Proposal for Modifications to the Location Coordinates of Nine Historic Sites and Monuments

Proposal for Modifications to the Location Coordinates of Nine Historic Sites and Monuments

**Working Paper submitted by Argentina**

***Summary***

A proposal is presented to modify the coordinates of nine HSMs for which Argentina is in charge or shares the responsibility of their management, so that they are included through the approval of a measure, in the Database of Historical Sites and Monuments of the Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty.

The information presented in this Working Paper is complemented by Information Paper XX Analysis of the precision of the location coordinates of some Historic Sites and Monuments.

***Background***

Based on the proposals presented by Argentina to ATCM XLII in WP 65 (2019) and in ATCM XLIII with WP 60 rev. 1 (2021), the Meeting then agreed to add new information fields to the list of Historic Sites and Monuments (HSM), as established in Decision 1 (2019), in order to ensure consistency, improve information and harmonise it with recent developments in policies and debates between Parties regarding HSMs. For this reason, finally, the new HSM listing was adopted through Measure 23 (2021).

In line with Decision 1 (2019), the fields related to the state of conservation and management tools contain information that may require relatively frequent updating due to the nature of the information they contain. Thus, the list of HSMs is a formal mechanism established through the Environment Protocol, and any changes to the list have historically required a specific Measure. This Decision established that certain fields (including "location") remain a formal part of the list and that any changes in those fields require adoption through a Measure. Moreover, it established that, in the case of other fields considered complementary information to the list of HSMs, any change must be agreed by the CEP and communicated in its report to the ATCM.

***Revision***

Based on the provisions of paragraph 4(c) and (d) of the appendix to Resolution 3 (2009) *Guidelines for the designation and protection of Historic Sites and Monuments*, Argentina undertook a comprehensive review of the location of the following HSMs:



The purpose of the revision is to establish a more precise position than that currently recorded in the list of Historic Sites and Monuments (Measure 3 (2021)). The general problem detected is that when expressing coordinates "*by minute*", this means taking discrete staggered steps approximately 2 km apart (1852 m = 1 nautical mile) with regards to latitude, with no intermediate alternatives (for longitude, this is multiplied by the cosine of the latitude). This situation means that the representation of the sites in some Geographic Information Systems does not allow the precise location of the HSMs.

Based on their revision, Argentina proposes to amend the description of Historic Sites and Monuments for HSM 26, 29, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43, who is responsible for its management or shares with other parties based on Measure 3 (2003), by changing their “location” to establish more precise coordinates. The new geographic coordinates of said sites can be found in Appendix A to this document.

**Appendix B: DRAFT MEASURE**

Measure XXX (2022)

Historic Sites and Monuments: New Location Coordinates of HSMs No. 26, 29, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43

The Representatives,

*Noting* the requirements of Article 8 of Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty to maintain a list of existing Historic Sites and Monuments, and noting that these sites must not be damaged, removed or destroyed;

*Noting*, likewise, the Guidelines for the designation and protection of Historic Sites and Monuments adopted by Resolution 3 (2009) and the Guidelines for the assessment and management of heritage in Antarctica adopted by Resolution 2 (2018);  
  
*Also taking into account*Decision 1 (2019), in which the Parties agreed to add the new information fields to the existing fields in the "List of Historic Sites and Monuments";

*Taking into account* that the Historic Sites and Monuments involved have been designated by means of Recommendation VII-9 (HSM 26, 29, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41 and 42) and Recommendation VII-9 Measure 5 (1997) (HSM 41);  
  
*Looking* to update the descriptions of Historic Sites and Monuments 26, 28, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43 included in Measure 23 (2021), in accordance with the format prescribed by Decision 1 (2019);  
  
**Recommend** their Governments the following Measure for its approval, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 8 of Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty:

That the corrections in the geographic coordinates proposed for HMS 26, 29, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43 be approved, as indicated in the Appendix to this Measure, and

That the new geographical coordinates of these HSMs be included in the Database of Historic Sites and Monuments of the Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty.