

At the end of 2002 ICOMOS Germany organised the first meeting of a UNESCO/ICOMOS Working Group on the Preservation of the Bamiyan Site:

**Recommendations of the First Expert Working Group on the Preservation of the Bamiyan Site, Munich, 21–22 November 2002\***

***Recommendations for Consolidation and Preservation***

*Recognizing the results of the expert groups that worked at the site of Bamiyan in July and September 2002, the participants at the international 'Expert Working Group on the Preservation of the Bamiyan Site' which was held in Munich on 21 and 22 November 2002, recommend that:*

- a) The Bamiyan site, consisting of the Northern cliff of the Bamiyan Valley, with its caves, especially the niches of the monumental Buddhas, the remains of the blown-up Buddhas themselves, and the area in front of the cliff for, at least, 100 meters, should be consolidated and preserved. Further cultural area within the main Valley, including Foladi and Kakrak, should be identified and protected after adequate archaeological research;*
- b) an appropriate infrastructure be established for the conservation and preservation of the monuments;*
- c) the entire site be fully documented;*
- d) monitoring of the cliff and the existing fractures be performed;*
- e) emergency actions be executed immediately, according to priorities;*
- f) an execution plan be drawn up according to available data, together with new information, as necessary;*
- g) training of local people and their involvement in the activities be carried out;*
- h) the treatment and conservation of the loose fragments of the monumental Buddhas should include:*
  - documentation,*
  - geological investigations,*
  - the professional placement of the remaining fragments of the Buddha statues according to stratigraphic identification,*
  - protection of remains/fragments in a protected lapidarium.*

*Activities should be carried out simultaneously, if possible, in order to optimise the time work schedule. Safety, especially in the niches, should have priority.*

\* Abridged version without recommendations on wall paintings and archaeological projects. For the full text see *Heritage at Risk 2002/2003*, pp. 19f.