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REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
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Mme Cecile Duvelle
Secretary, Convention for the Safeguarding
of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
Chief, Intangible Cultural Heritage Section
UNESCO
1, rue Miollis
75732 Paris
Cedex 15, FRANCE

Nicosia, 14 January 2010

Dear Madame Duvelle,

Modalities and Methods of facilitating the contribution of NGO's from Developing Countries

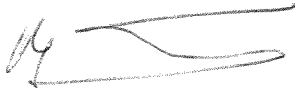
With regard to your letter, dated November 3rd 2009, on the issue of NGO's from Developing Countries we would like to respectfully submit the following suggestion:

It is a fact that, many International NGO's which are recognized by UNESCO/ICH, already operate in many developing countries throughout the world. Many NGO's already possess the skill, personnel, expertise, experience and the will power to create some new local NGO's and enrich the activities of existing ones in the developing countries. These international NGO's, under the supervision of UNESCO and the authorization of the hosting countries, could build partnerships with local NGO's and organize seminars, which could assist the development of the local NGO's, focusing on the following issues: a) how to get people involved in NGO's by highlighting the importance of ICH, b) how NGO's could become economically self-sufficient and how to apply for international funding and c) how NGO's could potentially become economically profitable.



This assistance, which can take both the form of sharing expertise and hiring and training, where possible, potential specialists in the various areas of ICH could continue for a period of five years, or as long as it is deemed necessary, until the local NGO's can operate independently and are accredited by UNESCO. Of, course, further collaboration between the international and local NGO's is eagerly encouraged.

The accreditation by UNESCO should be based on the work produced, with the cooperation of the international NGO's, according to the rules and regulations of UNESCO. Moreover, for the accreditation of local NGO's the required authorization of the national government should be obtained.



Dr. Ioannis Ionas



Pavlos Pavlou
Cypriot Experts for ICH Dr.