



AMBASSADE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE ISLAMIQUE D'AFGHANISTAN EN FRANCE  
ET DÉLÉGATION PERMANENTE DE LA R.I. D'AFGHANISTAN AUPRÈS DE L'UNESCO ET DE L'ISESCO

N. Réf. 689-16

Se référant à votre lettre : CLT/CRE/DCE/15/L-8931 du 31 octobre 2015 (concernant le rapport périodique quadriennal sur la mise en œuvre de la Convention sur la protection et la promotion de la diversité des expressions culturelles - 2005), la Délégation permanente a le plaisir de porter à la connaissance de la Direction générale de l'UNESCO et du Secrétariat de la Convention 2005, le rapport intitulé « *Quadriennial Periodic Report on Measures to Protect and Promote the Diversity of Cultural Expressions* » daté du 3 mai 2016, parvenu via la lettre n°5941 du 3/05/1395 (24 juillet 2016) de la Direction générale des Relations culturelles du Ministère afghan des Affaires étrangères.

La Délégation permanente de la République islamique d'Afghanistan auprès de l'UNESCO saisit cette occasion pour renouveler à la Direction générale de l'Organisation des Nations-Unies pour l'Éducation, la Science et la Culture (UNESCO) et au Secrétariat de la Convention 2005, l'expression de sa haute considération.

Paris, le 8 août 2016



- Direction générale de l'UNESCO
- Secrétariat de la Convention 2005

cc à :

- Sous-Direction générale de l'UNESCO pour la Culture
- Section des conventions et recommandations

**2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of  
the Diversity of Cultural Expressions**

Quadrennial Periodic Report on Measures to Protect and Promote the  
Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Submitted by Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

3<sup>th</sup> May 2016

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## Executive Summary

Afghanistan has ratified the UNESCO Convention 2005 on the protection and promotion of the diversity of Cultural expression in 2006. Afghanistan is a unique example of multicultural country where different ethnic groups like Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, Qazalbash, Nooristani, Arab, Qirghiz, Baluch etc. who possess different cultures like their own language, food habit, dress, music, are living together.

In the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan it is clarified that the state will safeguard the right of practice and development of all cultural trends of all the people in its territory regardless of caste, religion, origin, color, gender etc.

Afghanistan had been working on protection and promotion of cultural diversity for long through different activities and programs. A cultural policy in this regard was also approved in 2008. Under the Ministry of Information and Culture there are several departments such as the Department of Museums, Department of Archaeology, Department of Public folklore, National Archive, and Public Library etc. They are engaged in implementing government programs as well as activities formulated under the convention of Cultural Diversity.

Agha Khan Trust for Culture and Torques Mountain are playing a significant role in implementing the 2005 convention. Under the cultural policy Afghan government has taken remarkable initiatives to implement the agendas of the convention within and outside its territory, legal framework have been developed. Law for the protection of Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments, Regulations for the Exhibition, Education Policy, and Women Policy have been ensured. The Afghan government through government organization has done some important projects and event to protect and promote Cultural diversity.

Afghanistan has also played significant role for the ratification of the UNESCO Convention aiming at the protection and promotion of diversity of cultural expressions of all ethnic groups. Afghanistan, in association with UNESCO, celebrate the World Cultural Diversity Day each year. Cultural exchange program with different countries are been regularly organized.

After the ratification, government is taking steps for protecting, promotion and preservation of all cultural expressions in its territory and at international level. Awareness building and programs on the actual content and implementation of the convention is being undertaken.

## 1. Technical Information

- (a) **Name of Party:** Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- (b) **Date of ratification:** 05 May 2006
- (c) **Ratification process (e.g. parliamentary process):** Afghanistan Government has ratified convention through the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to UNESCO/France.
- (d) **Organization(s) or entity (ies) responsible for the preparation of the report:** The Ministry of Information and Culture
- (e) **Officially designated point of contact:** (Mr. Noor Agha Noori, National Museum of Afghanistan, Phone: +93 772097595, email: [noorafghan666@gmail.com](mailto:noorafghan666@gmail.com))
- (f) **Date when report was prepared:** 03 May 2016
- (g) **Name of designated official signing the report:** Abdul Bari Jahani, Minister of Information and Culture. Phone: +93 772097595, email: [jahanonline@gmail.com](mailto:jahanonline@gmail.com)
- (h) **Description of the consultation process established for the preparation of the report and name of representative (s) of participating civil society organization(s):** This report has been prepared by the Ministry of Information and Culture. Its contents are obtained from different departments, agencies, organizations and NGO. Consultation process included;
  - 1. Interdepartmental meeting in MoIC
  - 2. Data collected from relevant government agencies
  - 3. Meeting with representatives of Civil Society organizations
  - 4. Interview with relevant government agencies and NGO representatives

## 2. Measures

### 2.1 Cultural Policies and Measures

#### Legal Frame work: Constitution, Acts, Policies

Afghanistan has a legal framework to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in its territory. The constitution of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan states on Culture Heritage, "Mines and other subterranean resources as well as historical relics shall be the property of State. Protection, management and proper utilization of public properties as well as natural resources shall be regulated by law" (Article 9). Therefore state adopt the measures to conserve the cultural traditions of the people, and so to foster and improve the national languages, literature and the arts that all sections of the people are afford the opportunity to contribute towards and to participate in the enrichment of the national culture.

Under the provision of the Constitution, Afghan government has enacted different Acts, Laws Regulations and Policies to protect and promote the Diversity of the wide range of Cultural expressions. The Law of Protecting and Preserving Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments are one of the Key example. It is noteworthy that the Afghan government is working for many of the principles, depicted in the UNESCO Convention 2005.

#### 2.1.1 Afghanistan National Cultural Policy

The Ministry of Information and Culture of The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan provide the framework for an overall cultural policy and sets the objectives, financial frameworks, and the *organizational structure that form the basis of cultural policy in Afghanistan.*

The Cultural Policy was introduced in 2008. According to the acts and strategies this policy has been implemented through 7 organizations under the Ministry of Information and Culture and in coordinat on with other Ministries such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Women.

industry such as cinema, music, art and craft, theater, dance, literature, etc. and trying to develop them according to the government policies.

## **2.4 Protecting Cultural expressions under threat**

Afghanistan government established different committees to take necessary decision in protecting cultural expressions under threat. Archaeology Committee is one of the example of its kind working under the umbrella of Ministry of Information and Culture.

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

### **3.1 Parties**

Afghanistan works both at International and National levels in order to follow up on its ratification in 2006 of the convention. National hearings and debates on how to further protect and promote cultural diversity have been organized for all interested parties, including civil society, and a number of concrete projects have been supported.

The Ministry of Information and Culture involves the civil society in organizing awareness-raising programs for promotion of cultural diversity at home.

Ministry of Information and Culture and other subordinate agencies in partnership with civil society observe various international days and cultural shows where they promote local culture.

### **3.2 Civil Society**

Civil society and small ethnic group organizations are monitoring the implementation of the Convention and Cultural policy 2006 and other policies of the country regarding the cultural expressions and raising their voices to pursue the government to ensure their rights.

These organizations are organizing awareness-raising programs like seminars, discussions, human chains etc. to protect the rights of cultural expressions and to make aware the general people to pursue the government to do so. The civil society members are engaged in more awareness-raising programs so that more and more people can be aware about the cultural diversity like cultural festivals, language festival, rallies with banner, festoons, human chain protecting and kind of violence against the small ethnic groups, organizing and providing them with small capacity building trainings so that they can bargain with the government for their rights protected in the Constitution and other Policies etc.

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

### **4.1 Main Achievement**

- a) Major achievement in implementing the convention is raising awareness in different levels in the society to protect and promote the diversity of culture expressions through organized and participatory programs at national level.
- b) Afghan government has taken significant Policy and Act in favor of 2005 convention on the protection and promotion of the Diversity of cultural expressions such as National Cultural Policy etc. In this Policy protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions has been ensured.

### **4.2 Major Challenges**

- a) Lack of sufficient fund for implementing different activities, programs under the preview of convention is Afghanistan.
- b) Poverty, literacy and lack of awareness in ethnic groups are some major challenges to implement 2005 Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of Cultural expressions in Afghanistan. Most of the ethnic groups and minority people are not aware of their role and in most of the cases they don't have any idea about value and importance of their own culture.

## **5. Conclusion**

Afghanistan has a legal framework to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in its territory. The government of Afghanistan has taken plan, Policy and legal instruments for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in Afghanistan. We can hope that implementation of the Convention 2005 in Afghanistan will get more and more momentum in days to come. This is how it will a significant role in translating the essence of this international legal umbrella into a reality in the territory boundary of South Asia and beyond.

## **6. Submission**

Name of the designated official signing the report

Abdul Bari Jahani, Minister Information and Culture



## **Compact Summary reports of endurance performance works**

**Directorate of rehabilitation preserved old town city and ancient historical from 1391 up  
end of the 1394 preface**

Despite the many problems we faced we did to create these following plans on that date which as  
mentioned at the top.

### **In part survey department and topography**

Survey from (79) historical monument in Kabul Ghazni, Herat, Parwan, Kandahar, Laghman,  
Zabul, Balkh, Jwzjan, Sar-e-pul, Samangan, Kunduz, Ghore, Nangarhar, Logar, Bamyan  
provinces.

Project building and organize a list for characteristics of (58) historical monument in Sar-e-pul,  
Kapisa, Ghazni, Herat, Kandahar, Laghman, Zabul, Faryab, Nangarhar, Ghore, Parwan and Kabul  
provinces.

- We sent a board to manage Kala-e-Sarage project in Laghman provinces.
- The board has ordained to estimate the constructions which were broken by earth quake.

### **In part of monuments recovery department**

Control from duration of recovering projects and also historical monument which reconstructed.

By Aga Khan office controlled by us.

- Professional expeditions to estimate the secondary 28 historical monument projects,  
restoration Ghazni, Kandahar, Herat, Laghman, Faryab, Panjshir, Balkh, and Kabul.

P

- Completion and finishing work (60) restoration project that is exploited aquifer historical, in clearing through the office of the Aga Khan trust for culture and the Embassy of American has sent restoration.
- Work of (3) restoration project in Ghazni provinces remained unfinished due to low labor contractor Company and rest of the projects work is ongoing.

Assessment the documents tender offer repairing national.

Gallery and also assessment the documents tender offer treasury tower and the nation museum in Kabul.

- The department has appointed a professional committee to establish additional work operation tow towers and a teashop in national museum.

#### Part of department of rehabilitation old cities

- Survey and visit different parts of the old city of Kabul.
- Sending delegation to survey the historical of heart province.
- Sending delegation to survey of historical sites museum of immovable observed area of Hadah -e- Nangarhar province.
- Working on board of the ministry of finance to historical acquisition Murad khani area of Kabul.
- Take care of the state and condition of ancient's bagh qalah fatuh.

Munar elan jahel madarsa olia, masjid mullah mahmoodm maqbarh sha oqhar and shrine Abulfazil city of Kabul.

**In part of planning department.**

- Arrange and send a list of public monument historical to UNESCO office through the country.
- Work on ancient photographic exhibition and holding SAARC festival in Bamyan.
- Photo-month exhibition at the shrine of teimurshahi in Kabul city and 31 monument historical restoration project in Ghazni province.
- Survey and registration of monuments historical shrine of Aba-Fazal Aba Khir, Masjid Sangi and stiopae nest to Qala-e-karnil , Qala-e-Farqa Mashor, Masjeed and shrine of Meanji in distract seventh of Kabul city.
- In order to preserve, protect and present historical monument enshrined in buildings plate frame 103 historical monument has been installed in Kabul.
- The number (666) enshrined plate frame has been transferred to 32 provinces.
- Installation work number (825) signboard enshrined in the country's historical monuments.
- According to the latest reports and data collected in order to richness of historical monument of da database work is done on it.
- Historical sites across the country and take care of continually checking is performed.
- The preparation and presentation of this report is as described above.

**With respect.**



**Archit. Abdul Ahad Abassi**

**Director of Preservation and Restoration of Historical Monuments**