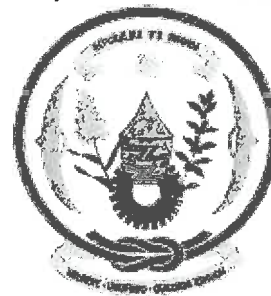




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Intangible Cultural Heritage

Reçu CLT/LHE	
Le	31 MARS 2023
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Original: French

CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Nomination file for inscription in 2024 on Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

A. State Party or States Parties

Republic of Rwanda

B. Name of the element

B.1. Name of the element in the languages and scripts of the community(ies) concerned

Intore

B.2. Name of the element in English

Intore

C. Name of the communities, groups or individuals concerned

The Rwandan population, from everywhere and through the ages.

1. General information about the element

For Criterion R.1, States shall demonstrate that 'the element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention'.

1.1. *Provide a brief description of the element that can introduce it to readers who have never seen or experienced it.*

Not to exceed 200 words

Intore is a Rwandan dance performed by a troupe of the same name, Intore. Intore dancers perform *Imihamirizo* pantomimes organized in several lines imitating the ranks of ancient warriors on the battlefield. As a performing art, the Intore dance is codified with a slow and jerky rhythm, where you have to gauge the movements of the invisible adversary. As dancers, Intore leap gracefully wielding their spears and shields with agility. Bodies twist and undulate to the exact rhythm of beating *ingoma* drums and resounding *amakondera* horns. Each movement is executed with masterful precision in perfect synchronization with the other dancers. Mimicking the battle, they dodge and retaliate, supported by songs of victory and poems exalting

strength and exploits, bow to greet their audience who cheers loud and clear.

- 1.2. *Who are the bearers and practitioners of the element? Are there any specific roles, including gender-related ones or categories of persons with special responsibilities for the practice and transmission of the element? If so, who are they and what are their responsibilities?*

Not to exceed 100 words

At the very beginning, were taken as holders of the Intore troops, the royal court, the chiefs and notables throughout the country. Under King Mutara III Rudahigwa (1931-1959), the Intore dance flourished as Intore himself was reputed to be very skillful. Today, the bearers of this heritage are found in all categories of the Rwandan population. National ballet and dance troupes are spread over the hills and villages across the country.

- 1.3. *How are the knowledge and skills related to the element transmitted today?*

Not to exceed 100 words

To perpetuate the Intore dance, training sessions are regularly organized by practicing dancers in schools from primary to university. At the village level, transmission takes place in their living environment through social and family organizations. The know-how related to the manufacture of costumes and dance instruments is transmitted to new generations by women, in the case of manes, and by men, in the case of drums.

- 1.4. *What social functions and cultural meanings does the element have nowadays for the communities concerned?*

Not to exceed 100 words

The Intore dance remains at the rendezvous of socio-cultural festivities, the reception of distinguished guests, family ceremonies such as marriage and the harvest festival, Umuganura. The Intore dance has greatly contributed to the reconstruction of the social fabric torn by the genocide perpetrated against the Tutsi in 1994. In Rwandan culture, Intore symbolizes victory and greatness, power and elegance, strength and self-control. The harmonious movements of the team and the supremacy of the playmakers manifest the order and discipline of practitioners.

- 1.5. *Can the State Party or States Parties confirm that nothing in the element is incompatible with existing international human rights instruments?*

Not to exceed 50 words

Yes, the Intore dance is not incompatible with existing international human rights instruments. It contributes to social cohesion and the safeguarding of human cultural values.

- 1.6. *Can the State Party or States Parties confirm that nothing in the element could be perceived as not compatible with the requirement of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals?*

Not to exceed 50 words

Yes, Intore dance is a reflection of all Rwandans of all ages, all generations, from all over the country. It is the link between all sections of the population and contributes to strengthening cohesion and social inclusion.

1.7. *Can the State Party or States Parties confirm that nothing in the element could be perceived as not compatible with the requirement of sustainable development?*

Not to exceed 50 words

Yes, Intore dance cannot be perceived as incompatible with the requirements of sustainable development. It integrates people from various categories into the process of sustainable development, offers several opportunities in income-generating activities and contributes to job creation, especially among young people.

1.8. *Are there customary practices governing access to the element? If yes, describe any specific measures that are in place to ensure their respect.*

Not to exceed 100 words

No, no customary practice governs access to the Intore dance. Every Rwandan has the full right to manifest themselves, to exhibit themselves next to the Intore dancers. Even foreigners wishing to learn this dance have no limits or constraints.

1.9. *Audiovisual materials about the element*

- 10 recent photographs in high definition are submitted
- Form ICH-07-photo is attached to grant rights for the 10 photos submitted
- A video is submitted
- Form ICH-07-video is attached to grant rights for the video submitted

2. Contribution to visibility, awareness, dialogue and sustainable development

For **Criterion R.2**, the States **shall demonstrate that 'Inscription of the element will contribute to ensuring visibility and awareness of the significance of the intangible cultural heritage and to encouraging dialogue, thus reflecting cultural diversity worldwide and testifying to human creativity'**. In addition, States are encouraged, with reference to Chapter VI of the Operational Directives, to recognize the interdependence between the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development.

Given its extensive nature, criterion R.2 will be assessed based on the information provided in the nomination file as a whole including the answers provided in this section.

Do communities concerned consider that the element contributes to the following?

- Food security
- Health care
- Quality education
- Gender equality
- Inclusive economic development
- Environmental sustainability including climate change
- Peace and social cohesion
- Others (please specify):

Provide explanations in support of the statement(s) made above, as appropriate.

Not to exceed 200 words

The Intore took part in the 1958 Brussels Universal Exhibition and won six first international trophies at festivals in Mallorca in Spain, Maataf in Israel, Brazzaville in Congo and Agrigento in Italy between 1996 and 2006.

The *Banque du Congo Belge et du Ruanda Urundi* and the National Bank of Rwanda issued in 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1948, 1949 respectively, 1952, 1988, 1998 and 2019, thirteen banknotes with effigy of Intore.

Intore dance is a complete sport that contributes to the well-being of practitioners, to the improvement of their physical and mental health. Each school in the country has a cultural troupe including the Intore dance, which is a channel for transmitting elite values.

Intore is a source of income and an opportunity for job creation through the services provided and the sale of the instruments and costumes made.

During campaigns for the protection of the environment and issues related to climate change, various institutions use the services of Intore to convey the message to the population.

After the genocide perpetrated against the Tutsi in Rwanda, the concept of Intore embodies conviviality and living together and has contributed to the country's efforts to mend the torn social fabric.

States are encouraged to submit audiovisual materials that convey the communities' voice in support of the statements made above.

- Materials (written, audio-visual or any other way) are submitted

3. Safeguarding measures

For **Criterion R.3**, States **shall demonstrate that 'safeguarding measures are elaborated that may protect and promote the element'**.

What safeguarding measures are put in place to protect and promote the element? Include in your answer the communities' role in the planning and implementation of measures described.

Not to exceed 500 words

The Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015 whose second paragraph of its preamble stipulates that Rwandans have the privilege of having the same culture and a long common history which should allow them to have a common vision of their destiny. Article 11 specifies that Rwandans initiate endogenous mechanisms, based on their values, with a view to building the Nation, promoting national culture and restoring dignity. Article 47 prescribes that the State has the duty to safeguard and promote national values based on cultural traditions and practices. The State also has the duty to ensure the conservation of the national cultural heritage.

Law N° 28/2016 of 22/7/2016 on the preservation of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge creates, in its article 6, the National Ballet of which Intore occupies the first place. The Prime Minister's Order establishing the National Ballet, its mission, its operation and its structure is in the process of being adopted.

Article 7 of the aforementioned Law provides for an inventory of cultural heritage as an act of identification of the element, classification, enhancement and its protection as a safeguard measure. Intore is on the list of the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage.

Other safeguarding measures for intangible cultural heritage, including Intore, are defined in the National Cultural Heritage Policy, the orientations of the National Strategy for Transformation (2017-2024) and Vision 2050. The District Development Strategy provides for the establishment of a talent detection center in each district to safeguard cultural heritage, including Intore dance. All 30 districts have cultural dance troupes whose members are selected from among the best dancers in local administrative entities.

Inter-school dance competitions contribute enormously to the detection of young talent. These obviously supply the local troupes. As for university troupes, each year the start of the academic year offers newly admitted students the opportunity to join the dance troupes of their elders.

The Rwanda Cultural Heritage Academy, a specific institution responsible for the safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage which operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Youth and Culture. It conducts and publishes research, collects objects and produces audio-visual documentaries on traditional dance and Intore in particular.

The National Ethnographic Museum has among other objects a permanent exhibition of images of Intore, while the Mausoleum of National Heroes plans to make Intore a symbol of the philosophy of elitism in its exhibition. The ethnographic museum offers its visitors the daily opportunity to attend live Intore performances by its *Urugangazi* troupe. It also organizes a mentoring program for students in holydays, where they learn the Intore dance.

During the process of drafting laws, policies and national and local strategies, the population is always consulted through debates within the villages and radio and television broadcasts.

The preservation of the Intore dance is ensured in the foreground by the population holding this heritage. Registered cultural dance troupes are freely grouped within the Federation Rwandaise de Danse Traditionnelle, which is a non-governmental organization.

4. Community participation in the nomination process and consent

For Criterion R.4, States shall demonstrate that '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'.

4.1. *Describe how the communities, groups or individuals concerned have actively participated in all stages of the preparation of the nomination.*

Not to exceed 300 words

The process of drawing up the national inventory of the intangible cultural heritage and the nomination file for the representative list of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity dates from 2017 with the project for the evaluation of the implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

During quarterly sessions with local partners in the cultural sector, members of the Rwandan Federation of Traditional Dance, officers in charge of culture at the district level, media professionals as well as bearers and practitioners of Intore Dance have contributed to the preparation of the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage. These consultation sessions gave rise to field trips to gather opinions from the population, men and women included, on the preparation for the inscription of Intore on the list of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity.

Before the preparation of the nomination file, the element was identified with the participation of the members of the dance troupes and the representatives of the national ballet of Rwanda as well as the opinion leaders representing the different districts. sessions were organized to collect data relating to intangible cultural heritage. In 2019, broadcasts were organized on national television to gather public opinions, especially during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, when travel was restricted.

Intore dancers, experts in the safeguarding of cultural heritage, living human treasures individually, and members of associations of the elderly collectively, gave their endorsement to this nomination file and contributed to all stages of the preparation of the nomination of this element. The documents showing their consent are attached to this file.

The members of the association of the elderly, the manufacturers and sellers of instruments, tools and costumes of the Intore dancers also took part in the preparation of this nomination file.

- Consent (written, audio-visual or any other way) to the nomination of the element from the communities, groups or individuals concerned is attached in support to the description above

4.2. Community organizations or representatives concerned

Contact person for the communities:

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr
Family name: MURAYIRE
Given name: PROTAIS
Institution/position: FEDERATION DES TROUPES DE DANSE RWANDAISE / PRESIDENT
Address: 21 KG 7 Ave, Kigali
Telephone number: +250 88351461
Email address: pmurayire@gmail.com

Other relevant information:

- Contact information for main community organizations or representatives, non-governmental organizations or other bodies concerned with the element are attached, and their details can be published on the website of the Convention as part of the nomination

5. Inventory

For Criterion R.5, States shall demonstrate that the element is identified and included in an inventory of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies) in conformity with Articles 11 and 12 of the Convention.

5.1. Name of the inventory(ies) in which the element is included

National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Rwanda

5.2. Name of the office(s), agency(ies), organization(s) or body(ies) responsible for maintaining and updating that (those) inventory(ies), both in the original language and in translation when the original language is not English or French

In Rwanda, the management and updating of the inventory of intangible cultural heritage is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Youth and Culture, the Office of the Registrar General and the Academy of Cultural Heritage of Rwanda.

5.3. Reference number(s) and name(s) of the element in the relevant inventory(ies)

In the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Rwanda, Intore is at reference number 1

5.4. *Date of the element's inclusion in the inventory(ies)*

The element was included in the national inventory on 15/03/2023
<p>Is the information concerning the updating and periodicity of the inventory(ies), as well as the participation of communities, groups and NGOs concerned to the inventorying process, included in the periodic report on the implementation of the Convention?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the information is included in the periodic report. Specify in the box below the year in which that report was submitted</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the information is not included in the periodic report. Provide information in the box below</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Not to exceed 200 words</i></p>
<p>The national inventory of intangible cultural heritage of Rwanda dates from 15th March 2023. It will be updated every three years with the active and inclusive participation of all partners, bearers and practitioners of the intangible cultural heritage concerned.</p> <p>Rwanda's first national periodic report on the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage will be submitted to the Committee during this year 2023. In each periodic report, information regarding the update of the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage of Rwanda will be provided.</p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An extract of inventory(ies) in English or in French and in the original language, if different, is submitted</p>

6. Correspondence and signature

6.1. *Designated contact person*

Provide the contact details of a single person responsible for all correspondence concerning the nomination. For multinational nominations, provide complete contact information for one person designated by the States Parties as the main contact person for all correspondence relating to the nomination.


Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):	Mr
Family name:	TWAHIRWA
Given name:	AIMABLE
Institution/position:	MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND CULTURE / DIRECTOR GENERAL
Address:	21 KG 7 Ave, Kigali
Telephone number:	+250 788 531 685
Email address:	info@myculture.gov.rw / atwahirwa@myculture.gov.rw
Other relevant information:	

6.2. Other contact persons (for multinational nomination only)

Provide below complete contact information for one person in each submitting State, other than the primary contact person identified above.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):
Family name:
Given name:
Institution/position:
Address:
Telephone number:
Email address:
Other relevant information:

6.3. Signature on behalf of the State Party or States Parties

Name:	Dr BIZIMANA Jean Damascène
Title:	MINISTER OF NATIONAL UNITY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Date:	31/03/2023
Signature	 MINUBUMWE(MINISTER) 2023.03.31 16:23:14 +02'00'

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (for multinational nominations only).

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