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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
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联合国教育、
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Intangible Cultural Heritage

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

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

**First Extraordinary Session
Chengdu, China – 23 to 27 May 2007**

DECISIONS ADOPTED

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 2

The Committee,

1. Elects H.E. Mr Wang Xuexian (China) as Chairperson of the first extraordinary session of the Committee;
2. Elects Mr Ousmane Blondin Diop (Senegal) as Rapporteur of the first extraordinary session of the Committee;
3. Elects Belgium, Bolivia, Estonia and the Syrian Arab Republic as Vice-Chairpersons of the first extraordinary session of the Committee.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 3

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/3;
2. Adopts the Agenda included in the abovementioned document.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 4

The Committee,

1. Taking into consideration Rules 8.2 and 8.3 of its Rules of Procedure;
2. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/4 Rev.;
3. Authorizes the participation as observers in its first extraordinary session of those representatives of States non party to the Convention which are Member States of UNESCO or of the United Nations, who have so requested as listed in the Annex to this decision;
4. Also authorizes the participation as observers in its first extraordinary session of those representatives of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, other international governmental and non-governmental organizations, permanent observer missions to UNESCO and non-profit-making institutions active in the fields covered by the Convention, who have so requested, as listed in the Annex to this decision;
5. Further authorizes the participation as observers in its first extraordinary session of those representatives of Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, who have so requested, as listed in the Annex to this decision, following the suspension of Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure by the required majority for this purpose.

Requests for Observer status

(for details concerning the participants, refer to the Provisional List of Participants)

- a) Requests received in accordance with Article 8.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Committee from:

Austria
Bahrain
Benin
Germany
Italy
Kenya

Malaysia
Poland
Saudi Arabia
South Africa
Switzerland
Thailand
United States of America

- b) Requests received in accordance with Article 8.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Committee from:

International Council of Museums (ICOM)
Mediterranean Diet Foundation
Traditions for Tomorrow

- c) Extraordinary requests received from:

Macao Special Administrative Region (of the People's Republic of China)

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 4 bis

The Committee,

1. Taking into consideration Rules 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 of its Rules of Procedure;
2. Decides to authorize the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the organizations of the United Nations system to attend the Committee sessions as observers;
3. Also decides that States non party to the Convention which are Member States of UNESCO or of the United Nations, permanent observer missions to UNESCO, and intergovernmental organizations (other than the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system) wishing to obtain observer status, shall make a written request to the Secretariat, preferably at least two months prior to the Committee session they wish to attend. The Committee authorizes them to attend its next session as observers;
4. Requests the Director-General to invite those entities whose participation has been authorized in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 above;
5. Decides that the Secretariat shall establish a provisional list of non-governmental organizations and non-profit-making institutions active in the

fields covered by the Convention, in particular Article 2 thereof, in cooperation with permanent delegations and National Commissions to UNESCO in States where those organizations and institutions have their headquarters, and shall present this list to the Committee at its second ordinary session;

6. Invites States Parties to the Convention to submit by 1 July 2007 names of local, national, regional and international non-governmental organizations, active in the fields covered by the Convention, who could participate as observers in its next session. The Committee, on an exceptional basis, authorizes the Chairperson to enable the Director-General of UNESCO to invite such non-governmental organizations, upon their written request, to attend its next session ;
7. Further decides to continue to examine, at its second ordinary session, the issue of admission of non-governmental organizations and non-profit-making institutions as observers, with the view of taking a decision on this matter.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 5

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/5;
2. Recalling Resolution 1.GA 7A, whereby the General Assembly of the States Parties requested the Committee to submit to it for approval *inter alia* the operational directives and the selection criteria referred to in Article 7 (e) and (g) of the Convention respectively, at its second ordinary session;
3. Requests the Secretariat to prepare, in light of the orientations of the debates at its first extraordinary session, draft directives on the submission and evaluation of nominations for inscription on the lists referred to in Articles 16 and 17 of the Convention.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 6

The Committee,

1. Recalling Articles 7(g) (i), 16 and 17 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
2. Further recalling Resolution 1.GA 7A of the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
3. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/6;
4. Submits to the General Assembly for its approval the two sets of criteria incorporated in that document, as amended and annexed to this decision.

Criteria for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

In nomination files, which are to follow a format to be indicated by the Committee, the submitting State(s) Party(ies) or, in the case of extreme urgency, the nominator(s) will be requested to demonstrate that an element proposed for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List satisfies all of the following criteria:

- U.1. The element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- U.2. a) The element is in urgent need of safeguarding because its viability is at risk despite the efforts of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals and State(s) Party(ies) concerned. (or)

b) The element is in extremely urgent need of safeguarding because it is facing grave threats as a result of which it cannot be expected to survive without immediate safeguarding.
- U.3. Safeguarding measures are elaborated that may enable the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned to continue the practice and transmission of the element.
- U.4. The element has been nominated following the widest possible participation of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and with their free, prior and informed consent.
- U.5. The element is included in an inventory of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies).
- U.6. In cases of extreme urgency, the State(s) Party(ies) concerned has (have) been consulted regarding inscription of the element in conformity with Article 17.3 of the Convention.

Criteria for inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

In nomination files, which are to follow a format to be indicated by the Committee, the submitting States Parties will be requested to demonstrate that an element proposed for inscription on the Representative List satisfies all of the following criteria:

- R.1. The element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- R.2. Inscription of the element will contribute to ensuring visibility, awareness of the significance of the intangible cultural heritage and dialogue, thus reflecting cultural diversity worldwide and testifying to human creativity.

- R.3. Safeguarding measures are elaborated that may protect and promote the element.
- R.4. The element has been nominated following the widest possible participation of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and with their free, prior and informed consent.
- R.5. The element is included in an inventory of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies).

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 7

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/7;
2. Recalling Article 31 of the Convention;
3. Having conducted a preliminary discussion of that document;
4. Requests the Director-General to submit well in advance of its second ordinary session a legal opinion on the incorporation of the items proclaimed Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity into the Representative List;
5. Also requests States Parties to the Convention to submit their comments in writing on the implementation of Article 31 of the Convention, before 6 July 2007;
6. Decides to continue at its second ordinary session its discussion of the incorporation of the items proclaimed Masterpieces.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 8

The Committee,

1. Recalling Articles 1, 7 (a) and 7 (d) of the Convention, as well as Articles 13 and 14 (a);
2. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/8;
3. Decides to create an emblem in order to support its activities and those of States Parties in promoting the objectives of the Convention;
4. Decides to agree on the principle of an open competition based on wide publicity for the design of an emblem that best reflects the purposes and spirit of the Convention;

5. Decides to establish at its second ordinary session a subsidiary body and to determine its terms of reference in accordance with Rule 21 of its Rules of Procedure, and requests the Secretariat to draft a reference document to this effect, taking into consideration the deliberations at this session.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 9

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/9;
2. Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
3. Recalling in particular Article 25.3 (f) and Article 25.6 of the Convention which states that “no political, economic or other conditions which are incompatible with the objectives of this Convention may be attached to contributions made to the Fund”;
4. Decides that the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund be managed as a Special Account as referred to in Article 6.6 of the Financial Regulations of UNESCO;
5. Adopts the Financial Regulations of the Intangible Heritage Special Account annexed to this Decision.

Financial Regulations of the Intangible Heritage Special Account

Article 1 – Establishment of the Intangible Heritage Special Account

- 1.1 Article 25 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”) establishes a Fund called the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereinafter referred to as the “Fund”). Given the multi-donor nature of the Fund, it will be managed as a Special Account.
- 1.2 In accordance with Article 6.6 of the Financial Regulations of UNESCO, there is hereby created a Special Account for the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereinafter referred to as the “Special Account”).
- 1.3 The following regulations shall govern the operation of the Special Account.

Article 2 – Financial period

The financial period shall correspond to that of UNESCO.

Article 3 – Purpose

The purpose of this Special Account shall be to receive contributions from the sources indicated in Article 4.1 below and to make payments there from, to assist in the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in accordance with the terms of the Convention and the present Regulations.

Article 4 – Income

4.1 In accordance with Article 25.3 of the Convention, the income of the Special Account shall consist of:

- (a) contributions made by States Parties to the Convention, in accordance with its Article 26;
- (b) funds appropriated for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO;
- (c) contributions, gifts or bequests which may be made by:
 - (i) other States;
 - (ii) organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, as well as other international organizations;
 - (iii) public or private bodies or individuals;
- (d) any interest due on the resources of the Special Account;
- (e) funds raised through collections, and receipts from events organized for the benefit of the Special Account;
- (f) any other resources authorized by the Committee.

4.2 As stipulated in Article 26.1 of the Convention, the contributions of States Parties which have not made the declaration referred to Article 26.2 of the Convention shall be made according to the uniform percentage determined by the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention.

Article 5 – Expenditure

5.1 In accordance with Article 25.4 of the Convention, the use of the resources of the Special Account by the Committee shall be decided on the basis of guidelines laid down by the General Assembly.

5.2 The Special Account shall be debited with the expenditure relating to its purpose as described in Article 3 above, including direct administrative expenses specifically relating to it.

5.3 Expenditure shall be made within the limits of funds available.

Article 6 – Reserve Fund

Within the Special Account there shall be established a reserve fund to meet requests for assistance in cases of extreme urgency, as foreseen in Article 17.3 and 22.2 of the Convention. The amount of the reserve shall be determined by the Committee.

Article 7 – Accounts

- 7.1 The UNESCO Comptroller shall maintain such accounting records as are necessary.
- 7.2 Any unused balance at the end of a financial period shall be carried forward to the following financial period.
- 7.3 The accounts of the Special Account shall be presented for audit to the External Auditor of UNESCO, together with the other accounts of the Organization.
- 7.4 Contributions in kind shall be recorded outside the Special Account.
- 7.5 The accounts shall be submitted by the Director-General to the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention.

Article 8 – Investments

- 8.1 The Director-General may make short-term investments of sums standing to the credit of the Special Account.
- 8.2 Interest earned on these investments shall be credited to the Special Account.

Article 9 – General provision

Unless otherwise provided in these Regulations, the Special Account shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 10

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/10;
2. Recalling Article 9 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
3. Adopts the criteria and modalities for the accreditation of non-governmental organizations as amended and annexed to this Decision.

Criteria for the accreditation of non-governmental organizations

Non-governmental organizations shall:

- a. have proven competence, expertise and experience in safeguarding (as defined in Article 2.3 of the Convention) intangible cultural heritage belonging, *inter alia*, to one or more specific domains (Article 2.2);
- b. have a local, national, regional or international nature, as appropriate;
- c. have objectives that are in conformity with the spirit of the Convention and, preferably, statutes or bylaws that conform with those objectives;
- d. cooperate in a spirit of mutual respect with communities, groups, and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit intangible cultural heritage;
- e. possess operational capacities, including:
 - (i) a regular active membership, which forms a community linked by the desire to pursue the objectives for which it was established;
 - (ii) an established domicile and a recognized legal personality as compatible with domestic law;
 - (iii) having existed and having carried out appropriate activities for at least four years when being considered for accreditation.

Modalities of accreditation and review of accreditation of non-governmental organizations

The Committee asks the Secretariat to receive requests from non-governmental organizations and submit recommendations to it with regard to accrediting them and with regard to maintaining or terminating relations with them. The Committee then submits its recommendations to the General Assembly for decision, in conformity with Article 9 of the Convention. In receiving and reviewing such requests, the Committee shall pay due attention to the principle of equitable geographical representation, based on information provided to it by the Secretariat. Accredited non-governmental organizations should abide by applicable domestic and international legal and ethical standards.

- a. Review of the contribution of, the commitment of and the relations with the advisory organization every four years following accreditation, taking into account the perspective of the non-governmental organization concerned;
- b. Termination of relations at the time of the review if the Committee deems it necessary;
- c. If circumstances require, suspension of relations with the organization concerned until a decision regarding termination of these relations is taken.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 10 bis

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/10;
2. Recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, in particular its Article 8;
3. Also recalling decision 1.COM 6 adopted at the first ordinary session of the Committee in Algiers;
4. Decides to discuss the proposals contained in paragraph 9 of document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/10 at its second ordinary session;
5. Requests the Secretariat to submit at its next session a document on the participation of communities or their representatives, practitioners, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes with recognized competence in the various fields of the intangible cultural heritage in the implementation of the Convention.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 11

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/11;
2. Recalling Resolution 1.GA 7A, whereby the General Assembly of the States Parties requested the Committee to submit to it for approval *inter alia* draft operational directives at its second ordinary session;
3. Requests the Secretariat to prepare, in light of the debates at its first extraordinary session and preliminary written comments to be sent by States Parties before 1 July 2007, preliminary draft directives on the implementation of Article 18 of the Convention.

DECISION 1.EXT.COM 12

The Committee,

1. Having examined document ITH/06/1.COM/CONF.204/10, the Draft Summary Record of the first session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
2. Approves the Summary Record included in the abovementioned document.

[For the text of the Summary Record, refer to document ITH/07/1.EXT.COM/CONF.207/12]