



**RIKSANTIKVAREN**  
**DIRECTORATE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE, Oslo, Norway**

**THE SARMISHSAI PETROGLYPH SITE**  
**NOWBAHOR DISTRICT**  
**NAVOI REGION**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF**  
**UZBEKISTAN**

**REPORT:**  
**Eighth mission to Sarmishsai**  
**May 2010**

**English edition**

Anne-Sophie Hygen



**Sarpsborg / Oslo 2010**

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EDITION*

**PROJECT:** Conservation and Management of Sarmishsai Cultural and  
Natural Heritage Site, Navoi oblast, the Republic of  
Uzbekistan

**AUTHOR:** Anne-Sophie Hygen, Head of Cultural Heritage, Østfold  
County Council

**DEPARTMENT / SECTION:** Utviklingsavdelingen (the conservation department) /  
Internasjonal seksjon (section for international issues)

**SUMMARY:** The final Norwegian following up project mission took place  
2/5-15 Mai 2010. Besides summing up the project status and  
results, much time was spent for finishing the Master  
Management Plan with 3 Sub-plans, and for meetings and  
exchange of information between the project participants  
and official decision-makers.

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**RIKSANTIKVAREN:** Dronningens gate 13,  
Postboks 8196 Dep,  
N-0034 Oslo, Norway  
Telephone: + 47 22 94 04 00  
Telefax: + 47 22 94 04 04  
E-mail: [postmottak@ra.no](mailto:postmottak@ra.no)  
<http://www.riksantikvaren.no/>

**Cover photo:**

*The steps from the road up to the walkway passing petroglyph group IX. Stone paved garbage disposal to the right. Photo: A-S Hygen*

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*The signed and stamped Sarmishsai Kadaster map, showing the borders of the protected area (cf. chapter 2.7).  
Photo: A-S. Hygen.*

## Foreword

The 8<sup>th</sup> and final Norwegian mission for the following up of the Sarmishsai project, supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, took place 2/5-15 May 2010 (including travel days). The main objectives of this year's visit were:

- Evaluation of all activities in 2009;
- Discuss project development and results;
- Finish the Management Plan;
- Meetings with decision-makers and contacts.

The Norwegian team this year consisted of project adviser Dr. Anne-Sophie Hygen, Østfold County Council, Sarpsborg, on behalf of Riksantikvaren – the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Oslo; Professor Dr. Knut Helskog, University of Tromsø, and project secretary Jørgen H. Jørgensen, Riksantikvaren.

Our many and warm thanks to project coordinator Dr. Muhiddin Khudjanazarov, who for health reasons could not go with us to Sarmishsai during this year's mission, Dr. Kristina Toderich, Dr. Marina Reutova, Dr Bakhrudin Boliev, and to Sarmishsai Director Bakhtyor Temirov; further to Dr. Alisher Ikramov, the National Commission for UNESCO in Tashkent, the Director of the Gorniy Children's Camp, Marina Valerievna Akasheva, and to the true friend of Sarmishsai and the Project, Head of Department of Environment Protection, Viktor Andreevich Grutsinov, Navoi Mining-Metallurgical Combinat (NMMC).

This being the final project report from the Norwegian side, we would like to express our congratulations to the Sarmishsai Project Group for the results they have obtained during the project period, and to acknowledge their strong devotion to Sarmishsai, and to us, their external cooperation partners. We wish them and the leaders and people of the Republic of Uzbekistan good luck in the further development of Sarmishsai, and many good and interesting experiences in this important and beautiful area of their nation.

As in previous years, Kristina Toderich and Natalia Shokirova have translated the mission report into Russian, for which we sincerely thank them. The Russian edition of the report is printed separately.

Sarpsborg / Oslo august 2010

Anne-Sophie Hygen

## 1. Mission program

- Saturday 2 May: Arrival Hygen and Helskog in Tashkent at 00.55.  
Project status up-dates.  
Evening: Leaving for private tour until 5 May.
- Wednesday 5 May: Arrival in Navoi.  
To Sarmishsai. Discussions with the project group.
- Thursday 6 May: Field work in Sarmishsai: Evaluation of the work on the walkways and by the groups for visitation. Recommendations.  
Conservation reporting.  
Project meeting with misc. information exchange.
- Friday 7 May: Office work.  
Arrival Jørgen H. Jørgensen.  
Meeting in Navoi with Director Ramazan Egramov and the Navoi Regional Museum staff.
- Saturday 8 May: Field work in Sarmishsai: Continued evaluation of the work on the walkways and by the groups for visitation. Recommendations.
- Sunday 9 May: By train to Tashkent.  
Office work: Management Plan.
- Monday 10 May: Office work: Management Plan.  
Financial reporting.
- Tuesday 11 May: Office work: Management Plan.  
Financial reporting.
- Wednesday 12 May: Office work: Management Plan.  
Meeting with representatives of the Department of Scientific Production for Preservation and Utilization of objects of Cultural Heritage, the Ministry of Culture and Sport.
- Tuesday 13 May: Jørgen H. Jørgensen departs.  
Office work: Management Plan.
- Friday 14 May: Office work: Management Plan.  
Discussions: Project following-up.
- Saturday 15 May: Flight from Tashkent at 02:50.

## 2. Project development and results

### 2.1. Results 2009-10

Compare with the table in the 2009 report, ch. 3.1, page 9-11.

Activity	Results as of 1 May 2009	Results as of 30 June 2010	Comment
<b>1. Administration and planning</b>			
1a: Kadaster	In progress	Finished and accepted	Good results.
1b: Infrastructure	Good progress	In further progress	Should be a continuing priority.
Permanent approval of the Sarmishsai organisation		In good progress	Is expected to be permanently approved through the acceptance of the Management Plan.
1c: Management Plan	Nothing done since December 2007 and adviser's comments	English version finished and submitted to the Ministry and to the regional UNESCO office. Translation in progress.	Good results
Strengthen contacts with institutions and organisations on all levels		Good progress, but still work to be done.	Must be an on-going activity.
<b>2. Site infrastructure</b>			
2a: Farm-site; reconstruction of and equipment in traditional farm house	Some repairs done. Started to collect equipment. A new <i>tandir</i> (clay oven) is built.	A new house in traditional style built but not equipped.	The new house is fine, but its use is not satisfactory.
Closing of the north gate (has been on the agenda for years)	Not done	The alternative to have public access from the north is under discussion.	Should be a priority.
Vegetation rehabilitation and bush planting	Good progress	A lot of the planted trees and bushes are destroyed by grazing.	Serious problem. Grazing must be stopped. New trees / bushes should be planted.
<b>3. Database, maps and conservation</b>			
3a. Vegetation maps	Finished	-	Good results
3b: Map of settlements etc.	Finished	-	Good results
3c: Database up-dating	55% of conservation done; 25% of archaeological sites done. Will continue	65% of conservation done; 35% of archaeological sites done. Will continue.	Slow up-dating of new information into the database because of delay in field documentation of archaeological sites.
3d: Image and damage documentation	Progress.	Good progress (cf. ch. 2.3 below).	Good results. Should be a priority.
3e: Conservation	Progress according to plans.	Progress more or less according to plans *.	Satisfactory. See ch. 2.4 below.
<b>4. Education, information and tourism</b>			
4a: Visitors' route from the north	Not done	Not finished	Progress not satisfactory. Planned but not yet implemented.

Finish all visitors' walkways and platforms	Not done	Not finished	Progress not satisfactory. Planned but not yet implemented.
4b: Information boards and site numbering; strengthen walkways	Not done (new information board set up in May)	Not finished	Progress not satisfactory
4c: Platforms	Not done	Not finished	Progress not satisfactory
Recruit, finance and train sufficient number of guards and guides	Partly, but not sufficient	Not sufficient	Progress not satisfactory
Establish and develop a good relationship and cooperation with tourist offices and agencies	Not done	In progress	Progress not satisfactory
Make appointment with company groups to visit Sarmishsai	In progress (7 so far)	In progress	Slow development. Access beyond 'Gornyi' Camp must be solved.
<b>5. Research and publications</b>			
5a1: Guidebook according to on-site numbering	Not done	Not finished	Progress not satisfactory
Make a simple leaflet (folded page) with map, routes and numbers	Not done	Not finished	Progress not satisfactory
5a2: Booklet on ethnography	First edition Russian version finished	Russian version printed	Good results
5b: Popular-scientific book	Manuscript still under development	Manuscript still under development	Slow progress
5c: Booklet on conservation	Russian version finished and printed	English version finished and printed	Good results
Publish articles in international scientific periodicals	Several	So far 6	Good results. Should continue whenever convenient / optional.
Publish articles from the proceedings of the Regional Conference in Navoi, 2008	In progress	Finished	Good results.

\* New graffiti early in 2010 made it necessary to make graffiti removal a priority during the May field work.

## 2.2. On site preparations for visitation

No progress was detected since the last visit, in April/May 2009. In order to inspire to strengthened progress, the Sarmishsai Reserve-Museum director invited the Norwegian advisers to go the full round of the walkways and give their concrete recommendations and advise. This was done during two days in field, 6 and 7 May, and the following considerations and advice were given and discussed:

### *Access and south walkways*

- A road sign must point out the way to Sarmish by the exit from the main road.
- The signs with numbers of each station / place of interest should be carved in wood, be steady, of high aesthetic quality and be taken in-doors during the off-season for maintenance and better preservation. It is suggested that expert wood-carvers in Samarqand do the carving job.



- The stone rows marking the walkways must continuously be overlooked and maintained.
- Garbage must be cleaned away every day!
- The new house on the farm-stead must not function as a family home but be equipped according to the intention (ethnological museum; simple refreshments for visitors).
- Move the path along the river between group VIII and group IX 2-3 m further east in order to protect against erosion and to protect visitors from falling down the steep edge. The existing path stretch should be re-planted.
- The first (northern) part of this path from group VIII towards group IX must be kept clean of vegetation.
- The covering of the bridge by group VIII should be replaced with standard high quality wooden materials.



*The bridge by group VIII needs some remodelling.  
Photo: A-S. Hygen*

- The decent to this bridge on the west bank of the river is very steep and uncomfortable, and further erosion is on-going. The path should be inclined from the north until it meets the road; the existing path should be re-planted (this is according to previous plans).
- An arrow on each side of the road should point to the walkways to respectively groups VII (to the west) and group VIII (to the east) and onwards.
- The walkway along and east of the road where the gorge narrows between groups V (north) and VII/VIII (south) is extremely uncomfortable and narrow, due to water making the road non-accessible for pedestrians. Can be solved by a simple stone/wood-construction.
- The bridge over the river between group VII and group IX has been discussed a number of times. On the west bank of the river it should not start further north than minimum 14 m south of the electricity pole (south-east of group VII and north-west of group IX) in order not to over-shadow the landscape overview towards the north-west and the important panels of group VII. The bridge will be about 20 m long and should be built of wood.





*The new bridge between group VII and group IX should not start further north than minimum 14 m south of the electricity pole in the middle of the picture. Photo: A-S. Hygen*

- Further north from this point: The walkways are planned but were not yet made. Simple paths should be made through vegetation clearing and markings by simple rows of stones (like in the south part).

Suggestions for the northernmost part of the walkways are described below.

*Reception / visitors' centre in the north part?*

The collection of houses by the north entrance to Sarmishsai Gorge was built in 1964 for researchers and workers connected to the geological company searching for gold in the area. In 1967 the area was passed on to Bukhara Geological-Technical Collegen then renamed and passed on to the Economic-Financial College in Bukhara. In 2002 the geological project in Sarmishsai was closed when NMMC decided to do no more research or exploitation of minerals in the area. Today, even though the area belongs to Sarmishsai Reserve-Museum according to the Kadaster, it now partly functions as a temporary summer field station for college students and partly as camp ground for paying visitors. These uses cause major problems in Sarmishsai.



*Buildings at the north camp. Photo: A-S. Hygen*

The site is very well suited for a reception area / visitors' / field centre for Sarmishsai, housing a number of functions: Reception, tickets and sales, café, office, storage, field station, house for guards and guides, etc. Some upgrading of the houses and the garden will be necessary. Admission area in the north will permanently solve the problem with visitors passing through 'Gornyi' Camp.

### *Parking*

If the plans for reception area / visitors' centre in the north are carried out – which is strongly to be hoped for – it follows that a new parking lot must be established. A possible area could be north of group I and west of the road, c. 300 m south of the new possible entrance. An alternative is to have the main parking lot west of the road and to have the possibility of an additional few private cars east of and close to the road. However, it is important not to destroy traces of old cultivation terraces west of the road, and that the east parking is close to the road in order to avoid erosion and landslide towards the river. A simple resting place with benches is possible south of the east side parking.



*Timirov, Helskog and Jørgensen showing the suggested position of the main parking lot south of the north entrance and west of the road. Photo: A-S Hygen.*

### *The northernmost part of the walkways*

With the solutions described above, the access to the north part of the walkway system will be via the road and to a path first leading to station 1, then towards group II. An arrow sign by the road should point the way. In order to protect the very vulnerable group II petroglyphs, a stone and clay platform with a 30-40 cm stone barrier of should be made in distance from the boulder (see photo below). Stones with stop signs will admonish visitors not to climb rocks. The functionality of this barrier should be monitored; if necessary, the barrier and the platform must be extended.





*From the left, Jørgensen, Helskog and Temirov show the extent of the recommended platform in front of the group II boulder.*

- Group III should be viewed from the walkway. This is not an established viewing station.
- A stone barrier / low fence should be made c. 2 m from the face of group IV. A c. 2x6 m stone and clay platform should be made behind the barrier. Visitors' behaviour should be monitored and if necessary, modifications should be made. Access and decent from the platform is along the same walkway.
- The stone and clay platform which should be made in front of group V, and the walkways connecting to it, were marked with stones in the landscape.



*The position of the recommended platform in front of group V.  
Photo: K. Helskog.*

Because of shortage of time on site, it was not possible to go through the southernmost part of the visitors' route in such detail. It is, however, recommended to follow the previous plans for this part.

### 2.3. Documentation

Compare with the table in the 2009 report, ch. 3.3, page 14.

Group number	Indexation		Panorama photo		Damage documentation	
	Finished	Not finished	Finished	Not finished	Finished	Not finished
I	½	½	x			x
II	x		x		x	
III	x		x		x	
IV	x		x		x	
V	2/3	1/3	x		x	
VI	2/3	1/3	x		½	½
VII	x		x		x	
VIII a	x		x		x	
VIII b		x	x			x
VIII c	x		x			x
IX	x		x		x	
X	x		x		x	
XI		x	2/3	1/3	½	½
XII	2/3	1/3		x	½	½
XIII	x		x		½	½
XIV	x		x		x	
XV		x		x	½	½

### 2.4. Conservation

As before, the conservation work is led by Marina Reutova with assistant Bakhridin Boliev. In 2009 they both worked 4 ½ weeks on site (2 weeks in April, 1 week in August and September and 3 days in October). Reutova has contributed with work on the Management Sub-plans.

#### Damage documentation

Damage documentation of group VIIIa, IX and half of XII has been finished and the information entered into the database. The moderately slow progress is caused by graffiti removal which always has to be a priority.

#### Conservation

More than 18 graffiti inscriptions were detected by group XIV near the ‘Gornyi’ Camp, and 15 of these were so far removed. No new graffiti is observed near this group and group XV within the camp area in 2010, seemingly resulting from a new fence along the camp borders. Carved graffiti within group III and IV was successfully removed by filling in of the traces. Large white spray painted letters at group III were probably made right after Easter this year. They were totally removed during our May field work. The method is interesting, creative, minimum interventional and successful:

- Acetone is applied to the painted surfaces. The spray paint immediately dissolves into a kind of powder which is removed by soft cloths;
- The traces are then covered with dark ash as a camouflage. The ash is scraped off the bottom of a kettle which has been in open fire, giving the same effect as the natural patina. This method is known from the past to have been used in painted art, in order to make different dark shades.

The work on cleaning chalk off panels has started on group VIII. A discreet, non-intervention protective roof of natural materials is made at group III. The similar ones, made some years ago, are still in a very good condition with no changes. A stone is glued in place at group III.

A protective roof is about to be made at group III. All conservation data have been included into the CARAD conservation database.

### Monitoring

Regular yearly monitoring routines are routinely carried out. All previously made protective roofs are in good condition, with no changes, and they work well according to intention.

## **2.5. Management planning**

In 2009 it was decided to ask the National Commission for UNESCO to help elaborate the Management Plan, which was accepted by the office. It did however not happen, meaning that the Project Group and the Norwegian advisers had to do what remained of the work on the plans in 2009-10. After intensive work in Tashkent following the field work in Sarmishsai, and back in Norway right after the mission, the almost finished Management Plan could be sent from the Norwegian advisers to the Project Group for the last supplements. The English version of the Management Plan was finished and presented to the authorities before 30 June as stipulated, and the Russian / Uzbek translations follow.

The Sarmishsai Management Plan consists of a Master Management Plan with 3 Management Sub-plans (action plans):

Sub-plan 1: Documentation, Conservation and Safeguarding

Sub-plan 2: Management, Care and Monitoring

Sub-plan 3: Education, Information and Tourism

## **2.6. Education and information**

The Sarmish Group continued to give twice monthly lectures for the children at the ‘Gornyi’ Camp during summer. Written information (brochure, leaflets etc) has been distributed to different local group of visitors (students, schoolchildren, workers from industrial enterprisers in Navoi city). Cooperation with ‘Gornyi’ children’s camp staff significantly increased in 2009-2010. The initiative to create ‘Friends of Sarmishsay’ was discussed with organizations in the Navoi region.

A simple leaflet (folded page) with map, routes and numbers of points of interest has been published and distributed to tourist groups from Navoi, Samarqand and Bukhara. A new and up-date version of the website <http://sarmish.com/> was developed. In November 2009 the Sarmish Group participated at the 12<sup>th</sup> International Exhibition Fair on Tourism in Tashkent, and contacts with different tourist agencies in several regions and countries were established. A DVD is prepared together with Uzbek Film, called ‘From the History of Uzbek Rock Art’.

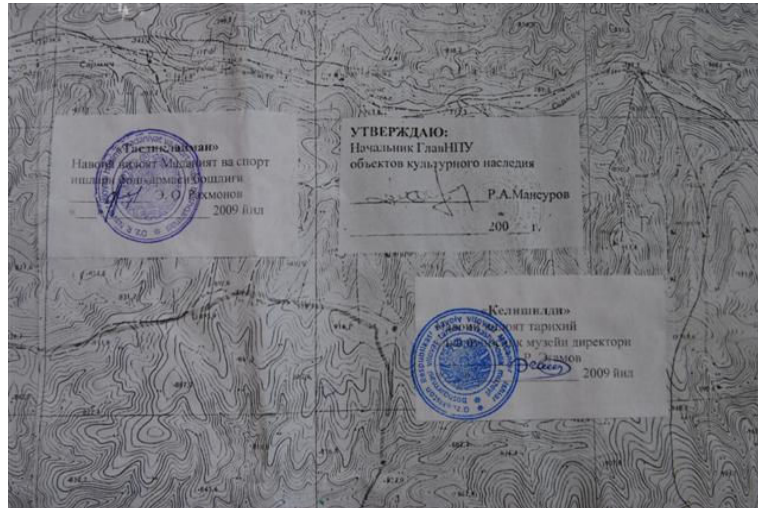
## **2.7. Kadaster**

A Kadaster according to Uzbek legislation is a set of documents and reports made for determination of the use of a certain landscape. The Sarmishsai Kadaster has gone through the following process after its compilation:

- Revised version – now changed from Natural to Natural and Archaeological Reserve-Museum – accepted and signed by the Xokim of Nowbahor District.
  - Same version accepted and signed by the Xokim Navoi Region.
- The territory consists of 5000 ha: 4951 ha pastures; 27 ha small mountain river basins;

10 ha roads; 7 ha forest; 5 ha other lands. By the Resolution, the permanent use of the area of 5000 is passed to the Navoi Regional Museum for the organisation of the Natural and Archaeological Reserve-Museum Sarmishsai, which is given passport no. 340369.

- The Kadaster is approved and signed by the Department of Scientific Production for Preservation and Utilization of objects of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and Sport of the Republic of Uzbekistan.



*Part of the Sarmishsai Kadaster map, showing that it is signed and stamped by the local, regional and national authorities. Photo: A-S. Hygen*

What now remains is to have Sarmishsai approved as not only a Regional but also a State Reserve-Museum. This process is expected to be successful.

### 3. Meetings

#### 7 May

Meeting in Navoi with the Navoi Regional Museum staff. The meeting took place at Navoi Museum.

#### *Participants*

Ramazan Egamov, Director of Navoi Regional Museum  
Bachtyor Temirov, Director of Sarmishsai Reserve-Museum  
Kristina Toderich, Sarmishsai project partner  
Jørgen H. Jørgensen, Norway  
Knut Helskog, Norway  
Anne-Sophie Hygen, Norway  
The Museum staff

Mr Egamov could inform that the Xokim of Navoi Region, who was not able to meet with us this year, is very positive to and actively supports Sarmishsai and the site's management and development. Considerable amounts of money have been and will be allocated regionally, such as in connection with the Kadaster, for means of transport, visitors' centre and road

works. A sponsor is willing to finance the publication of a comprehensive catalogue all materials and reports.

From the side of the project and the Sarmishsai management, information was given on the following:

- Management Plan – Master Plan and 3 Sub-plans (action plans);
- The problem with guards – the number is too low and the work is not functioning well;
- It is still not possible to give visitors adequate guide- and guard service;
- Un-controlled grazing has destroyed vegetation, including new trees planted within the project;
- The new farmstead house is being used as a private home by one guard and his family
- Suggestions for rules and instructions for the use of the site have been developed (see ch. 4.2 below).

Mr. Egamov promised to look into the problems and help find constructive solutions.

Other topics:

- Visitors' centre / reception area should be in the north part of Sarmishsai. This was agreed by all;
- Discussion of what is needed and required to have Sarmishsai inscribed in the World Heritage List – and to keep it there. Long-term official commitment according to the Management Plan is of utmost importance;
- The amount of visitors: Big groups will not be accepted through 'Gornyi' Children's Camp but so far, small and special interest groups will be allowed to pass. There is still time and opportunity to adjust activities according to increasing numbers of visitors.
- Discussions on solutions for the improvement of the road leading to the north entrance.

## **12 May**

Meeting with representatives of the Department of Scientific Production for Preservation and Utilization of objects of Cultural Heritage, the Ministry of Culture and Sport. The meeting took place at the Main Scientific production Department for preservation and utilization of objects of cultural heritage.

Ravshanbek A. Mansurov, Deputy Ministry, Head of the Department of Scientific production for preservation and utilization of objects of cultural heritage at the Ministry of Culture and Sport Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Alisher Rakhmanov, Chief Deputy, of Main Scientific production for preservation and utilization of objects of cultural heritage (on reconstruction Projects)

Khurshid Toshpulatov, Chief Deputy, of Main Scientific production for preservation and utilization of objects of cultural heritage (on general Issues)

Server Asherov, Head of the Inspection for Archaeological Monument's Protection and Conservation RUZ

Kuvanch Rusiev, Navoi Region Inspection for Cultural Heritage

Alexander Grigoryants, Chief of bio-control inspection station of Ministry of Nature protection

Ramazan Egamov, Director of Navoi Regional Museum

Alisher Ikramov, General Secretary, National Commission for UNESCO in Uzbekistan



Muhiddin Khudjanazarov, Sarmishsai project coordinator  
Kristina Toderich, Sarmishsai project partner  
Bakhtyor Temirov, Director of Sarmishsai Reserve-Museum  
Jørgen H. Jørgensen, Norway  
Knut Helskog, Norway  
Anne-Sophie Hygen, Norway

A. Rachmanov gave an orientation on the Uzbek legislation concerning the Cultural Heritage. Several laws have been passed since 2001, such as on mechanisms for management of the Cultural Heritage, with later inclusion of the intangible heritage, on museums, national parks, natural reserves, and on research and management of archaeological sites. The laws cover three areas of the Uzbek Cultural Heritage: architectural, archaeological and sculptural. The President and the Prime Minister feel a strong responsibility for the Cultural Heritage, and visit sites.

M. Khudjanazarov gave an orientation on the status of the Sarmishsai project, and the structure of and on-going work on the Management Plan – Master Plan with three Sub-plans (action plans). The Management Plan integrates culture and nature, and is developed and mirrors the multi- and cross scientific collaboration all through the project. He also gave a short description of the archaeology of Sarmishsai and surroundings. He emphasized the good potential for tourism in Sarmishsai, strategically positioned as it is on the route between Samarqand and Bukhara; tourists would like to see other sites besides architectural monuments.

A-S. Hygen supplemented with more information concerning the Management Plan, and how it is based on research, documentation and a number of scientific reports. Acceptance through the signing of the Plan by high authorities implies a long-term obligation to follow up.

K. Toderich and A-S. Hygen described the natural contexts of the rock art of Sarmishsai – geology, botany and landscape – and gave some interpretations of the core rock art area within the Gorge.

It was agreed that the Management Plan should be jointly signed by the Minister of Culture and Sport, the Minister for Nature Protection and the President of the Academy of Science. It was emphasized that the main issue is to protect Sarmishsai – this is more important than whether it is inscribed in the World Heritage List or not.

It was further agreed that the Management plan should be finished by the date of the end of the Norwegian supported project, 30 June this year, and together with two pages with description of Sarmishsai and the project submitted to the President and the regional UNESCO office.

### **Other meetings**

During the field work in Sarmishsai and in Tashkent several non-formal meetings and discussions took place between the Project Group, the Sarmishsai management, Director Marina V. Akasheva of the ‘Gornyi’ Camp, and the Norwegian advisers.

## **4. Evaluation and recommendations**

### **4.1. Evaluation**

Even though all activities have not been accomplished according to the long-term and yearly plans, the progress is considered to have been satisfactory in relation to stated priorities. The most important results 2009-10 are:

- The acceptance of the Sarmishsai Kadaster by the Ministry of Culture and Sport;
- Established structure, organisation and leadership of the daily management of Sarmishsai;
- The declared support from local, regional and national bodies;
- The completion of the Management Plan.

Still many issues still need to be initiated, carried out and completed, some of which have been on the agenda for a long time. In particular:

- The access and reception of visitors;
- To finish the walkways with platforms and bridges, and numbering of the places of interest with corresponding guidebook;
- Adequate guide- and guard service.

Many other important issues will have to be solved in pace with adequate financing and number of staff, according to the Management Plans of Action. It is sincerely to be hoped for that Sarmishsai will be accepted as a State Reserve-Museum.

The question of World Heritage List nomination will be entirely up to the Uzbek authorities to decide upon. National acceptance of the Management Plan and long-term commitment to follow it, a good nomination dossier and status as a State Reserve-Museum should make the chances of inscription good.

### **4.2. Recommendations**

#### **4.2.1. Instructions for guards**

##### *Attitude and behavior*

1. Always wear your uniform
2. Keep your ID-card visible
3. Always be polite and helpful to visitors and try to answer their questions

##### *Garbage control*

4. Collect garbage every day (always bring garbage bags)
5. Empty garbage dumps every day

##### *Visitor management*

6. Keep an eye on visitors and firmly but politely prevent them from climbing rocks, picking flowers, walk beyond the specially designed walkways etc.
7. If you notice people making graffiti, stop them and get their names and addresses
8. Prevent people from camping in the area
9. Prevent people from making fires in the area
10. Prevent people drinking alcohol in the area
11. Stop cars driving through Sarmishsai Gorge except by special permit

*Site management*

12. Immediately report on new graffiti
13. Keep the stones aligning the walkways in place
14. Keep new vegetation out of walkways
15. Check that information signs, number signs and signs on stones are in order. If not, report on it
16. Check the bridges. If not in order, do maintenance
17. Check the whole area between the north and south gates at least twice a day (first thing in the morning, last thing in the late afternoon)

*Working hours:*

Regular working hours every day: from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

Lunch hours: 1) from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

2) from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

Afternoon break: ½ hour

**NOTE:** The guards are not to have breaks all at the same time. There must always be at least one guard on duty.

**4.2.2. Daily check list for guards**

Check list for the guards to be filled out every day:

NOTE:

- Garbage is collected yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_
- All walkways are checked and kept in order yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_
- Viewing platforms are checked and kept in order yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_
- New graffiti is observed: yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_  
If yes, where: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Other damages observed: yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_ .  
If yes, where: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Other problems: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Toilets have been cleaned and kept in order: yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

- Gates and doors are locked in the evening: yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_
- Other comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**4.2.3. List of what should be prohibited in Sarmishsai**

**It is prohibited for everybody:**

- To graze animals in the area
- To drink alcohol out in the area
- To have picnics
- To make fires
- To camp
- To drive motor vehicles except by special permit
- To walk beyond specially designed walkways
- To climb rocks
- To paint, peck or carve on rocks
- To pick flowers, break branches or in any way damage the vegetation
- To film for commercial purposes without special permit
- To trace, rub or in other ways copy petroglyph panels except by special permit

**NOTE:** Visitors coming with the intention of doing research in the area must make their presence known to the staff when entering the area.