



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage

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## CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

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

Fifth session  
Kenya  
November 2010

#### NOMINATION FILE NO. 00322 FOR INSCRIPTION ON THE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN NEED OF URGENT SAFEGUARDING IN 2010

<p><b>A. STATE(S) PARTY(IES)</b> <i>For multi-national nominations, States Parties should be listed in the order on which they have mutually agreed. (See 8.a. below.)</i></p>
China
<p><b>B. NAME OF ELEMENT</b> <i>See 1.a. below</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>Not to exceed 200 characters.</i></span></p>
Wooden Movable-Type Printing of China
<p><b>C. COMMUNITY(IES), GROUP(S) OR, IF APPLICABLE, INDIVIDUAL(S) CONCERNED</b> <i>See 1.c. below</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>Not to exceed 100 words.</i></span></p>
Communities of DongYuan Village in Pingyangkeng Township & Xiqian Village in Caocun Township of Rui'an Zhejiang province. The representative bearers are: Wang Chaohui, Lin Chuyin, Wang Chuanqiao, Wang Haiqiu, Wang Zhiren, Wu Kuizhao. Zhang Yishuo, Wang Chaohua, Pan Lijie, Pan Chaoliang, and Wang Chaoxi.

**D. BRIEF TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE NOMINATED ELEMENT**

*The brief description of the element will be particularly helpful in allowing the Committee to know at a glance what element is being proposed for inscription, and, in the event of inscription, may be used for purposes of visibility.*

*Not to exceed 200 words.*

The process of Movable-Type Printing is as follows:

First, Chinese characters of different materials are engraved and picked out according to the requirement of the text to be printed. These characters are then arranged into typeface and, through a whole process of proofreading, ink brushing, paper covering, brush printing, paper cutting and binding; the printed material is finally finished. The movable characters can be used time and again after the typeface is dismantled.

In the middle of 11th century, Bisheng invented the (clay) Movable-Type Printing technique, and later in the mid-12th century, Buddhist sutra was printed in Wooden Movable-Type Printing in Western Xia Dynasty. Afterward, movable characters made of copper and tin appeared. At present in some communities of Rui'an Zhejiang province, Wooden Movable-Type Printing is still being used to print genealogy of clans.

The invention of Movable-Type Printing has had a great impetus to the progress of world civilization.

**E. BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE VIABILITY OF THE ELEMENT, ITS NEED FOR SAFEGUARDING AND THE PROPOSED SAFEGUARDING MEASURES**

*This statement should briefly justify why the element is being proposed for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List and how its viability might be strengthened through the safeguarding measures proposed below.*

*Not to exceed 300 words.*

In history, Movable-Type Printing was widely used in every dynasty after its invention. Since the Qing Dynasty, however, clay and copper characters gradually disappeared, but in Rui'an Zhejiang province, due to the necessity of printing genealogy of clans, Wang Chaohui, Lin Chuyin and others have inherited and passed on the handicraft of Wooden Movable-Type Printing to the present through oral instruction and rote memory of the family.

Nevertheless, with the development of modern printing technology, the young people are reluctant to learn the traditional printing technique, and only a few bearers remain. If not protected, this traditional technique will soon disappear.

Today, measures are being taken to protect this ancient printing technique. These include giving honorary titles and financial aid to the bearers, enrolling apprentices to pass on the handicraft, cultivating and training bearers, establishing the Movable-Type Printing Association to tap the potential of the non-governmental organizations, enlarging and perfecting the 'Museum of Movable-Type Printing' to demonstrate its technological process so that the technique can be passed on from generation to generation.

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ELEMENT

*Items 1.a. to 1.e. should clearly identify the element and specify how it should be referred to if it is inscribed in the List. The information in items 1.a. through 1.e. should be mutually coherent and provide the Committee a clear idea of the identity of the element being nominated for inscription.*

### 1.a. Name of element

*This is the official name of the element that will appear in published material about the Urgent Safeguarding List. It should be concise. Please do not exceed 200 characters, including spaces and punctuation. Names should be romanized, without special fonts or characters.*

Wooden Movable-Type Printing of China

### 1.b. Other name(s) of the element, if any

*This may include for instance the name in the language and script of the community concerned, or another name by which the element is also known.*

None

### 1.c. Identification of the community(ies), group(s) or, if applicable, individual(s) concerned and their location

*Because intangible heritage can only be identified with reference to communities, groups or individuals that recognize it as part of their cultural heritage, it is important to identify clearly the community(ies), group(s) or, if applicable, individual(s) concerned with the nominated element. The Convention provides no definition of a community, but the information here should allow the Committee to identify the primary parties concerned with an element, and should be mutually coherent with the relevant sections below.*

Communities of DongYuan village in Pingyangkeng Township & Xiqian village in Caocun Township of Rui'an, Zhejiang province.

The representative bearers of Wooden Movable-Type Printing are as follows:

Wang Chaohui, Lin Chuyin, Wang Chuanqiao, Wang Haiqiu, Wang Zhiren, Wu Kuizhao, Zhang Yishuo, Wang Chaohua, Pan Lijie, Pan Chaoliang, Wang Chaoxi.

### 1.d. Geographic location and range of the element

*This section should identify the range of distribution of the element, indicating if possible the geographic location(s) in which it is concentrated. If related elements are practised in neighbouring areas, please so indicate.*

Rui'an is located in the south-eastern part of Zhejiang province, China; its geographical coordinate is 120°10'~121°15' east longitude, and 27°40'~28°0' north latitude.

### 1.e. Domain(s) represented by the element

*Identify the domain(s) of intangible cultural heritage manifested by the element, which might include one or more of the domains identified in Article 2.2 of the Convention.*

'Traditional handicraft' of Article 2, Section 2 of 'Convention on the Protection of Non-Material Cultural Heritage'

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ELEMENT (CF. CRITERION U.1)

*This is the key section of the nomination to satisfy criterion U.1: “The element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention”. A clear and complete description is essential to demonstrate to the Committee that the nominated element meets the Convention’s definition of intangible heritage.*

*The description should provide the Committee with sufficient information to determine:*

*that the element is among the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills — as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith —*

*that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize [it] as part of their cultural heritage;*

*that it is being transmitted from generation to generation, [and] is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history;*

*that it provides communities and groups involved with a sense of identity and continuity; and*

*that it is not incompatible with existing international human rights instruments as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and of sustainable development.*

*The description should refer to all the significant features of the element as it exists at present and should include discussion of its social and cultural functions at present, the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners, any special roles or categories of persons with specific responsibilities towards the element, among others. Nomination files need not address in detail the history of the element, or its origin or antiquity.*

*Not to exceed 1,000 words.*

China is the birthplace of Movable-Type Printing. In the middle of the 11th century, Bisheng invented Movable-Type Printing with clay characters. Later in the mid-12th century, Buddhist Sutra was printed with Wooden Movable-Type Printing in Western Xia Dynasty. Later, characters made of bronze and tin appeared. In the late 13th century, Wooden Movable-Type Printing became prevalent in eastern Zhejiang province and southern Anhui province, with which to print various books and genealogies of families and clans.

According to the genealogical records of Wang Chaohui, one of the representative bearers of the Movable-Type Printing technique, as early as in the beginning of the 14th century his ancestor Wang Famao began compiling and printing genealogies for local people. From then on, this printing craftsmanship has been handed down by words of mouth from generation to generation through the family ties. From the relevant historical written records and the genealogies printed with Wooden characters preserved in the family for hundreds of years, we can learn that this printing technique has been inherited in Wang’s family continuously in 25 generations for nearly 700 years.

In history, Wenzhou and its neighbouring areas of southeast Zhejiang province and northern Fujian province were typical immigrant society. According to the statistics of ‘Drafts of the General History of Zhejiang Recompiled’ of Republic of China, 141 clans had immigrated to Rui’an since the 10th century A.D. Referring to the 2003 issue of ‘Chronicles of Rui’an’, of presently 209 surnames in modern Rui’an, 178 are immigrated from other places. Wenzhou is also famous for its overseas Chinese population. At present, it has more than 430000 overseas Chinese all over the world. Consequently, whatever the origin, whether they were immigrated in past times, or in modern times, or emigrated abroad in all corners of the world, the people of Rui’an are affectionately attached to their homeland and have a strong traditional feeling of clans to find the roots of the families and ancestors. There is a tradition in families of the same clan living together, i.e., recompiling the genealogy of the clan to ensure that the blood lineage and family attribution can be traced no matter where the family members are. Because Wooden Movable-Type Printing is suitable for people working manually in a family, most importantly, with other factors such as easy to use, low in price, and strong traditional cultural concept, which makes it possible for the technique to be preserved and used till now.

The above description demonstrates that even in face of today's ever-developing modern printing, the traditional hand-operated printing technique can also have a certain market share, which ensures the technique to be passed on in Wang's family from generation to generation.

Up to December 2009, 11 major bearers of the Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique have been confirmed through general investigation. They are:

Wang Chaohui, male, 55 (1955-12-28~)  
Lin Chuyin, male, 72 (1938-04-08~)  
Wang Chuanqiao, male, 54 (1956-08-12~)  
Wang Haiqiu, male, 54 (1956-02-25~)  
Wang Zhiren, male, 53 (1957-12-02~)  
Wu Kuizhao, male, 48 (1962-01-14~)  
Zhang Yishuo, male, 57 (1953-07-07~)  
Wang Chaohua, male, 56 (1954-08-16~)  
Pan Lijie, male, 53 (1957-07-18~)  
Pan Chaoliang, male, 57 (1953-09-03~)  
Wang Chaoxi, male, 52 (1958-08-12~)

All of them have possessed a whole set of Wooden engraved Chinese characters. They complete the printing task entrusted by the clans in groups formed by either family members, relatives, or master-apprentices. In the division of labour, the representative bearer is responsible for undertaking orders and managing business. In general, men do the work of engraving characters, typesetting and printing which require higher level of techniques, while women do the work of page separating, binding, etc.

To compile and print genealogy, the craftsmen will carry the whole set of Wooden characters and the printing equipment to the ancestral halls of clans in every community year round. They have to go through a 15-step manual process. These are interviewing, making a fair copy, picking out characters, setting type, proofreading, printing, marking circles, drawing divisions, taking out characters, arranging clan names, draft binding, cutting, threading, binding, and covering, all done by hand. The key technique is 1) to select good birch leaf pear wood that is hard and tough enough to make moulds of characters. The characters have to be written on the wood block in reverse order, from right to left, and then a special knife is used to cut off the useless part to make the character protrude; 2) in picking up characters and typesetting, use a special rhyme (A sentence has 5 characters, all 160-characters in 32 sentences) in local Rui'an accent to find the corresponding characters in the reserved plates of characters arranged in the traditional format; and 3) use a traditional high quality Xuan paper in Chinese painting and calligraphy to print and cotton thread to bind. After the printing plate is dismantled, the Wooden characters can still be used time and again.

Finally, when the genealogy has been completed, a solemn ceremony will be held to offer it to the ancestors and mark the occasion, in which the craftsmen will be invited by the clansmen to draw a red line on the genealogy, make a congratulatory speech, and then put the genealogy in the box to be locked and reserved. (See the photos).

### 3. NEED FOR URGENT SAFEGUARDING (CF. CRITERION U.2)

*Items 3.a. and 3.b. are the key section of the nomination to justify why an element should be inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List. The nomination should demonstrate (Criterion U.2) either that:*

*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, that:*

*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.*

*N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, if the element meets the conditions of paragraph "b", the Committee may wish to expedite its examination of the nomination. Cases of extreme urgency may include, for instance, natural disaster, environmental change, epidemic, armed conflict, the destruction of or lack of access to places and/or natural resources important for its enactment or transmission, or other acute threatening conditions.*

#### 3.a. Viability assessment

*Describe the current level of viability of the element, particularly the frequency and extent of its practice, the strength of traditional modes of transmission, the demographics of practitioners and audiences and its sustainability.*

*Not to exceed 500 words.*

The Movable-Type Printing was flourishing in China from the Yuan dynasty to the late Qing Dynasty (about AD 1300~1900) when Wooden Movable-Type Printing covered almost every part of the country.

Since the late the Qing Dynasty, however, the traditional Movable-Type Printing gradually declined due to the popularization of modern printing technology. Its preservation and continuation in Rui'an Zhejiang province is out of the traditional culture of genealogy printing, which has been passed on from generation to generation by words of mouth through family ties. At present, there are about 10 households numbered 60 to 80 people engaged in this kind of craftsmanship.

To make Wooden movable characters, you need specially trained brush handwriting of Chinese characters and hand-operated engraving technique that are practically not in use in daily life of modern times. Besides, you also need abundant historical knowledge, know how to read the full-form characters and master the grammar of ancient Chinese language. Due to these reasons, very few young or middle-aged people have met these requirements. Nowadays, only eleven people over 50 years of age remain who have dexterously mastered the whole set of the Movable-Type Printing technique.

The business order of Movable-Type Printing mainly comes from the necessity of writing or compiling genealogy of clans everywhere. In general, the genealogy of each clan is re-compiled and printed every 30 years. As a result, the quantity of order is not stable. For example, in 2008, there were around 100 orders in DongYuan village. People with more orders can do the printing year round, while those with fewer or no orders have nothing to do. They simply have to go for farming or wait at home for the arrival of next order. The reward for every order is determined by the number of people to be recorded in the genealogy, from a few thousand to over 20 thousand. Each person to be listed in the genealogy will pay 6~10 RMB Yuan. With a few helpers, they will work together for several months or half a year. The annual income varies from 20,000 to 40,000 RMB Yuan, comparable to the wage level of workers working in enterprises, but with more labour.

### **3.b. Threat and risk assessment**

*This section should identify and describe the threats to the element's continued transmission and enactment and describe the severity and immediacy of those threats.*

*N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, please identify the grave threats to the element's viability and demonstrate that the element cannot be expected to survive among the concerned community, group or, if applicable, individuals without immediate and effective safeguarding.*

*Not to exceed 500 words.*

The three main problems of this project are: people engaged in this field are rapidly decreased, the handicraft is being challenged and replaced by modern advanced technology, and the traditional cultural concept has been weakened. These have brought about difficulties for the preservation and inheritance of the printing technique. The details are as follows:

1. People engaged in Movable-Type Printing have been rapidly decreased. Although genealogy printing as an important component of the traditional Chinese culture and a way of making living has been passed on, the process of training is very hard. To master the whole set of Movable-Type Printing technique, an apprentice need at least 2 years learning the brush handwriting of Chinese characters and hand-operated engraving technique. He also has to learn Chinese history and the grammar of ancient Chinese language. Among modern young and middle-aged people, few have possessed these knowledge and skills.

At present, Movable-Type Printing has been used in a very limited scope of areas in the countryside. Due to low income, many people engaged in this field have left their home seeking new jobs or doing businesses in the past 20 years, including several very important bearers of Movable-Type Printing technique. As a result, people who have mastered this printing technique are all over 50 years of age, and in the past 30 years no one has wanted to learn and master the techniques involved in characters engraving and Movable-Type Printing, leading to the crisis of inheritance.

2. With the social and economic development and the popularization of computer printing technology, many communities have discarded the traditional printing technique in re-writing and compiling genealogy of clans. Instead, they have adopted such techniques as computer typesetting, printing and photocopying. As a result, the requirement of Movable-Type Printing has been dwindled.
3. With the passing away of the older generation and the changes of younger generation in receiving modern education and accepting various new concepts of cultures and values, the traditional culture and genealogical concepts have been greatly weakened. Consequently, the enthusiasm to compiling genealogy of clans has reduced and the order has become fewer and fewer, resulting in the dwindling market of Movable-Type Printing. If we do not take effective measures to protect it, this valuable printing technique will die off sooner or later.

### **4. SAFEGUARDING MEASURES (CF. CRITERION U.3)**

*Items 4.a. to 4.c. request the elaboration of a coherent set of safeguarding measures as called for in Criterion U.3.*

*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.*

*The safeguarding measures, if effectively implemented, should be expected to contribute substantially to the safeguarding of the element within a time-frame of approximately four years. They should include measures aimed at ensuring the viability of the element by enabling the community to continue its practice and transmission.*

*N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, the Committee may accept that, at the time of nomination, the safeguarding measures proposed do not yet form a well-elaborated action plan for safeguarding; elaboration of a comprehensive plan might thus be among the safeguarding measures outlined in such cases.*

#### 4.a. Current and recent efforts to safeguard the element

*Describe the current and recent efforts of the concerned community, group or, if applicable individuals to ensure the viability of the element. Describe efforts of the concerned State(s) Party(ies) to safeguard the element, taking note of external or internal constraints such as limited resources.*

*N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, it is recognized that conditions may not have permitted the communities, groups, individuals and State(s) Party(ies) to initiate efforts for safeguarding the element at the time of nomination, and this lack should not prevent possible inscription of the element. If the element is inscribed, their involvement will of course be crucial for safeguarding to be successful.*

*Not to exceed 500 words.*

1. In 2004, the People's Government of Rui'an invested nearly 600,000 RMB Yuan to set up an exhibition hall of Movable-Type Printing, which occupies a floor area of 1,670 square meters. In 2006, the government invested 100,000 RMB Yuan in Xiqian village of Caocun Township, helping it build an exhibition hall of Movable-Type Printing, where two sets of Wooden molds of characters and related materials and pictures are displayed, three masters of Movable-Type Printing are invited to operate on the scene. Visitors here can watch the whole process of the Movable-Type Printing.
2. Through the joint effort of the community and the local government, the Movable-Type Printing has been widely known to the public. The number of people who are either organized or volunteered to visit the Movable-Type Printing exhibition has increased every year. Up to now, over 100,000 people have paid a visit there. Moreover, this printing technique made its appearance in the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic Games.
3. In June 2008, Wooden Movable-Type Printing was listed on the 2nd Batch of The Intangible Culture Heritage at National Level. In May 2009, approved by the State Council of China, Wang Chaohui and Lin Chuyin were listed as representative Bearers at the national Level. In September 2009, Wang Chuanqiao was listed as representative Bearer of Zhejiang province. And in December the same year, Wang Haiqiu, Wang Zhiren, Wu Kuizhao, Zhang Yishuo, Wang Chaohua, Pan Lijie, Pan Chaoliang, Wang Chaoxi were listed as representative bearers of Movable-Type Printing of Rui'an.
4. In 2008 and 2009, the People's Government of Rui'an allocated 50,000 RMB Yuan respectively to give financial assistance to the bearers of Movable-Type Printing. Besides, chances are made for the bearers to take part in various displays of intangible culture heritage so as to enhance their reputation and sense of honour.
5. We have begun to tap the historical material of inheritance of Movable-Type Printing, collect related cultural relics and the representative books in various periods, take photos of the bearers and sort out the image material and oral history. We have shot a special tele film and published books to introduce the history and present status of the Movable-Type Printing technique. A set of photos entitled 'Genealogy Printed with Movable-Type Printing Technique' has won the HPA2009 Human Contribution Award sponsored by the UNESCO and the China Folk Photography Society.
6. Although in 2008, the Movable-Type Printing technique entered the list of national intangible culture heritage protection, people's sense of protection has not been very strong. What is more, the danger lies in the fact that in many workshops in Rui'an where genealogy is made, stereotyped printing has been used instead. This way, the two most important steps in Wooden Movable-Type Printing—reverse brush writing of Chinese characters and hand engraving techniques—have lost their functions. To reverse the tendency, the government of Rui'an has made great efforts to encourage the bearers to continue using Wooden Movable-Type Printing, but with little effects because the stereotyped printing is more convenient and more beautiful. If the Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique can be listed as an urgent protective item of the UNESCO, its social value will surely be enhanced, as well as the sense of protection of the public. When the business order to use the Wooden Movable-Type Printing increases, the income of the bearers will be raised and their enthusiasm to use this ancient printing technique will be enhanced. Since the participation and protection of the



masses and individuals are vital to the inheritance of the technique, we will make our efforts to make the application successful.

#### **4.b. Safeguarding measures proposed**

*This section should identify and describe a coherent set of safeguarding measures that, within a time-frame of approximately four years, could substantially enhance the viability of the element, if implemented, and provide detailed information as follows:*

- a) *What primary objective(s) will be addressed and what concrete results will be expected?*
- b) *What are the key activities to be carried out in order to achieve these expected results? Please describe the activities in detail and in their best sequence, addressing their feasibility.*
- c) *Management and implementation: Describe the mechanisms for the full participation of communities, groups or, if appropriate, individuals in the proposed safeguarding measures. Describe the implementing organization or body (name, background, etc.) and the human resources available for implementing the project.*
- d) *Timetable and budget: Provide a timetable for the proposed activities and estimate the funds required for their implementation, identifying any available resources (governmental sources, in-kind community inputs, etc.).*

*Not to exceed 2,000 words.*

#### 1) Name of element:

Protection and inheritance of Wooden Movable-Type Printing of China

#### 2) Organization or group responsible for the management and execution of the element:

- \* Culture Ministry of China (administrative organ for national culture and art management under the State Council)
- \* Protection Center of Non-Material Cultural Heritage under China Art Research Academy (executive organ for the protection and research of non-material cultural heritage at national level, there are experts and scholars specialized in China Movable-Type Printing technology and personnel in relevant archive research. They are involved in the making and execution of the action plan, in the research of Movable-Type Printing, and in the organization and coordination of exhibition activities.)
- \* Protection Center of Non-Material Cultural Heritage, Zhejiang (executive organ for the protection and research of non-material cultural heritage at provincial level)
- \* Radio and Television News Publishing Bureau of Rui'an, Zhejiang (administrative organ for culture and art management at county level, Zhejiang mainly takes part in the making and execution of the action plan.)
- \* Protection Center of Non-Material Cultural Heritage of Rui'an, Zhejiang (executive organ for the protection and research of non-material cultural heritage at county level, Zhejiang takes part in the activities such as general investigation of resources, talent protection and cultivation, as well as exhibition.)
- \* Movable-Type Printing Association of Rui'an, Zhejiang (non-government research and protective organization for Movable-Type Printing technique)

#### 3) Objective and effect

We plan to take rescue measures to protect the Movable-Type Printing technique in the next four years. Through the efforts, the people who master the Movable-Type Printing technique will have a clear increase and the age structure of the bearers will become more reasonable. The government will advocate to carry forward the traditional cultural customs, to encourage the cultural heritage of re-writing and compiling genealogy of clans in the folks, and to sort out and publish ancient books of China so as to create a platform for the Movable-Type Printing to be carried on.

4) Concrete measures:

- a. When the Movable-Type Printing technique has entered the national non-material cultural heritage list of China and been in the process of applying for the urgent protection of non-material cultural heritage list of the UNESCO, people engaged in the business have taken an active part in the protection activities. For example, representative bearers like Wang Chaohui, Lin Chuyin, Wang Chuanqiao, Wang Haiqiu, Wang Zhiren, Wu Kuizhao, Zhang Yishuo have been out several times every year to other places of China to demonstrate the process of Wooden Movable-Type Printing and at the same time advocated the importance of its protection. Pan Chaoliang donated the whole set of Wooden characters left over by his ancestors to Wenzhou Museum, where they are displayed to the public as exhibits. All the representative bearers hope that the heritage, the genealogies made by clans in various parts of China in particular, can attract people's attention through the application, that the tradition of the ancient Wooden Movable-Type Printing be encouraged and adopted so that the heritage will have sufficient space for survival. In the meantime, they suggest that communities, organizations and individuals invest more funds to protect the heritage, establish reward fund for Wooden Movable-Type Printing and work hand in hand with the government to carry forward the inheritance of the technique.
- b. To support the inheritance, the first objective is to cultivate bearers so as to pass on the printing technique. We will encourage the present bearers over 50 years of age to take apprentices in the next 20 years so as to cultivate young people aged 20 to 40 to become bearers of the printing technique and lay foundation for the future development. Starting from 2009, we will hold a training class of Movable-Type Printing every other year, with 50,000 RMB Yuan aid from the government and cultivating 7 bearers each class. The main goal of the class is to train craftsmen aged 20 to 40 who are now engaged in Movable-Type Printing, to train their skill in Wooden movable character writing and hand-operated engraving, and to teach their skill of typesetting of ancient books and knowledge of ancient culture so that the techniques of bearers of older generation can be carried forward.

We will give 7000 RMB Yuan government aid annually to each of the present 7 bearers to encourage them to take apprentices, so as to reach a certain level of sustaining the passing on of the printing technique and create a condition for its further preservation and continuation.

- c. In 2009, we established the Rui'an Movable-Type Printing Association with 20,000 RMB Yuan aid from the government and 50,000 RMB Yuan from the public and individuals. The purpose of the Association is to organize and enroll bearers and people engaged in genealogy printing to exchange and improve Movable-Type Printing technique. The future fund of the Association will be from the individual collection, community aid and government subsidy. This is a very important measure. With the Association, people directly engaged in Movable-Type Printing can conscientiously and voluntarily take part in the protection and passing on of the item and the initiative of the non-government organization can also be brought into full play, so much so that more orders can be obtained to sustain and increase the income of the bearers of the item and a protection mechanism of professional organization and individual participation will be formed.
- d. In 2010, the government will allocate a special fund of 100,000 RMB Yuan to enlarge the Exhibition Hall of the Movable-Type Printing, to protect the related ancient buildings and to enrich the exhibits and historical objects. Moreover, we will increase the spot performance of the Movable-Type Printing by the bearers so as to integrate information, artistry, knowledge and participation to let more people to visit. This way, it can also serve as an educational base for the young people to learn and understand traditional culture, resulting in the recognition and influence of the item on a larger scale and absorbing more people to participate in the protection of the printing technique.
- e. Apart from the scope of genealogy printing, we will use the traditional Movable-Type Printing technique to undertake the second edition and impression of various ancient books of China. The government will cultivate and support it as a printing base for ancient books. The Movable-Type Printing Association will make it as an item of industrial development and build up an economic entity from technique, equipment and order. The fund will be from the individual investment and shares and aids from the government. The government will also try its best to guide and promote the implementation of these measures, by which to entrust the

bearers with the printing of important ancient books and give economic assistance to this endeavour.

- f. From 2009 to 2012, the government will provide 50,000 RMB Yuan to make a general investigation of Movable-Type Printing, such as bearers, bearing places, cultural environment, ancient books, technical flow of printing, and tools and equipment. Based on these, it will make a further study to strengthen the sorting out and research of the traditional printing technique and promote the cultural exchange and dissemination.
- g. In 2010, the government will allocate 15,000 RMB Yuan to invite professional photographers to make a detailed tele film of the whole process of Movable-Type Printing and have it recorded and documented. With the video archives, the printing process will have been reproduced vividly before the eyes of the visitors.
- h. In 2010, the government will provide 70,000 RMB Yuan to publish a grand photo album of the Movable-Type Printing. In 2011, it will again be planned to provide 100,000 RMB Yuan to publish a monograph introducing the cultural heritage of Movable-Type Printing technique. As a general introduction of the heritage with pictures and words, this endeavour will extend the influence of the heritage to the public.

#### 5) Consent of organizations and individuals

In the application of the item to enter the List of Urgent Protection of intangible Culture Heritage, the bearers of Movable-Type Printing Wang Chaohui and Lin Chuyin have read the relevant texts of the application, understood the procedure and processes, voluntarily and actively provided related historical material, objects, evidences, and accept the rights and obligations involved in the protection and inheritance. Having been involved in the whole process of the application, they totally agree to enter the heritage on the List of Urgent Protection of intangible Culture Heritage.

The People's Government of Rui'an has put into agenda for the application of Movable-Type Printing on the List of Non-Material Culture Heritage, which has received great help and cooperation from governments at various levels and bearers of the printing technique. The application of Movable-Type Printing to enter the Urgent Protection of Non-Material Cultural Heritage is made on the basis of understanding the situation beforehand, of sufficient investigation and research, and of listening to the ideas and suggestions by the bearers of Movable-Type Printing and the public.

#### **4.c. Commitments of States and of communities, groups or individuals concerned**

*The feasibility of safeguarding depends in large part on the aspirations and commitment of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and the support and cooperation of the State Party concerned. This section should demonstrate that the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned have the will and commitment to safeguard the element if conditions are favourable and that the State Party concerned has the commitment to support the safeguarding effort by creating favourable conditions for its implementation.*

*Not to exceed 500 words.*

- a. The People's Government of Rui'an and Zhejiang province have solemnly promised to strengthen the protection of this heritage. On the basis of past 1,200,000 RMB Yuan protective fund, the government will allocate an annual 200,000 special protective funds for the passing on and revival of the heritage.
- b. The establishment of Rui'an Movable-Type Printing Association in June 2009 is a key step for the protection of the item. The regulations of the Association promise that to promote and carry forward the Movable-Type Printing technique, it will carry out all kinds of activities to sort out, protect and study the technique, history and objects of Movable-Type Printing, impart Movable-Type Printing technique, cultivate its bearers, set up the platform for exchanges with the outside sources, and take an active part in the activities organized by the government. At the same time, it will publicize the advantages of Movable-Type Printing as the successor of traditional culture and seek for more orders of Movable-Type Printing so as to ensure abundant market demand and economic resources for the passing on of the Movable-Type

Printing.

- c. To protect and pass on the heritage, the bearers have already fulfilled their obligations. The representative bearers Wang Chaohui and Lin Chuyin have promised that they will cooperate actively with the communities and government to carry on all kinds of activities for the protection and passing on of the Movable-Type Printing technique. They will sort out and protect the historical records and objects of Movable-Type Printing and enroll apprentices to impart the technique. For example, Wang Chaohui is cultivating his son Wang Jianxin and enrolling Wang Fazai and Pan Yanxiang as apprentices. Lin Chuyin is cultivating his eldest son Lin Jiazheng. Wang Haiqiu is cultivating his two sons Wang Chongren and Wang Chongde. Zhang Yishuo is cultivating his son Zhang Xiaowu. Wang Chaoxi is cultivating his son Wang Xulin and other members in his clan. At the same time, they will use their own experience to advocate the advantages of Movable-Type Printing in the inheritance of traditional culture and seek more orders to increase income so as to lay a solid economic foundation for the individual's contribution to the Movable-Type Printing technique. In 2010, these 11 bearers have contracted more than 20 orders to print genealogies with Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique, amounting to over 600,000 RMB Yuan, which is a great encouragement to the protection and inheritance of the heritage.

## **5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND CONSENT (CF. CRITERION U.4)**

*This section asks the submitting State Party to establish that the nomination satisfies Criterion 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".*

### **5.a. Participation of communities, groups and individuals**

*Describe how the community, group and, if applicable, individuals concerned have participated in the nomination process at all stages, as required by Criterion U.4. States Parties are further encouraged to prepare nominations with the participation of a wide variety of other concerned parties, including where appropriate local and regional governments, neighbouring communities, NGOs, research institutes, centres of expertise and other interested parties.*

In the application of the item to enter the List of Urgent Protection of intangible Culture Heritage, the bearers of Movable-Type Printing Wang Chaohui and Lin Chuyin have read the relevant texts of the application, understood the procedure and processes, and voluntarily and actively provided related historical material, objects, evidences, and handed on Movable-Type Printing technique. Being involved in the whole process of the application, they have promised to enroll apprentices to impart skills and continue to use the traditional Movable-Type Printing technique so as to protect and pass on the heritage.

On learning the news that the item is applying for the List of Urgent Protection of Intangible Culture Heritage, the people engaged in Movable-Type Printing in Rui'an have made an active response. They have raised a fund of 50,000 RMB Yuan and established the Rui'an Movable-Type Printing Association in June 2009 with an initial 100 members. According to the regulation of the Association, they will devote themselves to the protection and passing on of the heritage and enlarge the quantity of orders. Besides, they have also been aware of the relevant texts and procedures of the application and will take an active part in the application.

DongYuan Movable-Type Printing Exhibition Hall of Rui'an Zhejiang province has provided relevant materials and object references for the application of the item. They have added ancient Wooden movable Chinese characters and related objects for the publication so as to attract more people for a visit. The bearers reside regularly in the exhibition hall to make an on-the-spot performance of the Movable-Type Printing to arouse the interest of the public.

The Culture, Broadcasting and Television News Publishing Bureau of Rui'an and China Academy of Art have participated in the collection and sorting out of the application material. During the compilation of the application material, the related communities, groups and individuals have also given great support and help.

**5.b. Free, prior and informed consent**

*The free, prior and informed consent of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned may be demonstrated through written or recorded concurrence, or through other means, according to the legal regimens of the State Party and the infinite variety of communities and groups concerned. The Committee prefers to welcome a broad range of demonstrations or attestations of community consent rather than specifying any single standard.*

The People's Government of Rui'an, where the Wooden Movable-Type Printing is located, makes a written statement that it will support 'the Wooden Movable-Type Printing of China' applying for being listed in the 'Urgent Protection of Non-Material Cultural Heritage List'.

All the members of the Movable-Type Printing Association of Rui'an have agreed unanimously and tried their best in the work of application on learning the news.

The representative bearers of DongYuan village, Rui'an have signed their names collectively and expressed their knowledge and consent in the traditional solemn form of 'finger pressing signature'. They have pledged to support the application and take an active part in the whole process.(original documents of signature and seal are attached, it has already been posted )

**5.c. Respect for customary practices governing access to the element**

*Demonstrate that inscription and implementation of the safeguarding measures fully respects customary practices governing access to specific aspects of such heritage, if such practices exist (cf. Article 13). Describe any specific measures that might need to be taken to ensure such respect.*

The completion of genealogy printed in the form of Wooden Movable-Type Printing is a symbol of the clan that will bear the colour of holiness. For this purpose, the clan in question will select the auspicious time and day when a solemn ceremony will be held in the clan hall to mark the completion of the genealogy and offer sacrifices to the ancestors. The relative clans of the same surnames, the clans of other surnames and people in the villages and towns will be invited to mark the occasion. During the ceremony, the bearer of the Wooden Movable-Type Printing will draw a red line under the ancestor's name of the first generation on the front page of the family tree to the name of the second generation, then he and the head of clan will make an elegiac address, offer the new genealogy to the ancestors, and bow to the heaven and the earth and the ancestors. Afterwards, the new genealogy will be locked into the box to be kept in seal. Usually, a banquet will be held, altar be made for offering sacrifices, genealogy be carried for roving exhibition, play be staged on in the village theatre, and the whole clan will have a gala celebration.

**6. INCLUSION ON AN INVENTORY (CF. CRITERION U.5)**

*This section is where nominators establish that the nomination satisfies Criterion 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), as defined in Articles 11 and 12".*

*Identify the inventory in which the element is included and the office, agency, organization or body responsible for maintaining that inventory. The nominated element's inclusion in an inventory should not in any way imply or require that the inventory(ies) should have been completed prior to nomination. Rather, a submitting State Party may be in the process of meeting its obligations to draw up one or more inventories, but has already duly included the nominated element on an inventory-in-progress.*

*N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, the Committee may wish to interpret this requirement more flexibly in its evaluation of nominations.*

1) Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique: the 2nd Non-Material Culture Heritage Protection List of China issued by the State Council (Document No. 19 (2008), June 7th, 2008),

protection unit: Rui'an of Zhejiang province.

- 2) Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique: the 2nd Non-Material Culture Heritage Protection List of Zhejiang issued by the provincial government of Zhejiang province (Document No. 33 (2007), June 5th, 2007), protection unit: Rui'an of Zhejiang province.
- 3) Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique: the 1st Non-Material Culture Heritage Protection List of Wenzhou issued by the municipal government of Wenzhou (Document No. 4 (2007), February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007), protection unit: Rui'an of Zhejiang province.
- 4) Wooden Movable-Type Printing technique: the 1st Non-Material Culture Heritage Protection List of Rui'an issued by the municipal government of Rui'an (Document No. 45 (2007), March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007).
- 5) Wang Chaohui & Lin Chuyin: The Third Batch of Representative Bearers of National Non-Material Cultural Heritage (Document No. 6 (2009), May 26th, 2009).
- 6) Wang Chuanqiao: The Third Batch of Representative Bearers of Non-Material Cultural Heritage of Zhejiang (Document No. 65 (2009), September, 2009).
- 7) Wang Chuanqiao, Wang Haiqiu, Wang Zhiren, Wu Kuizhao, Zhang Yishuo, Wang Chaohua, Pan Lijie, Pan Chaoliang, Wang Chaoxi: The First Batch of Representative Bearers of Non-Material Cultural Heritage of Rui'an (Document No. 116 (2009), December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009).
- 8) Movable-Type Printing Association of Rui'an: (Document No. 3172, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009).

## DOCUMENTATION

### a. Required and supplementary documentation

Required documentation provided.

### b. Cession of rights including registry of items

Annexed.

### c. List of additional resources

None

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### a. Contact person for correspondence

Huang Youjin  
Add: 13th floor, Anyang Mansion, Rui'an, Zhejiang, China  
Tel: +86-577-62802201 +8613906871678  
E-mail: [hyj6@yahoo.cn](mailto:hyj6@yahoo.cn)  
Zip code: 325200

**b. Competent body involved**

Protection Office of Non-Material Cultural Heritage, Culture Department of Zhejiang  
Add: No.53 Shuguang Rd. Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China  
Tel : +86 +86-571-85215869  
Email : gilbert@163.com  
Zip code : 320000

Radio and Television News Publishing Bureau of Rui'an, Zhejiang  
Add: 13th floor, Anyang Mansion, Rui'an, Zhejiang, China  
Tel: +86-577-65839281  
E-mail: hj6@yahoo.cn  
Zip code: 325200

**c. Concerned community organization(s) or representative(s)**

Protection Center of Non-Material Cultural Heritage of Rui'an, Zhejiang  
Add : Culture Center of Rui'an, Zhejiang  
Tel : +86-577-65626587  
E-mail: raswhg@163.com  
Zip code: 325200

**SIGNATURE ON BEHALF OF THE STATE PARTY**

Name: Li Dongwen

Title: Director General, Bureau for External Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture

Date: 9 March 2009

Signature: <signed>