

ICOMOS Advisory mission for the World Heritage property of

Defence Line of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

Draft Terms of Reference

The State Party of The Netherlands has invited an ICOMOS advisory mission to assess an infrastructure project proposed for development within the World Heritage property.

The objectives of the mission are:

1. To examine the proposed preferred option for a highway link road (A8/A9) in relation to the full transport strategy that underpins the proposal as well as other relevant environmental aspects, and the assessment of other options;
2. To assess the potential positive and negative impacts of the proposed option and other options on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
3. -To consider whether the negative impacts of the proposed option might be mitigated to remove or reduce potential negative impacts;
4. If the negative impacts of the proposed option cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, consider possible other approaches for improved traffic management and/or highway improvements;
5. Assess the adequacy of the planning provisions, regulations and strategies in dealing with the link road infrastructure-project A8/A9 and, in particular the use of HIAs;
6. ~~Assess the congruence of overall management and protection arrangements for the property with the objective of protecting and sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and its attributes.~~

In order to achieve these objectives, the advisory mission expert shall review all necessary technical documents, undertake site visits and participate in technical on-site meetings with responsible authorities in order to gain insights into the context and justification for the proposed alternatives. The mission expert may also meet with other stakeholders, including members of civil society in order to understand any community concerns about proposed options.

The Advisory Mission takes two days and will take place in September 2017.

In preparation for the advisory mission, the State Party shall provide ICOMOS, in advance of the mission, with all necessary background technical material on the link road project, including impact assessments. In advance of the mission, ICOMOS shall consult with specialists on road traffic and fortifications.

On the basis of site visits and meetings with representative of the State Party, the advisory mission shall prepare for the State Party a report including analysis of the abovementioned

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points and recommendations. ICOMOS shall deliver this report ~~six weeks after the conclusion of the advisory mission~~ on 31st of October 2017 at the latest.