mission did not consider that it was yet possible to define a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) for adoption by the Committee.

The draft legislation, which is due to be passed in the next legislative session, will create a Nan Madol Historic Preservation Trust, thereby resolving issues regarding ownership and management of the property. The appointment of the interim “Property Manager” is a significant step, but the duration of this appointment is not specified, and a permanent manager is required.

The Conservation Plan is a well-structured document that, in effect, is a practical action plan. It is influenced by the desire for more tourist access and is accordingly structured in three parts: structures and pathways that already have access; areas that have the potential for visitor access; and platforms that need urgent and sustained conservation. The Plan acknowledges the need for significant international financial support for the actual realization of the conservation objectives and the absence of a professional pool of conservation experts, with only one local archaeologist based at the property.

In 2018, vegetation clearance was undertaken under the manager’s supervision and financed through International Assistance. It achieved an initial non-invasive clearing (without root disturbance) of

vegetation overgrowth at two of the principal sites: Nan Dowas and Pahn Kedira. Channel clearance was commenced to facilitate visitor access to these sites by boat, but progress is very limited so far. At two locations, Pahn Kedira and Paikapw, superficial growth was removed from retaining walls. A beneficial natural movement of silt was noted where this has been done. A boat has now been donated by the FSM Congress to facilitate continuing work on the removal of vegetation. An additional 4-5 sites will now be targeted to prepare for visitors.

Funding has been secured from the Embassy of the United States of America to conduct a LiDar survey of the property and the islands of Temwen. This will assist in defining the full extent of structures and assessing the impact of future sea-level change. Multispectral imaging will enable an analysis of the species composition of vegetation. The funding will also enable the completion of the short-term actions recommended by the 2018 mission and will facilitate larger, medium-term conservation interventions such as sea wall reinforcement, on-going maintenance planning, and replacement of raised pathways and additional culverts in causeways and silt fencing of *sakau* farming clearance in the highlands to prevent further siltation. Support for the continuation of this work using the US Ambassadors Fund will include the assistance of the US Navy's Seabees for the works. However, a dedicated capacity-building programme is urgently needed to ensure local engagement.

The State Party also secured funding from Japan to achieve progress with the development of a Visitor Centre, which is small in size and lacks some important essential elements for visitor management. It also lacks a proposal for museum storage/display. This Centre is being planned in advance of the development of a Tourism Strategy, which is needed urgently to identify which parts of the property can be accessible to visitors, as this will affect the conservation programme. This Tourism Strategy was initially envisaged as part of the Management Plan, which is yet to be completed.

The progress now being made with the development of a Conservation Plan, the clearing of vegetation funded by the International Assistance and a LiDar survey supported by the US Embassy is welcomed. This should begin to allow defining a medium- and long-term phased recovery programme, which could in turn allow for the development of corrective measures and a DSOCR to be presented to the Committee.

Finally, while no further information is available concerning the hotel construction mentioned in the report, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to provide detailed information on any proposed and on-going projects, in particular those related to infrastructure development to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies. The information provided should include Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) in keeping with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.43

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.3**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Welcomes the appointment of an interim "Property Manager", but encourages the State Party to work towards a long-term commitment for this post;*
4. *Notes that progress has been made on amendments to draft legislation LB392 and that it is scheduled to be approved in the next legislative session;*
5. *Also notes that the 2018 mission advised that tackling the restoration of the property as a whole is impossible and impractical, as the maintenance required would be virtually impossible to achieve; that the mission therefore advocated achievable goals as the first phase of a multi-phase project for the areas where intervention is needed and maintenance is feasible; and that its report sets out initial short and medium term goals;*

6. *Further notes that the 2018 mission considered that, prior to defining corrective measures, a much clearer idea is required of how the conservation of the property will move forward with the augmented resources, and notably how the dangers arising from a lack of conservation and ongoing management will be addressed;*
7. *Also welcomes the draft Conservation Plan, conceived as a practical Action Plan, which reflects the recommendations of the 2018 mission, strongly encourages the State Party to finalize and adopt the Conservation Plan, and notes furthermore the need for significant international financial support for the realization of conservation objectives, and the need to augment the professional pool of conservation experts available at the property;*
8. *Further welcomes the significant progress made with the short-term goals outlined by the 2018 mission, with support from International Assistance, in particular the initial, non-invasive clearing of vegetation overgrowth at two of the principle sites, Nan Dowas and Pahn Kedira; the removal of superficial growth from retaining walls at Pahn Kedira and Paikapw; and limited progress with channel clearance to facilitate visitor access;*
9. *Commends the financial support extended by the State Party of the United States of America towards conducting a LiDar (“light detection and ranging”) survey of the property and the islands of Temwen and supporting further work on short- and medium-terms goals;*
10. *Recommends that the State Party prepare, as soon as possible, a dedicated capacity-building programme, as recommended by the 2018 mission and the Conservation Plan, to ensure local engagement and share benefits from the funding obtained so far;*
11. *Notes moreover that funding has been extended by the State Party of Japan to create a Visitor Centre, and requests the State Party to submit revised plans addressing the recommendations of the ICOMOS Technical Review;*
12. *Finally notes that the construction of a Visitor Centre is being planned in advance of the development of a Tourism Strategy; considers that such a strategy is needed urgently to identify which parts of the property can be accessible to visitors, as this in turn will impact the conservation programme, and urges the State Party to draft a Tourism Strategy as soon as possible and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
13. *Also urges the State Party to ensure progress with the development of the Management plan and to regularly provide the World Heritage Centre with updated information on this work;*
14. *Also encourages the State Party, when the Conservation Plan and supportive funding for the initial survey and conservation work are in place, begin to implement the actions outlined in the Conservation Plan and integrate them into large-scale phased recovery programmes, which in turn could facilitate the development of corrective measures and a DSOCR, to be adopted by the Committee;*
15. *Also requests the State Party to provide, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, detailed information on any proposed and on-going projects, in particular those related to infrastructure development, and to include Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) carried out according to the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties, for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to the approval and/or implementation of any project;*

16. *Further requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
17. ***Decides to retain Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (Micronesia (Federated States of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

44. Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) (C 885)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

45. Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) (C 1033)

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

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

See Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A.Add

47. 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-present

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

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: USD 0
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; February 2015: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Governance: Lack of overall management of new developments

- High impact research/monitoring activities: 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
- Legal framework: Lack of established maximum heights for new developments along the waterfront and for the backdrops of the World Heritage property
- Social/cultural uses of heritage
- Buildings and development: Commercial development, housing, interpretative and visitor facilities
- Lack of adequate management system/management plan

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

Current conservation issues

On 11 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1150/documents/>, as well as a further revised and updated proposed Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), providing the following information:

- Additional documents on which the DSCOR relies, are not finalized owing to national statutory processes. The timeframe for developing these documents in the draft DSOCR has been rescheduled to later dates.
- The draft Local Plan is currently under public examination; Liverpool City Council (LCC) will consider its adoption by November/December 2019. The Supplementary Planning Document of 2008 will be updated in parallel with the Liverpool Local Plan;
- LCC has also commissioned the preparation of Supplementary Framework Documents for the Baltic Triangle, the Central Business District, The Knowledge Quarter Gateway and the Williamson Square/ Cavern Quarter District. Their adoption by LCC is foreseen for 2019;
- Masterplans for each of the five neighbourhoods of Liverpool Waters will be developed, before any development takes place in these areas. The Princes Dock Neighbourhood Masterplan has already been submitted and approved by LCC in June 2018, while amendments were approved in October 2018. The Central Docks Masterplan is scheduled to be reviewed and approved by LCC in March/April 2019;
- A Tall Buildings Policy is being developed and will form part of the Liverpool Local Plan and a Tall Buildings Panel has recently been appointed;
- There is continued commitment of all stakeholders to raise awareness of the values of the property and increase engagement with civil society. A short summary was provided on works undertaken to improve the condition of buildings within the property.

The State Party reiterates its opinion that developments within Liverpool Waters to date have not adversely impacted on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and that the set of corrective measures, proposed in the draft DSOCR, will prevent potential harm. In the view of the State Party, the existing governance system is adequate to protect the OUV of the property. The State Party does not consider it either desirable or practical, to impose a moratorium for new buildings within the property and its buffer zone, as the current planning regime is sufficient to protect the OUV, the authenticity and integrity of the property.

In November 2018, the State Party provided new information to the World Heritage Centre that the old Bramley-Moore Dock and Nelson Dock neighbourhood has been identified as a possible site for a new football stadium. Negotiations between Everton Football Club, LCC and Peel Holdings have started and the Club has initiated and conducted a public consultation regarding the principle of developing a stadium in the above-mentioned area.

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

The state of conservation report and DSOCR reflect continuing focus on individual planning documents, which are part of internal national statutory processes, whereas the Decision of the Committee to provide substantive commitments to limitations on the quantity, location and size of allowable built forms has not been followed.

The approach of the proposed DSOCR relies heavily on individual planning documents, namely the updated Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document, the five Neighbourhood Masterplans of the

Liverpool Waters development and the Tall Building Policy. Progress is reported with development of these documents, but they seem to be developed separately and according to longer timeframes than previously indicated and without an overall strategic vision on the desired outcome and long-term preservation of OUV. This approach will not allow the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to review and endorse these documents together with the proposed DSOCR in a comprehensive manner. The State Party concedes that because these additional documents are not finalized, the DSOCR document is not ready to be assessed.

Changes to the Liverpool Waters Masterplan were formally approved by LCC on 16 November 2018. The Princes Dock Neighbourhood Masterplan was transmitted to the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS only after approval by LCC, and at the time of preparing this document, the draft of the Central Docks Masterplan has not been sent to the World Heritage Centre for consultation prior to its foreshadowed approval in March/April 2019. The content of these documents are also cause for concern, as they reflect inadequate mitigation measures on the potential threats, which were originally put forward by the Reactive Monitoring Mission of 2011, and were the basis for inscribing the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The integrity and authenticity of the property is also threatened by a new project, the potential construction of a new stadium for the Everton Football Club on the site of the historic Bramley-Moore Dock, within the property. The public consultation program within the city has received a very strong response supporting this location as the construction site for a new stadium. Plans have also received wide media publication in early 2019. This proposal is against the previous Committee Decisions for further developments, and it is regrettable that the consultation process did not adequately address potential impacts on the OUV of the property nor alternative locations, and the public was not informed about the potential negative consequences of an additional factor adding to the already recognised threats to the OUV of the property, which led to potential delisting as per Decisions **36 COM 7B.93, 37 COM 7A.35, 38 COM 7A.19, 40 COM 7A.31, 41 COM 7A.22** and **42 COM 7A.7**. This provides further evidence of a process that is systemically excluding heritage concerns and conservation outcomes from incremental overdevelopment.

The State Party's advice, repeated by Peel Holdings (Liverpool Waters developer), that there is no likelihood of the scheme coming forward in the same form as in the Outline Planning Consent (OPC) is reassuring. However, the assurances that developments shall not take place prior to the completion of the Neighbourhood Masterplans does not align with information provided to the World Heritage Centre by the State Party, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, relating to developments within the area of the Liverpool Waters development by different developers in West Waterloo Dock (part of Central Docks), where no Neighbourhood Masterplan has been reviewed. According to information received from the State Party, developments can be brought forward because of flexibility in the OPC, and applications have already been submitted for developments, which could already be in a construction phase. In previous years, planning proposals were approved by LCC and some are currently under construction, despite the Committee's regret due to their negative impact on OUV. The current planning regime is not adequate to protect the OUV of the property. It would therefore be appropriate for the Committee to recall its Decision for a moratorium on new constructions within the property and its buffer zone, until the DSOCR is completely finalized and approved by the Committee.

The requests of the Committee at its 41st and 42nd sessions have not been satisfactorily addressed. There is no demonstrable commitment to limit the quality, location and size of allowable built form. Despite assurances to the contrary, the ongoing incremental approval and construction of individual new developments continue to erode the integrity of the property. There are no mechanisms in place to prevent the implementation of the Liverpool Waters scheme from having a major negative impact on the OUV of the property. The planned potential new football stadium in Bramley-Dock would add ascertained threat of the property's OUV. The property should therefore remain on the List of World Heritage in Danger, with a view to considering its deletion from the World Heritage List at the 44th session of the Committee, in line with Paragraph 192 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.47

The World Heritage Committee,

1. **Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,**

2. *Recalling Decision **36 COM 7B.93, 37 COM 7A.35, 38 COM 7A.19, 39 COM 7A.43, 40 COM 7A.31, 41 COM 7A.22** and **42 COM 7A.7** adopted at its 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), 41st (Krakow, 2017) and 42nd (Manama, 2018) sessions respectively;*
3. *Acknowledges the increasing engagement of civil society in the care of the property and its World Heritage status;*
4. *Recalls its repeated serious concerns over the impact of the proposed Liverpool Waters developments in the form presented in the approved Outline Planning Consent (2013-2042) which constitutes an ascertained threat in conformity with paragraph 179 of the Operational Guidelines;*
5. *Although noting that the State Party has submitted an updated and revised draft Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), notes that comprehensive assessment of the proposed DSOCR by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies is still not feasible, as the approval of the DSOCR relies on the content of additional documents, which are yet to be prepared or finalized, including the Local Plan, the revised Supplementary Planning Document, the majority of the Neighbourhood Masterplans, and the Tall Building (skyline) Policy;*
6. *Reiterates that the submission of a further draft of the DSOCR by the State Party and its adoption by the Committee should come prior to the finalization and approval of the necessary planning tools and regulatory framework and regrets that the alternative proposal of the Committee, expressed in Decision **42 COM 7A.7**, for substantive commitments to limitation on the quantity, location and size of allowable built form, has not been followed;*
7. *Although also noting that Peel Holdings (Liverpool Waters developer) reiterated its confirmation to Liverpool City Council (LCC) that there is no likelihood of the Liverpool Waters development scheme coming forward in the same form of the Outline Planning Consent, strongly requests the commitment of the State Party that the approved Outline Planning Consent (2013-2042) will not be implemented by Peel Holdings or other developers, and its revised version will not propose interventions that will impact adversely on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including its authenticity and integrity;*
8. *Expresses its extreme concern that the State Party has not complied with the Committee's request to adopt a moratorium for new buildings within the property and its buffer zone, until the Local Plan, the revised Supplementary Planning Document, the Neighbourhood Masterplans, and the Tall Building (skyline) Policy are reviewed and endorsed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and the DSOCR is completely finalized and adopted by the World Heritage Committee, and urges the State Party to comply with this request;*
9. *Also regrets that the submission of Princes Dock Masterplan and changes to the Liverpool Water scheme to the World Heritage Centre took place after their adoption by the LCC, and expresses its utmost concern that these documents are putting forward plans, which does not ensure the adequate mitigation of the potential threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
10. *Also reiterates its consideration that the recent planning permissions issued for the Liverpool Waters scheme and elsewhere within the property and its buffer zone, and the*

stated inability of the State Party to control further developments, clearly reflect inadequate governance systems and planning mechanisms that will not allow the State Party to comply with Committee Decisions and will result in ascertained threat on the OUV of the property;

11. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020, as well as a DSOCR and corrective measures that could be considered for adoption by the Committee;*
12. ***Decides to retain Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) on the List of World Heritage in Danger, with a view to considering its deletion from the World Heritage List at its 44th session in 2020, if the Committee Decisions related to the adoption of the DSOCR and the moratorium for new buildings are not met.***

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

48. City of Potosi (Bolivia, Plurinational State of) (C 420)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2014-present

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

- Instability and imminent risk of collapse of the Cerro Rico's summit
- Lack of conservation policy of integral character which considers all the components of the property
- Deficiencies in conservation: special attention required for the restoration and upgrading of structures with residential use and the archaeological industrial heritage
- Potential degradation of the historic site by continued and uncontrolled mining operations in the Cerro Rico Mountain
- Inefficient enforcement of protective legislation
- Threatening impacts of climatic, geological or other environmental factors

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/6969>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6969>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6969>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1988-2015)

Total amount approved: USD 83,777

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 10,000 for a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS technical mission in 2005 financed by the Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage

Previous monitoring missions

May 1995 and November 2009: World Heritage Centre technical missions; November 2005 and February 2011: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS technical missions; December 2013 and January 2014: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; May 2017: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS technical mission; October 2017 and May 2018: Technical missions facilitated by the World Heritage Centre

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Mining
- Surface water pollution
- Potential degradation of the historic site by continued and uncontrolled mining operations in the Cerro Rico Mountain
- Instability and risk of collapse of the Cerro Rico
- Deficiencies in conservation: special attention required for the restoration and upgrading of structures with residential use and the archaeological industrial heritage
- Inefficient enforcement of protective legislation

- Environmental impacts on the hydraulic complex which in turn affects historic fabric and local population

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/>

Current conservation issues

On 11 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, the Executive Summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/documents/>, providing the following information:

- The draft Integrated and Participatory Management Plan (IPMP), which was discussed during the 2018 ICOMOS Technical mission, was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in June 2018. It identifies Objectives, Strategies and Policies, as well as a portfolio of Projects and Programmes for each of the five heritage components of the property, including for the “Kari Kari Lagoon Hydraulic Complex” as well as for Industrial Archaeological Heritage and for Urban and Architectural Heritage;
- The draft maps to clarify the property’s boundaries and define its buffer zone, which involved the participation of multiple institutions and the technical assistance of the ICOMOS mission, were prepared and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in June 2018;
- Regarding Mining Productive Heritage, the draft Supreme Decree prepared by the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (COMIBOL) and supported by the Ministry of Cultures and Tourism that would define permanent mechanisms and legal instruments for the conservation of the morphological structure of the Cerro Rico is still under consideration by the national government. A risk signage project for Cerro Rico was developed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for consideration;
- Regarding Environmental Heritage, the Objectives, Strategies and Policies for the design of Programmes and Projects for the “Kari Kari Lagoon Hydraulic Complex”, incorporated into the draft IPMP, are listed;
- Regarding Archaeological, Architectural and Urban Heritage, the Objectives, Strategies and Policies for the design of Programmes and Projects for Industrial Archaeological Heritage and for Urban and Architectural Heritage, incorporated into the draft IPMP, are listed;
- The Ministry of Cultures and Tourism will organize a first national meeting of site managers of World Heritage properties to be held in 2019.

On 9 and 12 April 2019, respectively, the State Party submitted as additional information the above-mentioned draft Supreme Decree for the conservation of Cerro Rico, and a technical report prepared by COMIBOL (Reference APYM-0174/2017) on the situation of the Cerro Rico.

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

The development of the property’s IPMP in collaboration with the local, regional and national levels of government has helped the State Party to direct its efforts to the property’s conservation and management in line with the adopted Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). ICOMOS conducted a Technical Review of the draft IPMP, subsequently transmitted to the State Party in November 2018. However, there was no indication in the State Party’s report regarding the incorporation of these technical conclusions, nor for plans to finalize and approve the IPMP at the national level. These final steps are necessary in order to meet Indicator 14 of the DSOCR, and to ensure the appropriate implementation of the programmes and projects identified for the property’s conservation and management.

The technical work to clarify the property’s boundaries and establish a suitable buffer zone has been completed. The maps developed respond adequately to Indicators 9, 12 and 13 of the DSOCR regarding the delimitation of the property’s sub-zones of protection, clarification of the current limits of the property, and the definition of a buffer zone, respectively. These maps, as well as the definition of the relevant institutional competencies related to the management of the different geographical areas, will need to be incorporated into the final version of the IPMP and any other relevant planning documents. It should also be noted that the State Party submitted a request for clarification of boundaries as well as a Minor Boundary Modification to the World Heritage Centre, both which will be examined by the World Heritage Committee under item 8 of the Agenda (see Document WHC/19/43.COM/8B).

Regarding the complete set of corrective measures, the State Party's report does not provide clear and comprehensive information, including the relevant annexes, regarding actions undertaken and planned, making it difficult to assess the advances achieved to date on all issues. Although the technical report prepared by COMIBOL in October 2017 outlines the current situation of the Cerro Rico in regards to mining activity, and particularly that occurring over the established 4,400m limit, the State Party's report does not provide clear and detailed information on actions undertaken to implement the indicators outlined for Mining Productive Heritage, particularly for the relocation of miners working above 4,400m and the stabilization works for the Cerro Rico. Nor does the report provide information on the restoration works undertaken in the Historic Centre and the implementation of the city's Master Plan, as noted in previous state of conservation reports.

There appears to be no progress since January 2018 on the approval by the national government of the draft Supreme Decree developed by COMIBOL that would formalize planning and financing mechanisms for the conservation and management of Cerro Rico. The approval and implementation of this important legal mechanism, which outlines the basis for annual action plans for immediate implementation, is further supported by the Ministry of Cultures and Tourism, as a key element for achieving the DSOCR.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.48

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.8**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Commends the State Party on the collaborative and inter-institutional approach taken to address the diverse issues related to the property's conservation and management;*
4. *Takes note of the submission in June 2018 of the draft Integrated and Participatory Management Plan (IPMP) for the property, and urges the State Party to ensure its finalization and approval by **1 December 2019**, taking into consideration the conclusions of the ICOMOS Technical Review of November 2018;*
5. *Takes note with satisfaction of the submission of a request for clarification of boundaries and a Minor Boundary Modification for the property, and requests the State Party to incorporate the updated maps into the IPMP and any other relevant planning documents;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to advance as a matter of urgency in the approval of the draft Supreme Decree that would formalize important planning and financing mechanisms for the conservation and management of Cerro Rico, which still remains under consideration by the national government;*
7. *Expresses its concern that clear and detailed information has not been provided regarding progress towards the relocation of miners above the 4,400m limit and the stabilization works and management mechanisms for Cerro Rico, nor on the implementation of restoration works and the Master Plan for the Historic Centre as reported in previous years, and further requests the State Party to provide updated information in this regard;*
8. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to provide detailed information on each of the indicators established in the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and in reference to the approved timeline contained in Decision **41 COM 7A.23**, and include in its next report the relevant supporting documents in annex, in order to facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the progress achieved in implementing the DSOCR;*

9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
10. **Decides to retain City of Potosí (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

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-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 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Corrective measures identified

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

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

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

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

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 2007-2015)

Total amount approved: USD 135,000

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

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 30 000 for the development of Risk Management Plans in Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works, Historic Quarter of the Seaport City of Valparaíso and Rapa Nui National Park financed by the German Foreign Office in 2018 (currently under implementation)

Previous monitoring missions

May 2007: World Heritage Centre site visit; April 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2018: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Wind
- 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

- Damage caused by earthquakes and the wind (damages due to the 2014 earthquake addressed)

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

Current conservation issues

On the initiative of the World Heritage Centre, an ICOMOS Advisory mission visited the property in November 2018. Subsequently, on 1 February 2019, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation. Both reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/documents/>. The State Party's report provides an extensive assessment of the implementation of the corrective measures and indicators, and the achievement of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), which were adopted in Decision **37 COM 7A.37** as follows:

- The Priority Intervention Programme (PIP) was initiated in 2005 to provide emergency structural stability to vulnerable buildings and structures of high heritage value. Its execution was delayed due to a number of earthquakes in the country and was rescheduled in 2015. Out of a total of 33 interventions, 32 have been completed and one final work (Santa Laura Foundry) will be completed in 2019;
- The Conservation Plan was developed over the past number of years on the basis of extensive research and concrete experiences. It includes a conservation strategy and was finalized and adopted in 2018;
- Day and night security personnel and a closed circuit television system are in place, site limits are protected by fences, a by-pass was constructed to eliminate traffic through the property, and visitor security measures were implemented. Additionally, progress has been made to develop a Risk Management Plan through the implementation of a project financed by the German Foreign Office;
- The Management Plan 2013-2018 is fully operational and is articulated with local and regional planning instruments, particularly the Tarapacá Regional Heritage Board. It will be updated in 2019;
- A stable management staff and work team are in place. The budget is composed of income generated at the property itself and a state budget permanently allocated under the new "World Heritage Sites" programme, among other sources;
- In terms of visitor strategy and interpretation, a Heritage Interpretation Strategic Plan was prepared in 2012 and has been fully implemented, culminating in the inauguration of the Interpretation Centre of El Salitre in February 2018;
- The buffer zone was defined and protected as a 'Typical Zone' under national law, and intervention guidelines were approved. The State Party subsequently submitted a Minor Boundary Modification to the World Heritage Centre on 1 February 2019.

On the basis of this assessment, the State Party formally requests the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

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

The recommendations of the 2018 ICOMOS Advisory mission to the property are addressed in the State Party's report. Based on the reports of both the Advisory mission and the State Party, the following can be concluded regarding the implementation of the corrective measures to ensure the achievement of the DSOCR:

Stability, authenticity, integrity, safety, and security:

(i) Full implementation of the PIP, according to its 2005 and 2008 definitions

The PIP started in 2005. By the end of 2018, 32 of the 33 projects had been concluded satisfactorily. The last intervention in the Santa Laura Foundry will be completed in 2019.

(ii) Full design and initial implementation of the comprehensive conservation plan, based on the necessary scientific research, a clear conservation strategy, and the appropriate safety and security standards

Over the past years, extensive diagnosis and scientific research have been undertaken and experimentally applied on various components and materials. On the basis of these experiments and a 2012 international expert meeting, the Conservation Plan was elaborated with its corresponding strategy for implementation. The 2018 mission reviewed the draft Plan and provided advice that was incorporated into its final version. Security measures for visitors, a fire prevention system and safety training of personnel were implemented. The development of a Risk Management Plan also began as an additional optional measure upon the initiative of the State Party.

(iii) Security and protection measures for the site fully operational

The property and its buffer zone are entirely fenced, and are adequately patrolled and protected. 24-hour surveillance is in place. Safety for visitors is ensured by signs, barriers and security systems.

Management system and plan:

(iv) Sustained implementation of the management plan and fully operational management system in place

The Saltpeter Museum Corporation (SMC) is the owner and manager of the property. The 2013-2018 Management Plan was effectively implemented and an updated Plan for 2019-2023 is under preparation. The Plan ensures the protection and conservation of the property, allows joint decisions to be made with the social, political and administrative actors related to the property, and promotes its sustainable use and social appropriation.

(v) Management plan articulated with local and regional planning instruments

The SMC interacts effectively with national, regional and local authorities and the community, including the Municipality of Pozo Almonte, the Regional Government of Tarapacá, the National Service of Cultural Heritage, and other private and public institutions.

(vi) Appropriate and sustained human, financial and material resources for the conservation and management of the property secured

There is a stable work team, comprising qualified staff in professional, technical and administrative levels, totalling approximately 30 people. Sustained funding has been secured from donations, income generated on-site (mainly ticket sales), and from the state budget. Strategies are being explored to increase revenue from the property.

(vii) Stable and continuous contribution by the State for the conservation and management of the property, in a framework of shared funding (public / private)

The State Party provides stable funding under its state budget, including through the specific and permanent "World Heritage Sites" programme allocation.

Presentation of the property:

(viii) Visitor strategy and interpretation plan fully in place

A Heritage Interpretation Strategic Plan was adopted in 2012 and has been successfully implemented. Interpretation and presentation of the property includes visitation circuits, benches and rest areas, traffic signage on adjacent roads, information leaflets, audio guides, thematic rooms and exhibitions, and an interpretation centre that was inaugurated in 2018.

(ix) Site's facilities and activities contribute to the conservation and protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

The State Party and the SMC have designed and implemented all priority programmes, planning and management instruments, and other actions with the objective to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. Several facilities for visitors such as the *pulpería*, the office shop, the thematic rooms on daily life, and the imminent opening of the documentation centre and a second interpretation centre at the Administrator House in Santa Laura, ensure the transmission of the OUV and the comprehension of the saltpeter era and mining processes.

Buffer zone:

(x) Buffer zone fully established and approved and regulatory measures for its protection adopted and enforced

The buffer zone was established as a 'Typical Zone' under national legislation and intervention guidelines have been established. The buffer zone includes all elements and traces that are integral to the understanding of the property, including ancient habitation camps, remains of mining exploitation, railroads, trails and the natural landscape. The Minor Boundary Modification submitted by the State Party will be examined by the World Heritage Committee under Item 8 of the Agenda (Document WHC/19/43.COM/8B).

It is concluded that all measures and actions defined in Decision **37 COM 7A.37** have been satisfactorily addressed. It is recommended that the Committee congratulate the State Party for this sustained effort over a period of almost fifteen years, and that the property be removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The 2018 mission issued a number of recommendations to the State Party, particularly regarding the preparation of the new Integrated and Participatory Management Plan 2019-2023, and ongoing preventative conservation actions to protect the property from known vulnerabilities. The State Party should be advised to take these recommendations into account, and a final report on the preparation of the new Management Plan should be requested.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.49

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.9**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Takes note of the state of conservation report submitted by the State Party and the conclusions of the 2018 ICOMOS Advisory mission;*
4. *Warmly congratulates the State Party for its sustained effort, over a period of almost fifteen years, to implement the very comprehensive set of corrective measures;*
5. *Considers that the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as defined by Decision **37 COM 7A.37**, has been satisfactorily achieved, particularly in areas of conservation interventions, the adoption of a Conservation Plan and conservation strategy, effective management arrangements and the implementation of a Management Plan, protection and security measures for the site and visitors, site interpretation, and the identification and effective protection of the buffer zone;*
6. *Recommends the State Party to take into account the recommendations of the 2018 mission, in particular regarding the preparation of the updated Management Plan for 2019-2023 and ongoing preventative conservation actions;*
7. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, 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 44th session in 2021;*
8. ***Decides to remove Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) from the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

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

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (i)(iv)

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

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

- Fragile state of the property and accelerated degradation by environmental factors, lack of maintenance and limited conservation planning
- Erosion
- Lack of established boundaries and buffer zone
- Absence of a conservation and management plan
- Encroachments and urban pressure
- Tourism pressure (particularly at Portobelo)
- Insufficient legislation for the preservation of built heritage and regulations combining the two components of the property

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

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4763>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4763>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Updated and adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/7183>

Revised timeframe proposed for adoption in the draft Decision below

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1980-1993)

Total amount approved: USD 76,800

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

1993: technical mission; November 2001, March 2009, March 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; February 2014: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Erosion and siltation/ deposition
- Housing
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation
- Land conversion
- Legal framework
- Management systems/ management plan
- Fragile state of the property and accelerated degradation by environmental factors, lack of maintenance and limited conservation planning
- Erosion
- Lack of established boundaries and buffer zones
- Absence of a conservation and management plan
- Encroachments and urban pressure
- Tourism pressure (particularly at Portobelo)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/>

Current conservation issues

On 24 January 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/documents/> and provides assessment of the implementation of the corrective measures and progress towards the achievement of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as follows:

- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) financed project “Support for the conservation and management of cultural heritage” will be implemented over a four-year period 2019-2023. The project management unit was expected to function as of February 2019;
- Within this framework, the National Institute of Culture (Instituto Nacional de Cultura - INAC) is contracting services to draft the terms of reference for the Management Plan of the property, which will include four other instruments: Tourism Promotion Plan; Economic Sustainability Plan; Public Use Plan and Carrying Capacity Study; Interpretation Plan of Portobelo fortresses. The bidding process is expected for the second half of 2019;
- IDB funds will also be allocated for the construction of the Visitor Center of San Lorenzo, which will control visitor access and comprise tourist facilities distributed in 1.200 sqm located 7km from San Lorenzo Castle. The bidding process is expected for 2019 and construction for 2020;
- Consolidation projects for the fortifications of San Geronimo and San Fernando with funds of the INAC continued;
- Stabilization works in San Lorenzo Castle and in the slopes adjacent to Portobelo fortress were undertaken, as well as the relocation of houses from areas of high landslide vulnerability in Portobelo;
- The delimitation of the Historic Monumental Complex of Portobelo were redefined and Law 91/1976 updated. The San Lorenzo Castle component falls under the Protected Forest and Protected Landscape of San Lorenzo (Law 21/1997) whereas the Portobelo area falls within the National Park of Portobelo;
- The museography for the site museum (old customs office) of Portobelo was designed and implementation is expected for 2020;
- Other issues are also reported, such as capacity-building activities on stonemasonry restoration, the rehabilitation of the access road to San Lorenzo, and the soon completion of the new facilities of the technical office of the Patronato of Portobelo and San Lorenzo.

Due to the lack of funding from the State Party and delay in the disbursement of the loan granted by IDB, the State Party was unable to fully implement the set of corrective measures and achieve the DSOCR. A new revision of the timeframe for implementation is proposed **for the period of 2019-2023, along with an overall financial estimation. It takes into account** coordination between the IDB and the INAC, contracting procedures, and the potential delay caused by the forthcoming change of national government in mid-2019.

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

While the State Party demonstrates a clear understanding of the actions required for the implementation of the corrective measures, it remains a matter of extreme concern that, due to the lack of sustainable funding from the State Party, a revision of the timeframe for implementation is proposed for the third time. It should be recalled that the lack of funding prevented the State Party to ensure implementation of the corrective measures as first adopted by the World Heritage Committee in Decision **36 COM 7B.102** for the period 2012-2015, which subsequently led to the revision of the timeframe for the period 2016-2019 as per Decisions **40 COM 7A.3** and **42 COM 7A.10**. The Committee has expressed, since the adoption of the DSOCR, its concern about the need for sustained government funding in implementing the corrective measures and has frequently urged the State Party to secure funds. However, limited progress was made in this regard and resources allocation has remained largely unaddressed for the past eight years, putting the property at risk of losing important attributes of its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). It is therefore recommended that the Committee regret that the implementation of the corrective measures was postponed again and urge the State Party to respect the newly proposed timeframe in order to ensure that the DSOCR be finally achieved in its entirety in 2023.

While funding through a loan from IDB is welcomed, it remains of extreme concern that the State Party focusses the implementation of the corrective measures exclusively on this exclusive source of funding, while some other urgent measures - such as the completion of emergency measures at San Lorenzo, San Jeronimo, San Fernando and Santiago fortresses, the definition of boundaries and buffer zones, and the implementation of the territorial and urban development plan for Portobelo – still need to be implemented.

The IDB project foresees mainly the improvement of infrastructure and tourist facilities. In this context, it should be recalled that tourism pressure was one of the factors that led to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and that an integral approach to the conservation and management of the property is required, this is particularly important regarding the potential impact of the proposed visitor center of San Lorenzo. Additionally, awareness raising activities within surrounding communities to identify opportunities for eco and cultural tourism should be privileged, as a mean to contribute to the improvement of their living conditions, in full coherence with the conservation measures as foreseen in the adopted DSOCR. Further, it is opportune to recall the State Party that new constructions which may have an impact on the OUV of the property should be informed to the World Heritage Centre before irreversible decisions are made, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Finally, a considerable number of corrective measures foreseen for 2018 remained not concluded, as follows:

- The Management Plan, firstly scheduled to be finalized by December 2018, is now expected for 2023 according to the new timeframe;
- The reactivation of the National Commission of World Cultural and Natural Heritage is pending;
- Only partial consolidation plans and works were undertaken;
- Despite the definition of limits for Portobelo, boundaries and buffer zones for the entire property were not defined;
- The situation regarding encroachment and urban pressure remains unchanged, as the *Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial* of Portobelo prepared by the Ministry of Housing has not been implemented and no funds are allocated for its execution.

These are essential corrective measures that have been awaiting implementation for many years and without which the DSOCR cannot be achieved. It is therefore recommended that the Committee also urge the State Party to address these issues as a matter of priority, especially regarding the definition and protection of buffer zones for the entire property and the preparation of an integral Management Plan.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.50

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 42 COM 7A.10, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Regrets that the revised timeframe 2016-2019 that was proposed by the State Party for the full implementation of the programme of corrective measures was not implemented, adopts the revised timeframe for implementation of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) for the period 2019-2023 and urges the State Party to respect this new timeframe in order to ensure that the DSOCR be finally achieved in 2023;*
4. *Noting that the State Party will implement a number of measures for the protection of the property in the framework of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) funded project and that the project does not take into consideration some other urgent corrective*

measures, reiterates its utmost concern about the continued lack of sustained funding from the State Party that jeopardizes the achievement of the DSOCR, which, as a consequence, seriously affects the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;

5. Notes the formal delimitation of the Historic Monumental Complex of Portobelo, and requests the State Party to define, as a matter of urgency, boundaries and buffer zones for all components of the property and to submit these as a Minor Boundary Modification;
6. Also recalling the importance of finalizing an integral Management Plan that includes all components of the property and their buffer zones, also urges the State Party to ensure its finalization and subsequent submission to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Recalls that tourism pressure was one of the factors that led to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and also requests the State Party to consider the improvement of infrastructure and tourist facilities in full coherence with the conservation needs, the carrying capacity and the OUV of the property, as foreseen in the DSOCR;
8. Reminds the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre in due course about tourism developments and new constructions that may have a potential impact on the OUV of the property, before irreversible decisions are made, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
10. **Decides to retain Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

51. Chan 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-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 phenomenon) 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 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Corrective measures identified

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

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://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: USD 118,700

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 and December 2014: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community
- Illegal activities
- Management systems/management plan
- Water (rain/water table)
- 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

On 7 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/documents/>, responding to the previous Decision of the Committee and the adopted corrective measures, as follows:

- Implementation of the corrective measures continues within the framework of the updated Master Plan with the objective of achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
- The updated version of the Master Plan for the property (2015-2025) is still pending approval by the Ministry of Culture. A bill is being drafted so that the updated Plan will have the same legal status of approval as the original Master Plan;
- The Ministry of Culture has received no response from the Provincial Municipality of Trujillo regarding the incorporation of the buffer zone and its regulations into the Metropolitan Urban Development Plan of Trujillo. A new municipal administration took office in January 2019 and new efforts will be undertaken to obtain a response;
- Following the advice of a ministerial working group, an amendment to Law 28261 has been proposed to allow for the expropriation of illegally-occupied archaeological areas. For this purpose, the Ministry of Culture is updating the data of the property as a first step prior to the verification and geo-referencing of the areas that are illegally occupied;
- In 2018, Public Investment Projects (PIP), totalling an amount of 8.6 million Peruvian soles, were executed with regard to archaeological research, architectural conservation and public use;
- Several important improvements to the site museum were undertaken regarding maintenance, security, and improving the visitor experience;

- Although the Public Use Plan has not yet been approved, several activities related to cleaning, awareness raising and communication have been implemented in collaboration with local communities. These include traditional mud technique workshops, a handicraft workshop and the recreation of Chimu ceremonies as a means for the preservation of traditional knowledge;
- The Pan American Conservation Centre for Earthen Heritage Sites (PECACH) continued its activities related to scientific research of materials and construction techniques and monitoring of environmental conditions, and acquired new laboratory equipment for conservation purposes.

On 6 February 2019, the State Party submitted a separate dossier in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* on the possible widening of the Trujillo ring road (from 2 to 4 lanes), which crosses the property boundaries and buffer zone. The Ministry of Transport and Communication considers the widening of the road between Trujillo and Sullana, which is part of the Pan-American Highway, as a necessity, while the Ministry of Culture is of the view that such an expansion is not in line with the Master Plan and national legislation, and would negatively affect the property.

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

The State Party should be commended for its continued commitment to the conservation of the property and for its sustained efforts to implement the current Master Plan and the corrective measures identified by the Committee with the view to achieving the DSOCR.

It should be recognized that numerous activities were implemented in 2018, particularly through the PIPs and the PECACH programme in the areas of research, conservation, documentation, cleaning, maintenance, monitoring and awareness raising that have contributed to the overall protection of the property. The robust programme of public use activities are designed to strengthen community involvement, create economic opportunities, and encourage the preservation of traditional knowledge and intangible heritage elements. It may be concluded that important advances have been made in the implementation of the corrective measures and the achievement of the DSOCR.

It should be noted, however, that once again, no substantial progress has been made in the implementation of the three remaining key issues that the Committee identified in its Decision **41 COM 7A.26**, namely:

- Adoption of the updated Master Plan, which is still pending formal approval by the Ministry of Culture;
- Delimitation and regulation of the buffer zone, which has been awaiting the response of the management office of the Trujillo Provincial Municipality's Urban Development Plan since April 2016;
- Approval of regulations for Law 28261 regarding illegal occupations.

It should be reiterated that these are essential components of the programme of corrective measures that have been awaiting implementation for many years. Without them, the DSOCR cannot be achieved. It is therefore recommended that the Committee urge again the State Party to proceed with these issues as a matter of extreme urgency. Without the conclusion of these matters and proof of their effectiveness, the Committee will not be able to assess to what extent the DSOCR, as defined in its Decision **36 COM 7A.34**, has been reached.

In March 2019, ICOMOS undertook a Technical Review of the proposed widening of the Trujillo ring road, which concludes that the project presented by the Ministry of Transport and Communications, in its present form, clearly endangers the integrity of the property, as well as its Outstanding Universal Value. Based on the available documentation, it is recommended that the State Party either a) improve the existing road ("pre-existing infrastructure") without widening it, and accompany any intervention with the necessary archaeological supervision, or b) identify a new trajectory for the road outside of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone. In the case that a new trajectory is identified, the existing road could be abandoned, recuperating an important aspect of the property's integrity and avoiding present and future problems connected to construction rubble and garbage disposal along the road, as well as future development pressures.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.51

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.11**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
3. Commends the State Party for its continued commitment to the implementation of the Committee's decisions and programme of corrective measures, with the aim of achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
4. Welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the current Master Plan through the Public Investment Projects, the Pan American Conservation Centre for Earthen Heritage Sites (PECACH), among others initiatives;
5. Notes with deep regret that three essential components of the programme of corrective measures, as adopted in Decision **36 COM 7A.34**, have remained pending for several years, and urges once again the State Party to take the necessary measures for the formal approval of the updated Master Plan, the formal delimitation and regulation of the proposed buffer zone, which is pending due to the lack of response from the management office of the Trujillo Provincial Municipality's Urban Development Plan, as well as the implementation of the amended Law 28261 that would address the matter of illegal occupation;
6. Considers that the proposal to widen the existing Trujillo ring road that passes through the property and the buffer zone endangers the property's integrity and Outstanding Universal Value, and strongly urges the State Party to either improve the existing road or alternatively identify a new trajectory outside of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, along with an assessment of the level of implementation of the effectiveness of all corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020;
8. Decides to retain **Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger**.

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

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1993

Criteria (iv)(v)

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

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

- Considerable decay of materials and structures resulting from lack of comprehensive conservation and maintenance, and torrential rains in 2004, 2005, and 2010

- Deterioration of architectural and urban coherence compromising the integrity and authenticity of the property
- Lack of adequate and efficient management, planning and conservation mechanisms, and institutional arrangements

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5965>

Corrective measures identified
Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5965>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures
Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5965>;
Updated, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6263>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/documents/>

International Assistance
Requests approved: 0
Total amount approved: USD 0
For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds
Total amount provided: USD 20,000 (Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage) for the planning, implementation and subsequent publications of participatory workshops and meetings with artisans and civil society in Coro and La Vela

Previous monitoring missions
December 2003 and September 2006: World Heritage Centre missions to assessment of the state of conservation; July 2002, April 2005, May 2008 and February 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; October 2015: ICOMOS Advisory mission; July 2018: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Water (rain/water table)
- Serious deterioration of materials and structures
- Deterioration of the architectural and urban coherence and integrity of the property
- Lack of adequate management, planning and conservation mechanisms
- Absence of detailed and technical information on the state of conservation of the property since 2007
- Flooding and water damage

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/>

Current conservation issues
An ICOMOS Advisory mission visited the property in July 2018 (mission report available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/documents/>). Subsequently, on 1 February 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, also available at [the above-mentioned link](http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/documents/), informing the following:

- The Advisory mission assisted the State Party to define the updated buffer zone proposal for both Coro and La Vela, which will be reflected in the actions and strategies of the Management Plan that is under development. Several maps that outline the proposed buffer zones are annexed to the State Party report. In the case of Coro, the proposed buffer zone represents an increased area as compared with the property's existing map; meanwhile, the redefinition in La Vela represents a decrease in overall area but includes the boardwalk to protect the coastal zone;
- The Mixed Commission, composed of the Cultural Heritage Institute, the State of Falcon, the mayors of the municipalities, relevant bodies and representatives of the communities, continues to be the property's central management body and is responsible for elaborating the Management

Plan, as well as addressing the corrective measures. A law proposing the formalization of the Mixed Commission is currently under consideration by the Falcon state government. The State Party also reports advances in the preparation of several components to be included in the Management Plan, which is expected to be completed and validated by all relevant actors by the end of 2021;

- The plan for a drainage system was presented to the Advisory mission, and funds have been requested from the national government in 2019, currently pending approval, to implement three key actions from 2019 to 2021. On this topic, there has been coordination between the different municipal and management authorities, and constant assistance, monitoring and controls throughout the year, and especially during heavy rain periods. An annexed report on “Buildings Affected in Coro and La Vela by Rains, October 2018” provides an inventory of 60 buildings in Coro and 37 in La Vela (majority inhabited) noting the specific damages and as being in a state of “emergency” or “poor state”;
- Some of the other corrective measures are addressed throughout the report and the property’s removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger is discussed in general terms;
- The timeline for completion of the corrective measures is proposed as 2 years from the time of the report (2019-2021).

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

On the basis of the ICOMOS Advisory mission’s report and the State Party’s report, it is clear that the national and municipal authorities remain committed to the protection of the property. The level of involvement of local communities and the many alliances formed with governmental and academic institutions demonstrates a highly participative approach to the property’s use and protection. The many cultural and educational initiatives implemented to build awareness of the heritage value of the property, particularly among youth, are particularly noteworthy. However, while over the past years, a number of restoration and maintenance programmes have been carried out, the abandonment and deterioration of domestic structures remains a main threat to the property. Heavy rains like the ones in 2018 continue to seriously affect many traditional buildings. The lack of maintenance of public spaces is also noticeable.

The Advisory mission report evidences that since the 2015 ICOMOS Advisory mission there has not been significant progress in implementing the corrective measures adopted in 2014 (Decision **38 COM 7A.23**). It is, therefore, imperative that the State Party continue its efforts to address these outstanding corrective measures, in addition to the three main issues of critical importance to guarantee the protection of the property’s Outstanding Universal Value (OUV): the definition and formalization of the buffer zones, the development of the Management Plan, and the implementation of an adequate drainage system.

Regarding the proposal for definition of buffer zones, it is noted that the several maps submitted by the State Party deviate from those established during the 2018 Advisory mission. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to (i) finalize the buffer zone proposal at the national level according to the boundaries and guidelines agreed upon during the 2018 mission, (ii) ensure that the property’s regulatory measures are reviewed and adapted accordingly, and incorporated into the new Management Plan, and (iii) submit a Minor Boundary Modification to formalize this redefinition of buffer zones.

While the State Party is advancing with the diagnostic phase of the Management Plan, the actual draft has not yet been submitted. The Advisory mission provides several specific recommendations on this issue, which should be incorporated in the drafting process. The Mixed Commission has proven to operate as an effective management unit that assures an adequate level of cooperation of institutions at the three levels of government and the participation of the community councils; however, the formalization of its status as the official management authority remains pending. The elaboration of a risk preparation plan has not progressed over the past years.

Regarding the property’s drainage system, it is clear that the State Party continues to regard this issue as of critical importance, and has conducted several coordination meetings and monitoring activities in this regard. However, the full extent of the entire drainage system project and its timeline are not clearly outlined. Funds to implement the drainage system need to be secured, and the project urgently implemented to address one of the key threats to the property.

The State Party does not provide a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of the corrective measures, and does not clearly address its progress in achieving the Desired state of conservation for

the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). It is noted that the State Party estimates that the Management Plan will be finalized by the end of 2021, but it has only provided a very general indication on the timeline for implementation of all remaining corrective measures during the years 2019-2021.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.52

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.12**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Commends the State Party on its continued efforts to assure the property's adequate conservation and management through a participatory approach, including the broad involvement of local communities, youth, and diverse institutional alliances;*
4. *Takes note with regret of the conclusion of the 2018 ICOMOS Advisory mission that several corrective measures adopted by Decision **38 COM 7A.23** have not been fully implemented, and requests the State Party to implement the mission's detailed recommendations in this regard;*
5. *Also requests the State Party to provide complete information on the status of each corrective measure in its next state of conservation report, including a detailed timeline for the implementation of all pending corrective measures;*
6. *Also takes note of the different maps submitted regarding the proposed redefinition of the buffer zones in Coro and La Vela, and further requests the State Party to:*
 - a) *Formalize the proposal in accordance with the boundaries and guidelines agreed upon during the 2018 mission,*
 - b) *Update the applicable regulatory measures and incorporate the new buffer zones into the Management Plan,*
 - c) *Submit a Minor Boundary Modification, in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines;*
7. *Reiterates its request that the draft Management Plan be finalized and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as possible;*
8. *Noting that regular heavy rains continue to have a serious impact on the property's ensemble of traditional buildings, urges once again the State Party to begin the implementation of a prioritized and costed plan for property's drainage system and secure adequate financial resources in this regard;*
9. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;*
10. ***Decides to retain Coro and its Port (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

AFRICA

53. Old Towns of Djenné (Mali) (C 116rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1988

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2016-present

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

- Serious deterioration of materials in the historic town and continued decay at the archaeological sites
- Inappropriate interventions
- Erosion of the architectural coherence of the town
- Lack of enforcement and implementation of regulatory and planning tools

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

In progress

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6678>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 6 (from 1981-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 110,194

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 110,000 (Italian Funds-in-Trust); USD 23,100 (Croisi Europe); USD 86,900 (European Commission); USD 53,000 (Netherlands Funds-in-Trust); USD 71,090 (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation)

Previous monitoring missions

2002, 2005: World Heritage Centre missions; 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; 2014, 2016: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2017: UNESCO Expert mission to assess the state of conservation of Mali's World Heritage properties

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- No management and conservation plan
- Pressure from urban development
- Deterioration of dwellings
- Waste disposal problems
- Encroachment of the archaeological sites
- Instable security situation

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report on the property, available at <http://whh.unesco.org/en/list/116/documents/> providing the following information:

- Incivility of the population has decreased and good relations have been established between the Cultural Mission and the stakeholders with the involvement of the population in all the activities concerning the visits to inspect the state of the property with the Management Committee, local media and district Councilors;
- A partial census (March 2018) revealed that some people wished to take care of the maintenance of their own houses. In May 2018, an inventory carried out in all the districts enabled the identification of more than 2,000 houses having been plastered with banco by the owners themselves. In some districts, the population has established canalization channels to drain waste waters to the river, thus making the streets less muddy and access to some areas of the city easier;
- Raising awareness among young people, through youth meetings, has considerably reduced the graffiti on the houses;
- Many house owners refuse the restoration of the buildings, thinking that their maintenance is the responsibility of UNESCO and others, basing the upkeep of the monumental houses on availability of funds;
- International Assistance enabled the restoration of the Gartahou complex (the vestibule of the Maiga of the chieftaincy and the adjacent houses), six monumental houses and four mausoleums;
- Financial support from the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency enabled the architectural diagnostic of the grand mosque and its solar electrification, improving the conditions of reception of the worshippers;
- In order to provide ownership rights, the official journal *Essor*, in its edition of 23 November 2018, published the notice requesting the registration of the four archaeological sites of Djenné (Djenné djeno, Hambarké Tolo, Kagnana and Tonomba);
- Laws governing the buffer zones for the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are being prepared;
- Strengthening of the mechanism to combat erosion by rain waters at the level of the mini-dams and the stone barrier continues;
- The antiquity of the water supply causes the degradation of the buildings (leaks and fissures, etc.);
- The project for the installation of pylons and communication relays in the old fabric of the town has been adjourned;
- In the face of requests for demolition and hard construction, attempted speculation or the obtaining of land titles of plots, the National Directorate of Cultural Heritage sent a letter to the Prefect and the Mayor, recalling the inalienable character of listed heritage;
- Recurring difficulties are:
 - The collapse of houses during rain season,
 - The abandon of houses due to inheritance issues,
 - Increased plugging of houses in banco with cement,
 - Proliferation of sheet or tin hangars in front of the shops used as reserves,
 - The use of signs without authorization,
 - Illegal excavations.

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

In reading the report submitted by the State Party and through the monitoring of the actions carried out by the UNESCO Office in Bamako, it emerges that of the 20 corrective measures, four have been accomplished, 12 are ongoing with two provisionally halted, and four others have not yet been addressed. No particular mention of the security situation is made; however, it remains a cause for concern and is volatile. The efforts deployed by the State Party are commendable in the light of this fragile situation, hindering the implementation of many activities.

The State Party places emphasis on the collaboration of the Cultural Mission with concerned parties and the involvement of the local population, which is fully welcomed. Support from the Management and Conservation Plan, adopted in 2018, has enabled awareness of the challenges facing heritage conservation or the clarification of the roles of the State Party and the partners, as well as increasing voluntary involvement and initiatives by the population in heritage management. The inventory and census work was particularly beneficial.

The restoration of several monumental houses with International Assistance is favourably welcomed. Financial support from the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency enabling the architectural diagnostic of the Grand Mosque and providing it with electricity through the discrete installation of solar panels is also appreciated. Although these actions for improved reception facilities for the worshippers are recognized, their numbers are on the increase at prayer time, causing new pressure to the building. Adequate measures should be undertaken to absorb this increased number of people and avert possible impact on the mosque.

However, it appears that the intensification of the actions at the site and financial support from International Assistance, granted in 2018, and the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency, have created a misunderstanding according to which all restoration and reconstruction was now the responsibility of UNESCO. This provoked the refusal to undertake such work and the claim of financial support for the work. It is therefore recommended that a maintenance handbook be prepared and the inventory work be continued, with a view to initiating a programme that would attract international support to enable the granting of subsidies to support restoration and reconstruction work of the dilapidated houses.

Despite increased mobilization of the population, major concerns remain regarding the built heritage, notably the collapse of houses, their abandon or increased plugging with cement.

It is also appreciated that the request for registration of the four archaeological sites of Djené has been published in the official journal *Essor*, in line with the corrective measure to provide ownership titles. On the other hand, the illegal excavations continue to threaten these sites. The sites need to be fenced in to control their access, and the work to update the maps to identify all their components needs to be resumed.

In spite of these efforts and progress noted, several measures still need to be taken. The Cultural Mission ensures commendable work in this context and enjoys a recognized authority, but its capacities still remain insufficient to carry out its mission. Efforts must therefore be continued, with the actors and concerned parties regularly collaborating with the Cultural Mission, to develop the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

In view of this situation, it is recommended that the Committee decides to maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.53

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision 42 COM 7A.13, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
3. Congratulates the State Party for all the efforts undertaken to strengthen the conservation and management of the property placing emphasis on the full involvement of stakeholders and the local population, through visits to inspect the state of the property

with the Management Committee, the media (local radio) and district Councillors, and awareness-raising measures with the local population, particularly the youth;

4. Expresses its keen acknowledgement, notably of the population of Djenné for its willingness and mobilization in the conservation of its built heritage, demonstrated in the plastering, maintenance and drainage initiatives, and calls upon the State Party to continue awareness-raising activities, information and liability of house owners in order to clarify the roles of all concerned parties, including the State institutions and UNESCO, to avoid any misunderstanding and issues that might occur at the time of restoration interventions;
5. Commends the restoration of several monumental houses thanks to the International Assistance, as well as the architectural diagnostic of the Great Mosque and the installation of new electrification with financial support from the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency, but recommends the State Party to take adequate measures to absorb the increased number of worshippers during prayer times and avert any possible impact on the mosque;
6. Also expresses its satisfaction on the census and inventory measures of the plaster-rendered houses, but remains concerned as regards the continuing threats to the built heritage, in particular the collapse of houses during the rainy season, their abandonment due to inheritance issues or the use of inappropriate material such as cement for the plugging of the houses of banco, and requests the State Party to continue the inventory work, notably for the abandoned houses;
7. Also requests the State Party to prepare a maintenance handbook for the houses with a view to initiating a programme which will attract international support and enable the granting of subsidies for the restoration and reconstruction work of the houses in ruins on an fair basis;
8. While appreciating the publication of the notice requesting the registration of the four archaeological sites of Djenné in the official journal Essor to provide ownership titles, expresses its concern with regard to the continued illegal excavations at these sites and also recommends that the State Party erects fencing to control access and avoid degradation caused by animals and people, and to resume the work of updating the maps to identify all their components;
9. Notes that the capacities and the means of the Cultural Mission remain insufficient, and recalls to the State Party the importance of further strengthening these capacities, and to also develop, with support from the World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO Office at Bamako and the Advisory Bodies, including the actors and concerned parties regularly collaborating with the Cultural Mission, the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
11. **Decides to retain Old Towns of Djenné (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

54. Timbuktu (Mali) (C 119rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1988

Criteria (ii)(iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1990-2005, 2012-present

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

- Occupation of the property by armed groups
- Absence of management
- Destruction of 14 mausoleums and degradation of the three mosques in the serial property

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

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6622>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 8 (from 1981-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 189,352

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 100,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust; USD 55,000 from the UNESCO Emergency Fund; USD 2,100,000 from the Action Plan Fund for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of ancient manuscripts in Mali

Previous monitoring missions

2002, 2004, 2005, 2006: World Heritage Centre missions; 2008, 2009 and 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; May, October and December 2012: UNESCO emergency missions to Mali; June 2013: UNESCO assessment mission to Timbuktu; April 2017: UNESCO Expert mission to assess the state of conservation of Mali's World Heritage properties

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Occupation of the property by armed groups
- Lack of management structure at the site
- Armed conflict

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2019, in response to Decision **42 COM 7A.14**, the State Party submitted a state of conservation of the property, available at the address <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/documents/>, which contained the following information:

- In the framework of the State Party's Action Plan for Phase II of the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts (2017-2021), the programme funded by the European Union enabled the execution of the conservation work at the site with the following results:
 - Completion of rehabilitation work, in particular of the main minaret of the mosque of Sidi Yahia; the enclosures of the Alpha Moya and Three Saints cemeteries, containing four

- mausoleums; buildings of the Municipal Museum and the Al Mansur Korey Museum, and the setting up of new exhibitions and development of reserves;
- Plastering of the Sankoré Mosque (November 2018);
- Completion of the reconstruction of the Al Farouk monument and the ongoing development of the Place de l'indépendance;
- Development of a green area around the Djingareyber Mosque to retain the silting, with support from the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission of Mali (MINUSMA);
- Establishment of a fencing in local material for the Governorate (MINUSMA funding);
- The digitization of the manuscripts in three libraries, directly attached to the three listed mosques, is ongoing;
- Consultations and awareness-raising actions have been undertaken with civil society and the Town and regional authorities for the rehabilitation and management of the property.
- Several difficulties and challenges are encountered, including some earlier problems, such as:
 - The continuing precarious security situation;
 - Insufficient intervention capacities and operational budget, and antiquated office equipment of the Cultural Mission;
 - Vibrations caused by the passage of heavy military equipment in the vicinity of some buildings, in particular the Djingareyber Mosque, are a potential threat;
 - Illegal installations (containers, houses of sheet metal) and the deposit of rubbish in the old urban fabric have a visual and environmental negative impact on the site. The consequent blocking of the accesses to the mosques and mausoleums can represent a danger and prevent any intervention in the event of an emergency. A letter raising this issue was sent by the Cultural Mission to the Town authorities but remains without response;
 - The municipality is unable to ensure the management of the cemeteries containing the mausoleums: it is responsible for ensuring maintenance and providing guards. The mausoleums are vulnerable to the deposit of rubbish and the risk of looting and acts of vandalism;
 - Silting around Sankoré and the cemeteries containing the mausoleums is worsening;
 - Following heavy rains in 2018, the Djingareyber Mosque and the mausoleums have not benefited from conservation work and are extremely dilapidated.

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

The progress achieved by the State Party in the rehabilitation, conservation and management of the property and in the implementation of the corrective measures is favourably welcomed. As is the continued support by the principal partners, notably the European Union (EU), and the MINUSMA, in the implementation of the Action Plan of Phase II for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts. The compelling results bear witness to the efficacy of this mobilization by the State Party and the international community, in particular the interventions, among others, on the Al Farouk monument, the Sidi Yahia and Sankoré Mosques, the cemeteries containing the mausoleums of the saints, the local museums and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts.

All these actions have in fact enabled the consideration, in a concrete and perceptive manner, of cultural heritage in all its facets, thus also accentuating its enhancement by and for the local community.

However, an important number of recurring issues need to be further attended to. This is not entirely explained by the still unstable security situation, and which represents a major obstacle to the efforts deployed for the implementation of the corrective measures.

Thus, the Cultural Mission continues to face a lack of staff, sufficient operating budget and office equipment for it to ensure the efficient management of the property, particularly the implementation of the 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan. To this, according to the State Party, is added the disinterest and inaction of the municipal and regional authorities, despite an important awareness-

raising action and lobbying with the Town authorities, the district chiefs, the Prefect and the Governor of the region.

Consequently, the property suffers in synergy of action on the part of all these actors. It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate its recommendations to the State Party to increase the financial, logistical and human resources of the Cultural Mission, and strengthen the awareness-raising and consultative actions to stimulate interest, interaction and coordination of the actors at every institutional level.

In regard to the implementation of the Plan for protection and maintenance for collective repair works of the victims of Ahmad Al-Faqi Al-Mahdi, author of the destruction of the Timbuktu mausoleums and the secret door of the Sidi Yahia Mosque, it is commendable that the Fund of the International Criminal Court (CCI) for victims has initiated consultations with the local civil society, the management committees of the Sankoré and Djingareybar Mosques and those responsible for the mausoleums, proposing to foresee collective repair work, including a strengthening of the operational and logistical capacities of the Cultural Mission.

With regard to the components of the property, it is noted that the Djingareybar Mosque and the mausoleums did not benefit from conservation work due to heavy rains. The vibrations caused by the passage of heavy military equipment remains worrisome and the Committee could reiterate its request to the State Party to study, together with the MINUSMA, options for the redirection of traffic in the vicinity of the buildings concerned to mitigate these effects.

In addition, pollution of the ancient fabric of the town and the cemeteries by illegal installations and rubbish, while having a negative visual and environmental impact, can also prevent access to the mosques and mausoleums in the case of emergency, as indicated by the Regional Directorate for Civil Protection. It is therefore recommended that the State Party call upon the municipal and regional authorities to resolve this situation.

Other recurring challenges concern the security of the cemeteries containing the mausoleums, silting or also improvement in the reception of the faithful attending the mosques. As proposed by the State Party, it would appear useful to foresee future measures, such as solar-powered electricity of the Djingareybar and Sankoré mosques, the creation of maintenance funds for the mausoleums, support for the masons' corporation and the continued strengthening of the enclosures of the cemeteries. In respect of all these activities, it is recommended that the Committee renew its appeal to the entire international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute to the implementation of Phase II of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts.

Taking account of all these comments, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.54

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.29**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Notes with satisfaction the continued progress accomplished by the State Party in the rehabilitation, conservation and management of the property and in the implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the Committee (Decision **40 COM 7A.6**);*
4. *Commends the support of the principal partners, notably the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), in the implementation of Phase II of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali, enabling the intervention, among others, of the Al Farouk monument, the Sidi Yahia and Sankoré Mosques, the cemeteries containing mausoleums of the saints, the local museums and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts;*

5. *Notes with satisfaction the organization of consultation and awareness-raising meetings with the town authorities, district chiefs, Prefect and the Governor of the region and civil society, but expresses its concern as regards the lack of synergy of action of all the concerned and necessary actors;*
6. *Is concerned about the lack of sufficient staff, operating budget and office equipment of the Cultural Mission that curbs the efficient management of the property, in particular the implementation of the 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan, and reiterates its encouragements to the State Party to increase financial, logistical and human resources of the Cultural Mission, to enable the strengthening of awareness-raising and consultation actions to revitalize interest, interaction and coordination of the actors at all institutional levels;*
7. *Is concerned by the state of conservation of some components of the property, such as the Djingareyber Mosque and the mausoleums which have not benefited from conservation work due to heavy rains during the winter, as well as vibrations caused by the passage of heavy military vehicles, particularly threatening the Djingareyber Mosque, and reiterates its request to the State Party to study, in consultation with the MINUSMA, options to redirect traffic in the vicinity of the buildings concerned to mitigate these effects;*
8. *Urges the State Party to undertake adequate measures, in close cooperation with all the municipal and regional authorities, to prevent the illegal installation of containers or sheet metal constructions, and to combat the pollution by rubbish of the ancient fabric of the town and the cemeteries, constituting a possible negative visual and environmental impact and thus threatening the property and preventing access to the mosques and mausoleums in the event of an emergency;*
9. *In respect of the necessary conservation, awareness-raising and enhancement actions, renews its appeal to the whole international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute to the implementation of Phase II of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of the cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts;*
10. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;*
11. *Decides to pursue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;*
12. ***Also decides to retain Timbuktu (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

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

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-present

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

- Occupation of Gao city by armed groups
- Inability to ensure daily management in the protection and conservation of the property

- Risk of collapse 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

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6623>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 2000-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 79,822

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: UNESCO Emergency Fund: USD 40,000; Action plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of ancient manuscripts in Mali: USD 50,000

Previous monitoring missions

May 2012: Emergency UNESCO mission to Bamako; October and December 2012: World Heritage Centre monitoring missions to Bamako; February 2014: UNESCO assessment mission to Gao; April 2017: UNESCO Expert mission to assess the state of conservation of Mali's World Heritage properties

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of site management
- Armed conflict

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2019, in response to Decision **42 COM 7A.15**, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/documents/>, providing the following information:

- The 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan has been initiated, involving the administrative and political authorities and the different actors of the region. Monitoring of the property is strengthened through weekly visits by the Chief of the Cultural Mission at Gao;
- Actions undertaken under International Assistance granted in 2018 are ongoing to repair damage to the roof, maintenance of the pyramidal tower and the regeneration of the *hasu* trees;
- Occupation of the buffer zone has been halted but integration of the Necropolis in a coherent ensemble with the white stone square has not yet begun;
- The Cultural Mission participated in the international course "First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis", FAC-AFRICA, at Bamako (12-30 November 2018), organized by UNESCO and ICCROM, with the Ministry of Culture of Mali, which brought together cultural heritage restoration specialists from 19 countries and four continents;
- In the framework of monitoring the state of conservation with a view to preparing a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), an initial meeting between the managers of the four Malian World Heritage sites was held in Bamako (October 2018);
- Signboards have been installed at the entrance to the site with financial assistance from Force Barkhane, demonstrating the involvement of the security and peace-keeping forces at the site, who regularly visit the property;

- Young people are involved and made aware of the need to protect the property through multiple activities;
- The State Party also emphasizes the need to organize periodic meetings between UNESCO specialists and the managers of the sites and recalls the importance of providing the Cultural Mission with sufficient financial and logistical means.

Following the proposal of property's Management Committee to plant 50 eucalyptus trees in the courtyard of the Tomb of Askia, the CRAterre Association as well as the National Directorate of Cultural Heritage (DNPC) of Mali have expressed their deep concern on the potential negative impact that this measure could have on the property. On 8 May 2019, the Cultural Mission informed the DNPC and the World Heritage Centre of the abandonment of the project.

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

The State Party, through the Cultural Mission at Gao, continues its efforts for the conservation and management of the property and the implementation of the corrective measures. Apart from work already accomplished and ongoing on the building, it is appropriate to commend the efforts made in facilitating the involvement of the different actors, notably at Governorate level, and the interim and Town authorities in the execution of the new Management and Conservation Plan (PGC).

It is also appreciated that the youth are mobilised through various activities. The involvement of the security and peace-keeping forces through regular visits to the property and the installation of signboards is also welcomed.

The International Assistance enables the continuance of the work necessary for the restoration and the stabilisation of the property and for the planting of the hasu trees. However, regrettably, the State Party has not provided detailed information on the progress of these activities despite the designation of plots for the planting of the hasu trees. In addition, the restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance work on the building for the men's prayer room, in particular, the roof damaged by torrential rains in August 2017, remains uncompleted. Acceleration of the work is therefore urgent. As regards the proposal to plant eucalyptus trees inside the property, it is noted with relief that this project has been abandoned to avoid the risk of an invasive species, heavy water consumer, causing a possible reduction in underground water and provoking land subsidence and eventual weakening of the property.

In the face of constant restoration and stabilization needs of all the components of the property, the State Party makes no mention of the rehabilitation project of the property for an amount of 500,000 US dollars provided by the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH). This project will be carried out by the National Directorate of Cultural Heritage of Mali in collaboration with the CRAterre Association. It is appropriate that the Committee congratulate the State Party for this important mobilization of funds, and request it to submit all information available on this programme to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies. This, to ensure that the actions are effected in coherence, synergy and complementarity with, in particular, those carried out by the UNESCO Bureau in Bamako in the framework of Phase II of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts (2017-2021).

The rehabilitation and installation into new premises of the Sahel Museum at Gao, inaugurated on 6 February 2019, is to be commended. Funded by the European Union, this project has provided the museum with a new exhibition and enhanced its collection, also highlighting the revival of cultural activities following the 2012 crisis, including the post-crisis plastering of the Tomb of Askia, which has since taken place twice. Such valorising and promotional cultural heritage actions are of considerable importance, in particular for the local communities.

Finally, it is appreciable that training sessions, similar to the "First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis" (FAC-AFRICA) continue, but the appeal to support capacity building of the Cultural Mission, including the actors and concerned parties collaborating regularly with it, and provide financial and logistical means to develop the DSOCR, should be reiterated.

With regard to the above points, it is recommended that the Committee decide to maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.55

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.15**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
3. Warmly welcomes the efforts undertaken by the State Party to ensure the conservation and the management of the property and the implementation of the corrective measures, notably through the application of the 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan, with the participation and involvement of the different actors in the management of the property, in particular the administrative and political authorities;
4. Commends, in particular, the mobilization of the youth who organize guided tours, training sessions, and exchange meetings on heritage protection, as well as the security and peace-keeping forces through their regular visits to the property;
5. Also commends the rehabilitation and installation of the Sahel Museum at Gao into new premises and its endowment of a new exhibition and enhancement of its collection, including a section highlighting the revival of cultural activities following the 2012 crisis, including the post-crisis plastering of the Tomb of Askia which valorizes and promotes cultural heritage;
6. Takes note of the implementation of the ongoing International Assistance for the restoration and stabilization of the property and the hasu tree plantation, but exhorts the State Party to avoid all tree plantations of eucalyptus inside the property likely to weaken it, and to accelerate implementation of the restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance work of the building serving as a men's prayer space, notably the roof damaged by torrential rains in August 2017;
7. Congratulates the State Party for the mobilization of funds from the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH) to initiate a full rehabilitation project carried out by the National Directorate of Cultural Heritage of Mali in collaboration with the CRAterre Association, and requests it to submit to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies all available information on this programme, to ensure that the actions are carried out in coherence, synergy and complementarity with, in particular, those actions of the UNESCO Bureau in Bamako, in the framework of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
8. Recognizes the efforts deployed to strengthen conservation capacities of the property, reiterates its appeal to the State Party and the international community to support capacity-building of the Cultural Mission and provide it, as well as the actors and concerned parties regularly collaborating with the Mission, with financial and logistical means, notably to develop the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;

10. Decides to pursue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
11. Also decides to retain the Tomb of Askia (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

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

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2001

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

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

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
Fire that resulted in the destruction of part of 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/4351>

Corrective measures identified
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4351>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4351>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1022/documents/>

International Assistance
Requests approved: 4 (from 1998-2018)
Total amount approved: USD 135,363
For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1022/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds
Total amount granted: 2011-2012: USD 68,365 from the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for an Expert Appraisal Mission; 2013-2016 and 2019-2020: USD 650,000 from the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the project: Technical and financial assistance for the reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga, architectural masterpiece of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, Uganda, World Heritage property in Danger. 2017: 4,300 USD from the World Heritage Fund for ICOMOS advisory consultancy for the finalization of the elaboration of the Master Plan.

Previous monitoring missions
April 2010, August 2011, November 2011 and August 2013: World Heritage Centre mission; November 2010: Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2012: Joint ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; February 2015: Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; since 2014, regular missions by UNESCO Office in Nairobi.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Destruction by fire of the Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga
- Ground transport infrastructure: Proposed widening of Masiro and Hoima Road
- Management systems/management plan: lack of a Master Plan and a complete Management Plan with detailed disaster risk management plan and a tourism management plan
- Management activities: Management structure

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1022/>

Current conservation issues

On 30 January 2019, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1022/documents/>.

The report addresses actions undertaken to halt the further deterioration of the Bujjabukula (Gate House) by removing its thatch layer, which also facilitated research on the structure to develop a stabilisation and restoration plan. International Assistance funds, approved in May 2018, allowed these activities to commence in November 2018. The restoration of the Bujjabukula is being undertaken in parallel with the completion of the reconstruction of the Mazibu Azaala Mpanga, which remains in process, following an updated timeline. The design of the firefighting system has been modified to reduce its visual presence on the property. The Mazibu Azaala Mpanga's thatching should be completed by December 2019.

The State Party is collaborating with the Kampala City Authority in a multi-disciplinary and participatory project to assess the buffer zone and compose neighbourhood-scale development guidelines and reassess the development of Masiro and Hoima roads. This activity will be funded from July 2019 into 2020. The Master Plan for the property has been completed and the Disaster Risk Management Plan has been modified in response to comments from the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies and integrated into the Master Plan. The Master Plan will be implemented over a period of ten years. The management of the property has reportedly improved after the Buganda Heritage and Tourism Board assumed its co-supervision in collaboration with the traditional custodians. The National Technical Committee (constituted as a temporary organ to oversee the reconstruction of the Mazibu Azaala Mpanga) has been given a permanent long-term oversight advisory role for the property.

The *final* Master Plan, a *progress report* on the World Heritage International Assistance project "Restoration of the Bujjabukula (Gate House) at the Kasubi Royal Tombs of Buganda Kings", and a reconstruction timeline for the Mazibu Azaala Mpanga were annexed to the State Party's report. The Master Plan includes a timeframe to reach the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) in 2028. The annexed document outlining the process on the Bujjabukula stabilization includes the communication that it was unfortunately structurally damaged when it was hit by a truck.

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

The State Party has continued to progress towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). In doing so it has actively engaged the World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO Nairobi Office and the Advisory Bodies. The State Party has drafted a Master Plan for the property with aim to achieving the DSOCR. This plan takes a long-term view to reaching the DSOCR, which is deemed to be appropriate and achievable. It should be implemented after a final technical review thereof by the Advisory Bodies.

The reconstruction of the Mazibu Azaala Mpanga is progressing. The latter was dependent upon the re-opening of the Japan Funds-in-Trust project 'Technical and financial assistance for the reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga, architectural masterpiece of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, Uganda, World Heritage property in Danger', which was approved by the donor in December 2018 and is supporting an efficient risk prevention scheme at the site with all the equipment needed as well as qualified supervision for the reconstruction of the destroyed roof. The re-opening of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust (FIT) project, the imminent installation of infrastructure for the firefighting system as well as training in its use are welcome. Despite the modifications to the design for the firefighting system already undertaken, the details of this system – especially that of the physical infrastructure – require further clarification before installation. The final design has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies. With the technical support offered through the Japan FIT project, the National Technical Committee should continue to work on the Disaster Risk Management Plan for the site in view of its finalization by end of 2019. The timeline for the reconstruction of the Mazibu Azaala Mpanga submitted with the State Party's report is already out-dated and an updated work plan should be submitted to UNESCO.

The removal of the heavy grass thatch from the Bujjabukula, is welcome; the truck accident is unfortunate. The Bujjabukula remains one of the most significant structures of the property, containing a high level of material, craft and technological authenticity of great importance to the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The building also plays an important ceremonial role in the living cultural traditions associated with the property. It is appreciated and highly important that the works aim to restore, and not to reconstruct it. The restoration process will be very delicate and the

focus thereof should be neither speed or efficiency but the retention of as much material as possible and development and maintenance of traditional construction technologies and crafts. It is therefore welcome that the building will be thoroughly investigated and documented, including its materials, construction and fixing details, before the process of designing the restoration methodology and details can be developed. Close coordination with the World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO Field Office in Nairobi and Advisory Bodies is advised.

The development of guidelines for the buffer zone remains a priority, especially seen in the light of the existing Kampala Physical Development Plan (2012) that foresees the upgrade of Hoima Road, which is adjacent to the property boundary in the buffer zone.

Draft Decision: 43 COM 7A.56

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **42 COM 7A.16**, adopted at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Acknowledges the progress that the State Party has made in responding to previous Committee decisions, as well as the progress made towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) to date;*
4. *Appreciates the support offered by the Government of Japan through the re-opening of the Japan Funds in Trust to UNESCO project 'Technical and financial assistance for the reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga, architectural masterpiece of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, Uganda, World Heritage property in Danger', and encourages the State Party to actively implement the project, which is offering support towards risk prevention, reconstruction and documentation as well as capacity building;*
5. *Requests the State Party to implement the Master Plan for the property after its final technical review by the Advisory Bodies, and continue working towards finalising development guidelines for the buffer zone of the property as well as finalising the Disaster Risk Management Plan;*
6. *Welcomes the measures taken by the State Party to ensure the safeguarding of the Bujabukula (Gate House) through an ongoing World Heritage International Assistance project, which is supporting a comprehensive restoration and capacity building as well as research and documentation of the structure, construction techniques, materials, technological and craft authenticity, and also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre:*
 - a) *A detailed catalogue, including a detailed photographic record, of the existing materials and construction techniques with which the Bujabukula was constructed, including its extant foundations flooring, walls, structure, ceiling and roof,*
 - b) *A detailed restoration plan including detailed architectural drawings, restoration methodology and documentation plan, focussed on the maximum retention of authentic materials and technologies, and aimed at developing and maintaining traditional construction crafts, for review by the Advisory Bodies before implementation;*
7. *Also welcomes the State Party's submission of the improved design for the physical fire-fighting infrastructure, through funding of the Japan Funds-in-Trust to UNESCO, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before implementation;*

8. Further requests that the State Party amend the Kampala Physical Development Plan to align it with the property's Master Plan and buffer zone development guidelines, once these are complete and have been reviewed by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Also urges the State Party to continue its work on the corrective measures adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2020**, 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 44th session in 2020;
11. Decides to retain the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.