



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



The Protection of the
Underwater Cultural Heritage

4 MSP

UCH/13/4.MSP/220/8 REV

7 February 2013

Original: English

Distribution limited

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

**Fourth Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room IV
28-29 May 2013**

Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda:

Accreditation of NGOs

Decision required : paragraph 7

1. According to Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body, the Advisory Body “shall consult and collaborate with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) having activities related to the scope of the Convention, namely ICUCH, as well as other competent NGOs accredited by the Meeting of States Parties”.
2. Several applications for accreditation were received. In its second session, however, the Meeting of States Parties decided, by Resolution 6 / MSP 2, not to accredit any organization under Article 1 (e) of the above Statutes, until the criteria for accreditation had been adopted in the Operational Guidelines of the Convention.
3. The Meeting of States Parties, in its third session, however, decided, by Resolution 9/MSP 3, to accredit some of the applying organizations as a temporary measure. It asked the Secretariat to evaluate applications and to make recommendations to the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties in this regard. It also asked the Bureau to decide on the temporary accreditations.
4. By Resolution 12 / MSP 3, the Bureau of the third session of the Meeting of States Parties examined the applications from NGOs, as received by the Secretariat. It decided to temporarily accredit the following non-governmental organizations to be consulted by and to collaborate with the Advisory Body until a decision on this issue was taken by the Meeting itself¹:
 - ACUA - Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology
 - ADRAMAR - Association for the Development of Maritime Archaeological Research
 - AIMA – Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology
 - Arkaeos
 - CIE - Centre for International Heritage Activities
 - DEGUWA – German Society for the Promotion of Underwater Archaeology
 - INA – Institute of Nautical Archaeology
 - JNAPC - Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee

¹ ICUCH - The ICOMOS International Committee on the Underwater Cultural Heritage, is listed in Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body and that it was assumed that it does not need to apply for accreditation

- NAS – Nautical Archaeology Society
 - SHA – Society for Historical Archaeology
5. Applications for accreditation had also been handed in, but not been accorded, by:
- IKUWA - Internationale Konferenz für Unterwasserarchäologie
 - ADMAT - Anglo Danish Maritime Archaeological Team
6. All accredited NGOs sent representatives to the third meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body and discussed their contribution and views, with the exception of INA. They also expressed their support and supported the Convention and its goals through various activities, like the writing of support letters and capacity-building. More information on the concerned NGOs is available in INF.4. One of the NGOs proposed an agenda item for discussion at the meeting, concerning an issue it had encountered in its practical work: the abuse of de-accessioning to justify commercial exploitation. As the Advisory Body members agreed that this issue was of high importance to the field of underwater archaeology and to States Parties, it was discussed, and a recommendation was adopted.
7. The Meeting of States Parties might wish to decide on the accreditation of the NGO and by adopting:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 8 / MSP 4

The Meeting of States Parties, in its fourth session,

1. Having examined document UCH/13/4.MSP/220/8 as well as the draft Operational Guidelines, as set out in document UCH/13/4.MSP/220/7;
2. Having considered the background of the NGOs as provided by them and as made available in document UCH/13/4.MSP/220/INF.4;

Option 1:

3. Asks the Secretariat to evaluate nominations by NGOs for accreditation in line with the Operational Guidelines, as adopted by the present Meeting, and to make recommendations to the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties in this regard;
4. Asks the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties to decide on the accreditations;

Option 2:

5. Decides to accredit ...