

Comments by Hungary

concerning the Draft Summary Records of the first expert meeting on the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural heritage

1. Outline for the Operational Directives

Hungary is of the opinion, that the outline for Operational Directives in its discussed and amended form (DECISION 1. COM 5) can be a good basis for the preparation of the draft operational directives on the second intergovernmental meeting. It is in harmony with the purposes of the Convention outlined in Article 1, and with the tasks decided for the different levels of safeguarding. Comparison with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage is necessary.

2. Advisory assistance to the Committee

Hungary supports the establishment of an “umbrella” advisory board, composed of representatives of accredited NGO-s, international professional organizations and private persons with widely recognized competence in the field of ICH. Criteria and modalities of their accreditation should depend on the functions mentioned in the Convention (Article 7, 16, 17) and in the working document ITH/06/1 .COM/CONF. 204/6. Most regular and best defined functions are reviewing and recommending nominations for the inscriptions to the Representative List, and the evaluation of the periodical reports submitted by the States Parties. They need to be well organized bodies whose work is operated by an executive bureau and assisted by the UNESCO Secretariat.

Hungary’s suggestions for involvement of NGOs and other professional organizations:

- World wide organizations:

International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), International Council of Museums (ICOM), International Society for Ethnology and Folklore, International Theatre Institute (ITI), International Council for Music (ICM), International Council for Dance (ICD), Conseil International des Organisations de Festivals de Folklore et d'Arts Traditionnels (CIOFF).

Comments solicited by the 1st Intangible Heritage Committee: HUNGARY

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- Regional centers, institutes:
Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO, (ACCU in Tokyo), European Folklore Institute supported by UNESCO (EFI in Budapest, Hungary)
- Organizations representing indigenous peoples:
Environmental-Aboriginal Guardianship through Law and Education (EAGLE in Canada)
- Organisation representing local communities:
Inter-City Cooperation Network for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Gangneung, South Korea.)

3. Criteria for inscription

Hungary underlines the necessity of reducing the number of criteria, and to formulate the text in a more clear and unambiguous way, understandable even for the local communities groups and individuals.

It would be necessary to prioritize the criteria into compulsory and optional criteria. The criteria needs to be flexible, and both scientific and practical, always considering communities and their needs.

It would be necessary to keep the domains as they are enumerated in the Convention, only the content of the single domains has to be specified in detail

Hungary believes that Masterpieces should be inscribed **automatically** onto the List as the Convention holds, because their omission would be unfair with the local communities being awarded

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