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référence : CL/3632

**Subject: Intergovernmental meeting of experts on the preliminary draft convention
for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage**

Sir/Madam,

By decision 3.5.2 adopted at its 164th session, the Executive Board invited me to convene one or more category II intergovernmental meetings of experts, the first of which could take place in September 2002, to define the scope of and to take forward the work on the preliminary draft of an international convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage. I have the honour to inform you that the first of these meetings will take place from Monday, 23 to Friday, 27 September 2002 at UNESCO Headquarters (Room II), 7, place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris.

I accordingly have pleasure in inviting your Government to designate one or more representatives, possibly one legal expert and one expert in the fields of intangible cultural heritage, to take part in this meeting. I should be grateful if you would complete and return the enclosed registration card, at least two weeks before the opening of the meeting, to the Division of Cultural Heritage, for the attention of Ms Annie-Christine Couturier (ac.couturier@unesco.org; tel.: 33 (0)1 45 68 44 30; fax: 33 (0)1 45 68 55 96) or Ms Gerda Westerwinter (g.westerwinter@unesco.org; tel.: 33 (0)1 45 68 41 85; fax: 33 (0)1 45 68 55 96).

For your information, please find enclosed herewith 164 EX/Decision 3.5.2, the provisional agenda, the draft Rules of Procedure, a registration card and a list of hotels close to UNESCO. The preliminary draft convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage and the preliminary report have already been sent to you by my circular letter CL/3629, and will be available during the meeting, together with a glossary.

In accordance with established rules, the travel and subsistence expenses of participants in this meeting are to be borne by the Government they represent.

To Ministers responsible for relations with UNESCO.

The working languages of the meeting will be English and French with simultaneous interpretation ; other working languages may be used if extrabudgetary funds are available.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Koichiro Matsuura
Director-General

Enclosures: 5

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO



UNITED NATIONS YEAR FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE
ANNÉE DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LE PATRIMOINE CULTUREL
AÑO DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS DEL PATRIMONIO CULTURAL
سنة الأمم المتحدة للتراث الثقافي
ГОД КУЛЬТУРНОГО НАСЛЕДИЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ
联合国文化遗产年

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING OF EXPERTS
ON THE PRELIMINARY-DRAFT CONVENTION
FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, 23 –27 September 2002

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION 164 EX/3.5.2

**Progress report on the preparation of an international convention for the safeguarding
of the intangible cultural heritage (164 EX/19 and Add. and 164 EX/51)**

I Convening intergovernmental meetings of experts

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 31 C/Resolution 30,
2. Having examined document 164 EX/19,
3. Having taken note of the recommendations of the meeting of experts on the “Intangible Cultural Heritage: Priority Domains for an International Convention”, held in Rio de Janeiro from 22 to 24 January 2002, and being aware of the ongoing work of the select drafting group which met at Headquarters from 20 to 22 March 2002 with a view to gathering material for a preliminary draft international convention on the intangible cultural heritage,
4. Invites the Director-General to convene one or more category II intergovernmental meetings of experts, the first of which could take place in September 2002, to define the scope and to take forward the work on the preliminary draft of an international convention, participation in such meetings to be in accordance with Article 21 of the Regulations for the general classification of the various categories of meetings convened by UNESCO;
5. Takes note of the timetable proposed in document 164 EX/19 as modified by the Director-General in his reply to the debate on items 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 of the Executive Board at its 164th session (164 EX/SR.5);
6. Encourages Member States to adopt or develop policies relating to the protection of the intangible cultural heritage;
7. Requests the Director-General to report to it on progress in the preparation of the report on the situation calling for standard-setting and on the possible scope of such standard-setting, to be submitted to the General Conference at its 32nd session together with a preliminary draft international convention.

II Invitations to intergovernmental meetings of experts

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind the above decision to convene one or more intergovernmental meetings of experts (category II) to define the scope and to take forward the work on the preliminary draft of an international convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage,
2. Having examined the Director-General's proposal concerning invitations to intergovernmental meetings of experts (164 EX/19 Add.),
3. Decides that:
 - (a) invitations to participate in the intergovernmental meetings of experts with the right to vote will be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO;
 - (b) invitations to send observers to the intergovernmental meetings of experts will be sent as indicated in paragraph 7 of document 164 EX/19 Add.;
 - (c) invitations to send representatives to the intergovernmental meetings of experts will be sent to the organizations of the United Nations system referred to in paragraph 9 of document 164 EX/19 Add.;
 - (d) invitations to send observers to the intergovernmental meetings of experts will be sent to the international governmental and non-governmental organizations listed in paragraph 10 of document 164 EX/19 Add.;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to issue any other invitations he may deem conducive to the work of the intergovernmental meetings of experts, and to notify it thereof.



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联合国文化遗产年

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**INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING OF EXPERTS
ON THE PRELIMINARY-DRAFT CONVENTION
FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, 23 –27 September 2002

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Election of the Chairperson
4. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
5. Election of Vice-Chairpersons and of the Rapporteur
6. Introductory statement by the Secretariat concerning the objectives of the meeting and of the working documents
7. Discussion (Preamble, Apparatus, Annex)
8. Other business
9. Adoption of recommendations
10. Approval of the draft Convention
11. Closure of meeting

(français au verso)



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**REUNION INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE D'EXPERTS
SUR L'AVANT-PROJET DE CONVENTION
POUR LA SAUVEGARDE DU PATRIMOINE CULTUREL IMMATERIEL**

Paris, Siège de l'UNESCO, 23-27 septembre 2002

ORDRE DU JOUR PROVISOIRE

1. Ouverture de la réunion
2. Election du Président
3. Adoption de l'Ordre du jour
4. Adoption du Règlement intérieur
5. Election des vice-présidents et du Rapporteur
6. Présentation préliminaire par le Secrétariat des objectifs de la réunion et des documents de travail
7. Discussion (Préambule, Dispositif, Annexe)
8. Questions diverses
9. Adoption de recommandations
10. Approbation du projet de Convention
11. Clôture de la réunion

(English overleaf)