

# PHILIPPINES

### I.1 Introduction

**Year of ratification** 1985

#### Organisation submitting the report

- National Commission for Culture & the Arts (NCCA)  
633 General Luna Street  
Intramuros Manila  
1002 Manila  
Philippines

### I.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

#### The status of national inventories

- The National Historical Institute has been compiling a national inventory since 1981. NCCA has been compiling a church inventory since 2000.

#### The preparation of a Tentative List

- 13 sites revised in 1993.
- Prepared by the National Historical Institute and National Museum in consultation with local authorities and communities.

#### Nominations and the nomination process

- 1988 3 nominations  
(a) Taal  
(b) Vigan  
(c) Intramuros de Manila
- 1992 1 nomination  
(a) Mt Iglit Baco
- 1993 \* 2 nominations (inscribed)  
(a) Tubbataha Reef Marine Park  
(b) Baroque Churches of the Philippines
- 1995 1 nomination (inscribed)  
(a) \* Rice Terraces of the Philippines Cordilleras
- 1999 \* 2 nominations (inscribed)  
(a) Puerto Princesa Subterranean Reef Marine Park  
(b) Historic Town of Vigan
- The main motivation for nominations is “to encourage preservation through the introduction of World Heritage requirements”.

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

#### Integration of heritage and planning

- CH: the NCCA Medium Term Development Plan provides for the maintenance of World Heritage properties.
- NH: the PAWB (Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau) is in charge of Natural WH.

- CH: Co-ordination and standardisation of approach between heritage agencies, local government and churches is developing but needs to be strengthened.
- NH: A General Management Planning Strategy is being developed to serve as a basis for natural site-specific management plans.
- Details of 5 Board Resolutions are given, referring to: (i) infrastructure funding for restoration projects; (ii) policies for culture, development, education & diplomacy; (iii) support for scientific studies and excavations; (iv) preparation of culture & arts development plans; (v) categorisation of Philippine built heritage, restoration standards development, and master plans, as an aid to mobilising funding sources.

#### Participation of local communities

- Active participation of local communities is encouraged through the community resource management planning.
- Workshops, seminars and site visits are conducted to raise awareness amongst priests, students and local people and consult with them on the future of their heritage.
- NGOs are involved in campaigns for legal reform, preservation of endangered sites and reporting threats.

#### Tourism Development

- There is no legislation in relation to heritage and visitor management.

#### Financial measures and budget allowance

- The state provides a limited amount to the National Museum and Historical Institute for conservation of landmarks and natural habitat.
- NCCA has State funds and an endowment for the Baroque Churches WHS, 26 other churches and 3 government buildings. No figures supplied.

#### Professional

- CH: NCCA has 4 well-qualified staff and hires consultants as needed.
- NH: PAWB employs 261 staff.
- Spain & Mexico have supported professional training through the ASEAN & SPAFA programmes.
- University of Santo Tomas has opened a graduate course in cultural heritage conservation.

#### New and improved services

- NCCA has launched an Institute for Culture & Arts Management for workers in the heritage field.
- The Local Government Unit has heritage conservation training programs focusing on community relations.
- The National Museum has a conservation laboratory.

- NCCA has established a committee with the Catholic Bishops Conference to co-ordinate ecclesiastical heritage protection.

### Issues to be addressed

- The law on private ownership is very strong. Compensation or incentives should be introduced to enhance protection of privately-owned heritage.
- The need for a heritage law that will address conservation of built heritage in more specific terms, and with an endowment fund provision, is identified.
- “Better co-ordination among government agencies charged with the conservation of natural and built heritage”.

### 1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

#### National and International Fund Raising

- \* International Assistance from the WHF as follows:
- |      |          |                                                        |
|------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1986 | \$3,300  | Training, Architectural conservation                   |
|      | \$5,000  | Training, Wildlife conservation meeting                |
| 1987 | \$8,000  | Preparatory, ICOMOS                                    |
| 1988 | \$2,857  | Training, Wood conservation                            |
|      | \$20,000 | Training, Natural heritage management                  |
| 1989 | \$4,000  | Training, Management of natural zones                  |
|      | \$15,000 | Preparatory, Listing of heritage sites                 |
| 1991 | \$6,000  | Training, Interpreting natural heritage                |
| 1994 | \$13,200 | Preparatory, Rice Terraces                             |
| 1996 | \$20,000 | Preparatory, Tubbataha                                 |
| 1997 | \$20,000 | Technical, Tubbataha                                   |
|      | \$22,000 | Training, Baroque Churches                             |
|      | \$15,000 | Preparatory, Rice Terraces                             |
|      | \$15,000 | Preparatory, St Paul Subterranean Park                 |
|      | \$8,000  | Preparatory, Vigan                                     |
|      | \$30,000 | Training, Natural sites                                |
| 1998 | \$22,000 | Training, Baroque Churches                             |
|      | \$15,000 | Preparatory, St Paul Subterranean Park                 |
|      | \$5,000  | Promotional, Baroque Churches                          |
|      | \$50,000 | Technical, Rice Terraces                               |
| 1999 | \$5,000  | Promotional, Convention exhibition                     |
| 2000 | \$30,000 | Preparatory, Meeting for Batanes mixed site nomination |
| 2001 | \$23,000 | Technical, Puerto Princesa                             |
|      | \$75,000 | Emergency, Rice Terraces                               |

### 1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

#### Information and awareness measures

- NCCA is actively pursuing awareness raising measures with the Catholic Church due to its importance in managing ecclesiastical heritage.
- NCCA has its own website.

### 1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

#### Conclusions and proposed actions

- Consultation with local people, as well as with officials, to identify and protect the heritage should be reinforced.
- Legislation is needed to translate identification into protection, and protection into financial support and appropriate sanctions.
- Within 3 years it is proposed to act on: (i) awareness raising to be targeted for stakeholders; (ii) acquiring more equipment and training to raise conservation standards; and (iii) “use one or two sites as models for conservation and eco-tourism in order to convince the government and private sector of the viability of conservation.”
- The support of the World Heritage Fund may be sought for restoration projects and purchase of equipment.