



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

Original: English

CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Fifth session
Kenya
November 2010

NOMINATION FILE NO. 00321 FOR INSCRIPTION ON THE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN NEED OF URGENT SAFEGUARDING IN 2010

<p>A. STATE(S) PARTY(IES) <i>For multi-national nominations, States Parties should be listed in the order on which they have mutually agreed. (See 8.a. below.)</i></p>
China
<p>B. NAME OF ELEMENT <i>See 1.a. below</i> <i>Not to exceed 200 characters.</i></p>
The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks
<p>C. COMMUNITY(IES), GROUP(S) OR, IF APPLICABLE, INDIVIDUAL(S) CONCERNED <i>See 1.c. below</i> <i>Not to exceed 100 words.</i></p>
The core regions (communities) transmitting the heritage are Jinjiang City and the Jiaocheng District of Ningde City, in south China's Fujian Province. The representative transmitters are Fangcai Chen of Jinjiang City, and Xixiu Liu and Zhaowei Liu of the Jiaocheng District in Ningde City.

D. BRIEF TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE NOMINATED ELEMENT

The brief description of the element will be particularly helpful in allowing the Committee to know at a glance what element is being proposed for inscription, and, in the event of inscription, may be used for purposes of visibility.

Not to exceed 200 words.

The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks is an age-old craft for the construction of ocean-going vessels with watertight-bulkhead compartments in South China's Fujian Province. The vessels are made mainly of camphor, pine and fir timber, and assembled through use of traditional carpenters' tools. They are built by applying the key technologies of rabbet-jointing planks together and caulking the seams between the planks with ramie, lime and tung oil. A master craftsman designs and directs the whole process. A large number of craftsmen work in close coordination to build solidly rabbeted ocean vessels consisting of multiple independently watertight cabins. The core technology for building such vessels is called The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks. This has been one of shipbuilding history's great inventions. It has contributed significantly to the improvement of navigation safety and to the promotion of human communication and exchange, thus stimulating the spread of civilization.

E. BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE VIABILITY OF THE ELEMENT, ITS NEED FOR SAFEGUARDING AND THE PROPOSED SAFEGUARDING MEASURES

This statement should briefly justify why the element is being proposed for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List and how its viability might be strengthened through the safeguarding measures proposed below.

Not to exceed 300 words.

The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks occupies a crucial place in the history of Chinese shipbuilding. Today people of the communities transmitting this craft still consider it an integral part of their local cultural heritage. However, only three craftsmen have full command of The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, and their average age is more than 50 years old, while about 60 others participate in its transmission. With the development of modern deep-sea fisheries, ironclad ships eventually replaced wooden vessels and the need for the technology to construct Fujianese junks has sharply decreased. Popular recognition of this element of Fujian's cultural identity has also fallen sharply.

Relevant communities and the Chinese Government have adopted a series of measures to sustain this heritage. They include placing The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks on the list of intangible cultural heritage under national protection, providing economic support to the transmitters, intensifying publicity efforts, and improving the mechanisms for supporting the heritage's transmission.

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ELEMENT

Items 1.a. to 1.e. should clearly identify the element and specify how it should be referred to if it is inscribed in the List. The information in items 1.a. through 1.e. should be mutually coherent and provide the Committee a clear idea of the identity of the element being nominated for inscription.

1.a. Name of element

This is the official name of the element that will appear in published material about the Urgent Safeguarding List. It should be concise. Please do not exceed 200 characters, including spaces and punctuation. Names should be romanized, without special fonts or characters.

The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks

<p>1.b. Other name(s) of the element, if any</p> <p><i>This may include for instance the name in the language and script of the community concerned, or another name by which the element is also known.</i></p>
<p>Craftsmanship for the construction of Fujianese junks</p>
<p>1.c. Identification of the community(ies), group(s) or, if applicable, individual(s) concerned and their location</p> <p><i>Because intangible heritage can only be identified with reference to communities, groups or individuals that recognize it as part of their cultural heritage, it is important to identify clearly the community(ies), group(s) or, if applicable, individual(s) concerned with the nominated element. The Convention provides no definition of a community, but the information here should allow the Committee to identify the primary parties concerned with an element, and should be mutually coherent with the relevant sections below.</i></p>
<p>The core regions (communities) transmitting the heritage are Jinjiang City and the Jiaocheng District of Ningde City, in South China's Fujian Province. The representative transmitters are Fangcai Chen of Jinjiang City, and Xixiu Liu and Zhaowei Liu of the Jiaocheng District in Ningde City.</p>
<p>1.d. Geographic location and range of the element</p> <p><i>This section should identify the range of distribution of the element, indicating if possible the geographic location(s) in which it is concentrated. If related elements are practised in neighbouring areas, please so indicate.</i></p>
<p>The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks is largely practiced in the regions between 118 and 120 degrees east longitude, and between 24'30 and 27 degrees north latitude. They comprise the coastal townships of Fujian Province, particularly those of Jinjiang City and the Jiaocheng District of Ningde City, with influence spreading to the Quangang District and Hui'an County in Quanzhou City, as well as to Fu'an Town, Xiapu County and Fuding Town in Ningde City.</p>
<p>1.e. Domain(s) represented by the element</p> <p><i>Identify the domain(s) of intangible cultural heritage manifested by the element, which might include one or more of the domains identified in Article 2.2 of the Convention.</i></p>
<p>The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks falls under the category of 'traditional craftsmanship' in clause 2.5 of Article 2, Chapter I of UNESCO's 'Convention for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity'.</p>
<p>2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ELEMENT (CF. CRITERION U.1)</p> <p><i>This is the key section of the nomination to satisfy criterion U.1: "The element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention". A clear and complete description is essential to demonstrate to the Committee that the nominated element meets the Convention's definition of intangible heritage.</i></p> <p><i>The description should provide the Committee with sufficient information to determine:</i></p> <p><i>that the element is among the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills</i> <i>— as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith</i> <i>—</i></p> <p><i>that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize [it] as part of their</i></p>

cultural heritage;

that it is being transmitted from generation to generation, [and] is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history;

that it provides communities and groups involved with a sense of identity and continuity;
and

that it is not incompatible with existing international human rights instruments as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and of sustainable development.

The description should refer to all the significant features of the element as it exists at present and should include discussion of its social and cultural functions at present, the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners, any special roles or categories of persons with specific responsibilities towards the element, among others. Nomination files need not address in detail the history of the element, or its origin or antiquity.

Not to exceed 1,000 words.

The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks is an age-old craft for the construction of ocean-going vessels with watertight compartments in South China's Fujian Province. The vessels are made mainly of camphor, pine and fir timber, and assembled through use of traditional carpenters' tools. They are built by applying the key technologies of rabbet-jointing planks together and caulking the seams between the planks with ramie, lime and tung oil. A master craftsman designs and directs the whole process. A large number of craftsmen work in close coordination to build solidly rabbeted ocean-going vessels consisting of multiple independently watertight cabins. The core technology for building such vessels is called The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks.

Watertight bulkheads are the most important step in building Chinese junks. To start with, the craftsmen build an integral hull by joining the vessel's bilge and sides. The hull is then divided into cabins according to the function and size of the ship. The whole process is manual. Planks are rabbet-jointed together. And then interlocked to the bilge and on to frames or held with crampons. Ramie fiber, lime and tung oil are mixed in the proper proportion to wedge into any gaps between planks and make the cabins waterproof. The tools are largely those used by traditional Chinese carpenters, such as axes, carpenter's ink markers, hand drills, rulers, maces, pit saws, chisels and planers.

Chinese junks are subdivided into multiple watertight cabins. If in the course of navigation one or two cabins are accidentally damaged, seawater will not flood other cabins. The vessel will not sink, but remain afloat. This greatly improves navigation safety. This technology has been widely used over the centuries in fishing vessels, cargo ships, warships, and diplomatic vessels. In particular, Fujian's ocean-going cargo ships sailing along the Maritime Silk Road during the Song and Yuan dynasties, and the fleets commanded by Ming Dynasty navigator Zheng He in his seven voyages to the West, fully adopted this technology. The technology has served as a bridge and unifier in the exchange between Eastern and Western civilizations. In the late 18th century this technology was finally adopted in the West. Since then Watertight bulkheads have become an important structural element in modern ship design, remain so today and have greatly enhanced navigation safety.

The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks dates back to the Jin Dynasty (265—420 AD). It was passed down and improved in relevant communities through the Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. This is exemplified by a Song Dynasty ocean-going cargo vessel built with a watertight-bulkhead structure that was brought to the surface in Quanzhou Bay.

This technique is largely transmitted through oral direction from masters to apprentices and among family members. It forms a coherent technological system, has a documented line of continuous transmission, and has been sustained by the transmitters and by community recognition. The craftsman presiding over watertight-bulkhead Fujianese-junk construction is addressed respectfully as Master Craftsman. The master craftsmen command the core technology, take charge of design and construction, and play an important role in orderly transmission of the heritage. So far, transmitters Fangcai Chen, Xixiu Liu and Zhaowei Liu of the heritage all have a complete command of hull construction and the core techniques of rabbet

jointing, crampon joining and caulking seams with ramie, lime and tung oil. Their transmission lines have been recorded orally from master to apprentice or in genealogical records.

Watertight-bulkhead Chinese junks were the fishing vessels and ocean-going ships of Fujian Province. They ensure the safety of fishermen and sailors. Over the centuries, local communities established the custom of holding solemn memorial ceremonies to pray for peace and safety before beginning construction of Fujianese junks, as well as upon their completion before launch and maiden voyage. Such practices have strengthened relations among practitioners, and are widely observed in the communities transmitting the heritage.

In 2007 the China Sailing Vessel Development Center, based in Fulong, Fujian Province, commissioned master craftsman Fangcai Chen to design and build a non-motorized 13-cabin watertight-bulkhead wooden Fujianese junk, named the Taiping Princess. The vessel successfully sailed across the Pacific Ocean. The event enormously raised the heritage's public profile in the transmitting communities. Thus, in 2010, some relevant organizations reached a preliminary agreement with Fangcai Chen to construct a replica of the sunken Song Dynasty vessel South China Sea No.1.

3. NEED FOR URGENT SAFEGUARDING (CF. CRITERION U.2)

Items 3.a. and 3.b. are the key section of the nomination to justify why an element should be inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List. The nomination should demonstrate (Criterion U.2) either that:

a) The element is in urgent need of safeguarding because its viability is at risk despite the efforts of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals and State(s) Party(ies) concerned.

Or, that:

b) The element is in extremely urgent need of safeguarding because it is facing grave threats as a result of which it cannot be expected to survive without immediate safeguarding.

N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, if the element meets the conditions of paragraph "b", the Committee may wish to expedite its examination of the nomination. Cases of extreme urgency may include, for instance, natural disaster, environmental change, epidemic, armed conflict, the destruction of or lack of access to places and/or natural resources important for its enactment or transmission, or other acute threatening conditions.

3.a. Viability assessment

Describe the current level of viability of the element, particularly the frequency and extent of its practice, the strength of traditional modes of transmission, the demographics of practitioners and audiences and its sustainability.

Not to exceed 500 words.

The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, a key invention of ancient Chinese shipbuilding, has contributed to the progress of human civilization. The craftsmanship for the construction of watertight bulkheads remains widely applied in the modern shipbuilding industry. The skill of mixing ramie, lime and tung oil to caulk seams has proved to be scientifically supported. Its advantages lie in being natural and, therefore, environmentally friendly, while proving to be a strong adhesive. It is still widely used in the construction of coastal fishing vessels, outboard motor boats and motorized sailboats.

In a 2006-07 survey revealed that The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks is preserved merely in some communities along the coastal areas and on the islands of Fujian Province. There are only three 'master craftsmen', including Fangcai Chen, who know the core technology completely. Their average age is over 50. About 60 other persons are involved in practicing any of the procedures in wooden shipbuilding. They have made shipbuilding their primary livelihood. Plus, they have participated proactively in preparing this nomination documentation.

Following the emergence of ironclad powered ships, wooden watertight-bulkhead Chinese junks disappeared from the high seas. Only a few fishing vessels operating in coastal waters are built with this technology. Most shipyards producing wooden watertight-bulkhead Chinese junks have

closed down. A few surviving traditional shipbuilding villages linger on, but in steadily worsening condition. The technology is less and less applied and its potential has narrowed.

Building Fujianese junks used to be the main source of income for the technology's transmitters to support their families. Because raw materials are hard to obtain nowadays (watertight-bulkhead Fujianese junks are built with specially chosen timber, mostly fir, camphor or pine at least 30 years old), it's difficult to ensure the sustainability of raw material supply. Moreover, because labour cost is increasing, the cost of building Fujianese junks has skyrocketed. As a result, the heritage transmitters have to take part-time jobs or change job altogether. Fewer people are benefiting from the craftsmanship. Since shipbuilding demands professional knowledge and hard work, the profession of Master Craftsman has become less attractive to young people. All these factors have hindered the sustainable transmission and development of the craftsmanship. Only some of the craftsmen with outstanding skills manage to support themselves by making models of ocean-going vessels. Woodworking would be another job option provided they complete some specialized training.

3.b. Threat and risk assessment

This section should identify and describe the threats to the element's continued transmission and enactment and describe the severity and immediacy of those threats.

N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, please identify the grave threats to the element's viability and demonstrate that the element cannot be expected to survive among the concerned community, group or, if applicable, individuals without immediate and effective safeguarding.

Not to exceed 500 words.

Crisis in use of the heritage: along with the development of the modern ocean-going fishing industry, ironclad vessels have gradually replaced wooden ships, thus putting in danger the survival of the Chinese-junk building business. Furthermore, the short supply of large enough timber for the building of ocean-going vessels has caused prices to rise and this, together with soaring production costs, has made it even harder to construct ocean-going wooden vessels. Although wooden ships are still used by individual coastal fishermen, the economic return is unsatisfactory and the prospect looks bleak.

Crisis in transmission of the heritage: technology for the construction of Fujianese junks is transmitted by experienced master craftsmen, who have passed it down from one generation to the next, and through on-going usage of the craftsmanship. Since master craftsmen were largely illiterate and lacked accurate blueprints and measures, they had to store their experience and working methods in their mind and teach apprentices through oral direction. Today transmitters still treasure the art they learned from their ancestors; however, due to a lack of orders for building new ships, they are confronted with the immediate problem of how to continue supporting themselves. They are being forced to abandon their craft and look for other ways of making a living. Wooden vessel building requires specialized knowledge and hard work, but yields little income; hence it exerts little appeal to the young. Without enough younger transmitters, this craftsmanship is most likely to be lost.

4. SAFEGUARDING MEASURES (CF. CRITERION U.3)

Items 4.a. to 4.c. request the elaboration of a coherent set of safeguarding measures as called for in Criterion U.3.

U.3. Safeguarding measures are elaborated that may enable the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned to continue the practice and transmission of the element.

The safeguarding measures, if effectively implemented, should be expected to contribute substantially to the safeguarding of the element within a time-frame of approximately four years. They should include measures aimed at ensuring the viability of the element by enabling the community to continue its practice and transmission.

N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, the Committee may accept that, at the time of nomination, the safeguarding measures proposed do not yet form a well-elaborated action plan for safeguarding; elaboration of a comprehensive plan might thus be among the safeguarding measures outlined in such cases.

4.a. Current and recent efforts to safeguard the element

Describe the current and recent efforts of the concerned community, group or, if applicable individuals to ensure the viability of the element. Describe efforts of the concerned State(s) Party(ies) to safeguard the element, taking note of external or internal constraints such as limited resources.

N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, it is recognized that conditions may not have permitted the communities, groups, individuals and State(s) Party(ies) to initiate efforts for safeguarding the element at the time of nomination, and this lack should not prevent possible inscription of the element. If the element is inscribed, their involvement will of course be crucial for safeguarding to be successful.

Not to exceed 500 words.

1. In 2005 Fujian Province promulgated and implemented the Regulations of Fujian Province for Protecting Ethnic Cultures and Folklore, intended to safeguard all intangible cultural heritage within the area.
2. In 2006 and 2007 the transmitters of the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks from Jinjiang City, the Jiaocheng District of Ningde City, and relevant communities in other parts of Fujian Province actively participated in a survey about transmission of the technology. They collected and organized documents, traditional tools, and ancient vessels in order to facilitate protection of the heritage. Their efforts have contributed a great deal to inclusion of the technology in the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventories at all geopolitical levels, from local to national to international.
3. In 2008 the Quanzhou Ancient Ship Museum and the Shenhu Boat Museum were opened and made accessible to the public free of charge as a way to build up a sense of cultural identity within those communities.
4. In 2008-2009 Fangcai Chen, Xixiu Liu, and Zhaowei Liu consented to being, and were proclaimed, representative transmitters of this intangible cultural heritage at the provincial and national levels. Moreover, they were granted subsidies by different levels of government that are barely sufficient for transmission of this technology.
5. In 2009 experts, scholars and transmitters from relevant communities formed fieldwork teams to conduct thematic surveys. Safeguarding measures will be drawn up in 2011-2015 on the basis of information collected in those surveys.
6. In March 2010 the Jinjiang Municipal government spent 160,000 RMB on commissioning the transmitters to build models of 11 types of watertight-bulkhead Fujianese junks.
7. In 2010 Jinjiang City started producing textbooks on the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks and setting up learning centers for the craft, to spread knowledge of the technology to the younger generation and cultivate teenager interest in ancient shipbuilding technologies and traditional culture.

4.b. Safeguarding measures proposed

This section should identify and describe a coherent set of safeguarding measures that, within a time-frame of approximately four years, could substantially enhance the viability of the element, if implemented, and provide detailed information as follows:

- a) *What primary objective(s) will be addressed and what concrete results will be expected?*
- b) *What are the key activities to be carried out in order to achieve these expected results? Please describe the activities in detail and in their best sequence, addressing their feasibility.*
- c) *Management and implementation: Describe the mechanisms for the full participation of communities, groups or, if appropriate, individuals in the proposed safeguarding measures. Describe the implementing organization or body (name, background, etc.) and the human resources available for implementing the project.*
- d) *Timetable and budget: Provide a timetable for the proposed activities and estimate the funds required for their implementation, identifying any available resources (governmental sources, in-kind community inputs, etc.).*

Not to exceed 2,000 words.

To assure effective transmission of the craftsmanship for building Fujianese junks, representative transmitters at the different geo-political levels and community enthusiasts presented their comments and suggestions to local governments, coordinated with the governments of heritage transmitting communities, and helped establish safeguarding measures for 2011-2015. The governments and heritage organizations are expected to invest special funds of no less than 3.34 million RMB. The funds will be used to protect, transmit, promote, and conduct research on, this craftsmanship. Safeguarding measures will be established, transmission channels will be set up, the craftsmanship will be included in local social development programs and thereby signify the human culture peculiar to those communities, and uses will be ensured that pass down the craftsmanship. In pursuit of new ways to apply and transmit this craftsmanship, the core technology will be introduced into modern ship-building. This course of action will rejuvenate the craftsmanship and markedly improve its sustainability. Specific safeguarding measures will be adopted over the coming years as follows:

In 2011:

1. The governments of Jinjiang City and of the Jiaocheng District in Ningde City will start to implement Interim Measures for the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage Transmitters. The measures will provide venues and funds for transmitters' activities, offer them life insurance, and subsidize their on-going living expenses to steadily improve their social status. A total of 500,000 RMB is budgeted by local governments for this purpose.
2. The communities transmitting the heritage will nominate the venues for the transmitters' activities as bases of practical experience for local primary and secondary schools. To satisfy the transmission needs of different communities, activities like model-building of Fujianese junks will be conducted from time to time. The relevant communities' combined expected budget for such activities is 100,000 RMB annually.
3. The relevant communities will expand publicity by establishing archives and a database of Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks and by setting up special sections on relevant communities' websites. Their expected combined budget for such activities is 400,000 RMB.

In 2012:

1. The communities transmitting the heritage will sponsor an international seminar on The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, to which leading Chinese and foreign experts, scholars and transmitters will be invited. The proceedings of the seminar will be published to provide a solid theoretical basis for protection of the technology. The relevant communities' and local governments' expected budget for such activities is 800,000 RMB.
2. A Fujian Provincial Watertight-Bulkhead Shipbuilding Technology Association will be

established. The association will consist of representative transmitters at all levels, shipbuilding craftsmen, community enthusiasts, experts and scholars. Its main purpose will be exchange of experience, transmission protection, and development of the craftsmanship. It will also sponsor an Exhibition of Model Ships Built by the Representative Transmitters of the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks. Funds for these activities will be provided by the Association's members. The expected budget for such activities is 200,000 RMB.

3. Ceremonies will be held when transmitters take on apprentices. The relevant communities are expected to invest 10,000 RMB in such activities.
4. The representative transmitters, with their apprentices, will prepare to construct a replica of the Taiping Princess. This project will promote effective transmission of the craftsmanship. The expected budget for the initial stage is 200,000 RMB.

In 2013:

1. Protection measures will be improved and transmitters will receive increased economic support. The local governments' expected budget for this purpose is 100,000 RMB.
2. Communities transmitting the heritage will establish a Foundation for the Protection of the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, which will collect donations from home and abroad. The Foundation will operate with government support, donations from the general public, and a management structure to conduct on-going operations. It will supply funds to help those transmitters in economic difficulty and guarantee the effective protection and transmission of the craft.
3. Construction will be completed of a replica of the Taiping Princess together with related facilities. Ceremonies will be held to celebrate construction. The entire process of craftsmanship and related activities will be video-recorded. The expected budget is 300,000 RMB.

In 2014:

1. Publication of an Atlas of the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks. The Foundation is expected to invest 80,000 RMB in this.
2. Editing and publication of Collected Works on the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks. The foundation is expected to invest 100,000 RMB in this.
3. Beginning the preparatory stage for building a replica of Ming Dynasty navigator Zheng He's Treasure Ship, and hold a ceremony to mark the beginning of construction. Relevant communities and the Foundation are expected to invest 200,000 RMB in that initial stage.

In 2015:

1. The representative transmitters, with their apprentices, will proceed to building the replica of Ming Dynasty navigator Zheng He's Treasure Ship. This project will promote effective transmission of the craftsmanship. The entire process of craftsmanship and related activities will be video-recorded. The relevant communities and the Foundation are expected to raise 500,000 RMB for shipbuilding. Any shortfall will be made up for by special funds from the local government.
2. Setting up a training base in The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, and exhibiting the work of masters and apprentices. The relevant communities and the Foundation are expected to invest 50,000 RMB in this.

4.c. Commitments of States and of communities, groups or individuals concerned

The feasibility of safeguarding depends in large part on the aspirations and commitment of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and the support and cooperation of the State Party concerned. This section should demonstrate that the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned have the will and commitment to safeguard the element if conditions are favourable and that the State Party concerned has the commitment to support the safeguarding effort by creating favourable conditions for its implementation.

Not to exceed 500 words.

The transmitters of the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks and other participants in this craft pledge to put maximum effort in the protection, transmission, promotion and diffusion of the craftsmanship. In consideration of the role they play, the main inheritors will support transmission of the heritage by conducting promotional workshops, recruiting new apprentices and teaching the craft.

In the near future, Shenhu Town in Jinjiang City, and Zhangwan Town in the Jiaocheng District of Ningde City, Fujian Province, will deploy their resources to encourage continuation of the building of Fujianese junks. They also pledge to sponsor cultural functions related to The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks to cultivate community support for sustainable development of the craftsmanship.

The people's governments and cultural administrations of Jinjiang City, and the Jiaocheng District in Ningde City, pledge to ensure timely allocation of funds for medium and long-term financial support of plans and actions to safeguard the technology, by including this issue in their programs, their budgets and the minutes of their meetings. By 2013, they will take improved measures to benefit the transmitters, and increase the level of financial support to significantly improve the transmitters' economic and social status.

Consistent with the requirements of the Convention on the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the Chinese Government pledges to create all necessary conditions for safeguarding the craftsmanship for building Fujianese junks. The Chinese Government will provide all necessary support enabling the heritage to play its rightful role in a world of mutual respect and cultural diversity for the sustainable development of human society.

5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND CONSENT (CF. CRITERION U.4)

This section asks the submitting State Party to establish that the nomination satisfies Criterion U.4: "The element has been nominated following the widest possible participation of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and with their free, prior and informed consent".

5.a. Participation of communities, groups and individuals

Describe how the community, group and, if applicable, individuals concerned have participated in the nomination process at all stages, as required by Criterion U.4. States Parties are further encouraged to prepare nominations with the participation of a wide variety of other concerned parties, including where appropriate local and regional governments, neighbouring communities, NGOs, research institutes, centres of expertise and other interested parties.

Fangcai Chen, Xixiu Liu and Zhaowei Liu, transmitters of the Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, have participated in preparing the application to nominate this craftsmanship for entry on the Urgent Safeguarding List. Together with other transmitters of this technology, they have taken part in the surveys conducted by the fieldwork team. They also provided information on the craftsmanship's transmission lineage, visual material, traditional shipbuilding tools, etc. Fangcai Chen also led about 10 disciples, including Liangdun Yang, Rongliang Chen and Zhichun Chen, in building the Taiping Princess, an ocean-going Ming Dynasty watertight-bulkhead ship. Liangdun Yang and others also built a model of an ocean-going junk for the nomination, and it is on display at the Shenhu Ship Museum. Moreover, the transmitters have actively cooperated in a documentary film for the application, and provided valuable data,

pictures and video material.

Any proposal of safeguarding measures has always taken place with the inheritors' complete participation in the discussion. Any such measures fully reflect the ideas and suggestions of the inheritors.

To ensure effective preparation of the application, the Jinjiang Municipal People's Government formed a small leading group responsible for the application for nominating The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks for entry on the United Nations' Urgent Safeguarding List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. It also set aside special funds to finance work on the application and organized expert survey and study teams. The Fujian Provincial Department of Culture, the Jinjiang Municipal Cultural and Sports Bureau, and the Jiaocheng District Cultural and Sports Bureau have undertaken organizing, coordinating and drafting reports for the application. The Chinese Ministry of Culture, the Chinese Academy of Arts, and the Protection Center of Intangible Cultural Heritage of China directed, evaluated and organized the application work. China Central Television (CCTV) was responsible for producing a video program for the nomination. We also invited experts and scholars from such professional institutions as the Intangible Cultural Protection Center of China, the Quanzhou City Overseas Communication History Museum, and the Jinjiang City Museum, to participate in preparing the documentation, particularly by giving technical advice and assistance in the translation of technical terms.

Preservation of the technology not only contributes to the production and livelihood of the community, but also provides it with a better understanding of the heritage's viability.

5.b. Free, prior and informed consent

The free, prior and informed consent of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned may be demonstrated through written or recorded concurrence, or through other means, according to the legal regimens of the State Party and the infinite variety of communities and groups concerned. The Committee prefers to welcome a broad range of demonstrations or attestations of community consent rather than specifying any single standard.

The governments of communities engaged in preserving the craftsmanship for building Fujianese junks have made a written request to nominate The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks for entry on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. Transmitters Fangcai Chen of Shenhu Town in Jinjiang City, Xixiu Liu and Zhaowei Liu of Zhangwan Town in the Jiaocheng District of Ningde City, have added their signatures to that request and, in accordance with traditional solemn Chinese custom, also applied their thumbprints in declaration of their full awareness and approval of the request. (See copy of the seals and signatures).

5.c. Respect for customary practices governing access to the element

Demonstrate that inscription and implementation of the safeguarding measures fully respects customary practices governing access to specific aspects of such heritage, if such practices exist (cf. Article 13). Describe any specific measures that might need to be taken to ensure such respect.

None

6. INCLUSION ON AN INVENTORY (CF. CRITERION U.5)

This section is where nominators establish that the nomination satisfies Criterion U.5: "The element is included in an inventory of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies), as defined in Articles 11 and 12".

Identify the inventory in which the element is included and the office, agency, organization or body responsible for maintaining that inventory. The nominated element's inclusion in an inventory should not in any way imply or require that the inventory(ies) should have been completed prior to nomination. Rather, a submitting State Party may be in the process of meeting its obligations to draw up one or more inventories, but has already duly included the nominated element on an inventory-in-progress.

N.B. In cases of extreme urgency, the Committee may wish to interpret this requirement more flexibly in its evaluation of nominations.

As a state party to UNESCO's 'Convention for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity', China has established a 4-level safeguarding mechanism from local to national. The fieldwork staff for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage collects a wide range of oral information and local documents and conducts face-to-face interviews with transmitters and relevant organizations. Based on the results of gathering these materials, they make an objective description of a craftsmanship's current transmission situation, and then report to successively higher levels. To ensure effective protection of The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks, the heritage was thus included in the second batch of elements listed as National-level Intangible Cultural Heritage by the State Council in June 2008. The authority in charge of the list is the Intangible Cultural Heritage Department of the Chinese Ministry of Culture.

Communities and groups taking part in the nominating process included shipbuilding craftsmen from Shenhu Town in Jinjiang City and Zhangwan Town in Ningde City, together with the staff of the Cultural and Sports Bureau of Jinjiang City, the Cultural and Sports Service Center of Shenhu Town in Jinjiang City, the Cultural and Sports Bureau of Jiaocheng District in Ningde City, and the Cultural and Sports Service Center of Zhangwan Town in Ningde City. Finally, the nomination was examined by the State Intangible Cultural Heritage Expert Committee and submitted to the State Council for approval and announcement.

DOCUMENTATION

a. Required and supplementary documentation

Required documentation provided.

b. Cession of rights including registry of items

Annexed.

c. List of additional resources

None

CONTACT INFORMATION**a. Contact person for correspondence**

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b. Competent body involved

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c. Concerned community organization(s) or representative(s)

Cultural and Sports Service Center of Shenhu Town, Jinjiang City, Fujian Province, PRC
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Tel: 0086—595—88280512

SIGNATURE ON BEHALF OF THE STATE PARTY

Name: Li Dongwen

Title: Director General, Bureau for External Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture

Date: 9 March 2009

Signature: <signed>