

PALAU

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2002

Organisation submitting the report

- Palau National Commission for UNESCO.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- A national inventory of cultural and historical heritage is under preparation.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- A Tentative List has not yet been prepared.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations have yet been prepared.

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

Integration of heritage and planning

- Ministry of Resources and Development.
- Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs.
- The Palau National Code addresses cultural and natural resource protection.
- A Palau Committee for World Heritage is being organized. The proposed functions of this Committee are: (i) to formulate priorities regarding the planning implementation, maintenance, development and sustainability of heritage conservation; (ii) to seek ways and means of obtaining financial support; (iii) to ensure relevant and correct information is made available and accessible; (iv) to negotiate with affected parties; (v) to assist and encourage ongoing awareness programmes on the importance of World Heritage sites; (vi) to encourage and assist on matters for research of heritage conservation.

Participation of local communities

- The traditional Council of Chiefs and Traditional Council of Women are to be included in the Palau World Heritage Committee.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- Financial support will be discussed by the Palau Committee for World Heritage.

Professional

- No information provided.

New and improved services

- The Palau National Commission for UNESCO will organize the meeting of the Palau Committee for World Heritage to formulate issues regarding heritage conservation.

Issues to be addressed

- Need of training in the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.
- Need of financial support from the World Heritage Centre.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- No information provided.
- * International Assistance from WHF: none.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Some agencies publish newsletters, which can be used for World Heritage information. There is a proposal for the use of media in information dissemination.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- Palau has begun a work programme dealing with preservation and conservation of cultural and natural heritage sites under Palau laws or regulations.
- There is a need of assistance from the Centre in planning, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of potential sites as well as for training and public awareness activities.
- Partnerships with other Pacific Island States will be developed to share expertise and seek support from relevant regional bodies.
- Palau Committee on WHC will have to be actively involved in the decision-making process pertaining to nominations, evaluation of possible sites to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.