

The Assistant Director-General for Culture

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

> Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация Эбъединенных Наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры

> منظمة الأمم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、科学及文化组织

To the non-governmental organizations accredited to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

13 August 2015

Ref.: CLT/CRE/ITH/15/5956

Subject: Tenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Windhoek, Namibia, 30 November to 4 December 2015)

Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Director-General, it is my honour to invite your organization to the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which will take place at Windhoek Country Club and Resort (www.legacyhotels.co.za/en/hotels/windhoek) in Namibia from 30 November to 4 December 2015.

This session of the Committee will be preceded by an opening ceremony that is being organized by the Host Country to take place at 5 p.m. on Sunday, 29 November 2015. All the participants of the session are welcome.

Please find enclosed the provisional agenda for the session. Documents corresponding to items inscribed on this agenda will be published on the website of the Convention at: http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/10COM/, no later than on 2 November 2015 and in the two working languages of the Committee (English and French – Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee). General information concerning practical arrangements for the session also will be posted on the same website.

Out of concern for the environment and in order to reduce costs, hard copies of the documents will not be provided. You may wish to know that the debates of the meeting will be transmitted by audiocast and videocast, which will be made available in real time on the website of the Convention as indicated above.

Expenses incurred by participants will be borne by the organization they represent. The costs of participation of representatives from non-governmental organizations from developing countries may, however, be borne by the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, subject to the availability of resources. The Fund will consider only one request per organization.

The Secretariat requires at least eight weeks prior to the session to process requests for such assistance. Therefore, I invite eligible non-governmental organizations to send their request to the e-mail address of the Secretariat (ichmeetings@unesco.org) as soon as possible and, in any event before 5 October 2015, together with the Curriculum Vitae of the proposed

representative, a scanned copy of his/her valid passport and his/her travel itinerary.

For all enquiries concerning visas and other formalities required to enter the Republic of Namibia, participants are requested to contact the Embassy, Consulate or the High Commission of Namibia in their own country directly. The present letter, together with a letter from you stating the names of your representative(s), may be used when applying for a visa. In case your country does not have Namibian diplomatic representation, I advise you to send requests to the above-mentioned e-mail address of the Secretariat of the Convention. The Secretariat will transmit such requests to the Host Country. However, please bear in mind that only the Namibian authorities may determine whether a visa is granted.

I should be grateful if you would confirm the participation of your organization at this Committee session, by registering online as soon as possible on the above-mentioned Convention's website. In the event you encounter technical difficulties, kindly send an e-mail to the Secretariat.

As is customary, a non-governmental organizations forum will take place on the eve of the opening session, between 9.30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, 29 November 2015. Further information on the agenda for that meeting will be made available at: http://www.ichngoforum.org/.

Yours sincerely,

Alfredo Pérez de Armiñán

Enc: Provisional Agenda

cc. Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Committee Permanent Delegation of Namibia to UNESCO