



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Convention on the Protection  
and Promotion of the  
Diversity of Cultural  
Expressions

## **FRAMEWORK FOR QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORTS ON MEASURES TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS**

### **Summary**

Accessing international agreements and conventions, the Government of Mongolia has been undertaken appropriate measures aimed at protecting and promoting cultural diversity and heritage at the national and international level cooperating with international community.

Cultural policy is embodied in the pillar development documents of Mongolia which revised during the reporting period and up to date, there are a total of 12 legal documents concerning the promotion of cultural diversity exist as a legal base.

As managerial and organizational action had been determined with a view to protecting and promoting the intangible cultural heritage and cultural diversity, certain projects had been implemented in order to update registration and information on cultural diversity and heritage. Total expenditures spent for these measures are increased by 2.82 compared to the year of 2006.

During the reporting period, foreign relations and cooperation on culture have been expanded, bilateral and multilateral agreements have been constituted and export of cultural content products has been increased.

Representatives of governmental and civil society organizations have cooperated in the implementation of measures towards developing intercultural communication, promoting and protecting cultural interaction and creative expressions as well as publicizing the uniqueness of different nationalities' cultural diversity, disseminating Mongolian culture and art to the world. Within the framework of such measures, research projects had been implemented in close cooperation with neighboring countries and international academic conferences had been held under the support of UNESCO Participation Programme.

The Government of Mongolia has paid close attention to promoting the education for cultural diversity. Consequently, relevant standards, curricula, regulations and documents were formulated and pursued, researches on education for culture and art were conducted, recommendations were put forward and handbooks were published.

There are national and international government and non-government, humanitarian and private organizations in presence and taking activities in an unofficial way contributing to the progress of art education for children and youth.

The 126 television channels and other media institutions are playing important role in raising public awareness about cultural diversity. Variety of information on culture and art are broadcast

by these media institutions, and some of them have a permanent cognitive programme on culture and art. Target activities such as delivering foreign culture and art to the Mongolian viewers and promoting the diversity of culture are being undertaken in collaboration with relevant professional organizations.

Ratifying the Convention, Mongolia is actively functioning toward encouraging the protection of cultural heritage, inclusion of works of culture and art into the market economy, promoting human development, forming in competitive and financially competent organizations with a high level of professional competence.

Nevertheless, hitches still exist including inadequate notion about cultural contribution to the development of individuals, society and economy; a poor appraisal level for the cultural needs and creative industries are only at the commencement stage of development. It is essential to establish a system with independent managerial and financial structure to develop this sector.

The objectives to further promote cultural diversity were set up including strengthening the partnership among civil societies, private entities, government and non-government organizations; elaborating legal documents with a view to promoting international cultural exchange programme, joint projects, increasing investments, training cultural personnel abroad, developing cultural creative industries, attaining professional and methodological assistance and support from UNESCO for the implementation of the Convention.

## 1. General information

(a) Name of participating country: Mongolia

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(b) Date of ratification 2007

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(c) Ratification process (Parliamentary consideration, etc.)

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(d) Total contribution to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (in USD)

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(e) Organizations or entity(-ies) responsible for the preparation of the report: Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (MECS), Center for Cultural Heritage, Institute for Studies of Culture and Arts, Arts Council of Mongolia, Mongolia's National Commission for the UNESCO

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(f) Officially designated point of contact, name and address of the official: Mr. B. Naranzun, Director, Department of Culture and Arts Policy, MECS

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(g) Date when report was prepared: 2012/04/30

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(h) Name of designated official(s) signing the report: H.E. Mr. Yo. Otgonbayar, Cabinet member of the Government, and Minister of Education, Culture, and Science of Mongolia

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(i) Name of representative(s) of participating civil society organization(s):

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## 2. Measures

Parties shall provide information on policies and measures adopted to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions within their territory (at the national, regional or local levels) and at the international level (including trans-regional or trans-national levels).

Information to be presented in this Section of the report is to be organised according to the following themes: i) cultural policies and measures; ii) international cooperation; iii) the integration of culture in sustainable development policies; iv) protecting cultural expressions under threat.

**Key questions:** Parties shall respond, to the extent possible, to the following questions<sup>1</sup> for each theme:

- (a) What are the main objective(s) of the policy or measure? When was it introduced?
- (b) How has it been implemented, which public agency(ies) is (are) responsible for its implementation and what resources have been allocated to ensure implementation?

Questions proposed by the Committee at its third ordinary session in December 2009.

- (c) What challenges have been identified in the implementation of this measure?
- (d) What has been the effect or impact of the policy or measure? What indicators were used to lead to this conclusion?

## **2.1 Cultural policies and measures:**

The purpose of this section is to report on cultural policies and measures in place to promote the diversity of cultural expressions at the different stages of creation, production, distribution, dissemination and participation/enjoyment.

Measures may be understood as those that nurture creativity, form part of an enabling environment for independent producers and distributors as well as those that provide access to the public at large to diverse cultural expressions. They may be regulatory or legislative, action or programme oriented, institutional or financial measures. They may be specifically introduced to address the special circumstances and needs of individuals (e.g. women, young people) or groups (e.g. minorities, indigenous peoples) as creators, producers or distributors of cultural expressions.

For more information on the types of measures to be reported on, please refer to Article 6, Rights of Parties at the national level, and the operational guidelines adopted on Article 7 on measures to promote cultural expressions.

### ***Parties' Response***

#### ***(a) Name of the policy and measure, what are the main objective(s) of the policy and measure? When it was introduced?***

**2.1.1.** "The Comprehensive Policy on the National Development of Mongolia based on the Millennium Development Goals /from 2007 to 2021/" has been adopted by a resolution no. 12 of the State Ikh Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2008. The Policy indicated the following provisions:

#### **"4.6. Policy on development of culture and arts**

The Mongolia's policy on development of culture and arts is to protect and conserve the progressive achievements and values of Mongolian culture and civilization via creation an adequate balance between the tradition and innovation of national culture and arts, to strengthen and develop the stand of the national culture with respect to those of the world culture, to turn products of the national culture and arts into the economically viable cycle, and to protect the intellectual properties for our nation.

**The strategic goal no.1.** To create the environment both economically and organizationally suitable for the effective development of the national culture and arts;

To expedite the transfer processes of cultural management, institutionalization, and financing into the procedures of market economy and to upgrade the professional as well as management skills and capabilities at all stages of the sector;

To elaborate and implement the legal framework for the financing upto the certain percentage from the developmental funds those products, works and measures, which have the significant importance both from the national as well as international perspective.

**The strategic goal no.2.** To deliver the easily accessible and good quality service of culture and arts to population, and to gain a noticeable progress in way of meeting the intellectual demand of our fellow citizens:

- To study with a certain of stages the intellectual demands of Mongolian nation, its ethnic groups, its national minorities and various social strata within the nation to choose and select types of services on the culture and arts as well as the effective methods and forms of the service delivery which are suitable to them;

- To create establish the environment and conditions conducive in inheriting and further developing our national Mongolian script;

- To preserve, conserve, and restore the tangible and intangible heritage of traditional culture of Mongolians, and to advocate and develop the policy allowing this heritage as available and accessible as the public domain not only nationally but also internationally as the source of the comprehension and education;

- The State and Government will initiate and implement the national programme and project designed to encourage and develop the national traditional as well as the classic arts and the arts specially dedicated for the children;

- Elaborate and implement the standard normative that meets the contemporary demands and requirements with respect to the facilities of the culture and arts institutions, purpose of the constructions and buildings, the hygiene, esthetics, technical, and service particulars”.

In order to implement the strategic goals as indicated by “the Comprehensive Policy on the National Development of Mongolia based on the Millennium Development Goals /from 2007 to 2021/,” the organizational measures are reflected and provisioned in the Programme of Actions of the Government, annual state budgets, and socio-economic development guidelines.

As to the framework of the comprehensive policy, the national programmes are elaborated anew and revised, and the organizational measure is taken for the implementation. For example, a certain number of projects is implemented for the purpose of protection and conservation, advocacy of the following intangible types of cultural heritage, and encourage and support of inheritors of cultural heritage. As to the latter, the discussions would follow later.

**2.1.2.** The revised National Security Guidelines of Mongolia were adopted by a resolution no. 48 of the State Ikh Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2010. Article No. **“3.1.4. Security of Culture and Civilization”** of this document includes the following provisions. These are:

“3.1.4.1. The State takes under its sponsorship the protection, development, and study of Mongolian history, language, culture, religion, and customs, it will highly encourage products of books, textbooks, movies and arts, and it would protect and further develop the tangible and intangible cultural heritage. A World Center for Mongolian Studies will set up in Ulaanbaatar, and

will attract scholars of the Mongol studies in the research studies and do organizational actions to set up Center's branches in the other countries.

3.1.4.2. Mongolian language and its literacy culture will be protected and further developed and training in the traditional Mongolian scripts and its utility will be expanded.

3.1.4.3. The history, culture, and traditional customs will be in details introduced to the children and the youth, and the formation of national patriotism in the society at large, and families will be conducted via educational structure.

3.1.4.4. The State will implement the policy as to value and encourage the works and achievements by our noted representatives of the national traditions, customs, and the holders of folk talents and encourage the activities directed towards inheriting and developing of their skills and talents.

3.1.4.6. The extended cultural relations are encouraged to develop in all world countries, in particular, third world countries, and Mongolian national culture and history are actively encouraged to be advocated worldwide with the active involvement of foreign diplomatic Missions and Mongolian expatriates;

3.1.4.7. To prevent from the illegal smuggling of the historical and cultural values of Mongolia out of the country, to find, indentify, and study Mongolian heritage of its culture and civilization being found abroad, and return them to the country of origin, to support people's opinion and initiative in the field of restoration, and to take the legal and organizational measures to actively cooperate with the foreign countries;

3.1.4.8. State will encourage and support activities directed toward the revitalization of traditional Buddhist religion and culture, redirection of activities of monasteries and temples in enlightening the social mentality, strengthening of national unity, reducing the poverty, providing the assistance to people affected with hardship and disaster, and protecting nature and environment.

3.1.4.9. The state will provide the special attention to the studies of Mongolia's Buddhist religion which carried and preserved over centuries the intellectual heritage of Mongolian people. ..."

**2.1.3.** By a Government Resolution no. 302 of 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2008, an Intangible Cultural Heritage Division was set up at the Center for Cultural Heritage under MECS with the functional role of the preserving, and conserving the intangible cultural heritage of our nation. The Division conducts activities aimed to protect and conserve the intangible heritage of our culture and the diversity of cultural expressions. Over 3300 folk geniuses and talents (inheritors and carriers) were registered and documented in the state Registration and Information database.

**2.1.4.** The National Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage and the National Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding were revised and approved By the Resolutions of the Minister of ECS no. 293 from 2009, no. 92 from 2010 and no. 84 from 2011. The inscriptions included in the Lists are now being worked as to be conserved and advocated. Currently, the National Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage had approved inscriptions of over 80 elements and the National Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding had approved inscriptions of 16 elements.

**2.1.5.** The Central State Administrative Bodies (MECS) dealing with issues of culture for the purpose of protecting and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage and of the diversity of

cultural expressions and also of finding and advocating creators, and inheritors of cultural expressions and conducting pupil-based training courses, MECS had elaborated programs on “Horse Fiddle and Long Song” (2005 to 2014), “Mongol Khuumii” (2008-2014), “Mongolian Traditional Bie and Bielgee (2009-2014), “Mongolian Epics” (2012-2014) which are now at stage of implementation upon the approval those Programs by the Government.

***b) How have policy and measure been implemented? Which public agency is responsible for the policy and measure implementation? What resources have been allocated to ensure implementation?***

- The policy and measure is implemented centrally and locally in accordance with planning with employment of limited amount of resources allocated by state budget.
- The policy and measure is administered by the Central State Administrative Bodies (i.e., MECS) dealing with issues of culture.
- An Implementing Agency of the Government of Mongolia – Committee for Culture and Arts and Center for Cultural Heritage under MECS are responsible for the implementation of policy and measure at national scale.
- Distribution of Resources and Funds:

1/ As approved by Mongolian Government Resolution no. 43 from 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, the following funds (*in Tugrugs*) allocated for the Programme of “**Horse Fiddle and Long Song**” from 2006 to 2011.

<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Total</b>
186,100,000	37,300,000	125,300,000	16,300,000	20,000,000	250,000,000	<b>635,000,000</b>

2/ As approved by Mongolian Government Resolution no. 159 from 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2007, the following funds (*in Tugrugs*) allocated for the Programme of “**Mongol Khuumii**” from 2006 to 2011.

<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Total</b>
		14,500,000	54,400,000	9,033,000	3,487,000	<b>81,420,000</b>

3/ As approved by Mongolian Government Resolution no. 10 from 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, the following funds (*in Tugrugs*) allocated for the Programme of “**Mongolian Traditional Dance, Bie, and Bielgee**” from 2006 to 2011.

<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Total</b>
			8,100,000	6,000,000	5,632,000	<b>19,732,000</b>

4/ A fund of ₮250,000,000 allocated for the organization in 2011 of Folk Arts Festival “**Festival on Intangible Cultural Heritage (diverse types of culture)**” by the Resolution no. 299 of Minister of ECS of Mongolia from 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2010.

5/ By the decision of Minister of ECS from 2012, a financing support amounting at ₮16,000,000 has been granted for the pupils-training to 82 folk talented persons who are inheritors of intangible heritage of culture, and diverse types of cultural expressions at the highest level of the skills and performance.

***c) What challenges have been identified in the implementation of this measure?***



During the implementation of policy and measure, challenges were encountered with insufficient staffing dealing with issues of culture that resulted from lack of optimal, stable and independent structure of State Administrative Bodies functioning centrally as well as locally.

On top of it, those resources and funds, allocated from the state budget, were not sufficient for, and specially, no state budget resources were allocated to the local administrative bodies (aimag, soum, duureg, and khoroo) for the implementation of national programmes.

**d) At what level were the policy / measure designed to have an impact? Has the impact of this policy / measure been investigated?**

Upon the implementation of the policy / measure, the following impact is expected:

A certain number of projects dealing with various types of intangible cultural heritage and cultural expressions are now at stage of continued implementation nationally.

In order to protect Mongolian folk long song, Mongolia and People's Republic of China are collaborating implementing the related programme and plans for the period of 2006 and 2014. Within this framework, and in accordance to **"Agreement between Mongolia and People's Republic of China on a Joint Expedition for Studying Mongolian Folk Long Song"** a joint research group composed of 9 researchers and 2 teams from two countries started the research in 2008 with the purpose of learning skills of singing Mongolian folk long songs, identifying long song singers with a noted repertory of performance and mapping the distribution of long songs and worked in *Arkhangai, Bayankhongor, Bulgan, Dundgobi, Uvurkhangai, Tuv, and Khentii aimags* of Mongolia. Two teams of this joint research expedition having made coverage of 6000 kms of road, met with over 100 folk talents, collected over 200 long songs with repeated occurrences, recorded about 30 melodies of behavioral rituals on either audio or video-tapes. These include over 100 songs sung by the melody of central *khalkh*, over 40 songs sung by the melody of *bayan baraat*, and over 60 songs sung by the melody of *borjigan*. The valuable heritage of long songs are taken at databases of the relevant research institutions of two countries and are used in the research and training.

A joint Mongolia and China research group composed of 10 researchers organized the second expedition to study the long song in 2009 over the territory of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region (IMAR). The researchers worked in two teams and visited a total of 9 soums of Xiliingol, Hulunbuir, and Khyangan in the east, Ordos and Alxa in the west. The studies were conducted at the territories of "Khuvuut shar", "Avga", "Uzemchin", and "Zaruud" of Xilingol League, "Khuuchin Barga", "Zuun Barga", and "Buriat-Shine Barga" of Hulunbuir and "Zuud" khoshuns of Hinggan League. The studies also included "Ezen Khoroo", "Yishen", "Otgiiin Umnud", "Alxa Left", "Alxa Right", and "Eznee" from the west or Ordos and Alxa Leagues.

Two teams of the studies have met with over 180 inheritors and collected over 48 hours videos of Uzemchin, Barga, Xiliingol, Ordos, Gyr, Alxa Banner, Alxa Torguud, Alxa Khalkh songs, recorded of 1.5gb songs and sounds, and were taken over 20 Gb of photos. International Institute for the Studies Nomadic Culture and Civilizations (IISNCC), Academy of Sciences of Mongolia had received the research materials and currently is taking measures to analyze and publish the results of the studies.

With regards to the foreign relations and cooperation on the protection and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage and diversity of cultural expressions, Mongolia cooperates with UNESCO, Asia Pacific Regional Center on the Intangible Cultural Heritage, International Council on Monuments and Sites, Cultural Heritage Department of the Republic of Korea, Cultural Heritage Fund, and it has signed cooperation agreements with the neighboring countries as well

as 20 more other countries. For example, Agreement on the Cooperation in the field of the intangible cultural heritage was signed between MECS of Mongolia and Ministry of Culture of People's Republic of China for the period upto 31<sup>st</sup> of December, 2014.

On the occasion of 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mongolia's membership to the UN, a concert of our masters of arts has been performed first time at the Central HQ of the UN to demonstrate to the top leaders of the UN member countries, and delegates of the UN Assembly. It showed to rest of the world that how well Mongolia holds the combination of the traditional Mongolian arts with those of the world classics at the high level of development and this event would have of the historical significance.

## **2.2 International cooperation and preferential treatment**

**2.2.1.** As to the framework on expansion of our international relations and cooperation, a number of documents including “the Foreign Policy Guidelines” (10<sup>th</sup> Resolution of the State *Ikh Hural* (Parliament) of Mongolia from 2011), “the State Policy on Culture of Mongolia” (15<sup>th</sup> Resolution of the State *Ikh Hural* (Parliament) of Mongolia from 1996), and “Directive on the Advocacy of Mongolian Culture and Arts Abroad” (Resolution by Minister of ECS from 2001) were adopted and being implemented; these documents reflect the further perspectives on the field of culture and arts regarding its foreign relations and cooperation indicating that in order to help intensify our development in culture and arts and use the comparatively advantageous position in this field, the access onto the foreign market by our culture and arts institutions is as an important market opportunity for the increase in the capability of the cultural and arts institutions of Mongolia.

Mongolia honors a combination of state and popular diplomacy, respect human rights and freedom, and mutually respectful and beneficial principles in the cooperation in the field of culture and humanity. In the field of culture, Mongolia has developed multilateral cooperation; in particular, cultural partnership relations have been reached with many countries at the level of Government and civil society.

Currently, Mongolia has signed joint agreements and protocols in the field of culture at the level of the Governments as well as Government and Non-Government Institutions with those of Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Greece, Republic of Korea, Republic of Turkey, Russian Federation, People's Republic of China, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of PRC, Kingdom of Spain, Republic of Hungaria, Republic of Poland, Kingdom of Nepal, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Republic of Lithuania, Republic of Philippines, Republic of Latvia, Republic of Uzbekistan, France, Democratic Republic of Korea, Kingdom of Kuwait, Republic of Lao, Romania, USA, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of India, Japan, and Austria.

As to the framework of cooperation, cooperation activities and plans are established between artists and producers of professional art institutions, and professional art associations, are conducted mutual exchanges of art performances, exhibitions, and artists; in addition, activities are organized with respect to training of specialists including in professional training, upgrading facilities, conducting joint studies in culture and history, restoration of cultural heritage; international joint projects are implemented with respect to creation of books and publications, expansion of cultural exchanges, mutually organizing cultural days, and participating in the international art and culture competitions, festivals, meetings and symposiums.

Budgeted Funds on Culture and Art Cooperation Expense  
As Allocated in the Culture and Art Development Fund  
/in million tugruks/



2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
		103.9	501.8	388.0	420.2

Percentage of Budgeted Funds on Measures Organized Abroad in Culture and Art As Allocated in the Culture and Art Development Fund

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
5.8	7.5	10.7%	29.0%	34.5%

In future, the legal framework is needed to be elaborated that would allow facilitating expansion of foreign cultural cooperation and international cultural exchange, encourage the joint projects and programs, increase of foreign investment, preparation of specialists in the field of culture and art abroad, and advocacy of culturally creative products in foreign market, and generation of research information in above respect.

Mongolia as a developing country enjoys tariff concessions from world's developed countries of the USA, Canada, and over 38 countries of the European Union. On the basis of Certificate of Origin of Goods from Mongolia, these concessions are valid on the basis of Certificate of Origin of Goods from Mongolia.

As to Mongolia, handcraft goods and products are produced by private persons and by a few of companies.

In accordance to the concession, 14 types of goods are exported to the USA, and although they do not have much impact on total trade turnover, and economic relations, exporting those goods might have the important implications in reducing poverty, and provide an impetus in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, which in turn, would have an important significance on the Millennium Development Goals as well as the social policy of the Government of Mongolia. In addition, listing of the above products in General Tariff Concession Scheme of USA would allow increase names of the export goods to the USA and open an exit way to penetrate into the foreign market for the handcraft goods of Mongolia.

The legal basis of Trade and Economic Relations between Mongolia and Canada has been formed by a Mongolia-Canada Intergovernmental Trade Agreement signed in 1994 and an Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation signed 2002.

Since July 2003, when Mongolia started being incorporated in Canada's General Concession Scheme, export of gold, raw skin, hide, leather goods, carpet, wool and cashmere products as well as knitted products started enjoying the tariff concessions.

The European Union is unilaterally providing the system of import tariff concession (General Concession Scheme) to the developing countries of the world. European Union is usually revises its trade policy in period of each 10 years and issues rules of implementation and concession schemes for each of 3 years. In accordance of the EU policy with respect to its trade concession for the period of 2006-2015, Mongolia exports a number products including handcrafted items and inset items; small wooden boxes for decorative items, wooden holder for knife, statues and the other decorative items made of wood, paints, photos, leather and semi-leather cloths, items for the cloth decoration, boxes, hand bags, purse, wallet, bags for glass bottles, boxes for jewellery, utensils for animal, leather items for animals (reins, halter, chain, harness, saddle utensils, bag, blanket, pad and similar items to them).

Although Mongolia exports the culturally creative products in line with tariff concessions, in further, it is needed to increase types of products for the market supply and to conduct market demand studies.

As to Mongolia, the government policy for the creative sector of culture and arts is urgently needed to be elaborated and introduced in the society because the public understanding regarding the contribution of creative cultural products toward the socio-economic development of the country has not been fully recognized by both individuals and collectives, and because there is a lack of government policy for such support and encouragement and because the public demand and social value for culturally creative products are still low within the society.

This period of the fastest development of the creative products, for our Mongolians being only customer for and buyer of products and productive services might be quite risky as to become constrained in the consumption pattern of the foreign culture as well as to become alienated from his or her own culture, traditional custom and cultural heritage.

Therefore, during the contemporary period, when there is an increased trend for the development of the creative production sector is being one of largest economic sector, State must initiate and stick to a policy for development of the creative production sector that includes the specific features of national culture with a content internationally would facilitate advocating for public support and encouragement. In addition, these contemporary trends of development in culture and arts need to be appropriately informed to the public and to the creators of arts and culture; there are a number of measures needed to be taken in steps including from supporting of arts education, training of skilled professionals, encouraging initiatives of artists, presenting and selling of the produced productions, and providing the suitable conditions to creators of creative products of culture and arts function sustainably and profitably under the market economy circumstances.

### **2.3. Integration of culture in sustainable development policies**

**2.3.1.** The economic growth, social status of justice, and balanced utilization of nature and environment of Mongolia were holistically considered and with the goal of bringing it into conformity with the worldwide concept of sustainable development, "the Sustainable Development Programme of Mongolia" has been developed out in 1996-1997 with the assistance of the UNDP's Capacity 21 Programme. The actual issues of the Sustainable Development for 21<sup>st</sup> century of Mongolia, strategic and policy directions, national strategy of development, and plans of its implementation were approved by the Government Resolution on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 1998. Developing such a Programme, incorporating actual issues on the social, economic and environmental sectors facing Mongolia for 21<sup>st</sup> century, allows addressing those issues jointly both globally and regionally while addressing the issues of our development. The programme has been elaborated by the principle of lowest to highest levels of social structure with the use of a unified approach of participatory inclusiveness of public opinions and views. Therefore, the Programme reflects the real life situations and goals were appropriately determined. The Programme is being implemented at both national and local levels starting 1999.

**2.3.2.** Since its set up in Mongolia in 1996, the National Council on Sustainable Development (NCSD) is conducting activities to support the sustainable development activities in Mongolia and to expand its functioning and to ensure the successful implementation of the Programme of Sustainable Development. Chairman of NCSD is Prime Minister and Ministers of Finance, Nature and Environment and Mineral Resources and Energy serve as Deputy Chairs of NCSD. The NCSD has a total of 34 members representing the multi-party participation. It includes in some MPs, Members of Government Cabinet, Deputy Ministers, Chair persons of Ministerial Departments and Divisions, Heads of Non-Government Organizations, and representatives of private sectors. Local Councils on Sustainable Development consists of 9-12 members headed by Governors also representing the multi-party participation.

Presently, Programmes of the Ministerial policies and activities in 66-70% include those of the goals of the sustainable development and Action Programmes for Aimag and Cities Governors in 50% include those of the respective Aimag and Cities' Goals of the Sustainable Development are incorporated and being implemented.

Programmes and Action Plans of the Sectors do also include the goals of the respective Sustainable Development and being implemented into practices, which can be seen at Action Plans Implementation Reports by Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Road, Transportation, and Urban Development, Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor, Ministry of Health, MECS, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Light Industry, and the National Development and Innovation Committee.

Thanks to the UNDP's Capacity 21 Programme which extended its gracious support and assistance in the process of development of Mongolia's national sustainable development programme for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**2.3.3.** In the implementation of sustainable development programme, the cross-sector regulations for Mongolia's society and economics were not sufficient. In the other words, all state institutions need to provide due care to issues of cultural development and capacity and human resources need to be rightly regulated and coordinated but no such required actions are taken on the part of those state institutions.

**2.3.4.** Currently, there are many organizations and research institutes conducting activities on issues related to the development in our country, however, no significant attempts are taken to regulate and coordinate the activities of those institutions.

- Poverty, and unemployment are not reduced significantly and extractive plant products and raw animal by-products are still account for the majority of Mongolian exports.

- Issues of nature and environment hold a great deal of obstacles. The constant occurrences of *Zud* (large amount of snow fall coupled with intense cold), and *Gan* (lack of precipitation coupled with intense hot and dry wind) sometimes depend on the lack of proper management, and organization on the part of local administration as well as irresponsible behaviors of the individuals being affect with the disastrous consequences of those events besides climatic conditions of the area.

- Issues with respect to the strengthening of decentralization and local self-governance are not satisfactory in their actual performance, and both inclusion of the goals on the sustainable development to be included in the annual socio-economic guidelines, programmes and projects and accountability with respect to results of their implementations are not at the required levels of performance.

- Trends of respect for cultural values and of respect and appreciation for individual culture are not equally even at the state and non-government institutions.

**2.3.5.** The following documents were developed in conformity to the sustainable development policy and they were approved and adopted by the Body of Legislature and are implemented into the practice. These are:

- **"The Regional Development Policy Guidelines of Mongolia"** adopted by a Resolution no. 57 of the State Ikh Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia in 2001;

- **"The Comprehensive Policy on the National Development of Mongolia based on the Millennium Development Goals"** adopted by a Resolution no. 12 of the State Ikh Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2008;

- **"The Policy Guidelines on the National Security"** adopted by a Resolution no. 48 of the State Ikh Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2010;

The following draft policy, draft laws, and draft programmes were developed and prepared to be adopted by the State Ikh Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia in 2012. These include:

- **Draft on State Policy on Culture;**
- **Draft Law on Culture;**
- **Draft Law on Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage;**
- **Draft Master Plan on Development of Mongolia's Culture and Arts /2012-2022/;**
- **Draft Programme on Rural Development /2012-2022/.**

- Since being incorporated into this Programme, Mongolia fully acknowledges that the backbone of the sustainable development in a new century is the close and coherent balance resulting from the economic, social, cultural, and environmental relations and, as result, Mongolia has been actively taking a part in the related events, meetings and seminars organized by the UN and the international organizations with respect to issues on overcoming the common obstacles distracting the balance of those relations.

## **2.4 Protecting cultural expressions under threat**

“Draft State Policy on Culture of Mongolia” states that:

- The State shall prevent from with all means and due respects if it faces the danger of being extinct the culture of Mongolia, dissolution of Mongolian culture into the cultures of the other nations, loosening our tradition, heritage, custom, and being impoverished our intellectual life due to any and all reasons;
- The tangible and intangible heritage and databases of culture are treated as the most precious resource of the nation and are kept under the state protection;
- Inheritors, carriers, creators and producers of the cultural values are kept under the mercy and patronage of the state, possibilities, right and freedom are furnished to them to allow inherit their specific schools and procedures;
- Diversity of culture, heritage, and custom of various ethnics and ethnic groups of Mongolia is equally respected and the possibilities and conditions are provided for the safeguarding and protecting of thereof; these provisions are relevant to protection and conservation of diversity of cultural expressions, in particular, to cultural heritage being currently at risk; similar to these provisions are also reflected in the other legal regulations.

The greatest change taking place in Mongolian society today is the intensification of processes of globalization, urbanization, industrialization and dissolution of nomadic civilization. This event started from the second half of XX century and it intensifies from the start of XXI century. Currently, 62% of population of Mongolia is now settled in settled centers and stationary areas and 40.7% of the population inhabit the capital city. Urbanization in Mongolia is not just a migration of people, but it is a transfer from the nomad way of life into the stationary way of life. Thus urbanization brings to Mongolia a risk of alienation of inseparable part of nomad culture and its heritage, and it brings about a change leading to the loss of culture, heritage and the custom of its bearers. To such a heritage that is at risk include a Mongolian traditional custom to safeguard the nature and live in harmony with it, a traditional knowledge and technology of tending domesticated animals; a nomad traditional behavior, and custom associated with it folklore, and some types of folk art. With the purpose of protecting those kinds of heritage that is under threat, Mongolia has issued in 2006 “List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in need of Urgent Safeguarding” and the List is being renewed.” The List which is approved by the Resolution of Member of the Government Cabinet and Minister of ECS includes the following cultural representatives. These are:

1. Mongolian epics;

2. Mongolian traditional dance – *bie biyelgee*;
3. Ritual and Melody used to having acquired an offspring by an animal;
4. Mongol ritual paying a homage to Mountain and *ovoo*;
5. Art of engraving on steel;
6. Traditional art of creating books and sutras;
7. Traditional custom of wedding for the various ethnic groups of Mongolia;
8. *Tsuur*, *Ekil*, *Tovshuur* etc., traditional repertoire of folk musics, and methods of their playing;
9. Traditional method of playing a flute for the folk long songs – air tight breathing;
10. Mongol *tsam*;
11. Mongolian script writing;

Four intangible representatives out of the listed above, namely, Mongolian epics, Mongolian traditional art of *tsuur* music repertoire, Mongolian traditional dance *bie biyelgee*, and the traditional way of flute playing for the long songs called *bituu amisгаа* were registered in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and the relevant middle-term and long-term safeguarding programmes are under implementation dealing with the establishment of inheritors, creation of the registration and information database, and inheritance of the inscriptions to the next generation.

The implementation reports with respect to the above programmes are included together with the implementation report on “the Convention on Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage” which is being prepared to send to the UNESCO soon. Hereby, it is limited only with the brief outline.

Owing to a political unrest resulting from parliamentary election in 2008, fire had broken out in some areas of the Fine Arts Gallery as well as the building of the National Horse Fiddle Ensemble, as result, a number of fine paints and national musical instruments were damaged to due fire and the damage totaling to ₮617 million had consequently been recovered from the sources of state budget fund, and gracious donations extended by institutions, companies and private individuals. The funds were used to recover the damage as inflicted, to restore the partially damaged works and to further improve measures on the safeguarding.

Another cultural heritage in need of the urgent safeguarding is our traditional national script of Mongolia. The state and government leaders of Mongolia in 1946, on the name of selection of the way which deemed being close to the public culture of then, they had issued a decision to replace thousand year old “upright” (written from top to down) script of Mongolia with the Cyrillic one. The decision brought the damage to the structure of language and culture of Mongolians with the history spanning over many centuries and the decision conflicts to the UNESCO concept respecting the diversity of cultural expressions in world. Such replacement of the national script led into a certain extent to the violation of right for Mongolians expressing their national values in the national script and Mongolians could any longer are not able to write their names with the use of the national script. Despite of the increased public interest in the national script, increased demand in the calligraphic production and services as well as in writing in Mongolian scripts names of institutions, cities, populated areas, various addresses, and brand products, however, there is a lack of well-though policy to regulate and coordinate the public awareness with respect to the rebirth of public sentiments on Mongolian traditional script. With the victory of democratic revolution of 1990, a decision was made to use Cyrillic and old Mongolian scripts concurrently, but still not any positive developments taking place in those respects.

Upon the conclusion, the Government of Mongolia has adopted “National Programme on the Mongolian Scrip I, II” and now being implemented with 175 class hours of Mongolian script teaching to pupils at VII-IX grades in the general secondary schools. The President of Mongolia has issued a decree in 2010 on “the Measures to Increase the Official Use of Mongolian Script”



with the purpose of encouragement the implementation of state policy to restore Mongolian national script, The official notes and letters of the President, Chairman of the State Ikh Hural, Prime Minister, and Members of the Government Cabinet, which are being sent to the foreign dignitaries of the same ranks, were ordered to write with Mongolian scripts and the relevant translations in either official language of the concerned state or one of the UN official languages shall accompany those notes and letters, and certificates of birth, marriage, and cards, diplomas, and certificates issued by all educational institutions were required to be concurrently recorded both in Cyrillic and old Mongolian scripts and the implementation works are now being coordinated.

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### **3. Awareness-raising and participation of civil society**

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#### **Within the framework of Diversity of Cultural Expressions and Open Governance:**

Owing to the specifics of its formation and development of civil society in Mongolia, subjects that provide cultural service to the population is not limited only by the government culture and arts institutions. Within the frame of our culture and arts sector those include:

- a. government culture and arts institutions;
- b. Non-government institutions;
- c. Religious institutions;
- d. International humanitarian institutions;
- e. Private individuals and artists;
- f. Business institutions.

The Government Plan of Action for the period of 2008-2012 has stated that “the policy for the development of the culture and arts sector, its legal environment would be formulated and, Master Plan on the Development of Mongolia’s Culture and Arts from 2012 to 2022 developed and implemented.”

Within the framework of the development of “Master Plan on the Development of Mongolia’s Culture and Arts from 2012 to 2022” an expert of the UNESCO Cultural Policy worked in Mongolia at the invitation of the Government of Mongolia to provide the methodological consultations. During the visit, the UNESCO policy expert acquainted with the current situations of Mongolia’s culture and arts institutions, listened to views and opinions of representatives of civil society, and private companies conducting activities in the field and conducted the methodological training twice for the period of 14 days with respect to the elaboration and development of the Master Plan.

These strategic trainings for the Development of Cultural and Arts Sector Master Plan of Mongolia have allowed to define ways and possibilities of the conformity of Mongolian cultural and arts policy to the best policy of the world’s progressive culture and arts in the contemporary period of the intensification of the processes on the globalization and information, to increase the public and civil society participation in the improvement of social sector’s planning and management, to evaluate the demands, conditions and possibilities for the protecting of cultural heritage, for development of education on culture and arts, cultural tourism, foreign relations and cooperation, to discuss possibilities to overcome the facing challenges, and to determine the policy guidelines for the Development of Cultural and Arts Sector Master Plan for Mongolia. At end of the training, and with the assistance of international expert and participants in the training,

with the respect to issues on the development of Cultural and Arts Sector Master Plan for Mongolia it has been issued a Recommendation with 10 Articles petitioning the Government of Mongolia to specifically implement these requests with the active involvement of the relevant institutions. Specialists of MECS are being studied those recommendations and being actively incorporated in the plans of the activities for the further implementation and these processes are the stage of processing and analyses. Mongolian Arts Council represents the Civil Society Representatives for the working group set up for the Master Plan Development.

The ACM of Mongolia in 2011 in the collaboration with Mongolian National Commission for the UNESCO has translated the brief world report on “Diversity of Cultural Expressions and Intercultural Relations” and assisted in its advocacy to the public. This is an important contribution to the development of cultural and arts sector.

*Here we are describing the activities and measures taking by the Arts Council of Mongolia as a Representative of the Civil Society of Mongolia and the activities and measures taking by the International Institute for the Studies of Nomadic Culture and Civilizations (IISNCC) which UNESCO category II Institute as a Representative of International Non-Government Organization with respect to the Cross Cultural Relations and Cooperation for the Promotion and Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions for the period of 2006-2011, in particular, those measures, taken to satisfy the requirement of the cultural rights for minorities, local indigenous people, and migrants, are summarized herein with.*

In order to introduce and advocate the diversity of multi-national cultural expressions in Mongolia, and develop the cooperation with those cultures, introduce and advocate Mongolian culture and arts abroad, acquaint our artists with the specifics of other cultures, and elucidate the current status of culture and arts sector in Mongolia, ACM for the last four years has raised the funding of USDs 515,000 from the external and internal sources and the funding were granted to over 300 artists.

In addition, an example of the new initiative introducing the multi-national culture to Mongolia was the performance of “Тооно” ensemble incorporating Canada’s native national musics and dance performance that was successfully performed in Mongolia in 2010. “Тооно” group’s performance was participated in winter Olympics Games at Vancouver and it represented the joint production of 11 artists originating from Canada, Mongolia and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China and it was particularly interesting for Mongolian audience of having had a possibility to feel and see the performance of multinational cultures at a single stage.

One of the works that advocated Mongolian culture abroad and artists had an opportunity of taking a part in the international festival was the touring performance of Mongolian national song and dance ensemble “*Tumen Ekh*” in the North America. In addition, a folk arts group “Altan Urag” participated in the international festivals in Mexico, Japan and Macao.

To support young artists, and provide to them an opportunity of learning the experience, a team consisting of teachers of Musics and Dance College, and Culture and Arts University along with 25 students has been participating at the International Festival for Children and Youth which is traditionally organized in Turkey every year with participants of over 20 countries including Russian Federation, India, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Bulgaria, and Czech. The other international arts festivals, measures, projects and programmes are also implemented.

The ACM considers that arts of movies are the means of importance to deliver to the public the diversity and features of cultures and cultural expressions in the society undergoing impacts of

globalization. Within this framework, an international festival on documentary movies “Margaret Mead,” and an International Movies Forum “Meeting of West and Orient” were organized with invitations of 15 movies artists from Germany, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Thailand, Slovene, Poland, France, USA, and Korea and world culture reached Mongolian viewers via the medium of movies arts.

The largest work implemented by the ACM at the Regional Level was the advocacy of Mongolian nomadic culture both abroad and Mongolia, and in collaboration with Korean METAA Co., and University of Culture and Arts the expansion of the National Naadam Festival Days five years consecutively on July 11 and 12 to the “Cultural Naadam” at “Khyi Doloon Khudag,” a locality nearby to Capital of Mongolia. It is organized with the goal of being proud of the national culture and heritage of Mongolia, protecting and conserving, inheriting and advocating them. Within the frame of this “Cultural Naadam”, a Joint Arts Concert is played with artists participating from Mongolia, the Republic of Korea, Republic of Buriat of the Russian Federation and the concert is visited by over 10,000 people both from abroad and inside the country expanding the concept of the diversity of cultural expressions.

The ACM when implementing projects of international relations in the field of arts, it has worked to freely allow the participants possibilities of expressing their ideas and the specifics of their cultures. For example, “Nomadic Art Studio” (*Nuudliin Urtan*), a Mongolia and Korea Joint Arts Programme, has been implemented for the period of 4 years. Twelve artists from Mongolia and Korea jointly worked in Umnugobi Aimag and island of Jeju in Korea to introduce own art productions, mutually exchange their experience, and create art productions jointly. Given the difference in their education, custom, and the tradition, however, they were able to understand each other and it could serve as the best example of creating the unified art productions together.

The **IISNCC** in the collaboration with the Arts Research Institute of IMAR, PRC and also in collaboration with Buriat Academy of Sciences, RF has successfully conducted in **2008-2010** a number of research projects including **“the Studies on the Heritage of Long-Songs.”**

The main purpose of these studies were to create the arts information database for Mongolian national long-songs, understand the current situation of a diversity of local melodies of the long-songs, elucidate the tradition, protection, and inheritance of long-songs among a variety of ethnic groups and the unity and difference in the way of singing long-songs among those ethnic groups. In collaboration with Mongolian National Public TV and Radio, “Eagle TV,” “25TV,” “C1TV,” “Dream TV,” “Education TV, a total of 5 TV broadcastings and over 10 times of direct TV interviews were taking place covering the processes and activities as well as the results of studies. In addition, in collaboration with “Durian Sudan”, “Zuunii News”, and “Yndesnii Sudan” daily newspapers, over 10 newspaper articles as well as newspaper interviews were published covering the current activities, and results of the studies. Works with respect to information and advocacy still continue. In addition, research team collected interviews from over 300 people ranging from 12 to 90 years in ages, performed recordings for 170 hours, and taped singings of over 500 long-songs. As result, a unified research database was compiled with respect to the long-songs, and long-song singers with accompanying video and audio materials.

Within the framework of UNESCO Participatory Programme, an international research conference was organized by IISNCC on a theme **“the Nomadic Society and Cross-Cultural Dialogue”** in Sep., 2008. The Conference provided a possibility to exchange views and opinions among scholars of many countries with respect to the current social status of nomads, issues concerning life, living condition, history, culture, contemporary actual issues, juncture of many cultures, and issues of cross-cultural understanding among the nomadic people. Over 40 foreign

scholars from 10 countries and about 20 Mongolian scholars participated in the conference. Scholars and researchers doing studies in this field, representatives of non-government organizations, and representatives of foreign diplomatic missions presented at the conference. Daily news papers, radio and TV broadcasted of this meeting and conference reports were distributed in English and Mongolian.

Within the framework of UNESCO Participatory Programme, an international research conference was organized by IISNCC on a theme “**the Multi-Faceted Character of the Nomadic Culture**” in Aug., 2011. The purpose was to discuss the multi-faceted character of the nomadic culture and cross-cultural dialogue, and combine its practical as well as theoretical aspects. The theme needed to be advocated to the public, and to notice of international level, especially, to youth and to professionals working in the field of culture.

The Conference provided a possibility to exchange views and opinions on the dialogue between the cultural heritage and culture of nomads, and the multi-faceted character of the nomadic culture among over 40 scholars presented both from abroad and inside Mongolia.

“**Cultural, Ethnographical and Anthropological Mongolian and Chinese Cross-Border Studies (2006-2010)**” were conducted. As the result of fieldwork of this project, original materials of 500 minutes of audio, over 600 minutes of video and audio and over 20 original samples of materials are available.

The IISNCC in collaboration with Social Sciences Institution of the PRC jointly conducted in 2008-2011 a project entitled as the “**Life of Tsaatan People.**” The purpose of this project was to recover the economic subsistence of *Tsaatans* with the active development of multifarious relations with different social groups of *tsaatans* from those of the neighboring countries and those from other countries as well. As compared to the other world *tsaatans*, the traditional culture is best conserved among *Tsaatans* of Mongolia, and as such, an economic entity of *tsaas* are proposed to be restored in the eastern and western *Taiga* of *Tsagaan Nuur Soum, Khuvsgul Aimag*, and rehabilitate and clean the forest at surrounding areas; these smaller projects, which are friendly to the environment, should be encouraged, and participation of *tsaatans* in any project and programme shall also be promoted and encouraged.

### **Public Awareness-Raising on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions via Media and Press:**

World is being globalized with the means of media and press, books, newspapers, journals, radio, television, movies, internet and the other electronic devices.

In 2009, there were 109 TV Channels, and 27 of them, were the cable TVs. In 2010, there were 126 TVs, and 31 TVs of them, were cable TVs. The majority of the above TV Channels have cultural and art broadcast programmes, either small or big. (for example, MNPTV has “*Soyol-Erdene* Tele Journal, and “Art Network” programme, UBS has a programme entitled as Culture and Art Time, Mongol TV has *Gegeen Anir*, SCH – Classics Art Time, Culture and Art News, and Dream TV has a programme of Forte and Piano etc.)

**Channel MN2 conducts its activities in language of National Minority.** The channel’s broadcast, and programme policy holds for 70% in culture and art and 30% of those are broadcasted in language of national minorities (“*Aldai Khonash*” Tele Journal, etc.)

In 2009, 121 newspapers were functioning, but in 2010, the number reached 130. Most of the newspaper, has a corner devoting to culture and arts. However, “*Utgazhiol Urag* Newspaper” is only the diversified newspaper for culture and art.

A research by *Khevelelin Khureelen* (Press Institute) on April, 2011 showed that website of [www.gogo.mn](http://www.gogo.mn) was at the top of most visited 10 websites in Ulaanbaatar. However, in countryside, the website [www.zaluu.com](http://www.zaluu.com) was at the top of most visited 10 websites. List is

included websites dealing with the news, portal, and various websites. Most of the websites had the corner devoted to culture and art

Starting 2010, the Arts Council of Mongolia via a TV Programme “Arts Network” in collaboration with MNPRTV has started organizing a large scale of target advocacy activities each month on the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions and delivery of the voice of cultural and arts institutions to the public. This programme gives an opportunity to public to understand the significance of culture and art and its impacts to the development of individuals and society, and provides new knowledge and interesting information on the diversity of international expressions of culture and arts. The Arts Council of Mongolia has the responsibility for the preparation and further telecasting of the following five broadcasts. These include:

- “Urlan” TV programme that introduces both Mongolian and foreign artists to the public and shows the specific difference between those of internationally refuted young artists in terms of their artistic performance;
- “Knowledge” TV programme provides the knowledge and information with respect to world art, history on world religions, and ancient history of the world in a series of TV broadcasts;
- “Calendar” TV programme provides current updates on cultural and art activities taking place at given month in the large cities around the world, and about the possibilities of participation in those activities of artists from Mongolia and the related information on that respects. The information helps to build the formation of public opinions and understanding on the culture and arts events.

The Embassy of Norway in Beijing has extended its support to this TV broadcast in 2010 allowing ACM to advocate and advertise the culture and arts of Norway and Sweden to the audience in Mongolia, and created possibilities of enriching and extending the content and further improving the quality of the programme while advocating the multi-national culture and arts to Mongolians.

In addition, understanding and concept about the diversity of cultural expressions among public are being formed with the utilization of newspaper publications which allow discussing about and raising the actual issues on culture and arts. In collaboration with a Mongolian Daily “Unuudur”, a monthly column, entitled as “Arts Network,” is published to raise the readers’ knowledge and awareness on the actual issues dealing with culture and arts.

In collaboration with a Mongolian Weekly “Mongol Messenger” published in English, a number of special columns are prepared and published in order to advocate and publicize Mongolian culture and art to the foreign audience living both in Mongolia and the abroad.

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#### **4. Main achievements and challenges to the implementation of the Convention**

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Mongolia, and its Government in addition to taking measures to safeguard the diversity of our national cultural heritage and tradition, it has successfully taken the active stand to join the related international agreements and conventions on promotion and protection of the national and international cultural heritage.

Since 2004, Mongolia has actively learned the possibilities of joining to “**Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural; Expressions,**” and in accordance with the related regulation, the MECS has brought this issue to the notice of the Mongolian



State Ikh Hural and the Parliament adopted Law on Mongolia's Joining to the above convention in 2007.

MECS and Mongolian National Commission for the UNESCO in collaboration with UNDP Resident Office to Mongolia have organized a round-table discussion in January, 2005 on the introduction of 2004 Human Development Report to Mongolia.

This round-table discussion has dealt with one of the basic issues on the human development relating to the rights of human culture, cultural freedom and to the promotion and protection of the diversity of human cultural expressions. It was an important event allowing to introduce to the UN organizations in Mongolia as well as the general public regarding Mongolia's experience, and its policy guidelines on the promotion and protection of its cultural diversity within the country and challenges and possible solutions with respect to the implementation of Mongolian policy guidelines in conformity with those of the new world initiatives */initiatives on protection of cultural freedom of the humanity, protection and promotion of the cultural diversity, intangible and tangible heritage of culture, and making them as factors for the human development/*. In addition, it was an introduction event on "Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions" being adopted at the UNESCO's 33rd General Conference and start learning about the possibilities of joining Mongolia to the convention.

Upon the join to this convention, Mongolia has actively worked on the protection of cultural heritage, turning products of the national culture and arts into the economically viable cycle, forming the highly professional cultural and art institutions which support the human development of Mongolia, are viable in properties and finance, and are competitively advantageous in their activities.

First of all, the Government of Mongolia through the intensification of relations and cooperation with the UNESCO, specially, with UNESCO regional representative office in Beijing has been conducting activities for introducing ideas of the Convention to the Government and the public and taken the initial steps for the implementation. These are:

During Director General of the UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova visit to Mongolia in July, 2011 the seventh MOU between Mongolia and the UNESCO was signed. This MOU was directed to uplift the relationship between Mongolia and UNESCO and as to measures being implemented in the field of culture, it is planned to develop the Master Plan for Developing Mongolian Culture and Art for the period of 2012 and 2021, strengthen the relationship between the diversity of cultural expressions and the development and progress, pay the special effort to registering of Mongolia's cultural and natural heritage to the Representative List of World Heritage, and to help capacity building to the University of Culture and Arts with respect to its efforts on the promotion and protection of the diversity in culture.

Today, Mongolia with the support of the UNESCO has elaborated "the State Policy on Culture," and submitted to the State Ikh Hural for the discussion and approval.

Within the framework of the development of "Master Plan on the Development of Mongolia's Culture and Arts from 2012 to 2022" an UNESCO expert on Culture has worked in

Mongolia in 2009 and 2010 at invitation of Government of Mongolia to provide the methodological consultations.

During the visit, the UNESCO expert acquainted with the current situations of Mongolia's culture and arts institutions, listened to views and opinions of representatives of civil society, and private companies conducting activities in the field and conducted the methodological training twice for the period of 14 days with respect to the elaboration and development of the Master Plan.

These strategic trainings for the Development of Cultural and Arts Sector Master Plan of Mongolia have allowed to define ways and possibilities of the conformity of Mongolian cultural and arts policy to the best policy of the world's progressive culture and arts in the contemporary period, to increase the public and civil society participation in the improvement of social sector's planning and management, to evaluate the demands, conditions and possibilities for the protecting of cultural heritage, development of culture and art education, cultural tourism, foreign relations and cooperation, to discuss possibilities to overcome the facing challenges, and to determine the policy guidelines for the Development of Cultural and Arts Sector Master Plan for Mongolia.

A MECS working group is working to implement the recommendations of the UNESCO policy expert on culture. Because these recommendations are required to take the change in governance of culture, a certain number of changes and revisions are needed to be taken with regards to the currently effective laws and regulations, as result, it may require of longer times to take place those changes.

Recommendations of the UNESCO expert specially required to set up a Statistical Information Center for the gathering statistical information of culture and arts of Mongolia and a need for the capacity-build in that respect. As to implement this recommendation, MECS with the financing of MECS, the ministry implemented a project for **“Information Center for Mongolian Culture and Art”** in 2010-2012 to set up the processing of statistical information data set as to in conformity of the international standard. Within the fame of the project, “the UNESCO Statistical Framework”, published by the UNESCO in 2009, is being translated into Mongolian and an expert was invited to work in Mongolia from the **UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)** based in Montreal, Canada. As the next stage of the Project, a project proposal is being to develop on the **“National Cultural Statistics Framework”** and submit the proposal to the Convention Fund for 2015.

With the purpose of advocate of the international legal mechanisms on the protection of the diversity of cultures, the related international conventions, and declarations (such as UNESCO 1995 UNIDROIT convention, UNESCO 2001 Convention on Underwater Cultural Heritage, UNESCO 2003 Convention for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage, UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural; Expressions, etc.) were translated into Mongolian and are now being advocated. Regarding the implementation of the convention, a module project is being implemented in collaboration with the UNESCO.

**Within the framework of UNESCO Programme on museum development** With the financing of the USA, a project has been implemented in two stages in the period of 2005–2006 at the Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum.

The project that was implemented at the Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum has become as the standard of activities for enhancing object care and improving in exhibition and storage. The second stage of the project has dealt with the improvement of the museum marketing and management and experience learned from an UNESCO project was to be introduced to Erdene Zuu and Arkhangai Aimag museums. During the reporting period of the project, the UNESCO had an international expert specialized in the conservation and protection of museum exhibits to

station at Erdene Zuu and Arkhangai Aimag museums and let the expert to evaluate the current conditions of the museums, and the current status regarding the statuses for the conservation and protection of museum exhibits. This project for supporting Erdene Zuu and Arkhangai Aimag museums were implemented. As of the project, fund of exhibits of Erdene Zuu and Arkhangai Aimag museums were arranged in the professional manner and museum registration and card of exhibits were processed in accordance with the international standard.

Mongolia joined the network of the UNESCO Programme on Award of Excellence for Handicraft Products in 2006 and the first competitive selection had been organized in Ulaanbaatar in the same year. Since then, countries of the network organize the regional selection once for 2 years. The regional selection for the Northeast Asia selected a total of 11 products from Mongolia and certified those products as “Award of Excellence for Handicraft Products”.

This programme was important for our producers of handicrafts because it had opened them possibilities of international, internal markets as well as the further horizons of the joint cooperation.

Within the framework of UNESCO /ROK FIT project entitled “Creative Industries Development for the Diversity of Cultural Expressions – Capacity Building at Practice Level in Mongolia” has been implemented for the period of 2008-2010 in Mongolia. This project was designed in addition to the promotion and protection of the diversity of cultural expressions with the use of digital technology, the project was also to help build the initial concepts development of cultural as well as productive creations at the level of practical activities. The serial training seminars which were organized during the project, contributors to the development of cultural as well as productive creations had the opportunity to meet each other, offered the creative area for exchanging opinions, knowledge, and experience among the participants, and it was a promising stage as to introduce such a productive endeavor to Mongolia. The project was a success using the new technologies for the promotion of cultural expressions and for the demonstration of partnership of actions.

The related government and NGOs in the collaboration with press and media start regularly marking the International Day of the Native Languages (21<sup>st</sup> of February), World Day of Copy Write Protection (23<sup>rd</sup> April), Day of World Museum (18<sup>th</sup> May), World Day of Biodiversity Protection (21<sup>st</sup> May). The international days on cultures do greatly contribute to the creating of the new mechanisms on the protection of the diversity of cultures, on the promotion of human capacity, human values, and on the development of cultural rights and freedom.

#### **In the further:**

1. To improve the public understanding on the “Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,” to implement programmes and projects advocating the target segments about the significance of the protection and promotion the diversity of cultural expressions;
2. To set up “Cultural Statistics Analyses Office” at the University of Culture and Arts, to conform its activities with the Government Statistics Department, to regularly compile in independent report on the trends and conditions of culture and arts;
3. To distribute copies of easily illustrative books, bulletins, handbooks, video materials of the above convention;
4. To implement the programmes encouraging the partnership on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions between the civil societies, private entities, and NGOs and supporting them with the financing;

5. To extend exchanges by artists, employees in cultural sectors, professionals, cultural goods, regional services, and support the inter-state cultural relations under the soft conditions;

6. To get the professional and methodological assistance from the UNESCO with the respect to the implementation of the convention and implement the related to it projects, and programmes.

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