**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE  
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Tenth session**

**Windhoek, Namibia**

**30 November to 4 December 2015**

**Item 13 of the Provisional Agenda:**

**Number of files submitted for the 2016 cycle  
and number of files that can be treated in the 2017 and 2018 cycles**

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| **Summary**  In conformity with paragraph 33 of the Operational Directives, the Committee is to determine two years beforehand, in accordance with available resources and capacity, the number of files that can be treated during the two following cycles. The document also informs the Committee of the distribution of files submitted for the 2016 cycle.  **Decision required:** paragraph 14 |

1. Paragraph 33 of the Operational Directives states that ‘The Committee determines two years beforehand, in accordance with the available resources and its capacity, the number of files that can be treated in the course of the two following cycles. This ceiling shall apply to the set of files comprising nominations to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, proposals of programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention and International Assistance requests greater than US$25,000.’ The Committee is therefore called upon to determine the number of such files that can be treated for the two following cycles. In so doing, it may wish to confirm the number already set out for 2017 in its Decision 9.COM 12, while determining the number of files that can be treated in 2018.
2. Decision 9.COM 12 established the limit of 50 files per cycle to be applied for the 2016 and 2017 cycles, while requesting to ensure ‘that at least one file per submitting State should be processed during the two-year period 2016-2017, within the agreed number of nominations per biennium’. It also invited States Parties ‘to take the present decision into account when submitting files for the 2016 and 2017 cycle’ and requested the Secretariat ‘to report to it on the number of files submitted for the 2016 cycle and its experience applying the Operational Directives and the present decision at its tenth session.’

**Report on the 2016 cycle**

1. As of the 31 March 2015 deadline, the Secretariat received 58 new files (5 multinational files and 53 national files), in addition to 140 national files previously submitted during previous cycles and that had not yet been treated. From this total of 198 receivable files, the Secretariat had therefore to determine which 50 files could be treated for the 2016 cycle. The results of that process are found in the annex to the present document and displayed on a dedicated page of the Convention’s website.[[1]](#footnote-1)
2. Following the Committee’s Decision 8.COM 10 to have at least one file per submitting State processed over the two cycles of 2015 and 2016, the first 11 files, marked with priority (0), are from submitting States which could not have their national files treated in 2015.
3. Then the files are ordered according to the level of priorities stated in paragraph 34 of the Operational Directives. The following files with priority level (i) come from submitting States having no elements inscribed, best safeguarding practices selected or requests for international assistance greater than US$25,000 approved (12 files) and also includes six nominations to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. Two multinational files are submitted by at least one State having no elements inscribed.
4. Priority (ii) covers the three remaining multinational files (i.e. those for which all submitting States have at least one previous element inscribed). Applying Decision 8.COM 10 and priorities (i) and (ii) of paragraph 34 of the Operational Directives thus filled 32 of the 50 slots available.
5. Priority (iii) was then applied to the remaining files, in increasing order of the number of elements previously inscribed, best safeguarding practices selected or requests for international assistance approved, in comparison with other submitting States during the same cycle. Following Decision 9.COM 12 (‘the Secretariat may exercise some flexibility, if that would permit greater equity among submitting States with equal priority under paragraph 34 of the Operational Directives’), the Secretariat included a batch of 6 files with equal level of priority (three files already inscribed, selected or approved) and treated a total of 51 files for the 2016 cycle, submitted by 62 States Parties.
6. The remaining States having four or more previous inscriptions, selections or approvals could not consequently be treated for the 2016 cycle. Decision 9.COM 12, as noted above, provides ‘that at least one file per submitting State should be processed during the two‑year period 2016 and 2017’. Those 12 States were therefore informed that their files would be considered a priority in the 2017 cycle.

**Number of files for the 2017 and 2018 cycles**

1. As was the case in previous cycles, the Committee cannot predict the distribution of files between the two Lists, the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices and international assistance in the cycles after 2016. It is called upon to confirm an overall number of such files to be treated. It may also wish to take into account the anticipated number of files that it will examine each year for other processes, such as the periodic reports of States Parties on their implementation of the Convention and the status of elements inscribed on the Representative List, as well as their periodic reports on the status of elements inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List. This year, the Committee began to examine the renewal or non-renewal of relations with 97 non-governmental organizations accredited by the General Assembly in 2010, in conformity with paragraph 94 of the Operational Directives. In 2017, it will similarly examine its relations with 59 non-governmental organizations accredited by the General Assembly in 2012.
2. The situation of recent and future sessions can be summarized as follows[[2]](#footnote-2):

|  | **6.COM (2011)** | **7.COM (2012)** | **8.COM (2013)** | **9.COM (2014)** | **10.COM (2015)** | **11.COM (2016)** | **12.COM (2017)** | **13.COM (2018)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List | 23 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 6[[3]](#footnote-3) |  |  |
| Proposals of Best Safeguarding Practices | 12 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 |  |  |
| Requests for International Assistance | 4 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |  |  |
| Nominations to the Representative List | 49 | 36 | 31 | 46 | 38 | 38 |  |  |
| **Subtotal, nominations** | 88 | 56 | 46 | 60 | 50 | 51 | 50 |  |
| Periodic reports of States Parties | 5 | 16 | 10 | 27 | 25 | 37 | 21 | 30 |
| Reports on USL elements | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 18 | 4 | 4 |
| NGO Accreditation | 45 | 29 | 34 | 0[[4]](#footnote-4) | 54 | 04 |  | 04 |
| Renewal of relations with NGOs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 97 | 0 | 59 | 0 |
| **Subtotal, reports, NGOs** | 50 | 45 | 45 | 35 | 179 | 55 | 84 | 34 |
| **Total number of files** | 138 | 101 | 91 | 95 | 229 | 106 | 134 |  |
| **COM meeting days** | 7 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 |  |  |  |

1. Paragraph 33 of the Operational Directives calls for the Committee to determine the number of files based upon its available resources and capacity. The Committee completed its agenda in five days during its seventh session, while for the eighth session, six days were necessary to discuss all the items. The ninth session of the Committee postponed the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to its tenth session; it still needed five days to discuss all the items of quite an extensive agenda. The Committee may also wish to take into account that other business will continue to require increasing attention in the course of its sessions.
2. The Committee is also to base its decision on the ‘available resources’. In the context of the financial constraints confronting the Organization, the activities and staffing of the Secretariat of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention continue to be seriously affected.
3. The Committee may consequently wish to re-confirm the number of files to be treated in the 2017 cycle and fix the same number of files for the 2018 cycle, while in keeping with the principle of one file per submitting State during each two-year period. It may also again request that the Secretariat exercise flexibility when applying these limits in order to permit greater equity among submitting States with equal priority.
4. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 10.COM 13

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/15/10.COM/13,
2. Recalling paragraphs 33 and 34 of the Operational Directives, and its Decision 9.COM 12,
3. Taking note that the number of files being treated for the 2016 cycle is 51, representing 62 submitting States,
4. Considering that its capacities to examine files during a session are still limited, as are the capacities and human resources of the Secretariat,
5. Reaffirms that those States Parties which submitted files that could not be treated in the 2016 cycle will see their files examined with priority in the 2017 cycle, following the principle of one file per submitting State during the two-year period (Decision 9.COM 12);
6. Decides that in the course of the 2017 and 2018 cycles, the number of nominations to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, proposals of programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention and international assistance requests greater than US$25,000 that can be treated is determined to be 50 per cycle;
7. Further decides that at least one file per submitting State should be processed during the two-year period 2017-2018, within the agreed number of nominations per biennium, in conformity with paragraph 34 of the Operational Directives;
8. Further decides that the Secretariat may exercise some flexibility, if that would permit greater equity among submitting States with equal priority under paragraph 34 of the Operational Directives;
9. Invites States Parties to take the present decision into account when submitting files for the 2017 and 2018 cycle;
10. Requests the Secretariat report to it on the number of files submitted for the 2017 cycle, its experience applying the Operational Directives and the present decision at its eleventh session.

ANNEX[[5]](#footnote-5): Distribution of files for the 2016 cycle

Files submitted for the 2016 cycle are presented below in the order of priority corresponding to:

1. Committee decision 8.COM 10 to have at least one file per submitting State processed over the two cycles of 2015 and 2016   
   (the first 11 States could not have a national file treated in 2015) and
2. Priorities stated in paragraph 34 of the Operational Directives:

(i) files from States having no elements inscribed, best safeguarding practices selected or requests for International Assistance greater than US$25,000 approved and nominations to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding;

(ii) multinational files; and

(iii) files from States with the fewest elements inscribed, best safeguarding practices selected or requests for International Assistance greater than US$25,000 approved in comparison with other submitting States during the same cycle.

| **Countries** | | **Submitted files** | | **Level of priority** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Belgium | RL | La culture de la bière en Belgique (01062) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 2 | China | RL | The Twenty-Four Solar Terms, Chinese knowledge of time and practices developed through observation of the sun's annual motion (00647) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 3 | Croatia | BSP | Community project of safeguarding the living culture of Rovinj/Rovigno: the Batana Ecomuseum (01098) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 4 | France | RL | Le carnaval de Granville (01077) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 5 | India | RL | Yoga (01163) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 6 | Japan | RL | Yama, Hoko, Yatai, float festivals in Japan (01059) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 7 | Mexico | RL | Charrería, Mexican equestrian tradition (01108) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 8 | Republic of Korea | RL | Culture of Jeju Haenyeo (women divers) (01068) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 9 | Spain | RL | Valencia Fallas festivity (00859) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 10 | Turkey | RL | Traditional craftsmanship of Çini-making (01058) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 11 | Viet Nam | RL | Viet beliefs in the Mother Goddesses of Three Realms (01064) | (0) one file for 2015-2016 |
| 12 | Afghanistan; Azerbaijan; India; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Iraq; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Uzbekistan; Pakistan; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan; Turkey | RL | Nawrouz, Novruz, Nowrouz, Nowrouz, Nawrouz, Nauryz, Nooruz, Nowruz, Navruz, Nevruz, Nowruz, Navruz (01161) | (i) multinational file, including one country with no element inscribed |
| 13 | Argentina | BSP | The Randas of time, a safeguarding model of textile art at El Cercado (01212) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 14 | Fiji | BSP | Cultural mapping, methodology for the safeguarding of iTaukei intangible cultural heritage (01195) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 15 | Germany | RL | Idea and practice of organizing shared interests in cooperatives (01200) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 16 | Germany; Saudi Arabia; Austria; Belgium; United Arab Emirates; Spain; France; Hungary; Italy; Kazakhstan; Morocco; Mongolia; Pakistan; Portugal; Qatar; Syrian Arab Republic; Republic of Korea; Czech Republic | RL | Falconry, a living tradition (01209) | (i) multinational nomination, including one country with no element inscribed |
| 17 | Lao People's Democratic Republic | RL | La musique du khène du peuple lao (01204) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 18 | Norway | BSP | Oselvar boat - reframing a traditional learning process of building and use to a modern context (01156) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 19 | Saudi Arabia | RL | Al Mezmar, drumming and dancing with sticks (01011) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 20 | Slovenia | RL | Škofja Loka passion play (01203) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 21 | Sri Lanka | RL | Traditional art of string puppetry (01171) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 22 | Switzerland | RL | Fête des vignerons de Vevey (01201) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 23 | Tajikistan | RL | Oshi Palav, a traditional meal and its social and cultural contexts in Tajikistan (01191) | (i) no element inscribed |
| 24 | Botswana | USL | The use of Moropa wa Bojale ba Bakgatla ba Kgafela and its associated practices (01183) | (i) nomination for USL |
| 25 | Cambodia | USL | Chapei Dang Veng (01165) | (i) nomination for USL |
| 26 | Kenya | USL | Rituals and practices associated with Kit Mikayi Shrine (01180) | (i) nomination for USL |
| 27 | Portugal | USL | Bisalhães black pottery manufacturing process (01199) | (i) nomination for USL |
| 28 | Uganda | USL | Ma'di bowl lyre music and dance (01187) | (i) nomination for USL |
| 29 | Ukraine | USL | Cossacks songs of Dnipropetrovsk Region (01194) | (i) nomination for USL |
| 30 | Azerbaijan; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Turkey | RL | Flatbread making and sharing culture: Lavash, Katryma, Jupka, Yufka (01181) | (ii) multinational nomination |
| 31 | Slovakia; Czech Republic | RL | Slovak and Czech puppetry (01202) | (ii) multinational nomination |
| 32 | Romania; Republic of Moldova | RL | Traditional wall-carpet craftsmanship in Romania and the Republic of Moldova (01167) | (ii) multinational nomination |
| 33 | Austria | BSP | Regional Centres for Craftsmanship: a strategy for safeguarding the cultural heritage (01169) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 34 | Cuba | RL | Cuban rumba, a festive combination of music and dances and all the practices associated (01185) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 35 | Democratic People’s Republic of Korea | RL | Ssirum (wrestling) in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea(01160) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 36 | Egypt | RL | Tahteeb, stick game (01189) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 37 | Ethiopia | RL | Gada system, an indigenous democratic socio-political system of the Oromo (01164) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 38 | Greece | RL | Momoeria, New Year's celebration in eight villages of Kozani area, West Macedonia, Greece (01184) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 39 | Iraq | RL | Khidr Elias feast and its vows (01159) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 40 | Kazakhstan | RL | Kazakh Kuresi (01085) | (iii) 1 element inscribed |
| 41 | Bangladesh | RL | Mangal Shobhajatra on Pahela Baishakh (01091) | (iii) 2 elements inscribed |
| 42 | Belarus | RL | Celebration in honor of the Budslaŭ icon of Our Lady (Budslaŭ Fest) (01174) | (iii) 2 elements inscribed |
| 43 | Dominican Republic | RL | Music and dance of the Dominican merengue (01162) | (iii) 2 elements inscribed |
| 44 | Georgia | RL | Living culture of three writing systems of the Georgian alphabet (01205) | (iii) 2 elements inscribed |
| 45 | Nigeria | RL | Argungu international fishing and cultural festival (00901) | (iii) 2 elements inscribed |
| 46 | Bulgaria | BSP | Festival of folklore in Koprivshtitsa: a system of practices for heritage presentation and transmission (00970) | (iii) 3 elements inscribed |
| 47 | Hungary | BSP | Safeguarding of the folk music heritage by the Kodály concept (01177) | (iii) 3 elements inscribed |
| 48 | Mauritius | RL | Bhojpuri folk songs of Mauritius, Geet-Gawai (01178) | (iii) 3 elements inscribed |
| 49 | Romania | RL | Whitsunday pilgrimage from Şumuleu Ciuc (Csiksomlyo) (01120) | (iii) 3 elements inscribed |
| 50 | Uzbekistan | RL | Palov culture and tradition (01166) | (iii) 3 elements inscribed |
| 51 | Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | RL | Carnival of El Callo, a festive representation of a memory and cultural identity (01198) | (iii) 3 elements inscribed |
|  | | | | |
| **Priority States for 2017 cycle** | | | | |
| 52 | Algeria |  |  | 4 elements inscribed |
| 53 | Armenia |  |  | 4 elements inscribed |
| 54 | Bolivia (Plurinational State of) |  |  | 4 elements inscribed |
| 55 | Morocco |  |  | 4 elements inscribed |
| 56 | Italy |  |  | 5 elements inscribed |
| 57 | Azerbaijan |  |  | 6 elements inscribed |
| 58 | Indonesia |  |  | 7 elements inscribed |
| 59 | Peru |  |  | 7 elements inscribed |
| 60 | Brazil |  |  | 8 elements inscribed |
| 61 | Colombia |  |  | 8 elements inscribed |
| 62 | Iran (Islamic Republic of) |  |  | 9 elements inscribed |
| 63 | Mongolia |  |  | 11 elements inscribed |

1. . <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00773> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. . The figures for 2011–2016 reflect the number of files submitted and processed by the Secretariat, while those for 2017–2018 are files scheduled for submission. In reality, for each cycle a slightly larger number of files are treated by the Secretariat than are examined by the Committee as States sometimes withdraw their files during the process or may not succeed in completing them. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. . One of the six nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List submitted for 2016 cycle is a combined nomination and international assistance request (ICH-01 bis). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 4. Starting from 2014, the Committee decided to examine accreditation requests every two years, before the sessions of the General Assembly which is to decide whether or not to accredit NGOs. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. . The titles are provided in the language of submission. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)