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

**Open-ended intergovernmental working group
in the framework of the global reflection on the listing mechanisms**

**Online**

**25 and 26 April 2022 (Part III)**

**Item 12 of the Provisional Agenda:**

**Report to the Intergovernmental Committee**

**Introduction**

1. The Open-ended intergovernmental working group in the framework of the global reflection on the listing mechanisms of the 2003 Convention (hereafter ‘the working group’) was first convened online in two Parts: Part I on 8 and 9 July 2021 and Part II on 9 and 10 September 2021. The recommendations of Part I and Part II of the working group’s meeting were presented in December 2021 to the sixteenth session of the Committee in the form of draft amendments to the Operational Directives (document [LHE/21/16.COM/14](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-21-16.COM-14-EN.docx)). The Committee in turn discussed and decided to recommend that the ninth session of the General Assembly revise the Operational Directives on the basis of and reflecting the spirit of the recommendations of Part I and Part II of the working group (Decision [16.COM 14](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/16.COM/14)).
2. While the working group successfully addressed the priority reflection topics, the sixteenth session of the Committee requested that the working group undertake a discussion on additional issues identified by the Committee and the working group (Decision [16.COM 14](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/16.COM/14), paragraph 11 and Annex I, ‘Ways forward’). Accordingly, the mandate of the working group was extended to meet online for Part III of its meeting on 25 and 26 April 2022.
3. The working group once again expressed its gratitude to the Government of Japan for having supported all parts of the meeting, including Part III, as well as the earlier expert consultation phase. The working group also commended all stakeholders involved for making it possible to successfully undertake this reflection despite the challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
4. The Bureau established for Part I and Part II of the working group’s meeting remained in office until the end of Part III and was composed of H.E. Mr Atsuyuki Oike (Japan) as Chairperson and of five Vice-Chairpersons, who also acted as Rapporteurs: Germany, Poland, Peru, Côte d’Ivoire and Kuwait.

**Ways forward**

1. Based on its debates, the working group will adopt the recommendations of its Part III meeting. The draft text of the recommendations will be proposed during the meeting.
2. The working group may decide, if it deems necessary, to request as it was the case for Parts I and II that the Secretariat prepare a set of draft amendments to the Operational Directives, on the basis of the debates. This is to reflect the recommendations of its Part III meeting (presented on page 3 of the present document), for examination by the fifth extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee (online, 31 May 2022).
3. If the fifth extraordinary session of the Committee so decides, the amendments to the Operational Directives that correspond to the recommendations to be made by Part III of the working group meeting may be presented (together with those recommended by Part I and Part II of the working group meeting) to the General Assembly for examination and adoption at its ninth session (UNESCO Headquarters, 5 to 7 July 2022).

**Recommendations of the Open-ended intergovernmental working group (Part III)**

[To be proposed during Part III of the working group’s meeting.]