

**Statute of the Temporary Committee of Rehabilitation of Gelati Monastery Complex
of the Georgian Patriarchate**

Based on the recommendations provided in the report of the joint consultation mission of UNESCO World Heritage Center and its advisor bodies – ICOMOS and ICCROM (28.11 – 02.12; 2022) addressed to LEPL National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia; minutes of the joint meeting of 24 February 2023 of the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth of Georgia and the Georgian Patriarchate on the issue of rehabilitation of Gelati Monastery Complex; the contract signed on 6 April 2023 signed by the order N24 , 22 March 2023 of the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia and the National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia on the formation of the Temporary Committee of Gelati rehabilitation, the statute of the Temporary Committee of Rehabilitation of Gelati Monastery Complex shall be approved.

Article 1. General statutes

- Statute of the Temporary Committee of Rehabilitation of Gelati Monastery Complex (hereinafter – statute) defines power and procedures of the activities of the Temporary Committee of Rehabilitation of Gelati Monastery Complex of the Georgian Patriarchate (hereinafter – Committee).
- Objectives of the Committee:
 - a) Implement appropriate measures aimed at improving conditions of the Gelati Monastery Complex, which is under the ownership of the Georgian Patriarchate, its territory and the cultural heritage objects preserved in it; protect them from damage and destruction;
 - b) Maintain the qualities and features, as well as the setting of the Gelati Monastery Complex which determine its historical-cultural value.
 - c) Ensure implementation of rehabilitation, restoration, conservation and other necessary works provided in the report of the joint consultation mission of UNESCO World Heritage Center and its advisory bodies – ICOMOS and ICCROM.
- The decision made by the Committee is the decision of the Georgian Patriarchate on the rehabilitation issues of Gelati Monastery Complex.

Article 2. Structure of the Committee

1. The Committee shall be headed by a Chairperson, assisted by a Deputy Chairperson.
2. The Committee has advisory bodies: National Scientific Council and International Advisory Council.

3. Smooth organizational-technical activity of the Committee is ensured by the Committee Bureau, whose members shall be presented to the Chairperson for approval by the Deputy Chairperson, based on the prior consultations with the secretary of the National Scientific Council.
4. If required, in consultation with the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee and Council members, the secretary of the National Scientific Council shall invite specialists (experts) of cultural heritage or related branches with the right of deliberative vote.
5. Decisions shall be made by the Committee Chairperson on behalf of the Committee. By order of the Chairperson of the Committee, the right to sign the decisions and other documents of the Committee can be transferred to the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee.

Article 3. National Scientific Council

1. The Council shall comprise resident specialists of cultural heritage preservation.
2. The Deputy Chairman of the Committee shall be in charge of conducting negotiations with candidates for membership in the Council and making the selection of members.
3. The Council membership, from the scientists nominated by the Deputy Chairman of the Committee, shall be approved by the Committee Chairperson.
4. National Scientific Council shall consist of no more than 5 members.
5. The Council shall be headed by the Secretary whose candidacy is elected by the members of the Council and the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee and shall be presented to the Committee Chairperson for approval.
6. The Council is authorized if attended by at least 2/3 of the full composition.
7. The Council meeting, as a rule, shall be held once a month. If required, the Council can be specially convened by the Committee Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson, or on the initiative of the Council Secretary.
8. The executor of works and the leader of the conservation project shall attend (in case of having a good reason, using an online platform) discussions about the issues and conservation projects submitted to the National Scientific Council meeting.
9. All the important issues and conservation projects related to the rehabilitation of Gelati Monastery Complex shall be discussed by the National Scientific Council in cooperation with the International Advisory Council and the scientific position received considering their recommendations shall be submitted to the Committee Chairperson for approval via the Committee Bureau.
10. The following will be submitted to the National Scientific Council for consideration:
 - a) Research documentation necessary for rehabilitation works;
 - b) Project documentation necessary for rehabilitation;
 - c) Reports reflecting the process of rehabilitation;
 - d) Reports reflecting completed rehabilitation, including financial reports;
 - e) All the rehabilitation-related issues.

11. The National Scientific Council shall make a decision on receiving more than 50% of the votes of the attending members. In the case of equality of votes, the question shall be prepared anew for submitting to the meeting held within one week.
12. Provided that the National Scientific Council fails to make a decision during the repeated session, the casting vote is given to the board Secretary who signs the document and submits it for approval to the Committee Chairperson.
13. The National Scientific Council is obliged to visit the site, Gelati Monastery Complex, at least once every 30 (thirty) days and check whether the conservation works are being carried out according to the approved project.
14. The National Scientific Council shall be obliged to renew the presently existing Gelati Management Plan according to the recommendation (p. 4. Mx.3) provided in the report of the joint consultative mission of the World Heritage Center and its advisory bodies ICOMOS and ICCROM (28.11-02.12 2022), so that management of ongoing conservation activities occurs according to the new plan.

Article 4. International Advisory Council

1. The Council shall be staffed by specialists of international rank in the field of cultural heritage.
2. Negotiations with the candidates for the Council membership and selection of the members shall be conducted by the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee.
3. Composition of the Council shall be approved by the Committee Chairperson.
4. The International Advisory Council shall consist of no more than 7 members.
5. The Council is headed by a Secretary, whose candidature is chosen by the members of the Council and the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee through joint consultation and submitted to the Chairman of the Committee for approval.
6. It is the obligation of the International Advisory Council to participate in discussing all the important issues related to the rehabilitation of the Gelati Monastery Complex and the conservation project, and forming scientific position.
7. The International Advisory Council shall submit its scientific position and recommendations to the Committee within the period of 3 (three) weeks following submission of the subject to them by the Committee Bureau.
8. The recommendations produced by the International Advisory Council shall act as guidelines for the issues to be resolved by the National Scientific Council.
9. During the process of Gelati rehabilitation, members of the International Advisory Council shall carry out the function of the international monitoring and conduct examination of ongoing works during a period of 5 (five) days of the calendar year.

Article 5. Bureau of the Committee

1. Staff of the Committee Bureau shall be selected by the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee based on prior consultation with the head of the National Scientific Council and submitted to the Committee Chairperson for approval.

2. All the topics and conservation projects related to the rehabilitation of Gelati shall be delivered to the Committee Bureau both in electronic and print forms.
3. Functions of the Committee Bureau:
 - a) Prepare the topics and conservation projects received in the Bureau for presenting at the Council meeting and to organize the meetings of the National Scientific Council.
 - b) The important topics and conservation projects submitted for discussion at the meeting of the National Scientific Council, should be forwarded to the member/members (according to their relevant profile) of the International Advisory Council, and the answer received from them, should be provided to the members of the National Scientific Council in both electronic and printed forms within 5 (five) working days.
 - c) If required, organize joint meeting of the National Scientific Council and the International Advisory Council by means of an online platform.
 - d) Notify the members of the International Advisory Council about the necessity of meeting with the members of the National Scientific Council via an online platform at least 3 (three) weeks before; arrange/fix a specific time and send the topics to be discussed.
 - e) Prepare in Georgian and English languages topics, projects, reports and adopted resolutions to be discussed at the meetings of the National Scientific Council and the International Advisory Council.
 - f) Record minutes of the meetings of the National Scientific Council and/or the International Advisory Council in Georgian language.
 - g) In agreement with the Deputy Chairman of the Committee and/or the Secretary of the National Council, communicates with the necessary professionals, organizations and institutions.
 - h) Forward the decision made by the Committee to the National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia so that the latter submits the documentation received from the Committee to the World Heritage Center.
 - i) If the evaluation of the World Heritage Center is positive, prepare documentation for the Committee Chairperson for the projects to be approved and to send it to the National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia to obtain the permit for carrying out works on the site.
 - j) To assist the invited experts of the Committee in efficient and smooth implementation of their work.
 - k) Prepare the projects accepted and approved by the Committee for submitting to the Committee Chairperson at the Georgian Patriarchate.
 - l) In the process of rehabilitation of the Gelati Monastery Complex, all the documents reflecting the processes of the research and rehabilitation, the conservation project, decisions, correspondence and meeting minutes should be archived in 2 (two) copies for submission to the Patriarchate and the National Agency for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Georgia.

Article 6. Invited experts

1. If required, with the right of deliberative vote, the Secretary of the National Scientific Council invites specialists of cultural heritage or its related branches as invited experts based on prior consultations with the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee and the members of the Council.

2. Functions of the invited experts:
 - a) Take part in the work of both the National Scientific Council and the International Advisory Council within the competencies.
 - b) Elaborate independent evaluation/recommendations on research and project documentation.

Article 7. Monitoring Group

- A monitoring group for rehabilitation works is established in order to ensure compliance with the quality and deadlines of works approved by the decisions taken by the Committee.
- Negotiations with candidates for membership of the Monitoring Group and selection of members are carried out by the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee.
- The membership of the Monitoring Group is determined by the order of the Chairman of the Committee.
- The Monitoring Group periodically presents the inspection results to the Committee.

Article 8. Transparency and public relations

1. The Committee is accountable to the public for information availability and transparency. To achieve this goal, an internet platform will be created, where the rehabilitation process of the Gelati Monastery Complex will be covered in detail.
2. The Committee will take care to involve the public widely in order to learn about the Gelati Monastery Complex, its spiritual and historical-cultural significance. For this, the Committee shall cooperate with scientific and educational institutions, media and public organizations.

Article 9. Final statutes

- Amendments to the present statute shall be made in the written form on the decision of the Committee Chairperson.