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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 Session  
Algiers, Algeria, 18-19 November 2006

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Preparation of texts required for the implementation of the Convention**

The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage requires that the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage prepare, and submit to the General Assembly for approval, a number of texts required for the implementation of the Convention. This document proposes for discussion an outline that may serve as a basis for the preparation of operational directives for the implementation of the Convention.

**Decision required:** paragraph 6

1. The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (“the Convention”) foresees, among the functions of the Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (“the Committee”), the preparation of documents concerning:
  - (i) operational directives for the implementation of the Convention (Article 7 (e));
  - (ii) criteria and procedures for establishing, updating and publishing the Lists referred to in articles 16 and 17 (Articles 7 (g)(ii), 16.2, 17.2);
  - (iii) criteria and procedures for the examination and selection of requests by States Parties for the granting of international assistance for programmes and projects in the sense of Articles 20 and 21 (Articles 7 (g), 18, 22.1);
  - (iv) the use of the resources of the Fund (Article 7 (c));
  - (v) criteria and modalities for the accreditation of advisory organizations to the Committee (Article 9.2).
  
2. The Committee has also:
  - (vi) to identify, disseminate and provide guidance on best practices and make recommendations on safeguarding measures (Articles 7 (b) and 18.3);
  - (vii) to define the form and periodicity of reports by States Parties on measures taken by them for the implementation of the Convention (Article 29);
  - (viii) to examine, and summarize for the General Assembly, reports submitted by States Parties (Articles 7 (f) and 30);
  - (ix) to incorporate in the Representative List the items proclaimed Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity (Article 31).
  
3. The General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention adopted at its first session **Resolution 1.GA 7A**, requesting the Committee to submit to it at its second ordinary session for approval a draft plan for the use of the Fund, draft Operational Directives and the selection criteria, respectively referred to in Article 7 (c), (e) and (g) of the Convention, as well as a proposal concerning accreditation of advisory organizations referred to in Article 9.1 of the Convention.
  
4. The Convention does not specify the content of the operational directives. The Committee may wish to prepare the various subjects referred to in the preceding paragraphs separately and ultimately incorporate them into its Operational Directives. Together with the Convention text, the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, and those of the Committee, as well as other relevant documents, they may be collected in a single volume of *Basic Texts* useful for the implementation of the Convention.
  
5. The Committee may wish to discuss the outline proposed below as basis for the preparation of the Operational Directives, and to adopt draft Decision 1.COM 5. The suggested outline, while incorporating point (ii) to (ix) mentioned above, largely follows the provisions of the Convention, with chapter 2, 3 and 4 corresponding to three of the purposes of the Convention as mentioned in Article 1; it also takes into account the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

## Outline for Operational Directives

### Chapter 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Background of the Convention [Preamble]
- 1.2 Purposes of the Convention [Article 1]
- 1.3 Definition of the intangible cultural heritage [Article 2.1]
- 1.4 Domains of the intangible cultural heritage [Article 2.2]
- 1.5 Relations to other international instruments [Article 3]

### Chapter 2 Safeguarding

- 2.1 Identification, definition and inventory making [Articles 2.3, 11, 12, 13 (d) and 20 (b)]
- 2.2 Other safeguarding measures [Articles 2.3, 13, 14, 16 and 18]
- 2.3 Community involvement [Articles 1, 2.1, 11, 12, 13 (d)(ii) and 15]
- 2.4 International exchange of information and experience [Articles 18, 19 and 29]

### Chapter 3 Visibility

- 3.1 Criteria for inscription on the Representative List [Articles 7 (g)(i) and 16]
- 3.2 Submission of national nominations to the Representative List [Articles 7 (g)(i) and 16]
- 3.3 Submission of multinational nominations to the Representative List [Articles 19 and 23]
- 3.4 Procedure for incorporating Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity in the Representative List [Article 31]

### Chapter 4 International Assistance

- 4.1 Purposes and forms of international assistance [Articles 20 and 21]

- 4.2 Use of the resources of the Fund [Article 7 (c), (d), 25, 27 and 28]
- 4.3 Criteria for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding [Article 7 (g)(i) and 17.3]
- 4.4 Procedure for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding [Article 17]
- 4.5 Criteria for the selection and promotion of programmes, projects and activities [Article 18]
- 4.6 Procedure for the submission of international assistance requests [Articles 7 (g), 18, 22 and 23]
- 4.7 Procedure for emergency requests [Article 22.2]

## **Chapter 5 Monitoring and Reporting**

- 5.1 Reactive monitoring of intangible heritage inscribed on the Lists of the Convention [Article 7 (a), (f)]
- 5.2 Periodicity and forms for the submission of reports on measures taken for the implementation of the Convention [Articles 7 (f) and 29]

## **Chapter 6: Advisory Organizations**

- 6.1 Criteria for the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to act in an advisory capacity to the Committee [Article 9]
- 6.2 Procedure for the selection of Advisory Organizations to be proposed to the General Assembly for accreditation [Article 9]
- 6.3 Function and working methods of the Advisory Organizations [Article 9]

## **Annexes**

- Annex 1 Model instrument of ratification*
- Annex 2 Format for nominations to the lists of the Convention*
- Annex 3 Format for the submission of programmes, projects and activities*
- Annex 4 Format for international assistance requests*
- Annex 5 International assistance: model agreement between the beneficiary State Party and the Committee*

*Annex 6 International assistance: format for evaluation reports*

*Annex 7 Format for safeguarding plans*

*Annex 8 Format for periodic reports by States Parties*

## **6. DRAFT DECISION 1.COM 5**

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document ITH/06/1 COM/CONF.204/5,
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 draft operational directives at its second ordinary session,
3. Decides to use the outline annexed to the present decision as a basis for the preparation of the draft operational directives to be submitted to the General Assembly of the States Parties at its second ordinary session.