Unit 49

Hand-out 1:

Revising the operational directives

**(A)** **Decision 8.COM 5c.1 at 11(b) requests the Secretariat to:**

Revise all relevant documents and forms (including the Operational Directives, the Periodic Reporting formats, and nomination files) to include gender-specific guidance and questions (Recommendation 1)

**(B)** **Paragraph 14 of Draft Operational Directives on ‘Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development at the national level’ (Annex to Document ITH/14/9.COM/13.b):**

States Parties shall endeavour to foster the contributions of intangible cultural heritage to greater gender equality and to eliminating gender-based discrimination, while recognizing that communities pass on their values, norms and expectations related to gender through intangible cultural heritage and it is therefore a privileged context in which community members’ gender identities are shaped. To that end, States Parties are encouraged to:

1. take advantage of intangible cultural heritage’s potential to create common spaces for dialogue on how best to achieve gender equality, taking into account the diverse perspectives of all stakeholders;
2. promote the important role that intangible cultural heritage can play in building mutual respect among communities and groups whose members may not share the same conceptions of gender;
3. foster scientific studies and research methodologies, including those conducted by the communities themselves, aimed at understanding the diversity of gender roles within particular expressions of intangible cultural heritage;
4. ensure gender equality in the planning, management and implementation of safeguarding measures, at all levels and in all contexts, in order to take full advantage of the diverse perspectives of all members of society.

**(C)** Additional documents available online that reflect an increase in the gender responsive approach by State parties include: Periodic reports, Aide-memoire and Nominations [[1]](#footnote-1).

1. See examples of Nominations by [Japan](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00011&RL=00869) and the [Republic of Korea](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00011&RL=00881) in 8 COM, as well as [Burundi](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00011&RL=00989) and [Portugal](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00011&RL=01007) in 9 COM.

Also see the 23 July 2014: Aide-mémoires for completing nominations for the RL ([English](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ICH-02-2016_aide-m%C3%A9moire-EN.doc%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)|[French](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ICH-02-2016_aide-m%C3%A9moire-FR.docx)) and USL ([English](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ICH-01-2016_aide-m%C3%A9moire-EN.doc%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)|[French](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ICH-01-2016_aide-m%C3%A9moire-FR.doc))

Also see various examples of [period reports](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00460) (from [Egypt](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/download.php?versionID=18480), [Brazil](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/download.php?versionID=26287), [Burkina Faso](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/download.php?versionID=33231), [Vietnam](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/download.php?versionID=18524), etc.) and [reports submitted to the Committee](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00460) that note a gender-responsive approach, [↑](#footnote-ref-1)