SPEAKER 1: MR MOHD SYAHRIN B ABDULLAH

LOCAL VOICES IN LENGGONG WORLD HERITAGE SITE, MALAYSIA

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WORKSHOP ON
THE HERITAGE OF ANCIENT AND URBAN SITES:
GIVING VOICE TO LOCAL PRIORITIES
14-15 MARCH 2016
SINGAPORE
The Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley was inscribed a UNESCO World Heritage site just over 3 years ago, in 2012, making it the fourth world heritage site for Malaysia. The process of nomination began in 2009, and involved various parties including the local communities.

The people living and working in a world heritage site are naturally concerned about how inscription would cause changes to their life and earnings, as they are fully aware that protection brings about restrictions. As an important stake-holder that is to be depended on for the protection of the world heritage site, the State Party realised their important role and them before, during and after inscription.

This paper will discuss the dynamics of the relationship between the State Party and the local communities, a rapport that is important for the success of obtaining the inscription as well as maintaining the inscription.

ABSTRACT

My full name is MOHD SYAHRIN ABDULLAH. I was born in Kuala Kangsar, Perak, Malaysia, in 1975. My childhood was spent in Kuala Kangsar where I finished my primary and secondary education. I graduated from International Islamic University, Gombak Selangor Darul Ehsan in 1999, a degree in Human Sciences, Majoring in Sociology and Anthropology and Minoring in Islamic Revealed Knowledge.

After working for five years in a private sector, I was appointed as a Curator at Heritage Division in January 2005. Starting from 1st March 2006, I became a Heritage Officer at the Department of National Heritage as a Head of Policy and International Affairs Unit where the scope of work including, world heritage inscription, international affairs, planning, policy and etc.

From September 2012 until January 2016, I was appointed as a Department of National Heritage Central Zone Director which covers State of Perak and Selangor as well as World Heritage Site of the Lenggong Valley, which was inscribed in 2012. My Current position is a Director of World Heritage Division, Department of National Heritage, Ministry of Tourism and Culture Malaysia.
LOCAL VOICES IN LENGGONG WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Presented by:
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MALAYSIA

• State Party to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972 (Since 1988).

UNESCO Operational Guidelines

• Para 2:
  “States Parties to the Convention are encouraged to ensure the participation of a wide variety of stakeholders, including site managers, local and regional governments, local communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other interested parties and partners in the identification, nomination and protection of World Heritage properties”.

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Para 26, among the current Strategic Objectives:

(4). Increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication.

(5). Enhance the role of Communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
Para 117:
“States Parties are responsible for implementing effective management activities for a World Heritage property. State Parties should do so in close collaboration with property managers, the agency with management authority and other partners, and stakeholders in property management”.

UNESCO Operational Guidelines
ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF THE LENGGONG VALLEY (AHLV)
AHLV

- It was inscribed on 30th June 2012
- Category: Cultural
- First archaeological sites
- AHLV is situated in the Lenggong Sub-district, District of Hulu Perak in the state of Perak, Peninsular Malaysia.
- 100 km from the state capital, Ipoh.
- Divided into two clusters.
INSCRIPTION CRITERIA

Criterion (iii)

Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley is one of the longest cultural sequence in a single locality in the world, covering an extraordinary range of nearly 2 million years and spanning all the periods of hominid history outside of Africa.

Criterion (iv)

Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley provides an outstanding and extraordinary record of the Palaeolithic technological ensemble of prehistoric people. With its rich and unique evidence of in-situ stone tool workshops spanning a 200,000 – 100,000 years period of time, AHLV reflects the evolution of human cognitive complexity in the form of a rational and systematic mind, an understanding of lithology and an efficient method of stone tool production. An outstanding example of lithic manufacturing of the Palaeolithic period is to be found at the in-situ Kota Tampan site. Kota Tampan has become an important global reference site for Palaeolithic tool technology.
NUMBER OF INHABITANTS

Estimated human population located within the nominated property based on statistical data:

**Cluster 1**
Area of core zone: Nil
Buffer zone: 2,513
Total: 2,513

**Cluster 2**
Area of core zones: Nil
Buffer zone: 4,350
Total: 4,350

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SUPPORT FROM LOCAL PP

• During nomination & after inscription
• Through:
  i. Awareness program
  ii. Briefing / dialog
  iii. Involvement in planning / program / activities
  iv. Updating new information
PLANNING PROCESS

Focus Group Discussion for the prep. of CMP

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DURING NOMINATION

EVALUATION MISSION BY ICOMOS,
Lenggong, Perak
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11-15 Sept 2011
Updating New Information
AFTER INSCRIPTION

- **Visitor Center Design Concept Contest**
  Januari - Mei 2013

- **Lenggong Carnival**
  Forum Warisan - 5 September 2013
  Jejak Warisan Dunia Lenggong - 7 September 2013
  Perlancaran Rakan Warisan Dunia - 7 September 2013
  Tunas Arkeologi - 7 September 2013
  Puisi Muzikal Lenggong - 7 September 2013

- **Briefing to local community**
  (6 program)
  i. 2 di Dewan Orang Ramai
  ii. 4 di Masjid sekitar Lenggong

- **Lenggong World Heritage Trail**
  Bersama Ketua Kampung Sekitar Lenggong & Abli Majlis Daerah Lenggong

- **Arts Performance Program**
  21 Disember 2013

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THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING SUPPORT FROM LOCAL PP

• Site Protection
• Save time and money
• Help identify prob. areas that may be overlooked
• Help providing useful input for desired condition
• To avoid misunderstood local cult. diff.
CHANNEL OF LOCAL VOICES

• Heritage Steering Committee
• Lenggong District Council
• Lenggong Tourism Council
• Heritage and Scientific Committee (HSTC)
• OSC (One Stop Center)
THANK YOU