



# AMENDMENT/PROPOSAL

Agenda Item	7B
Draft Decision	47 COM 7B.54
Submitted by the Delegation of....	
Co-author(s) (if any)	
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## TEXT

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/25/47.COM/7B.Add.3,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7B.68**, **41 COM 7B.34**, **43 COM 7B.36**, **44 COM 7B.77**, **45 COM 7B.104** and **46 COM 7B.44** adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), 41st (Krakow, 2017), 43rd (Baku, 2019), extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021), extended 45th (Riyadh, 2023) and 46th (New Delhi, 2024) sessions respectively,
3. Notes with utmost concern the ongoing degradation of attributes conveying the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, as reaffirmed by the 2024 Reactive Monitoring mission, and urges the States Parties to implement the mission's recommendations, as well as outstanding recommendations from the 2017 and 2020 missions;
4. Urges the States Parties to continuously reinforce transboundary dialogue, at both high institutional and operational levels, to ensure effective and sustainable management;
5. Regrets the lack of reported progress in preparing a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to define the cumulative impacts on the property's OUV, and also reiterates its request to the States Parties to urgently prepare a SEA that comprehensively assesses the cumulative impacts of all infrastructure and development plans, and other major projects on the property's OUV and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
- 5.6. Reiterates its request to the State Party of Albania to upgrade the status of the

Strategic Recovery Plan (SRP), including through clear and reinforced governance, and to promptly implement urgent measures to address existing threats to the OUV and improve the overall state of conservation of the property;

~~6-7.~~ ~~Deeply regrets~~ **Notes with concern** the re-construction of a five-storey complex in Tushemisht and the retention of development zones near Tushemisht, Drilon Springs, and Lin Peninsula without appropriate impact assessments, and reiterates its request to the State Party of Albania to:

- a) Revise and downscale the Tushemisht development in accordance with the OUV conservation requirements,
- b) Amend the Pogradec General Local Plan to exclude urbanisation possibilities in ecologically sensitive areas, including those between Tushemisht and Drilon Springs and on Lin Peninsula,
- c) Strictly enforce regulatory measures protecting the property's OUV;

~~7-8.~~ Requests moreover the State Party of Albania to halt further development on the Drilon– Tushemisht Waterscape project and the Pogradec bypass road until the revised impact assessments, in line with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, including cumulative impacts, are completed and submitted for review, in line with the 2024 mission's recommendations;

~~8-9.~~ Further reiterates its request to the State Party of North Macedonia that:

- a) Amendments to Detailed Urban Plans and approval of Local Development Plans outside settlements be suspended until the SEA is carried out and demonstrates no adverse effects on the attributes underlying the property's OUV,
- b) The General Urban Plans for Ohrid and Struga as well as the spatial planning instruments for non-built-up areas, be elaborated as a matter of urgency and fully respect the attributes underlying the property's OUV,
- c) A systematic assessment, based on clear criteria, of the negative impacts of illegal buildings be conducted, with decisions taken to eliminate or mitigate adverse effects, including removal of illegal constructions or parts thereof,

~~d) — The feasibility study for planning of the coastal zone of Lake Ohrid located in the Republic of North Macedonia, part of the mixed transboundary World Heritage property 'Natural and cultural heritage of the Ohrid Region' be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;~~

~~9-10.~~ Requests furthermore the State Party of North Macedonia to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, ~~the pre-feasibility for the alternative route of the Railway Corridor VIII,~~ the detailed studies and assessments for the Corridor VIII Highway routing options, and associated impact assessments for individual projects, prior to any irreversible decisions, and to suspend any development activities within the project areas until such assessments are completed and reviewed;

~~10-11.~~ Also urges the State Party of North Macedonia to improve conservation of Studenčišča Marsh, and reiterates its request to:

- a) Immediately halt construction activities near Studenčišča Marsh and the Gorica 3 complex until the above-mentioned SEA and project-specific impact assessments are completed,
- b) Revise the proposed draft law for the proclamation of the nature park to ensure alignment with the conservation of the property's OUV, consistent with relevant IUCN standards and mission findings;

~~11-12.~~ Appreciates positive conservation actions in Galičica National Park, including reduced extractive use and enhanced stakeholder cooperation and requests the State Party of North Macedonia to:

- a) Complete the revision of zoning policies to achieve the objective of allowing natural processes to occur across 75% of the Park,
  - b) Finalise and implement a visitor management plan,
  - c) Enhance ranger authority and enforcement capacity,
  - d) Implement strict regulations and enforcement to prevent illegal off-road vehicle use, and gradually phase out such activities in the Park;
- ~~12.13.~~ Acknowledges the near completion of the Sateska River redirection, and further urges the State Party of North Macedonia to ensure full compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards, as recommended by the 2024 mission;
- ~~13.14.~~ Notes with appreciation ongoing wastewater infrastructure upgrades and expanded monitoring efforts by both States Parties, but expresses concern over the slow pace of implementation, and requests furthermore urgent, coordinated action to address pollution hotspots, notably at Grashnica and Radozda in North Macedonia;
- ~~14.15.~~ Takes note of the proposed new landfill in Novaci and the planned closure of the Bukovo site, and requests moreover the State Party of North Macedonia to inform the World Heritage Centre prior to final decisions concerning waste transfer stations in the Ohrid Region;
- ~~15.16.~~ Also notes with utmost concern that the 2024 mission confirms previous missions' findings, concluding that cumulative and ongoing impacts – including urban development, spatial planning deficiencies, inappropriate interventions, eutrophication of the lake, large-scale infrastructure, and other projects – have caused serious deterioration of the key attributes conveying the property's OUV, resulting in irreversible degradation unless decisive action is taken, and considers that the conditions for the property's inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger are met, in accordance with paragraphs 179-180 of the Operational Guidelines;
- ~~16.~~ ~~Decides to inscribe the Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid Region (Albania, North Macedonia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;~~
17. Also requests the States Parties, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to proceed to urgently implement corrective measures based on the recommendations of the 2020 and 2024 missions and the Strategic Recovery Plan, adopted by both countries.~~to develop a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and a set of corrective measures, including a timeframe for their implementation, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 48th session in 2026, based on the recommendations of the 2020 and 2024 missions and the Strategic Recovery Plan;~~
18. Finally requests the State Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2026, 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 48th session.~~Finally requests the State Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2026, 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 49th session, with a view to considering, in case of the confirmation of potential or ascertained danger to its Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.~~