



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



The Protection of the
Underwater Cultural Heritage

3 MSP

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

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE

**MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Third session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room IV
13 – 14 April 2011

Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda:

**Accreditation of non-governmental organizations for cooperation with the Scientific and
Technical Advisory Body**

Decision required : paragraph 4

1. In its first session and by Resolution 5/MSP 1 the Meeting of States Parties established a Scientific and Technical Advisory Body (hereinafter “the Advisory Body”) according to Article 23.4 of the Convention. According to Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of this body, it “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. In its second session and by Resolution 6 / MSP 2 the Meeting of States Parties decided not to accredit any organization under Article 1 (e) of the above Statutes, until the criteria for accreditation have been adopted in the Operational Guidelines of the Convention and invited the Advisory Body to provide its opinion to the Meeting of States Parties regarding the background of the NGOs which applied for accreditation.
3. Short of criteria for its requested evaluation of the NGOs, the Advisory Body in its first meeting recommended to the Meeting of States Parties to not accredit any NGO under Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Advisory Body until accreditation criteria have been adopted (Recommendation 4 / 1 MAB). In the same moment the Advisory Body recommended
 - a. to apply the criteria set by the “Directives concerning UNESCO’ relations with NGO”, as approved by the General Conference at its 28th, 31st and 34th session;
 - b. that the concerned NGOs should have objectives, activities, statutes and by-laws that are in conformity with the principles of the Convention; and
 - c. that the concerned NGOs should be engaged in activities and have competence, expertise and experience in safeguarding underwater cultural heritage.

It also recommended a procedure for accreditation and suggested the elaboration of a standard format for the accreditation requests that is appropriate to provide the information needed to assess the fulfillment of the accreditation criteria.

4. The Meeting of States Parties may consider to adopt the following resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 8 / MSP 3

The Meeting of States Parties, in its third session,

1. Having examined the recommendation of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body, as set out in document UCH/10/1.MAB/220/6, in particular Recommendation 4 / 1 MAB;
2. Having adopted accreditation criteria in the Operational Guidelines approved under Resolution 7 / 3 MSP;
3. Requests the Secretariat to use a standard format for the accreditation requests that is appropriate to provide the information needed to assess the fulfillment of the accreditation criteria;
4. Having examined the applications for accreditation by the Meeting of States Parties, as received by the Secretariat from NGOs and as set out in document UCH/11/3.MSP/220/INF5 ;
5. Decides to accredit the non-governmental organizations to be consulted by and to collaborate with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body to the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, which fulfill the above-adopted accreditation criteria and to delegate the evaluation and decision on current requests exceptionally to the Advisory Body.

ANNEX

APPLICATIONS FOR ACCREDITATION BY THE MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

1. ACUA - Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology
2. AIMA – Australian Institute for Maritime Archeology
3. ADMAT - Anglo Danish Maritime Archaeological Team
4. DEGUWA – Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Unterwasserarchäologie e.V.
5. IKUWA - Internationale Konferenz für Unterwasserarchäologie (*see report of Advisory Body*)
6. INA - Institute of Nautical Archaeology
7. JNAPC - Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee
8. NAS – Nautical Archeology Society
9. SHA – Society for Historical Archaeology

** Please note that ICUCH - The ICOMOS International Committee on the Underwater Cultural Heritage, is already 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.*