

# Implementation of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme at National Level

May 9, 2012



Apvienoto Nāciju Izglītības, zinātnes un kultūras organizācija

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO Latvijas Nacionālā komisija

Latvian National Commission for UNESCO



## Survey

- Main activities for implementing the Programme and main involved institutions;
- The role of National Commissions for UNESCO and their priorities in this regard;
- Existing National registers and/or other documentary heritage registers on national level;
- The role of Programme in promoting the preservation of documentary heritage



### **Short timeline**

- August 2011 distribution of the questionnaire;
- September 2011 deadline for receiving the questionnaire back (some responses still in March 2012);
- December 2011 meeting of National Commissions for UNESCO;
- February March 2012 work on the survey

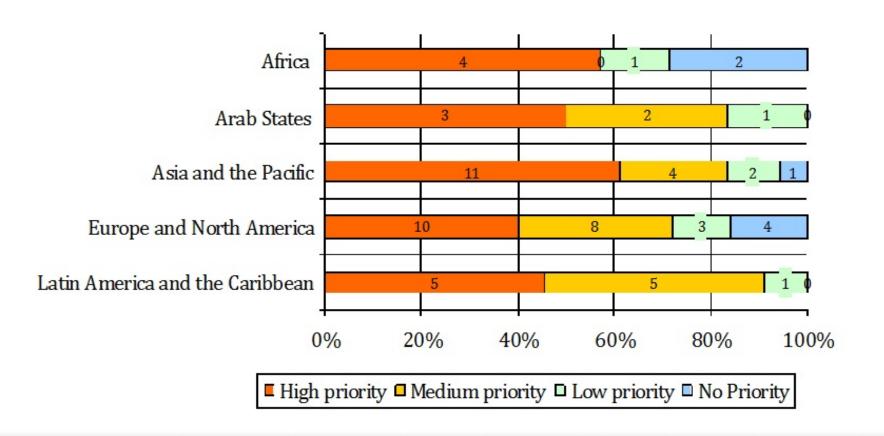


## Response rate

UNESCO Regions	Number of Answers Received
Africa	7
Arab States	6
Asia and the Pacific	18
Europe and North America	25
Latin America and the Caribbean	11
Total:	67

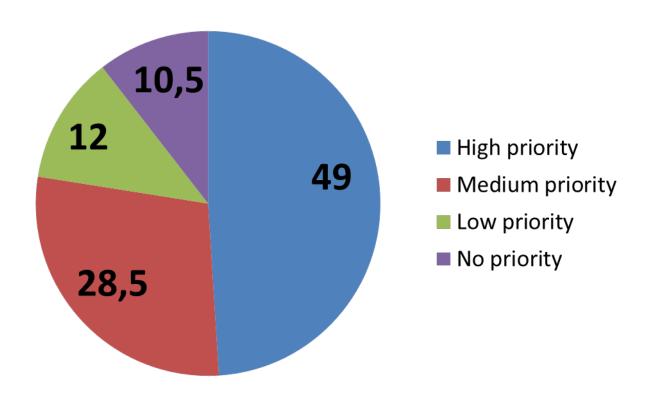


## Priority of MoW programme for National Commissions for UNESCO



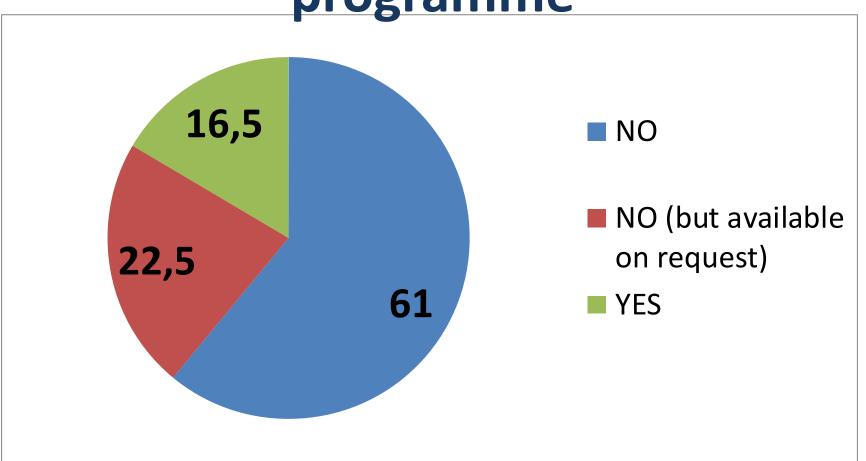


## Priority of MoW programme for National Commissions for UNESCO





## Availability of budget for the MoW programme





#### Main involved institutions

- National Commissions for UNESCO;
- MoW National Committees;
- Individual interested memory institutions and individual personalities interested in the Programme



## Main roles of National Commissions in implementing the MoW programme

- administrative,
- advisory,
- coordination,
- organizational,
- financial,

- supervisory,
- awareness raising,
- cooperation encouragement,
- support

linking all UNESCO heritage programmes and facilitating flow of information and cooperation among involved experts/stakeholders



## Main roles of National and Regional MoW Committees

- Interinstitutional expert cooperation;
- Expert capacity building;
- Consultative body to National Commission;
- Advisor for the implementation,

- preservation and visibility of documentary heritage;
- Advises, evaluates, prepares nominations;
- Fundraising.



### **National Committees**

Africa	Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Senegal
Arab States	Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon
Asia and the Pacific	Australia, China (1995), Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uzbekistan
Europe and North America	Austria (1996), Bulgaria (2011), Canada, Cyprus (1997), France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania (1996), Netherlands (2011), Norway, Poland (1995), Sweden, Switzerland
Latin America and the Caribbean	Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico (1996), Peru (2011)

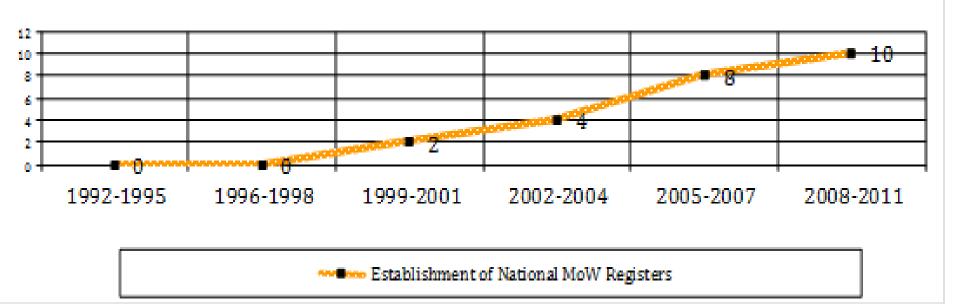


## **National Registers**

Africa	-
Arab States	Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon
Asia and the Pacific	Australia (2001), China (2001), Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, New Zealand (2011), Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka
Europe and North America	Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway (2011)
Latin America and the Caribbean	Barbados, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico

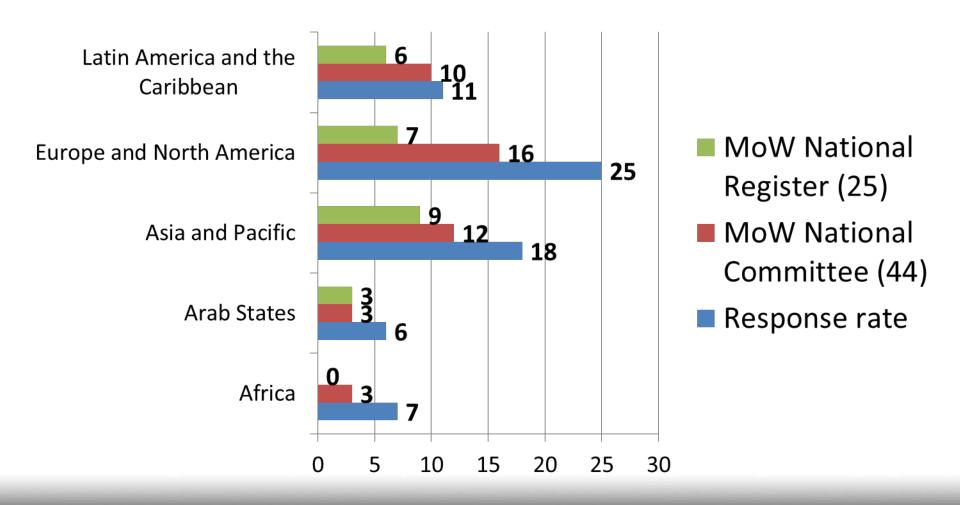


## **National Registers**





#### **National Committees and National Registers**





## Main arguments for establishing MoW National Registers

- to promote preservation and accessibility of important national documentary heritage at national as well as international level;
- to attract attention of policy makers and public at large to the role and significance of documentary heritage;
- to raise awareness about documentary heritage in the collections of national memory institutions and private collections;
- to encourage cooperation among various memory institutions for a common action.



## Main successes regarding MoW National Registers

- National level capacity building;
- Increased interest of experts, policy makers of concerned authorities, media and general public about national documentary heritage treasures;
- Stimulation of the development of new initiatives and cooperation projects about national documentary heritage;
- Attracted additional financial resources.



## Main arguments for not establishing a MoW National Register

- Lack of both financial and human resources and subsequent prioritization of other tasks;
- Documentary heritage field is already well developed and protected without National MoW Register and additional register might duplicate existing work;
- National MoW Committee is not established;
- MoW Programme has not been promoted at national level;



## Main arguments for not establishing a MoW National Register

- More interest in international MoW Register;
- Delay of formal procedures regarding documentary heritage;
- National socio-political situation, non-organized field of documentary heritage, lack of priority for culture.



### Main challenges for National Registers

- International MoW Register in principle is more attractive than National MoW Register;
- Need for establishing regulations and setting guidance for National Registers;
- Linkeage between (already inscribed)
   International nominations and National Registers;
- Relation with parallel/ similar heritage registers on national level.



#### Main activities of MoW Programme nationally

- capacity building activities;
- various events regarding documentary heritage and MoW Programme in particular (conferences, exhibitions, lectures, presentations, award ceremonies);
- work of the National MoW Committee as such (meetings, preparation of documents etc.);
- awareness raising;
- meetings with stakeholders and lobbying;
- research and study about documentary heritage;
- cooperation with World Digital Library.



## Synergies with other UNESCO heritage programmes

- Need for exchanging experiences and best practices;
- Need for involving experts and cooperating with institutions which are responsible about other heritage programmes;
- Need for harmonising and informing lists horizontally by each other;
- Need for better resource management;
- Need for better inter-related research.



#### **General observations**

- Rather low recognition of MoW Programme, UNESCO Member States should be better informed about the aims and initiatives of the Programme;
- No special normative instruments for documentary heritage on national level;
- The main target audience of the MoW programme on national level are firstly professionals working in the field;
- Certain procedures for establishing National Registers need to be settled and clarified;



#### **General observations**

- National Commissions for UNESCO are crucial in implementing MoW programme;
- Lack of monitoring and reporting which would enable exchange and improvements;
- Inscription activity often prevails preservation activitiy;
- Improved cooperation with World Digital Library;
- Closer link with other heritage programmes on national level;
- Integration of MoW in education and research programmes.









UNESCO programme "Memory of the World"









Exhibition about the programme "Memory of the World" in Latvia

**UNESCO LNC videos:** "Memory of the World"

News

#### UNESCO programme "Memory of the World"

Implementation of UNESCO Memory of the World programme in Latvia is one of the priorities of Latvian National Commission for UNESCO – the aim is to explore the most important documentary heritage in Latvia and to promote its protection, accessibility and identification in Latvia and worldwide.

Due to the interest and responsiveness of memory institutions in Latvia as well as determined work of Latvian National Committee for UNESCO Memory of the World programme the Latvian National Memory of the World Register was established in year 2009.

Latvian National Commission for UNESCO is grateful for everyone, who has given support and contribution to the implementation of UNESCO Memory of the World programme in Latvia.

There are two nominations that represent Latvia in the International Register of UNESCO Memory of the World programme:

- Latvian nomination "Dainu skapis Cabinet of Folksongs" inscribed in 2001;
- the Baltic States common nomination "The Baltic Way Human Chain Linking Three States in Their Drive for Freedom" inscribed in 2009.

Latvian National Memory of the World Register was founded in 2009 and four nominations are inscribed:

1) "Eduards Kraucs' collection of glass plate photographic negatives - the course of the construction of Kegums Power http://memory.unesco.ly



















Latvian National Memory of the World Register

Photographic Negatives the Course of the Construction of Kegums Power Station 1936-1940

collection of Glass Plate

Eduards Kraucs'

In Siberia Written Letters on Brich Bark

Rainis and Aspaziia Mutual Correspondence 1894-1929

Memorandum of the Latvian Central Council Riga, 17 March 1944

#### Latvian National Memory of the World Register

Besides the international attention for world documentary heritage, the national aspirations to study national documentary heritage, to promote its accessibility, identification and evaluation are also important in the implementation of the UNESCO Memory of the World programme.

Since 2007 Latvian National Commission for UNESCO has cooperated purposefully with memory institutions in Latvia (archives, libraries, museums) in order to establish the Latvian National Memory of the World Register. In 2009 Latvian National Commission for UNESCO and Latvian National Committee for UNESCO Memory of the World programme developed "General guidelines for the Latvian Memory of the World Register".

The aim of the Latvian National Memory of the World Register is to promote the protection, accessibility and identification of the most important national documentary heritage in Latvia and worldwide. The task of Latvian National Memory of the World Register is to draw Latvian societies' attention to the role of documentary heritage in the existence of collective culture memory, importance of documentary heritage preservation and usage of appropriate tools for preserving documentary heritage. There are lot of unique values in memory institutions and private collections of Latvia. The promotion of accessibility, familiarization and identification of these values will enrich Latvians knowledge about the Latvian history and documentary heritage.

In the 30th of November 2009 first four inscriptions on the Latvian Memory of the World Register were made:

- 1) "Eduards Kraucs' collection of glass plate photographic negatives the course of the construction of Kegums Power Station 1936-1940":
- In Siberia Written Letters on Birch Bark";
- "Rainis and Aspazija Mutual Correspondence 1894–1929";
- Memorandum of the Latvian Central Council Riga, 17 March 1944.

Latvian National Memory of the World Register was launched with the support of UNESCO membership programme for Latvian National Commission for UNESCO policy named ""Memory of the World" Latvian National register foundation".

UNESCO Memory of the World programme and its national registers has an important instructional role in national and also worldwide level. The digital reproductions of nominations inscribed in Latvian National Memory of the World Register will be available in World Digital Library (http://www.wdl.org/) in order for all people around the world to have the possibility to become acquainted with the values of Latvian documentary heritage.

#### http://memory.unesco.lv



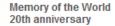




UNESCO programme "Memory of the World" - Survey on implementing Programme at National Level









Exhibition about the programme "Memory of the World" in Latvia

UNESCO LNC videos: "Memory of the World"

News

Links

#### Survey on implementing Programme at National Level

Memory of the World Programme is implemented in three levels – international, regional and national. There is a necessity for more information and exploration about the implementation of MoW Programme at national level. Therefore, the questionnaire on the "Implementation of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme at National Level" was prepared by the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with UNESCO Knowledge Society Division, Section for Universal Access and Preservation

Latvian National Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with the UNESCO Knowledge Society Division, Section for Universal Access and Preservation and with financial support of the UNESCO Participation Programme has made a survey "Implementation of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme at National Level" which was conducted with financial support of the UNESCO Participation Programme.

The main objective of this survey is to study present situation, worldwide practices and main developments concerning the implementation of Memory of the World Programme at national level. The survey queries the role of various institutions (especially National Commissions for UNESCO and National Memory of the World Committees) and the significance and praxis of establishing National Memory of the World Registers.

Electronic questionnaire was used as a main method for this study, 67 answers from UNESCO Member States have been received (Europe and North America - 25 answers, Asia and the Pacific - 18, Latin America and the Caribbean - 11, Africa -7, Arab States - 6) and evaluated.

"Implementation of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme at National Level" Survey results

### http://memory.unesco.lv



## Thank you!

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