**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION**

**Seventh session**

**UNESCO Headquarters, Room II**

**4 to 6 June 2018**

**Item 14 of the Provisional Agenda:**

**Election of the members of the Intergovernmental Committee
for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**

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| **Summary**Article 5 of the Convention provides that the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage shall consist of representatives of twenty-four States Parties to the Convention. Article 6 states that the General Assembly shall renew half of the States Members of the Committee every two years.**Decision required:** paragraph 8 |

1. Article 5 of the Convention provides that the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage shall consist of twenty-four States Members elected by the General Assembly of the States Parties.
2. In conformity with Article 6 of the Convention, States Members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years. The election shall obey the principles of equitable geographical representation and rotation. Every two years, the General Assembly shall renew half of the States Members of the Committee. It shall also elect as many States Members of the Committee as required to fill vacancies. A State Member of the Committee may not be elected for two consecutive terms.
3. Furthermore, as stipulated in the Rule 13 of the Rules of Procedures of the General Assembly, the election of Members of the Committee shall be conducted on the basis of the electoral groups of UNESCO, it being understood that ‘Group V’ shall consist of two separate groups for the African and Arab States. The seats in the Committee shall be distributed among electoral groups in proportion to the number of States Parties from each group, provided that, after such distribution, at least three seats would be attributed to each group.
4. In accordance with Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, three months prior to the date of the election, the Secretariat intended all States Parties whether they wished to stand for election to the Committee. The provisional list of candidate States Parties is included in document [ITH/18/7.GA/INF.14](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/ITH-18-7.GA-INF.14-EN.docx) and will be revised as necessary.
5. According to Article 26.5 of the Convention, ‘[a]ny State Party to this Convention which is in arrears with the payment of its compulsory or voluntary contribution for the current year and the calendar year immediately preceding it shall not be eligible as a Member of the Committee’; and ‘[t]he term of office of any such State which is already a Member of the Committee shall come to an end at the time of the elections’.
6. Furthermore, in conformity with Rule 14.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, ‘[n]o payments of compulsory and voluntary contributions to the Fund (for the purpose of presenting a candidature to the Committee) will be accepted later than a week before the opening of the Assembly’. In this regard and pursuant to Rule 14.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, document [ITH/18/7.GA/INF.14](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/ITH-18-7.GA-INF.14-EN.docx) contains the information on the status of all compulsory and voluntary contributions to the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage made by each of the candidate State Parties for the years 2017 and 2018 respectively, as well as on the date of their last payment.
7. The election of Members of the Committee is conducted in accordance with Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, and in particular with Rule 15.1: ‘The election of Members of the Committee shall be conducted by secret ballot except that, where the number of candidates within geographical distribution is the same as or less than the number of seats to be filled, the candidates shall be declared elected without the need to hold a ballot’.
8. The General Assembly may wish to adopt the following resolution:

**DRAFT RESOLUTION 7.GA 14**

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined document ITH/18/7.GA/14,

2. Recalling Articles 5, 6 and 26.5 of the Convention and Rules 13, 14 and 15 of its Rules of Procedure,

3. Further recalling Resolution 7.GA 4,

4. Elects the following 12 States Parties to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage for a term of four years from the date of election:

Group I:

Group II:

Group III:

Group IV:

Group V(a):

Group V(b):