REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF
THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

Deadline 31 March 2021
for possible inscription in 2022

Instructions for completing the nomination form are available at: https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms
Nominations not complying with those instructions and those found below will be considered incomplete and cannot be accepted.

A. State(s) Party(ies)

For multinational nominations, States Parties should be listed in the order on which they have mutually agreed.

United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen

B. Name of the element

B.1. Name of the element in English or French

Indicate the official name of the element that will appear in published material.
Not to exceed 200 characters

Date palm, knowledge, skills, traditions, and practices

B.2. Name of the element in the language and script of the community concerned, if applicable

Indicate the official name of the element in the vernacular language corresponding to the official name in English or French (point B.1).
Not to exceed 200 characters

النخلة: المعارف والمهارات والثقافات والممارسات

B.3. Other name(s) of the element if any

In addition to the official name(s) of the element (point B.1), mention alternate name(s), if any, by which the element is known.

- United Arab Emirates: الصرمة، النحية، الأواينة (شجرة النخيل)
el Sarma, elDihyya, alawaneh (Date Palm)
- Iraq: تالا، لينة، قبيلة، (شجرة النخيل)
Tala, Leena, Faseela (date Palm)
Palestine: شجرة البالح (شجرة النخيل)
Shajret al-balaha (date Palm)

Tunisia: تازدايت
Tazdayt

Oman: صرمة، النفيلة، الأوائلي
Sarmah, Al-Faseela, Al-Awana

Qatar: الشجرة المباركة، أخلاء
Al Shajarah Al Mubarakah (blessed tree), Ankhala
C. Name of the communities, groups or, if applicable, individuals concerned

Identify clearly one or several communities, groups or, if applicable, individuals concerned with the nominated element.
Not to exceed 150 words

The communities, groups and individuals involved in practices pertaining to the date palm inhabit the following states:

United Arab Emirates: Residents of oases, villages, urban lands and farms in addition to farmers, service centers, date factories, palm recycling centers, scientific research, and cultivation of palm trees and their care, in addition to herding livestock, has been the main activity of the population since ancient times.

Bahrain: Residents of numerous areas in Al-Muharraq, North Manama in addition to the Eastern and Western parts of Bahrain.

Egypt: Residents of oases, coastal regions, the countryside and the Al-Saeed region of Egypt (Northern Egypt) as well as Nubia.

Iraq: Countryside and the Al-Ahwar region residents.

Jordan: Residents of the Southern, Northern and Middle parts of Al-Aghwar as well as residents of the Al-Azraq region and Aqaba.

Kuwait: Date Palm Association, traders, farmers and the general public.

Mauritania: Residents of oases and agricultural cooperative societies and groups, communities, and individuals working in the Mauritanian oases, cooperatives, associations, and societies with an interest in date palms.

Morocco: Groups, communities, individuals, residents of oases, traders, professionals, and craftsmenpeople that utilize the date palm.

Oman: Residents of Muscat, Musandam, Al-Batenah, Al Buraimi, Al-Dhahira, Al Sharqiya, and Al-Dakhilya.

Palestine: Residents of the Al-Aghwar region in Jericho and Dir al Balah in Gaza Strip.

Qatar: Farm owners, merchants, craftsmenpeople, civil institutions, women's associations, universities, youth centers, and the population of the State of Qatar in general.

Saudi Arabia: Residents of the Al-Qassim region, Medina and the Al Riyadh region, farmers, farm owners, craftsmenpeople who make wicker crates, date harvesters, date sellers, and cooks, as well as builders of mud houses who use date palm materials in their construction.

Sudan: Nubian communities, including Al-Halfawiyyoon, Al-Mahs, Al-Sukoot, Al-Danakla, Al-Kunooz, Al-Shaigia and Al-Jaaliyiin, Al Budayriyah, Al Rabatab, and Al Manasir.

Tunisia: Residents of oases, islands, Duwas and the Date Palm Association in Kerkennah Islands.

Yemen: Annual Irteqaa Association, Agricultural Association and the Palm and Dates Production Association.
D. Geographical location and range of the element

Provide information on the distribution of the element within the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s), indicating, if possible, the location(s) in which it is centered. Nominations should concentrate on the situation of the element within the territories of the submitting States, while acknowledging the existence of same or similar elements outside their territories. Submitting States should not refer to the viability of such intangible cultural heritage outside their territories or characterize the safeguarding efforts of other States. Not to exceed 150 words.

Located in semi-arid to arid regions of the world, the submitting states inhabit a geographical environment that is ideal for the cultivation of date palms, which are characterized by their adaptive abilities, with regards to high temperatures and aridity in the region.

Among numerous factors, the geographical significance of these states, in addition to their demographic (population distribution) and geological (surface, soil, water) aspects, contribute to the date palm's flourishing into a major cultural icon. In terms of geology, date palms are generally spread throughout valleys and low-lying lands. These valleys include the range of the Grand Atlas Mountains in the Kingdom of Morocco, in addition to valleys in the Northern Region of the UAE, Mauritania, among others. Examples of low-lying lands with date palms include the Jordan Valley (Al Aghwar) and Palestine.

The connection between geological factors and the proliferation of date palm cultivation is strongly apparent throughout the submitting states' oases. This cultivation varies in terms of its expansion and the areas that contain date palm fields. For example, the Al Qassim and Al Ihsa Oases in Saudi Arabia possess over four million date palm trees, in addition to those of the oases found in Medina and the region of Al-Riyad. Moreover, there is Tafilalet Oasis in Morocco and the oases stretching along the country’s coastal region, the region adjacent to the desert in Tunisia and the coastal area that consists of the oases of Gabes and its surrounding areas, Al Ain Oasis, Al Dhaid, and the far-reaching Al Dhafra Region Oases that form a 50-mile arch in the UAE. Furthermore, there are oases in Adrar, Tagant, and Assaba in Mauritania in addition to Sewa and Al Wadi Al Jadid (The New Valley) in Egypt. They are also common in the Northern region of Sudan and numerous regions in Iraq, including Al Basra, Central Purat, and Arbil. In Bahrain, the farms extend north of Manama and the nation's Western, Central and Eastern sectors, and in Qatar, date palm cultivation is spread in the northern regions, in addition to pockets in the central region of the country, where date palm farms constitute 71% of land cultivated with fruit. In Kuwait, the palm spreads in Wafra, Abdali, and Saliba. Furthermore, date palm trees are common in scattered areas as a result of other factors, including Dir Al Balah and Khan Younes in Palestine, Al Azraq region in Jordan and the Northern Kardfan, and Darfour in Sudan, as well as in most agricultural areas found in the Sultanate of Oman, Al Riyadh and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

The date palm tree may also be found on some of the submitting states' islands, including Dalma Island in the UAE and Djerba and Kerkenannah Islands in Tunisia. This has influenced a movement to plant date palms in its reformed desert islands, as well as in areas surrounding infrastructure (roads, etc.)

E. Contact person for correspondence

E.1. Designated contact person

Provide the name, address and other contact information 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):</th>
<th>Mr.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>
E.2. Other contact persons (for multinational files only)

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

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1. **Identification and definition of the element**

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

Tick one or more boxes to 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. If you tick 'other(s)', specify the domain(s) in brackets.

- [ ] oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of intangible cultural heritage
- [ ] performing arts
- [ ] social practices, rituals and festive events
- [ ] knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- [ ] traditional craftsmanship
- [ ] other(s) ( )

This section should address all the significant features of the element as it exists at present, and should include:

a. an explanation of its social functions and cultural meanings today, within and for its community;
b. the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners of the element;
c. any specific roles, including gender-related ones or categories of persons with special responsibilities towards the element; and
d. the current modes of transmission of the knowledge and skills related to the element.

The Committee should receive sufficient information to determine:

a. that the element is among the 'practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills — as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith —';
b. 'that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize [it] as part of their cultural heritage';
c. 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';
d. that it provides the communities and groups involved with 'a sense of identity and continuity'; and
e. 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'.

Overly technical descriptions should be avoided and submitting States should keep in mind that this section must explain the element to readers who have no prior knowledge or direct experience of it. Nomination files need not address in detail the history of the element, or its origin or antiquity.

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

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

The date palm, unique in its features, is typically associated with deserts and temperate dry climates, as well as other geographical environments such as valleys. It is an evergreen plant whose roots deeply penetrate the earth in search of humidity. Date palms gather in oases of different densities within desert areas that have water levels suitable for irrigation. As a result, this supported humankind in settling in such areas despite harsh conditions.

The populations of the submitting states have been associated with the date palm tree for centuries as it aided them in the construction of their civilizations. Historical research and various antiquities excavations have cemented the plant's significant cultural and economic status in numerous regions such as Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, and the Arab Gulf.

Several finds of ancient coins, statues, drawings, and stone inscriptions serve as proof of humankind's connections to the element in a variety of regions. In fact, it has played a pivotal role in the population's habitation to its barren environmental surroundings as it provides suitable living conditions and potential stability.

This ancient historical relationship between humankind in the Arab region and the element has enabled a rich cultural heritage to be passed on through generations. Today, the communities,
groups, and individuals in the areas where the date palm spread still maintain practices, knowledge, skills, and rituals relevant to it. These cultural expressions and practices constitute a complete element of the intangible cultural heritage as defined in the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH.

Knowledge, skills, and practices associated with the date palm can be summarized as such:

- Nurturing the date palm tree—this is specifically related to the knowledge the practitioner uses to provide suitable conditions for the palm's growth and the bearing of its fruit, including various traditional nurturing methods such as planting the offshoots, pruning, irrigation, and assisted pollination.

- The implementation of numerous traditional crafts based on manual skills, especially by women, that rely on the tree's various parts such as its leaves, fronds, and fibers. This provides several essential products to the region's inhabitants.

- The adoption of various social rituals and practices due to the palm's status as a cultural reference point, enabled as such through its utilization to varying degrees in facets such as interior design, medicine, and hospitality.

- Its symbolic status due to various references in regional artistic efforts (e.g. verbal compositions, poetry, songs, etc.).

In consideration of the aforementioned, the communities, groups, and individuals associated with the date palm in all submitting states perceive the tree as a crucial element of ICH. We hope that its inscription on the UNESCO Representative List could serve to unify all efforts made to safeguard this cultural heritage, especially when considering its plenitude in the Arab World. Moreover, this tree has been connected to the regional populace for centuries, constituting a key nutritional source, in addition to its associated crafts, professions, and social/cultural traditions, customs and practices. Due to its significance until the present day, the palm has been widely supported by both local communities and various government agencies. This has led to a noticeable expansion of its cultivation, thereby increasing regional manufacturing workforces.

(ii) 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 fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

The submitting states' demographics include various communities, groups, and individuals of different walks of life, known as practitioners of the element, that possess date palm-related knowledge and skills or participate in relevant traditions and practices. They also play a vital role in its safeguarding and flourishment, including but not limited to:

- Date palm farm owners—An important segment of the groups that are interested in the element due to date palms being an indicator of wealth and elevated social status. They are typically keen to pass it on to their children. As a result, this secures the element's continuity and sustainability.

- Farmers—Those who plant, nurture and irrigate the date palm offshoots and harvest their fruits as part of a precise and professional system, including the "Baidar", who takes care of irrigation as per Emirati tradition; the "Al-Khammas", a palm tree caretaker who oversees its fruition until production as per Tunisian tradition; as well as the "Taleh elnakhal", who harvests the palm's fruits as per Egyptian tradition.

- Craftspeople—Those who produce traditional products using various parts of the palm such as ceilings, furniture, baskets, ropes, mats, broomsticks, manual fans, and cages made of palm leaves and fiber.

- Dates traders—Those who purchase date crops from farm owners, and then prepare, dry, can, and sell them locally as well as to date factories.

- Creative people—Artists, performers, and reciters of folkloric tales and poems that are associated with the date palm in addition to participants in dates festivals and celebrations.
- Agricultural engineers in addition to experts and NGOs—Those who provide date palm-related activities, professional care, and assistance to market their products on a large scale, and those who strive to develop products and discover new ways to use all parts of the palm.

- Women—This group specializes in several processes and date palm-related functions, including kneading and storing dates, the date palm leaf industry, making decorative instruments, and the preparation of traditional foods and treatments.

- Children—Play traditional games that utilize the palm leaf in various capacities.

- Owners of factories and craftspeople—Those whose production is related to date palm products.

- Farmers of both sexes—Those responsible for planting palm trees and caring for them from the time they are planted until they are harvested.

- Producers and marketers of dates—Those who buy date production from growers and harvesters and market them for the purpose of trade (Saudi Arabia).

(iii) How are the knowledge and skills related to the element transmitted today?

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

The date palm's noteworthy characteristics, including its need of care-taking, lengthy lifespan, and diverse range of palm-based products, could provide suitable opportunities to all community members to acquire care-related skills and knowledge. Due to its distinguished presence in cultural and economic life—and despite the relative decline of engaged youth in date palm-related activities—the elderly, parents, and practitioners remain keen to transmit knowledge, skills and expertise to future generations through non-conventional methods. This can be noticed through verbally-transmitted advice and activities in which family members of all ages and genders participate in palm care taking.

In addition to the efforts made by families, date palm-related knowledge, skills, and traditions are verbally transmitted to children through various forms of communication such as: stories, songs, legends, proverbs, riddles, and even beliefs. This occurs in an informal learning framework. On the other hand, skills and knowledge relevant to the element are formally transmitted through the following:

- Several submitting states have ensured the palm's inclusion in their schools' curricula. This is exemplified through social studies/ethics courses in the UAE and the Arabic language curriculum in states such as Egypt, Iraq, Tunisia, and Saudi Arabia.

- Establishing institutes and research centers that specialize in relevant research, including but not limited to—the Palm Tissue Cultivation Laboratory at Al Ain University in the UAE; the National Institute of Agricultural Research in Morocco; the Horticulture Research Institute in Egypt; the Agricultural Counseling Units in Tunisia; the Portable Laboratory in Jordan; and institutes that specialize in date palm caretaking in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, and Bahrain, plus the specialized research centers at Qatar University. This is facilitated through relevant NGOs in addition to print, broadcast, and video production media and various forms of social media.

(iv) What social functions and cultural meanings does the element have for its community nowadays?

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

Historically speaking, the date palm contributes to various social and cultural functions in all of the submitting states and serves as a vital source of food and income. As a result, it has been a stabilizing influence on various communities, groups, and individuals. It has also played a major role in strengthening people's connection to their land and aiding them to face challenges and difficulties pertaining to the harsh desert environment. In the UAE, for example, there is hardly a house that does not boast 30 or 40 palm trees; consequently educating family members in the irrigation, pruning, and cultivation of these trees. Most importantly, the inauguration of any
The date palm has played a significant role in the culture and economy of many regions. It is considered a symbol of prosperity and is widely used in various cultural practices. Here are some key points:

1. **Cultural Significance**: The date palm is not just a fruit, but a symbol of hospitality, generosity, and communal values. It embodies elements of tradition, creativity, and communal bonds.
2. **Economic Importance**: The date palm is a crucial economic resource, providing employment, income, and livelihood for many communities. It is used in manufacturing, construction, and various industries.
3. **Ceremonial Use**: The date palm is central to many cultural practices, including festivals, rituals, and ceremonies. It is often used in the construction of ceremonial structures.
4. **Symbolic Power**: The date palm is a symbol of endurance and steadfastness. It is associated with cultural values, social cohesion, and spiritual beliefs.

In summary, the date palm is a vital component of cultural and economic life in many regions, serving as a symbol of community, prosperity, and tradition.
- Dates and coffee are served at Arab "Majalis" (gathering places).

- In most submitting states, the Pilgrim's return from Hajj or Mecca is celebrated by decorating their house's facade with date palm leaves.

- Palm leaves are used in wedding ceremonies to decorate the wedding venue in Bahrain.

- Date palm leaves are used when constructing a surface used by a groom to place his gift for his bride. For example, "Zaffa" is a festive activity that takes place from the house of the former to that of the latter and is typically accompanied by traditional ballads. An example would be the "AlBasbaasa" celebration that occurs in Egypt's oases.

- The date palm is celebrated during the date harvest season with displays of products made from date palms and performances related to it. Examples include women's handicrafts markets during harvest festivals in Unaizah, Al-Ahsa, and Al Madina in Saudi Arabia.

(v) Is there any part of the element that is not compatible with existing international human rights instruments or with the requirement of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, or with sustainable development?

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

All skills, traditions, expressions, practices, and knowledge associated with the date palm tree are consistently in line with the spirit of international human rights conventions and principles of mutual respect between diverse peoples, in addition to the sustainable development requirements mentioned in section (6) of the 2003 UNESCO Convention's executive directions on ICH. Moreover, the element's components may even promote or enhance these general principles.

Regarding international human rights and their principles, none of the element's aspects contradict them, especially with regards to the date palm's role in society and the various industries, practices and expressions that use the date palm tree. Similarly, humankind's relationship to the date palm tree contributes considerably to establishing relations with individuals and groups within a social framework of mutual respect, understanding, cohesion, and integration.

With respect to sustainable development, the date palm's use has encapsulated conceptual requirements and principles advocated by the modern world. This is demonstrated in the date palm's contribution to biological diversity. Within the same context, benefiting from the entire date palm, including its trunk, leaves, seeds, and fruits in parallel with annual production is considered a vital aspect in securing sustainable levels of natural resources associated with the date palm tree. In some drought-stricken regions, farmers use means of irrigation that could reduce the rate of lost/evaporation of water in soil through the 'drip irrigation' system, etc.

Therefore, communities and groups take certain measures—often agreed upon customarily—that are passed down over generations to efficiently manage these water shortages to secure its sustainability, including methods favored under current international resolutions.

2. Contribution to ensuring visibility and awareness and to encouraging dialogue

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'. This criterion will only be considered to be satisfied if the nomination demonstrates how the possible inscription would contribute to ensuring the visibility and awareness of the significance of intangible cultural heritage in general, and not only of the inscribed element itself, and to encouraging dialogue that respects cultural diversity.

(i) How could the inscription of the element on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity contribute to the visibility of the intangible cultural heritage in general (and not only of the inscribed element itself) and raise awareness of its importance?

(i.a) Please explain how this would be achieved at the local level.
The inscription of date palm-related knowledge, skills, traditions, and practices on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and their connection to other cultural elements such as crafts, traditions, games, performance art, and verbal traditions as well as other aspects of heritage, will strengthen the ICH and its general significance. With regards to the submitting states’ local levels, this inscription will better interest communities in their heritage components and, in this way, achieve social cohesion and increased valuing of heritage. Notably, most activities relevant to the date palm take place in public spaces such as workshops and fields, areas that facilitate opportunities to spread national awareness.

Furthermore, the file's preparation stages, in conjunction with local communities, groups, and individuals helped identify the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH. Therefore, this process has already ameliorated communication channels and dialogue concerning the significance of ICH and its relevant safeguarding measures. This notion has been expressed in letters of support that were sent from various community representatives.

Inscribing the element of the date palm on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity will hopefully inspire local communities to rediscover the value of this element. This will lead to a general realization of the importance of other heritage elements. Moreover, this may also motivate its bearers and practitioners of all ages, groups, and genders to expand their interest towards different expressions of intangible cultural heritage. As a result, this could proliferate its cultural presence to newfound levels.

(ii) Please explain how this would be achieved at the national level.

At the national level, inscribing relevant skills, knowledge, and traditions on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity will enable those concerned to discover shared and different cultural characteristics of neighboring communities within their respective state. In addition, this inscription could double the interest of associations and cooperative/civil societies concerned with ICH issues, while efficiently stressing its significance. Hence, this may contribute to its safeguarding, while strengthening efforts made to ensure a long-lasting legacy.

The State of Qatar, for example, is working through its museums to search for antiquities associated with the date palm, restoring everything related to its history, and highlighting the date palm as part of the country's culture and history.

This inscription will also draw the attention of officials working at various government agencies, including ministries and institutes that legislate or implement policies as applicable laws and regulations. These could safeguard different ICH elements prevailing in other areas in the country, enabling the integration of these components into national development plans due to their overall significance in the field. Moreover, intensive media coverage of the element's listing may motivate governments to make greater efforts in rehabilitating the intangible cultural heritage and its weighted value.

Given that the tree and its relevant culture are distributed throughout varying environments within each country, where multiple societies practice relevant skills, inscribing the date palm element on the Representative List could contribute to enhancing respect toward cultural diversification among societies. This could also bring people together for the sake of preserving and sustaining the ICH on a national level. Meanwhile, the element's proliferation within each submitting state and its inclusion as part of the UNESCO list would enhance the level of awareness of the society's ICH in general. This will enable opportunities for dialogue among its components.
(i.c) Please explain how this would be achieved at the international level.

Not fewer than 100 or more than 150 words

As a result of the spread of this element in many countries across the world, the inscription will encourage other countries where the element is common to join the nomination file in the future. Therefore, this could also reinforce shared cultural features and the exchange of safeguarding expertise. In addition, inscribing the date palm in UNESCO through a shared international file would serve as an incentive to provide diversified shared elements at the regional and international level(s) in multi-lateral files. Hence, this could contribute to highlighting a common aspect of human heritage and spreading a culture of communication among diverse peoples of the world. Furthermore, this could also make it possible to establish shared regional and international projects regarding the preservation of heritage and its sustainability.

This shared date palm file will also provide an important opportunity for the element's identification through diverse societies in the world. The inclusion of skills, knowledge, and traditions associated with the date palm in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity could boost the awareness of various communities, groups, and individuals globally about the importance of ICH, especially the elements related to natural resources and surroundings.

The inscription of this element on the Representative List could also serve as an incentive to organize numerous related international conferences, exhibitions, forums, festivals, and workshops. In addition, this could open the door to various shared business opportunities, to highlight the intangible cultural heritage's importance.

(ii) How would dialogue among communities, groups and individuals be encouraged by the inscription of the element?

Not fewer than 100 or more than 150 words

The element's inscription on the Representative List of the ICH of Humanity, as a shared project between several states, is expected to enhance dialogue between various groups, communities, and individuals. The expansion of the element's cultural and sociological aspects is considered an incentive for such groups, communities, and individuals to communicate and cooperate based on common cultural factors that are represented in date palm-related knowledge, practices, traditions, and skills.

Therefore, the diversified accumulated expertise that these groups and communities gain would potentially provide an effective climate for this dialogue's development. Despite the differences pertaining to their expertise, they possess many common factors that can unify them within a shared and organized framework. Once the element is inscribed on the Representative List, it requires evidence concerning the implementation of effective dialogue to facilitate improvement.

The element of the date palm is characterized by the possibility of creating a dialogue among diverse segments of society, cultures, encompassing all ages and genders. They possess a shared responsibility regarding the element's preservation and safeguarding. This file has particularly provided the opportunity to enhance this dialogue and its promotion among various communities, groups, and individuals at the levels deemed appropriate by the submitting Arab states. Hopefully, such effective dialogue will also expand among the groups, communities, and individuals on an international level.

For example, the many international date festivals held in various submitting states could provide opportunities for effective dialogue in cultural spaces, where date palm-related activities involve poets, craftspeople, dates producers, and artists. Therefore, this could strengthen channels of dialogue amongst their circles. Some of these major events include date festivals in Sewa Oasis in Egypt, the International Dates Festival in Arfood of Morocco, the Liwa Date Festival, the Khalifa International Date Palm Award and Agricultural Innovation in UAE, the Date Palm Festival in Iraq, and the Palm and Dates Festival in Sudan.
(iii) How would human creativity and respect for cultural diversity be promoted by the inscription of the element?

Not fewer than 100 or more than 150 words

Despite the fact that the date palm represents one single element, the knowledge, skills, and practices pertaining to it are diversified at each state's local and regional levels. The peculiarity and importance of this element are highlighted by its practices undertaken by groups, communities, and individuals that belong to natural and societal environments, diversified in terms of their rural and urban areas, nomadic lifestyles, and their cases. Therefore, inscribing this element as a file that is shared by several countries will reinforce the respect for its cultural diversity, building bridges of communication between common cultures on an international level.

Since the element possesses numerous yet essential manufacturing and healing components, it will serve as a source of inspiration to those who seek to innovate in fields such as traditional crafts, entrepreneurship, and arts. Moreover, the file's inscription on the UNESCO list is expected to push the practitioners of the element to innovate and develop ways to preserve it and maintain its continuity as well as encouraging creativity in date palm-related manual products. This may be represented in children's games, furniture, and even fishing boats, in addition to folkloric literature, poetry, ballads, stories, proverbs, and riddles. In addition, the inclusion of the date palm in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity is considered evidence for the creativity of communities, groups, and individuals in investing and developing their resources. Thus, the date palm now possesses over 120 varieties in the submitting states, where its fruits are manufactured in myriad modern products.

3. Safeguarding measures

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

3.a. Past and current efforts to safeguard the element

(i) How is the viability of the element being ensured by the communities, groups or, if applicable, individuals concerned? What past and current initiatives have they taken in this regard?

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

The element's cultural relevance and its proliferation through centuries proves that concerned communities, groups, and individuals are eager to sustain it, despite the challenges and difficulties presented over time. Here are some of the safeguarding measures taken in each submitting state:

Bahrain
- Through "the One Date Palm Tree in Every House" initiative, the state's communities, groups, and individuals are actively engaged in the expansion of the date palm's cultivation, while elevating the element's societal status through existing cultural, environmental, and social connections.
- The use of new methods to develop irrigation systems by farmers.
- A strategic plan was developed by Tamkeen to offer a program to support Bahraini farmers.
- The Child and Maternity Welfare Association has also adopted the project of making paper by hand from palm fronds and has become the main body responsible for the project.
- The enhancement of community participation through the national campaign to plant a palm tree in every home.

Egypt
The state's communities, groups, and individuals ensure that customary law regarding the oases and desert remains applicable, in addition to legislation that assures the date palm's protection,
in which a specialized judge is allocated, aptly named, "Qadi al Arayesh" (Date Palm Judge) who imposes fiscal penalties on perpetrators that have committed violations against a date palm, while considering the tree's condition and level of date production.

The date palm harvest is an occasion marked to celebrate the tree in coordination with various local communities. For example, "Eid Al Musalaha" (the Feast of Reconciliation) is organized in Siwa Oasis and held during the harvest season. This season is considered crucially important with regards to the palm's promotion in addition to its products and the craftspeople who make them.

A community project was recently launched to plant 2.5 million date palms.

Iraq

On a yearly basis, farmers and orchard owners participate in counseling and awareness workshops concerning modern agricultural methods, training farmers and improving their abilities through the Ministry of Agriculture.

Certain civil society organizations co-operate with groups, communities, and individuals regarding sustainable development projects pertaining to the date palm such as the one held by the "Nature Iraq" Organization in Nasiriyah Governorate. This project is aimed at training male and female residents of all ages in the region and improving their abilities regarding date palm-related handicrafts.

Jordan

Co-operative societies provide training programs to the local community concerning date palm leaves, their various benefits, and their use in handicrafts and other manufactured multi-purpose products. This is achieved by:

- Enacting special regulations in areas suitable for palm cultivation, requiring any new house to be fenced with date palms to act as a fence as well as a source of food.

- Encouraging the establishment of specialized associations for the cultivation of date palms such as the Jordan Palm Society, the National Dates Association, and the Al-Mazraa Cultural Forum. The Ministry of Agriculture also contributes to free supervision of date palm plantations and provides laboratories and specialists to help farmers.

- Collaborating with cooperative societies to train people in ways of using and benefitting from palm fronds.

Kuwait

Numerous national societies have undertaken projects and activities aimed at developing the date palm sector, such as the Date Palm Friends Society and the Kuwaiti Farmers Association.

Also, experts, citizens, and local communities present their experiences through traditional media or social media. Since 2018, scenes have been shown on Kuwait TV of the craft of 'al mashbanj' (making of traditional wood and rope box) during the ceremonial firing of the cannon to announce iftar during Ramadan.

In 2019, Kuwait hosted the third Barhi Festival (Palm Friends Association) and the Ramadan Food Festival (Al-Hashmi Dates Factory).

In 2020, Kuwait University held an exhibition on the date palm, and the Shurooq Al Sayegh Center for Crafts and Handicrafts held the Al Sadu House workshop on palm wicker.

Mauritania

Traditional palm leaf handicrafts are developed by various women's societies. Focus is given to the development of rural water sources and reviving oases that are suffering from water shortages. The state also encourages development of palm wicker skills and methods of using
natural raw materials derived from the date palm in such a way that matches the requirements of modern life.

Morocco
Concerned groups, communities, and individuals ensure the standardization of irrigated water consumption, especially in cases that suffer from water shortages. Element practitioners adopt new date picking and storage techniques, in addition to other applicable methods.
Efforts are also being made to diversify the traditional date palm industry, in which women manufacture products consumed by tourists in addition to known traditional products, securing these skills' continuity despite a shift in the products made and their uses.
Relevant groups, communities, and individuals cooperate to better market the product, essentially guaranteeing quality and enabling all those engaged to share profits.

Oman
There exists several national farmer societies that enable the exchange of knowledge and skills, fostering the date palm's sustainability as a continuous part of Omani heritage.
An annual date exhibition is held with the participation of various communities, groups, and individuals that practice myriad date palm-related customs and traditions. Moreover, local shopping malls and marketplaces aim to efficiently promote these products.
In 2020, a book was published entitled The Palm in the Omani Cultural Heritage.

Palestine
Cooperative date palm farmer societies are established to better market the products, enhancing their role in maintaining the tree's sustainability.
Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of dates in Palestine has not changed because dates are deeply rooted in the culture, with religious and cultural significance, and are believed to have healing properties. The Nawa for Culture and Arts Association of Deir Al Balah in Gaza has produced a documentary film demonstrating how to make traditional sweets and jams from dates. The video was published on the Ministry of Culture's website and on the Nawa Association website.
To encourage the cultivation of date palms, the State of Palestine offered public lands in the Jericho area to women and young people for planting and cultivation of date palms, creating job opportunities for a segment of unemployed youth.

Qatar
Irrigation water is regulated, and modern irrigation methods are used to reduce water waste. New methods of pollinating, harvesting, and storing dates are being adopted.
The traditional handicrafts and palm wicker products are being diversified. The Qatari government has established social and youth centers to train women and girls in palm wicker weaving and is purchasing their products as gifts to visitors.
Farmers, artisans, and craftswomen are supported by festivals, such as the Local Dates Festival and the Dates Products Festival, and their involvement in exhibitions and cultural events at the local and international levels to open new markets for their products.
Qatari families are provided with the necessary skills to preserve and store all kinds of dates.

Saudi Arabia
Waqf (endowment) initiatives, based on the allocation of revenues earned from date palm farms
or orchards to charity, are being expanded.

Saudi families show interest in planting date palm trees in their houses as part of a growing date palm cultivation project.

A research chair for date palms and dates has been established in several Saudi universities, and scientific research related to the date palm has been supported.

Specialized institutes and societies for the care and preservation of the date palm have also been set up.

Awareness has been raised through media participation from radio and television, and educational programs and annual festivals dedicated to the palm tree.

Sudan

Date and palm festivals are held under the supervision of the Sudanese Society for Palm Agriculture and Care, a voluntary society that is comprised of numerous palm farmers and has organized this annual festival for a decade. The tenth edition was held on December 1, 2019, under the generous sponsorship of the Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation in the United Arab Emirates and was timed to coincide with a special issue of "The Blessed Tree" magazine on the heritage of the date palm in Sudan.

A documentary film that deals with the lives of the people of northern Sudan and how the date palm is an important element in their daily life was produced and broadcast. The film, entitled "Your Aunt the Palm" was broadcast on Al Jazeera Documentary Channel and on the website doc.aljazeera.net

Tunisia

Many farmers are attracted by "water societies" that potentially enable them to have proper control over water resources and sustainable farmer practices pertaining to the date palm within the oases of Tunisia.

The Oasis Carnival with the Children's Theater in Dguache ran from June 18 to 22, 2019, while the fourth edition of the Oasis Festival in Al Olaya took place from October 28 to 30, 2019.

United Arab Emirates

National date factories including Foah Date Company, Liwa Date factory, and Emirates Dates Factory-Al Saad strive to innovate in the date industry, currently producing over 42 products, including date jam, Al-Tamrila, vinegar, date molasses, date dough, iced dates, etc.

Many plastic artists are engaged in creating new uses and purposes of date palm products, including a dome that is made of date palm leaves that consists of 500 pieces to decorate the Sheikh Zayed Mosque in Abu Dhabi, one of the major mosques in the UAE.

Farmers are developing newfound irrigation systems for the date palm tree by implementing irrigation agriculture with the aim of providing 90% of the date palm's water needs.

Artisan houses in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain have contributed to the development of the craft of date palm wicker weaving (al khoos) and the creation of many new products. The concerned authorities have also issued 113 craftswomen with certificates for practicing the craft of date palm wicker weaving.

More than 18,000 farmers participated in marketing dates at the Liwa Date Festival in Al Dhafra from April 17 to 27, 2019.

In 2020, the Department of Culture and Tourism issued a book on date palms with details on planting, varieties, and caring for them.

Yemen

Craftspeople develop their palm-related industries to meet contemporary requirements, with their
furniture manufactured in a modern style, in addition to various products targeted at women.

Tick one or more boxes to identify the safeguarding measures that have been and are currently being taken by the communities, groups or individuals concerned:

- ☑ transmission, particularly through formal and non-formal education
- ☑ identification, documentation, research
- ☑ preservation, protection
- ☑ promotion, enhancement
- ☑ revitalization

(ii) What past and current efforts have the States Parties concerned made to safeguard the element? Specify any external or internal constraints in this regard?

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

Based on the element's cultural, societal, and economical significance to the submitting states, the government, agencies, and authorities in these countries make sure to give special importance to safeguarding measures and to reduce the impact of potential domestic and foreign restrictions. For example, water shortages, pollination related difficulties, desertification, date palm diseases—the most serious of which is the 'palm red weevil'—in addition to the difficulty associated with marketing traditional handicrafts, especially the element's leaf-based products. Thus, official authorities in these countries have decided to implement various initiatives and measures in the last couple of years, such as:

Bahrain

The "Genetic Complex of Date Palm Varieties" has been established in the Eastern Farm with the aim of providing quality offshoots for date palm farmers.

To revive the palm's symbolic value within Bahraini heritage, the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities has created the "Nukhool" character, which is presented annually as part of the Bahrain Summer Festival.

Bahraini law includes strict provisions for the protection of date palms, such as Decree-Law No. 21 of the year 1983 regarding the protection of palm trees where Article 1 stipulates that it is forbidden to cut palm trees or in any way cause them to stop growing.

The Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities organizes an annual Heritage Festival that sheds light on elements of Bahrain's tangible and intangible heritage.

To address the problem of lack of water for the cultivation of date palms, the government of Bahrain is:

- Investing in a wastewater treatment project as an alternative to fresh water.
- Issuing other laws for the sustainability of date palms and setting up a mechanism for agricultural quarantine.
- Establishing the Date Palm and Fruit Trees Department within the agricultural affairs section of the Ministry of Works and Municipalities.
- Holding training courses in date palm management and pest control in cooperation with the Plant Protection and Agricultural Quarantine Department.

Egypt

Article No. 64/100 of the Egyptian law of 1966 concerning the incrimination of date palm offshoot exportation without proper government approval was enacted.

The Ministry of Agriculture's Palm Development Project has been able to increase palm tree cultivation and the expansion of DNA research in hopes of genetically engineering the element.
Date producers are encouraged to register their products with the Commercial Relations Bureau of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to protect their intellectual property.

National societies that operate in the sphere of date palm based traditional handicrafts and activities are supported.

A charitable project entitled "Waqf Al-Nakheel" was launched by a civil society and supported by the government. Waqf is a concept that means "God owns everything and the benefits are for mankind". The project is based on planting palm seedlings and aims to plant 2.5 million palm trees in an area covering 10,000 acres. The production will be distributed among the local populations, thereby achieving a state of sustainable development in the oasis communities and providing job opportunities for groups and individuals of all genders and different ages. Several different types of dates will be produced, and parts of the date palms will be used by communities to make handicrafts. Many other civil societies have started creating similar projects.

Efforts to benefit from all parts of the date palm are being supported through crafts projects.

Iraq

The "Date Palm Mothers" Project was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture with the aim of rehabilitating date palm orchards that were damaged due to Iraq's exceptional circumstantial difficulties.

Several patents have been made on date manufacturing, such as 'liquid sugar', a device used to inject date palm trees with insecticides and date-based gelatin desserts.

Support is provided to farmers as well as owners of private projects and agencies operating in agriculture, especially in the field of date palm cultivation.

Efforts have been made to eradicate agricultural pests and insects damaging date palm orchards across the governorates of Iraq, especially Baghdad, Basra, Dewaniya, Najaf, Karbalaa, and Babel.

Jordan

The Ministry of Agriculture has established the 'Portable Laboratory' with the aim of fighting date palm pests and reducing their infestation by transferring this experience to farmers across the state.

Date Palm festivals have been held since 2011 in the Ma'an Governorate of the southern part of Jordan under the supervision of the Ministry of Tourism.

Date palm-related traditional crafts societies are motivated to continue manufacturing their products through local and international crafts festivals such as the Jerash Festival.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, despite its limited resources, is taking many measures aimed at preserving the element, including:

- The Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with local institutions and charitable, agricultural, and cooperative societies, is developing date palm planting courses and holding training on pest control and workshops on how to benefit from palm fronds.

- Encouraging traditional crafts associations that use date palm products such as dates, fronds, and other parts of date palms to continue their production by organizing craft fairs and local and international festivals.

Kuwait

Environmental laws have been promulgated regarding date palm safeguarding, as enforced by the Environmental Police, and is supervised by the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources.

The "one million date palm tree" initiative has been adopted under the state's ruler to preserve
the date palm and promote its cultivation in public/residential areas and arable lands.

Date palm wicker weaving was practiced in the Yarmouk Cultural Center during the Autumn Carnival and at the Qurain Cultural Festival (affiliated to the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature), at Kuwait University, and during the activities of the Heritage Exhibition 'Glimpses from the Past' in 2019.

In 2019, Sadu House (affiliated with the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature) presented a special workshop on date palm wicker weaving for children (3-12 years old), and another for beginners and advanced students in 2020. In the same year, Bait Al Othman Museum held a workshop in date palm wicker weaving for beginners, and the Center for Crafts and Handicrafts trained children on wicker weaving at the crafts fair.

Authorities have issued laws for the preservation of the date palms and traditional markets for their products.

Mauritania

The Oases project has been built to implement development programs for the areas where such oases are available.

Initiatives relating to investment in the date palm sector, especially in manufacturing and storage of this product, are also promoted.

The Ministry of Traditional Culture and Industry strives to encourage traditional innovations pertaining to the oases, including cooperative societies that are specialized in the date palm leaf industry.

The regional offices of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Oasis Project in Adrar, Tagant, and Assaba, and other areas where date palms are found, have implemented several initiatives to help date palm farmers improve the quality of their production.

The National Oases Project is currently working on raising the level and quality of date palm farming.

Scientific measures have been adopted in agricultural cooperatives to develop date palm farming and improve the quality of production by establishing modern model farms.

Morocco

The South Oases Program, launched in 2010, is a government program in association with the UN Development Program that aims to aid farmers across the oases of Morocco to develop their local products, including dates.

The South Oases Rescue Program, launched in 2006, focuses on reducing the effects of desertification that threaten several date palm oases.

The National Agency has been established to develop oases and argan tree areas. Currently, it is responsible for increasing overall farming output and supporting farmers to improve the methods of utilizing the agricultural products, especially when it concerns the date palm.

The International Dates Festival is held annually in the city of "Arfood" amidst the date palm rich oases of Tafilalt.

Oman

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fish strives to provide necessary support toward the state's date palm farmers.

The Public Authority for Craft Industries (PACI) sponsors training courses for craftspeople working in the date palm leaf field, while providing essential financial and moral support.

Markets are motivated to promote traditional date palm products, on both regional and international levels.
In November 2020, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth published the book, *The Date Palm in Omani Cultural Heritage*.

**Palestine**

Date palm cultivation is being facilitated through lab assisted pollination.

Laws have been enacted that protect the product and its owners to provide agricultural insurance against environmental disasters.

The government has put in place the necessary measures to control the quality of production and encourage complementary industries such as cardboard manufacturing, animal feed, date molasses, date paste, fertilizer factories, and others.

Centers for the research and study of date palm trees have also been set up.

**Qatar**

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment has established specialized departments for this purpose, such as:

- The Agricultural Affairs Department works to increase agricultural areas where date palms are grown and establishes model farms such as the Al Mashabiya, which contains more than 50,000 trees. It also supports farmers with cuttings from the popular, high-quality, and healthy trees.

- The Agricultural Research Department—Operates laboratories to produce disease-resistant date palm cuttings to sell to farmers at nominal prices. It has also set up experiment stations and date-drying facilities.

- The Municipal and Environmental Studies Center—Conducts general environmental and agricultural studies on date palms in particular and participates in programs for raising awareness about date palm farming in schools and universities.

In addition, groups, communities, and individuals participate in training programs related to date palms including methods of preserving them and developing their products.

**Saudi Arabia**

Several measures have been taken to ensure that date palm-related practices, skills, and knowledge are properly protected against any transgressions, and that challenges and difficulties are overcome, such as the phenomenon of burning date palm trees, the red palm weevil disease, water shortages, pests, etc.

Faculties of Agriculture are established at Saudi universities and research centers, concerned with date palm cultivation.

The National Center for Palms & Dates (NCPD) has also been established.

A program for the prevention and control of the red palm weevil pest has been devised. The integrated program—with a budget of one billion seven hundred and sixty-six million riyals—aims to help farmers that are facing this issue.

In December 2019, a project was launched to develop the dates sector in Al Ula and raise awareness among local communities and farmers about types of dates and how to improve their quality to make the sector more sustainable.

Date palm cultivation topics are included in all school and university curricula.

**Sudan**

A proposal has been made to establish a date palm tree museum in the Marowe region.

Scientific research on date palm-related heritage documentation has also been promoted.
The Date Palm Festival, organized by the Sudanese Date Palm Care and Cultivation Association, continues to thrive.

Tunisia

Law No. (73) of 2008 on the conservation of date palm trees, which penalizes anyone who damages trees whether by cutting, uprooting, or modifying its genetic origin, has been enacted. Some oases have been transformed into cultural spaces within the framework of model projects to introduce date palm culture.

The "Regime Ma'touq" Cooperative Society was established in the South of Tunisia with the aim of reforming 2160 hectares of barren lands and distributing them to the date palm farmers as well as building a green belt to resist desertification.

The Ministry of Environment implemented a project for sustainable oasis management systems between 2014 and 2019, which benefitted 18,000 people using 820 hectares.

Other initiatives include the Oasis Carnival with the Child Theater in Dguache (June 18 to 22, 2019) and the fourth edition of the Oasis Festival in Al Olaya (October 28 to 30, 2019).

United Arab Emirates

Despite the state's vast desert area and a shortage of water resources, between 1971-2004, government agencies have strived to increase arable date palm areas by more than 62 times, by introducing modern irrigation technologies and land reform.

The UAE government supports date palm farmers through local, regional, and international competitions, exhibitions, and festivals; the foremost being the Liwa Date Festival. This festival, annually held since 2005, sponsors numerous competitions to support the date palm, including the 'elite date' competition. Other aspects include, but are not limited to, methods of agricultural innovation, poetry, developmental and production projects, as well as the recognition of producers in the date and palm sector.

The Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation has been annually organizing international conferences since 2012.

Concerned authorities have laid the foundations for the Palm Products Recycling Factory in the Kizad Free Zone near Abu Dhabi. This includes recycling methods such as making wood panels from palm fronds. The factory is expected to start production in June 2021.

Yemen

Field surveys on date varieties are conducted in key agricultural areas in Yemen, while research centers specialized in date palm have been established.

In April 2019, a training program was held to develop traditional handicrafts for the Women Protection Project, which resulted in training 202 women in traditional industries, the most important of which were the crafts made from palm fronds.

In May 2019, the Palm Leaves Products Festival by the All Girls Foundation for Development was held, funded by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), as well as the producing and broadcasting of special programs concerning date palms (Queen of Trees Program and Crafts and Handicrafts) on Radio Sayun during 2019 and 2020.

Tick one or more boxes to identify the safeguarding measures that have been and are currently being taken by the State(s) Party(ies) with regard to the element:

- ☒ transmission, particularly through formal and non-formal education
- ☒ identification, documentation, research
- ☒ preservation, protection
3.b. Safeguarding measures proposed

This section should identify and describe safeguarding measures that will be implemented, especially those intended to protect and promote the element. The safeguarding measures should be described in terms of concrete engagements of the States Parties and communities and not only in terms of possibilities and potentialities.

(i) What measures are proposed to help ensure that the viability of the element is not jeopardized in the future, especially as an unintended result of inscription and the resulting visibility and public attention?

Not fewer than 500 or more than 750 words

In conjunction with the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003 and as a guarantee of the date palm's continuity, after its inscription on the Representative List, including element-related skills, traditions, and practices, the submitting states shall adopt the following measures and implement them with participation from the appropriate groups, communities, and individuals:

A - Shared Measures:

- Establishing and developing databases that include all the customs, traditions, knowledge, practices, artistic/performance compositions, and date palm-related handicrafts, serving as a source for researchers, innovators, and all persons specialized in the element.
- Incorporating date palm heritage in various levels of educational curricula, and qualifying teachers and instructors to ensure that the educational materials are properly transmitted to students.
- Encouraging the establishment of NGOs concerned with date palm heritage and strengthening their ability to safeguard the element and intangible cultural heritage as a whole.
- Developing national, regional, and international festivals and exhibitions as platforms for introducing the date palm, promoting its various products and supporting all concerned groups and communities.
- Establishing and promoting local and national museums to safeguard the date palm.
- Encouraging the youth to perform activities related to the palm, as it has been observed that there has been a rapid decline in this sector due to a modern shift in their lifestyles, as opposed to their traditional backgrounds, where families used to appoint a role to each child regarding local production.
- Developing agricultural majors that encompass the date palm, at colleges, institutes, and academic centers.
- Exchanging expertise among submitting states as far as date palm-related cultural aspects are concerned.
- Striving to establish a date palm heritage encyclopedia, based on substantial field materials collected by the file's submitting states.

In accordance with section (6) of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage's executive instructions, in relation to sustainable development facilitated by this heritage, the submitting states shall abide by sustaining relevant resources hereby utilizing relevant traditions and practices.

B - Measures taken by each state:

In addition to the aforementioned measures proposed by each submitting state, additional specific measures will be taken in the submitting states, including:

Bahrain
- The desertification of date palm farms will be stopped, agricultural lands rehabilitated, and date palm reproduction increased through tissue-based methods.

- The area of palms planted through the national palm-growing campaign in each house will be increased.

- A group of experts at the Arabian Gulf University will contribute to establishing a conservation mechanism by offering their advisory services to the agricultural community.

- The Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities will establish a mechanism to protect historic agricultural areas.

- An international panel will be set up to lay down plans and programs to encourage cultivation of the element, ensure its sustainability, and increase its numbers.

- The encroachment of dredging machines will be prevented, productive agricultural lands will be rehabilitated, and Bahraini skills related to date palm cultivation will be developed.

Egypt:

- The Ministry of Commerce and Industry will call upon manual date palm craftspeople to register their products with the Business Relations Bureau, to protect their intellectual property and make foreign markets accessible for exportation.

- A network that connects all people concerned with date palm handicrafts from all local societies will be created to exchange expertise on the products and their development.

- The use of all parts of the palm will be encouraged. Some groups in the Bahariya Oasis community used to throw away parts of date palms and only benefitted from the dates and the heart of the date palm, thus wasting an important resource. They will be encouraged to communicate with different groups and individuals using the element and learn from the experiences of other oases communities and the Nuba to set up handicrafts projects that use every part of date palms.

Iraq

- National legislation to reduce the expansion of residential areas at the expense of date palm orchards will be enacted.

- Laws and legislation will be drafted on implementing the ICH Convention (under process). This will contribute to the continuity of the date palm element for future generations along with other elements of cultural heritage.

- A national database of date palms will be established, including knowledge, skills, traditions, and practices, as a way of ensuring the element's sustainability for future generations.

- Guidelines and training programs related to cultivating date palms will be developed.

- Groups or collectives of experts, specialists, agricultural engineers, and interested parties who interact with each other on social media will be established to spread awareness among local communities regarding the need to protect the date palm.

Jordan

- Regular date palm-related competitions will be held.

- The ‘Portable Laboratory’ project with necessary equipment, engineers, and professional technicians will be continued, with laboratories distributed accordingly across the Kingdom.

- The areas planted with palms in various regions of the Kingdom—in the streets and parks, in general—will increase, with the date palm used decoratively.

- Annual periodic festivals related to the date palm and its cultivation, customs and traditions associated with it, will be held, such as the Date Palm Festival in Ma'an Governorate.

- The government, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Tourism, will issue cooperative
societies with brochures and publications on date palms and its products, to introduce different communities to the importance of this tree and encourage investors to be involved with this sector.

- Modern facilities at palm farms for processing and packaging dates will be established, as well as cooling units for preserving them.

- Under the supervision of the Agriculture Department, and in cooperation with associations of palm growers throughout the Kingdom, palm trees will be sprayed to protect them from pests and diseases.

- Crafts associations whose work is related to date palm products will be supported and encouraged to present their products in festivals (such as the Jerash Festival).

Kuwait

- Society's role regarding date palm cultivation will be enhanced by implementing "the one million date palm tree" project.

- A palm and date heritage database will be set up.

- Date palm associations will be supported, community participation in date palm cultivation will be enhanced, and new ways to benefit from date palm products will be devised.

Mauritania

- Dissertations and theses, and any other relevant date palm research at universities and institutes will be encouraged.

- Cooperatives specialized in processing dates will be supported, helping them to market their products.

- Local and regional festivals will be organized in palm-rich areas in the states of Adrar, Tagant, and Assaba

- Cold stores will be provided in all states that have a large stock of date palms so that cooperatives, groups, and individuals can store their products and sell them in good condition.

- Women's cooperatives, especially those involved in the manufacture and marketing of products made from date palm fronds, will be supported.

- Concerned institutions will continue to cooperate with organizations specialized in oases management to combat the desertification that threatens some oases, as is the case in Tichit and Agreijitt.

- The role of communities in establishing associations and collectives concerned with the date palm and ensuring its continuity will be strengthened.

Morocco

- Assistance to women's associations that rely on relevant traditional industries will be provided, while encouraging their participation in local, regional, and international festivals.

- Relevant traditional industries will be developed and directed toward tourists to enable higher levels of income for the women working in them.

- An international exhibition of date, in partnership with ANDZOA, will be organized to ensure the continuity of knowledge about the element.

- Traditional songs related to the date palm will be connected.

- Methods of storing dates will be documented.

Oman
- Financial and moral support to farmers, will continue to be provided, while instructing them on the latest in date palm-related agricultural methods.
- High quality offshoots will be offered to farmers.

Palestine
- The export of dates will be facilitated, and laws enacted that allow date producers to increase their income and protect their intellectual property.
- Continued efforts to combat water shortages and make this water available to date palm farms.
- The Ministry of Culture has put in measures to safeguard traditional crafts in its sectoral plan, including the crafts that use materials from palm trees, especially since these crafts are threatened due to the difficulty of working in their domains and the lack of heritage practitioners in recent times.
- Also, a plan of action has been put in place to encourage women to make products that include materials from date palms by providing them with places to work and helping them to market these products.
- Laws will be enacted for the protection of palm products and methods of marketing them.

Qatar:
- Scientific research will continue at Qatar University and other universities—such as at the Education City of the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, the Agricultural Affairs Department, and the Agricultural Research Department at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment—to develop scientific means to combat diseases threatening date palms.
- Processing plants for dates will be established, including stores for drying them. Crops will be bought from farmers to prevent waste from spoilage, and marketing outlets will be opened locally and abroad.
- Modern technologies will be used for land reclamation and distributing reclaimed land to farmers, plus encouraging them to use modern irrigation techniques to reduce water waste and combat desertification.
- Social centers that make date palm products will be supported and provided with new means for marketing them.

Saudi Arabia
- Women will be encouraged to transfer their date palm-related knowledge and skills to family members through productive family programs and forums.
- Architects, engineers, designers, and craftspeople will be motivated to use the date palm in modern architectural engineering projects.
- The National Program for Crafts and Handicrafts will be launched to issue official licenses for craftspeople making use of palm products.
- The National Portal for the date palm sector will be established to raise the quality of Saudi dates.
- The Model Farms and Field Schools project will establish three farms in Al Ula as ideal models for good agricultural practices.
- A farmers’ service center will be set up in Al Ula, which will serve as a center for businesses, services, and agricultural industries to help farmers to produce high-quality agricultural products more efficiently and assist them with marketing in the local and foreign markets.
- An agricultural waste recycling plant that mainly focuses on agricultural waste, especially date
palm waste, will be proposed. This project is an opportunity to increase agricultural returns to farmers.
- A permanent market in Al Ula will be created for all agricultural products and local handicrafts.

Sudan
- The date palm’s heritage will be promoted through radio and television programs.
- With the participation of local communities, the date palm’s heritage in the Northern State and Nile River will be collected and recorded.
- The Al-Nakheel Heritage Village in Karima city in northern Sudan will be established in coordination with government agencies and civil society organizations in the region.
- A center for research and studies of heritage associated with the date palm and other areas of heritage will be set up.
- A museum for folklore, displaying all the products in which the parts of the date palm are used, will be launched.

Tunisia
- ‘Water societies’ will be supported to aid oases farmers and properly manage available water resources.
- The control of ‘date palm offshoot’ circulation and securing quality production will be tightened.
- The expansion of date plantations will be included in the national plan that the Ministry of Environment is implementing to combat desertification.
- The International Oases Festival, which held its 41st edition from December 25 to 29, 2019, will continue in Tozeur.
- Tunisian oases will be expanded and rejuvenated through several projects such as that at Tataouine, with the aim of creating agricultural lands in the desert suitable for planting date palms.

United Arab Emirates
- Innovations related to date manufacturing will be supported and the number of date factories will be increased.
- Date palm waste will be recycled to protect the environment and benefit from the same initiative with other products.
- Productive families working in the field of date palm-related handicrafts will be supported.
- In March 2019, the United Arab Emirates donated $2 million to combat the red palm weevil in various countries of the Middle East and North Africa.

Yemen
- Media campaigns will be directed at the youth to explain the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, particularly when related to the date palm.
- The annual date palm festival, which had been suspended due to the current crisis in Yemen, will be revived.
- Publications that specialize in the date palm and associated practices, activities, crafts, customs, traditions, and more will be supported.

(ii) How will the States Parties concerned support the implementation of the proposed safeguarding measures?
Numerous specialized entities in the submitting states will be entrusted to apply proposed safeguarding procedures as such:

- The relevant agencies, departments, organizations, and cultural ministries will be responsible for safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage while also documenting and developing relevant databases.

- The entities will develop and organize regional and international exhibitions and festivals to promote the date palm heritage along with its products by supporting groups, communities, and individuals.

- These entities will also be responsible for establishing local and national museums to promote date palm heritage, in addition to the creation of a relevant encyclopedia.

- Concerned government agencies in each submitting state will support relevant national societies to safeguard and sustain it.

- The submitting states shall provide necessary financial, legal, and institutional frameworks to implement safeguarding measures proposed for each element, as was mentioned in section 3-bi.

- National date palm societies and communities will provide the relevant heritage material to the media, academic, and traditional institutions and fulfill the above-mentioned obligations. Below are some national measures to be taken by some states to ensure that the proposed measures are implemented:

Bahrain

- Implementation of Department of Agriculture projects, such as "Horah Ali", "Buhaira", and "Tobli", related to the expansion of date palm cultivation, in addition to the agricultural land rehabilitation projects and training the date palm craft practitioners.

- Training programs and educational courses to teach handicrafts, among them crafts related to the date palm, in cooperation with the Awal Women Society, the Sheikh Ibrahim bin Mohammed Al Khalifa Center for Culture and Research, and the Ministry of Labor and Social Development.

- Supporting the launch of the "Made in Bahrain" initiative by the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities in December 2020, through which the authority re-creates the visual and functional identity of products from handicrafts and traditional industries.

Egypt

- The Ministries of Culture, Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, Social Security and Education and various concerned agencies and entities will support intangible cultural heritage, date palm-related activities, and mechanisms to implement the proposed safeguarding measures.

Iraq:

- Through its entities, the government will set strategies aimed at promoting the agricultural sector and support craftspeople to ensure the element’s continuity and sustainability.

- A project for numbering palm trees to protect them from damage or from being cut down.

- Supporting tissue culture laboratories to produce quality date palm for sale at subsidized prices or distribution to farmers free of charge.

- Amending laws regulating agricultural contracts for arable desert areas and passing their ownership to local investors.

- Encouraging investment in manufacturing MDF and HDF boards (panels used in the woodworking and furniture industries) that are made using waste from date palms.

- Establishing an association or institution for craftspeople specialized in traditional industries.
related to the date palm element.
- Creating oases to plant palm trees to attract settlers and increase date production.
- Encouraging the establishment of date palm nurseries and assisting them with bank exemptions and facilities.
- Supporting environmental activists, especially those interested in date palm cultivation, and involving them in developing strategic plans for the advancement of date palms in Iraq by providing consultations, plans, and proposals that will help achieve the desired goals.

**Jordan**
- Entities concerned with organizing date palm craft exhibitions will continue to do so, regionally and internationally.
Concerned authorities will support safeguarding measures through:
- Holding training courses in all aspects of the palm tree, including caring for them, related traditional crafts, pest control, and using waste.
- Continuing to hold the Date Palm Festival, which has been organized by the government since 2011, and is now held in all areas of the Kingdom where there is date palm cultivation.
- Continuing to organize crafts fairs related to the date palm and their participation in all local and international events.
- Producing the best types of date palm seedlings since Jordan now produces the best types of dates, called Al Mejhool, which are in high demand locally, and internationally and have become associated with Jordan.

**Kuwait**
- The government will continue to cooperate with date palm societies such as the Palm Friends Society, the Kuwaiti Craft Heritage Team, the Environmental Voluntary Work Academy, and the Kuwait Heritage Society.
- Allocating special places in cooperative societies (subsidized supermarkets) to highlight and market local dates. Ministries also buy dates from farmers to give them as gifts to official visitors and ambassadors.

**Mauritania**
- Through its entities, Mauritania strives to support relevant safeguarding measures by establishing the oases project. This project was assigned to develop and implement the programs that are aimed at developing areas. It is also concerned with cultural aspects pertaining to oasis culture, in which the element is considered a vital component.
- Encouraging private initiatives, traders, and date professionals to invest in the date palm sector, especially in the areas of manufacturing and storage.
- Motivating researchers and professionals as well as the students of the Mauritania Institute for Agriculture to conduct scientific studies on the element by providing all means of support.
- The Ministry of Traditional Culture and Industry shall encourage traditional industry owners and take initiative, especially when concerned with the oases. The Ministry has contributed to supporting cooperative societies that are specialized in date palm leaf-based crafts, whereby date palm leaves and fronds are skillfully converted into various utensils, handbags, and mats that are used to decorate houses, in addition to the daily life of the oasis community. These handmade products reflect the culture and character of the oasis community and are marketed to tourists as souvenirs and home decorations.
- Developing the skills of date palm farmers in oases and supporting efforts to establish model farms and integrate them with cooperatives in the local communities.
Morocco
- The government of Morocco has set a long-term strategy called the “Green Plan”, implemented by the Ministry of Cultivation and Village Development, Water and Forests. This plan includes minor programs on the oases environment and development of the entire date palm components.
- The Ministry of Traditional Industry and Social Economy aims to support innovations relevant to the field of oases as this ministry contributes to supporting date palm-related cooperative societies.
- The National Agency for the Development of Oasis and Argan Zones (ANDZOA) was established under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to contribute to the protection of oasis regions and their development.
- The Ministry of Culture will strengthen its inventory work in the oasis regions such as the work done in the Tata Oasis.

Oman
- The implementation of programs related to the expansion of date palm cultivation and associated traditional industries.

Palestine
Through its entities represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, the State of Palestine strives to implement relevant safeguarding measures to maintain cultural, agricultural and environmental components found in Al-Aghwar and Gaza Strip. For example:
- Reclamation and cultivation of fallow lands in Jericho with date palms, where about 150,000 trees have been planted, forming a green belt that extends from the Dead Sea Triangle and along the bypass road (Road 90) to Al Nuweima, the northern entrance to Jericho.
- Developing techniques for using saline water to irrigate date palm plantations before it runs into the Jordan River.

Qatar
- The State of Qatar has set a national strategy to reach self-sufficiency in date production by establishing model farms such as Al Mashabiya farm, granting farmers agricultural lands, and encouraging them to grow date palms.
- The state encourages communities and community initiatives, the most important of which is the initiative to cultivate one million palm trees, with growers already taking the first steps to make that a reality.
- The Ministry of Culture and Sports supports youth and social centers specialized in palm fronds craft and highlights their skills in transforming palm fronds into various products used in daily life. It also encourages artists to draw inspiration from the cultural values of the date palm in drawings and paintings expressing Qatari culture.

Saudi Arabia
- The appropriate agencies will be responsible for safeguarding the element by developing plans and programs to overcome relevant dilemmas, including urban expansion at the expense of arable lands, protecting the date palm against potential diseases, providing incentives to date palm care takers, and developing irrigation methods to prevent the over-consumption of water.
- The Kingdom attaches great importance to the development and sustainability of the date palm sector. This is evident in the Kingdom’s Vision 2030 with the proposed programs and initiatives to safeguard and ensure the sustainable development of the sector and increase its contribution
to the Saudi economy.
- The government will supervise and follow up on the work of controlling endemic agricultural pests to protect date palms in the Kingdom.
- Government agencies are in communication with local communities that practice the element, receiving their inquiries and registering concerns and issues they face in planting and caring for palm trees, to activate the proposed initiatives to preserve the element.
- Supporting the national transformation initiative in the field of investing and protecting local resources.

Sudan
A project is currently underway to support the groups, communities, and individuals concerned with the element as a safeguarding measure.

The support will be with the participation of several government agencies, including the Ministry of Culture and Information, the National Committee for UNESCO, the Ministries of Agriculture, Investment, and Tourism in the Northern State, and the General Authority for Antiquities and Museums.

Tunisia
- The National Bureau of Traditional Industries shall be responsible for implementing proposed measures through its continued communication with craftspeople and relevant exhibitions and competitions.
- The sustainable management of oasis systems will be expanded to include 126 traditional oases starting from 2020 under the supervision of the Ministry of Environment and with the support of international organizations.

United Arab Emirates:
- The appropriate entities at the Ministry of Culture and Youth, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Economy, as well as other departments, support the innovations in the field of the date palm industries as part of the food security sphere.

United Arab Emirates:
- The Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi shall enforce heritage law No. 4 of 2016, concerned with safeguarding relevant intangible cultural heritage, which includes the element.
- The Good Practices Program for Date Palm and Dates targeted 50 farms with about 60,000 date palms in Abu Dhabi, Al Dhafra, and Al Ain, and the adoption of 12 advanced practices in the field of date palm cultivation.

Yemen
- The Heritage and Cultural Fund supports communities that seek to safeguard their heritage and traditional crafts.

(iii) How have communities, groups or individuals been involved in planning the proposed safeguarding measures, including in terms of gender roles, and how will they be involved in their implementation?

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

Based on the 2003 Convention that requires relevant groups, communities, and individuals to propose safeguarding measures while respecting national legislation, the submitting states aimed to meet these requirements.

**Firstly, setting safeguarding measures.**
The file has been prepared in all submitting states through inventory field works, meetings,
workshops, forums, and an overall consensus of the element. Therefore, this matter has given relevant communities, groups, and individuals a pivotal role to play in providing relevant field information and materials, actual participation and setting safeguarding plans. This was implemented through the measures below:

- Holding preliminary meetings with element practitioners, including farmers, craftspeople, oases residents, traders, researchers, civil society organizations, and government agencies—as represented by the authorities concerned with agriculture and land—for the purpose of offering the date palm inscription project the appropriate knowledge, skills, groups, communities, and individuals within the framework of the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (Sudan).

- Organizing workshops in conjunction with concerned groups, communities, and individuals to identify the reality of the element, the difficulties and dangers facing it and responsibilities of concerned practitioners and experts in addition to all concerned departments. Accordingly, the concerned groups, communities, and individuals have provided several plans and measures deemed appropriate to safeguard and sustain the element. These proposed measures have been adopted and classified in this file.

- Several submitting states made sure to invest in the annual dates festivals and date palm handicrafts, as well as to promote the product by discussing the necessary procedures to elaborate the date palm nomination file. This is due to the fact that such festivals along with the activities involved could attract anyone who is interested in the element, including farmers, NGOs representatives, craftspeople, professionals, factories, and government department representatives of all genders and ages.

Some of these major festivals include the Liwa Dates Festival, Traditional Crafts and Industries Festival (UAE), International Dates Festival (Morocco), Tajkaja Festival (Mauritania), Qareen Festival (Kuwait), the Dates Festival in Al-Qassim, the largest date market in the world (Saudi Arabia), the Local Dates Festival (Qatar), and Siwa Festival (Egypt).

**Secondly, implementing the proposed safeguarding measures:**

Through the aforementioned activities, occasions, and meetings, the groups, communities, and individuals concerned in each submitting state have expressed their willingness to implement the proposed safeguarding measures. To this effect, various women have shown full care to develop their skills and knowledge, whether in aiding the date palm’s development or crafting relevant products.

As for modern factories or small-business owners, their participation is in planning safeguarding measures of new products or advanced commodities that integrate heritage with the present by using the wealth of the date palm in modern life (Kuwait).

Community participation is also evident in many charitable projects that support date palm cultivation and create jobs and development opportunities for productive families. These include the Sheikh Saleh Al-Rajhi Community Charitable Initiative to establish a farm to produce dates and make them an endowment for charitable work, and the Sheikh Abdullah Al-Sulaiman International Prize for Scientific Creativity in the field of date palm and dates (Jood), with a prize of one million Saudi riyals (230,000 US dollars) (Saudi Arabia).

There are also plans and projects to increase interest in date palms and related economic activities, including an initiative to issue licenses to families to practice crafts associated with the date palm in their homes (UAE)

### 3.c. Competent body(ies) involved in safeguarding

Provide the name, address and other contact information of the competent body(ies) and, if applicable, the name and title of the contact person(s), with responsibility for the local management and safeguarding of the element.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bahrain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name of the body:</strong> Bahrain Authority for Culture &amp; Antiquities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name and title of the contact person: Sheikh Mohamed Al-Khalifa - Director of the National Heritage Department
Address: P.O. Box: 2199
Telephone: (+973) 17299833
Email address: m.alkhalifa@culture.gov.bh

Egypt
Name of the body: Ministry of Culture
Name and title of the contact person: Dr. Nahla Emam
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Email address: nahla.emam@gmail.com

Iraq
Name of the body: Cultural Relations Directorate- Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Antiquities
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Phone: 00964771055559
Email address: falah_shaker@mocul.gov.iq / dg@crd.gov.iq
Other relevant information: Eman Abdul Wahab Alogili
Phone: 009647811755412,009647706922442 ;
Email address: Imanalogili@gmail.com

Jordan
Name of the body: Jordan Palm Association
Name and title of the contact person: Zahi Ahmad Abu Koush
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Kuwait
Name of the body: National Council for Culture, Arts, and Letters, Department of Antiquities and Museums
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Morocco
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[www.andzoa.ma/]

Oman
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Palestine
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Email address: amanijunidi@gmail.com

Qatar:
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Other information: www.mme.gov.qa/cui/index.dox
Saudi Arabia

Name of the body: The National Center for Date Palm and Dates
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Sudan

Name of the body: Ministry of Culture
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Phone: +249123017795

Name of the body: The National Council for Cultural Heritage and the Promotion of National Languages
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United Arab Emirates

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Name of the body: Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi
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Telephone: +971 25995968, +97125995677 (Fax: +971 2 4440400)
Email address: ich@dctabudhabi.ae, nadia.sabrv@dctabudhabi.ae

Yemen
4. Community participation and consent in the nomination process

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.a. Participation of communities, groups and individuals concerned in the nomination process

Describe how the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned have actively participated in all stages of the preparation of the nomination, including in terms of the role of gender.

States Parties are encouraged to prepare nominations with the participation of a wide variety of other parties concerned, including, where appropriate, local and regional governments, communities, NGOs, research institutes, centres of expertise and others. States Parties are reminded that the communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals whose intangible cultural heritage is concerned are essential participants throughout the conception and preparation of nominations, proposals and requests, as well as the planning and implementation of safeguarding measures, and are invited to devise creative measures to ensure that their widest possible participation is built in at every stage, as required by Article 15 of the Convention.

Not fewer than 300 or more than 500 words

Despite contextual differences and the range of methods used by each state to be included in the representative list as a shared file, the collaboration between communities, groups, and individuals was effective during the file's elaboration stages, while ensuring an efficient appointment of relevant roles and responsibilities and emphasizing women's role as a major contributor to crafts. These shared efforts are represented as such:

1 - Inventory taking and field gathering:

In accordance with the requirements of article (11) of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH, the submitting states have instructed element bearers, including craftspeople, farmers, producers, and practitioners, to take inventory and document relevant knowledge, traditions, skills, and practices. For this purpose, the submitting states have been keen to form teams comprising of experts, professionals, researchers, and technicians in conjunction with all concerned national NGOs. Depending on the state's curricula, equipment and resources, the state's farmers, practitioners, and craftspeople have been tasked with providing information about the element's components in terms of traditional date palm nurturing methods, manual skills associated with date palm leaves, its symbolic and cultural implications, along with its various products. The substantial material gathered from the fields of each state formed has served as a main reference point in the nomination's preparation. These procedures were undertaken through personal and direct interviews and meetings with element practitioners in farms, fields, workshops, factories, markets, festivals, exhibitions, and productive families. In addition, these activities served as an occasion to talk about the methods followed in presenting the nomination files to UNESCO and reflected the registration of the intangible cultural heritage elements as part of UNESCO lists. This has also served as an occasion to present the threats and risks facing the element and its various components.

2 - Workshops and Meetings:

The submitting states held meetings with element bearers in addition to many workshops to complete information gathering about the cultural, social, and developmental aspects of the date palm. This also involved the discussion of the element's status in each state, the challenges facing it, and the significance of its inscription as intangible cultural heritage in UNESCO, by safeguarding the heritage, sustaining its practice, and integrating relevant development plans.
There was a substantial demand for these workshops on the part of interested groups, communities, and individuals concerned with the element. Women participated in discussions by presenting their element-related skills and knowledge, and offering solutions to obstacles they face, marketing and financial aspects. Moreover, they noted that the works they perform regarding the date palm are time-consuming and require effort and accurate completion. In addition, the youth presented their roles and relevant safeguarding techniques.

Notably, the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to increased interest among productive families to work from home making date palm products as well as the adoption of virtual workshops.

3 - Developing safeguarding measures:

With reference to the aforementioned explanation concerning safeguarding measures proposed in b-3, it has been shown that they were implemented in conjunction with various groups, communities, and individuals in each submitting state, where their applicability and ability as well as their role in reducing risks and challenges facing the element were observed. These states presented in their own files many proposed safeguarding measures that were merged in the framework of the shared file.

4 - Preparation of the film and pictures:

Visual multimedia, including the films and pictures attached to the file, is key to proving the efforts made by the groups, communities, and individuals of each state, as these thoroughly explain their respective situations. This was achieved in pictures taken with their consent, reflecting the totality of the element’s components and the societal role it encapsulates. Moreover, it was also observed when preparing the film that the element was practiced within its natural field and that it should simulate the actual practice on the part of such groups, communities, and individuals with regards to the element.

5 - Review of files and consents:

In its final form, the file was completed by seeking the opinion of the groups and communities in all submitting states. In fact, beyond merely confirming their consent, they truly expressed their desire to inscribe the element on the Representative List. This desire was shown in the letters of support that represented the various communities concerned with the date palm’s heritage.
4.b. Free, prior and informed consent to the nomination

The free, prior and informed consent to the nomination of the element 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 will welcome a broad range of demonstrations or attestations of community consent in preference to standard or uniform declarations. Evidence of free, prior and informed consent shall be provided in one of the working languages of the Committee (English or French), as well as in the language of the community concerned if its members use languages other than English or French.

Attach to the nomination form information showing such consent and indicate below what documents you are providing, how they were obtained and what form they take. Indicate also the gender of the people providing their consent.

Not fewer than 150 or more than 250 words

The submitting states made sure to obtain the support of concerned local communities in the form of signed letters. All consent was obtained through various mechanisms employed by each submitting state such as field visits, workshops, meetings, festivals, and exhibitions. In fact, they all recognized the element’s inscription as a vital step towards its safeguarding. This has led to their willingness regarding the implementation of the proposed safeguarding measures. Listed below are examples of this support:

Bahrain

The team submitted the element’s nomination under the supervision of the Authority for Culture and Antiquities, and with the assistance of Agricultural Affairs of the Ministry of Works and Municipalities with regards to the consultation of several local farmers and craftspeople.

Additional letters of support from the stakeholders in the date palm element were provided.

Egypt

Written consent from a number of entities, including the following, were attached:

1 - Egyptian Society for Folk Traditions
2 - "Susal Dhafira" Center for the design and marketing of handicrafts
3 - Al Mani for Agricultural Development
4 - Al Jawhara Dates Packaging
5 - Farmers from Siwa Oasis (four letters of consent)

Free, prior, and informed consent indicate that these societies and entities are aware of their intangible heritage, and they appreciate the element’s historical value spanning thousands of years, while also understanding the cultural role it plays in their communities. Therefore, many of those concerned with heritage, including people of all ages and genders welcomed the inscription of the element on the Representative List.

An additional letter of support from an Egyptian Society concerned with the palm element was provided.

Iraq

The team specialized in the element’s nomination process, under the supervision of the General Cultural Relations Department/Ministry of Culture, the Tourism and Antiquities of Iraq, organized numerous field tours in all governorates, villages, and the countryside of Iraq. In addition, team members held meetings with the concerned representatives of the groups, element bearers, agricultural experts, civil society organizations, research centers, cooperative societies, and local governments to assure their participation through the file’s initial stages. This also included their prior, free, and informed consent to inscribe the element on the Representative List as a shared Arab file under the supervision and auspices of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).
Acknowledgements of the palm tree heritage concerned entities are as follows:

1. Ministry of Culture – Cultural Relations Directorate
2. Karbala Center for Studies and Research
3. Mesopotamia Foundation for Cultural Development
4. The teaching personnel of the Institute of Crafts and Folk Arts – Baghdad (10 Signatures)
5. Students of the Institute of Crafts and Folk Arts (30 Signatures)
6. Nature Iraq Organization in Gabayesh district (13 Signatures)
7. Palm tree heritage practitioners (30 Signatures)
8. Farmers (41 Signatures)

Two additional updated letters were provided:

1. A letter of support for the nomination file from the Lotus Cultural Women League—a non-governmental organization active in the field of cultural empowerment of women in Basra—confirms its support for the nomination of the date palm file.
2. A letter of support for the nomination file from a group of environmental activists, agricultural engineers, and specialists in the field of date palm cultivation who provide scientific advice and establish programs for agricultural training, guidance, and other matters related to date palm cultivation.

Jordan

Many of the concerned groups, communities, and individuals in Jordan provided informed, free, and prior consent regarding the element's nomination. These documents were attached to the nomination file. The Ministry of Culture, represented by the Directorate of Heritage, obtained this consent directly after visiting date palm farms across the state and coordinating meetings with the farmers. These meeting were held in coordination with the directorates of culture in each governorate and date palm-related societies. The representation varied; some of the consent was given by the societies' presidents, while other groups were represented by an employee. This also took place at the Date Palm Festival held in the city of Ma'an located in Southern Jordan, where perennial date palms are found across city borders. The meetings' participants discussed the element's significance, while the Ministry of Culture touched upon its inclusion in the Representative List and asked for the participants' consent. Written consent was given by:

1. Heba Atta Al Balawneh: Agricultural Engineer and a Jordanian Society dates member
2. Youssef Al Refaie: Head of the Plant wealth Division in Azraq agriculture directorate.
3. Zahi Koush: Chairman of Jordan Palm Association
4. Islam Dogan: A supporter of Date palm heritage.
5. Mohamed Al Salamat: Practitioner of the date palm heritage
6. Hussien Khalaf Al nawasra: Practitioner of the date palm heritage

Three additional updated letters were provided:

- Farhan Qasim Al-Madhan, President of the Qualitative Union for Community Services
- Farhan Qassem Al-Jabour, President of the Al-Ahed and Al-Itifaq Charitable Society
- Agricultural Engineer Nasser Al-Daghmi: Director of the Agriculture Department

Kuwait

- Six letters of consent from regional economic entities were provided.
- Additional letters from the concerned Bodies, communities and individuals were provided.
Mauritania

The relevant groups, communities, and individuals associated with the element inhabit the oases of Mauritania across the regions of Adrar, Assaba, and Tagant. The file’s elaboration relied on representatives of these groups and communities, which involve several agricultural cooperative societies and civil society organizations. Proper communication and coordination were maintained to obtain the informed, free, and prior consent from all those concerned. Consent was also sought regarding submitting a shared file by the Arab states under the umbrella of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO). The representatives of these communities provided their consent for this collaborative inscription and lauded the potential for a shared date palm file to present the element’s symbolic value in the Arab World.

An additional letter from the Mauritanian Association for the Protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage was provided.

Morocco

- Government agencies (1)
- Profit organizations (3)
- Craft Cooperative Societies (2)

The concerned groups, communities, and individuals for this element are typically found within the oases of Morocco across the South Grand Atlantic Mountain Range. Organizational frameworks were helpful in obtaining their free and informed consent due to their distribution. There are two main organizational frameworks, that are comprised of cooperative societies and profit organizations. The cooperative societies include members from various societies and can range up to 50 members. The profit organizations comprise a certain number of cooperative societies. Each organization consists of over (20) societies; therefore, each organization includes over (1,000) farmers. Accordingly, consent was obtained from their relevant presidents and deputies.

The International Dates Festival held in October of 2017 served as an opportunity to organize a meeting with all concerned representatives. In addition to the fact that everyone was engaged in the date palm’s inscription on the UNESCO Representative List, they also provided their consent in the form of signed letters of support, as attached to this file.

Four additional updated letters of approval from concerned cooperatives and entities were provided.

Oman

Communities represented by farmers, craftspeople, and individuals associated with the palm supported the element’s inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage through several signed letters offering consent.

Three additional letters of support from date palms researchers were provided.

Palestine

The relevant groups, communities, and individuals, and their associated practices, skills, and traditions are found across Palestine, especially the Al-Aghwar area and Dir Balah in Gaza Strip. The file’s preparation depended on the representatives of these communities, formed in an organizational framework that could facilitate the process of obtaining free, prior, and informed consent from all those concerned.

Government entities have visited these groups at their locations to prepare the file, in addition to discussing the element’s inscription on the UNESCO Representative List. They have offered their consent in the form of written letters of support, to be attached with this form, as follows:

1. Palm Tree Farmers Cooperative Society in Aghwar (1 Signature)
2. The National Council for Development (1 Signature)  
3. Nawa for Culture and Art Association (1 Signature)  
4. The Arab Educational Forum (1 Signature)  
5. Agricultural Engineers, Managers and Supervisors in the field of Agriculture (9 Signatures)  
6. Farmer (1 Signature)  
7. Storyteller (1 Signature)  

An additional letter of approval signed by seven heritage bearers and practitioners of the date palm element was also provided.

Qatar:  
The nomination file was prepared in cooperation with partners who represent the Qatari working with the palm element, especially youth and community centers, as well as women’s associations. In addition, officials, farm owners, farmers, merchants, and consumers were contacted through the Third Date Festival, organized by the Ministry of Municipality and Environment. The owners of more than 150 farms participated in the Festival, along with the Qudurat Center for Crafts and Handicrafts, date-related businesses, and more than 50,000 people visited in the ten days during which it was held. Qatar University, in cooperation with other partners, organized an interactive workshop on the date palm file, attended by about 460 people, including students of the College of Arts and Sciences at Qatar University, and others from authorities concerned with the date palm element. They signed written approvals, which were added to the nomination file.

Saudi Arabia  
Through inventory updating and workshops, community members and representatives of government and non-governmental organizations have pointed out that each step taken in heritage protection should respect the opinion of the local communities. Moreover, obtaining their prior consent of their free will is crucial throughout the nomination process. Furthermore, the media published the initiative concerning the nomination to enable all residents to have access to the entire operation and adopt different approaches. The attached consent forms represent the society’s diversity, thereby proving their prior knowledge and participation in the process, noting that this consent was given at workshops while other forms of consent were personally granted to the National Center for Palm and Dates (NCPD) after local community visits. The evidence for the full awareness of the concerned groups, communities, individuals, and their prior consent to inscribe the element on the Representative List, can be found in letters of consent, pictures, and a film attached to the file.

Additional letters from community bodies involved in the date palm were also provided.

Sudan  
Six letters of support by government institutions have been attached to the nomination file:  
1. The Legislative Council – Northern State  
2. Directorate of Culture and Media – Halfa locality  
3. Ministry of Culture and Media – Merowe locality  
4. General Directorate for Culture and Media – Dongola locality  
5. Department of Culture - Al Dabbah locality  
6. Ministry of Culture and Media – Northern State  

Three letters of Support signed by Northern State districts have been attached.
1. Delgo locality – Executive Director
An additional letter from an additional organization was also provided.

Tunisia:
The element has been identified in Southern Tunisia due to its commonality in the region where there are three kinds of oases: coastal, desert, and mountainous. Moreover, this was assisted by the merger of the Jarba and Karkana islands, famous for their date palm reserves. With that said, there are six relevant government agencies, including Tozeur, Kebili, Gafsa, Medenine, Sfax, and Gabès, along with all concerned groups and communities. Therefore, the element’s geographical expansion was observed by obtaining the consent of local societies available in such areas, in line with their representative civil agencies and societies. In addition, the element’s composition was also observed as it involves many aspects; therefore, it is not solely limited to date palm farmers, but also includes other relevant groups of craftspeople and professionals, plus the relevant environmental activists. This has also prompted those in charge to get the consent of local societies, which were eager to express their support of the inscription file, where it was possible to obtain free and informed consent as per proper geographical distribution.

Thus, consent was provided through geographical and sectoral representation of the concerned groups and communities. This consent was received in the form of permits and written letters signed in Arabic and French. The consent forms were distributed to two entities, the first of which included farmers unions across the six concerned governorates. The second one was related to the relevant cultural societies. This has allowed a reasonable limit of local community representation to be reached through consent given by various civil societies and organizations as follows:

1. Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fishing in Sfax (1 Letter of Support)
2. Al Nakheel Association for Kerkennian Heritage in Kerkennah (1 Letter of Support)
3. Nakhla Association in Douz (1 Letter of Support)
4. Conservation of the Ancient City of Kebili Association (1 Letter of Support)
5. Conservation of Gafsa City Association (1 Letter of Support)
6. Conservation of Tozeur City Association (1 Letter of Support)
7. Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fishing – The Regional Union of Industry, Commerce and Handicrafts in Medenine Governorate (1 Letter of Support)
9. The Pen League in Medenine Governorate (1 Letter of Support)
10. Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fishing – The Regional Union of Industry, Commerce and Handicrafts in Kebili (1 Letter of Support)
11. Regional Union of Agriculture and Fishing in Gafsa Island (1 Letter of Support)
12. The Association for Safeguarding Djerba Island

An additional letter from the Association for Sustainable Development was provided.

United Arab Emirates

Date palm heritage practitioners have shown keen enthusiasm towards the element’s inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This was demonstrated through their letters of support and prior consent of their own free will, which was based on the inclusion of relevant knowledge, skills, traditions, and practices in a shared file to be nominated to UNESCO. This includes the following:
- Government agencies (5)
- Farmers (15)
- Non-government agencies (3)
- Individuals (60)

Additional documents of support for the date palm nomination were also provided due to the current update.

Yemen

In accordance with the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which emphasizes free, prior, and informed consent for nominations on the part of concerned groups, communities, and individuals, communication was established through several cooperative societies and associations. Their presidents, farmers, and date palm craft factory owners were briefed on the nomination file.

Moreover, their free consent, blessing, and support for this nomination was received; their support to international organizations such as UNESCO listing the element was substantial, given the impact of this key element on their lives from an economic, folkloric, and artistic standpoint. In addition, consent was also obtained from concerned farmers, researchers, professionals, and the presidents of several agricultural societies and civil society organizations.

An additional updated letter of support from the Association for the Development of Heritage Crafts was also provided.

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

Access to certain specific aspects of intangible cultural heritage or to information about it is sometimes restricted by customary practices enacted and conducted by the communities in order, for example, to maintain the secrecy of specific knowledge. If such practices exist, demonstrate that the inscription of the element and implementation of the safeguarding measures would fully respect such customary practices governing access to specific aspects of such heritage (cf. Article 13 of the Convention). Describe any specific measures that might need to be taken to ensure such respect.

If no such practices exist, please provide a clear statement that there are no customary practices governing access to the element in at least 50 words.
Not fewer than 50 or more than 250 words

The skills, knowledge, traditions, and practices associated with the date palm are a property of the societies, shared by various groups, communities, and individuals of all ages and genders. The customary practices in all submitting states do not impose any restrictions regarding the element's information; concerned local community members are actually striving to proliferate the expansion of the element's components.

Accordingly, there are no confidential aspects in any submitting state or the existence of customary, social, or cultural obstacles or restrictions that could prevent anyone from practicing it or banning access to relevant information and facts as identified and presented in this file.

To confirm this sentiment, several submitting states have conveyed the element's heritage, cultural, and innovative aspects on their public websites to assure transparency. Moreover, concerned national societies and heritage initiatives constantly promote these facts and information through various activities and festivals.

4.d. Community organization(s) or representative(s) concerned

Provide detailed contact information for each community organization or representative, or other non-governmental organization, concerned with the element such as associations, organizations, clubs, guilds, steering committees, etc.:

a. Name of the entity;
b. Name and title of the contact person;
c. Address;
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization/Individual</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>Bahrain Society of Agricultural Engineers</td>
<td>Mohammed Al Sheikh, Chairman, 30318, Manama - Bahrain, +97339809765, <a href="mailto:bhagrisoc@gmail.com">bhagrisoc@gmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:tawfeeq685@hotmail.com">tawfeeq685@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Higher Institute of the Folklore</td>
<td>Dr. Nahla Emam, Alexandria Cairo Road, City View Complex, Building 3, +201001022765, <a href="mailto:nahla.emam@gmail.com">nahla.emam@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>Nature Iraq</td>
<td>Jassim Alasadi, Dhi Qar Governorate/AJababish District, +9647723909697, <a href="mailto:jassim.alasadi@natureiraq.com">jassim.alasadi@natureiraq.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karbala Center for Studies and Research</td>
<td>Abdelamir Aziz Al Qrashy, Karbala Governorate 56001, Iraq, +9647700478587, <a href="mailto:qrashy2009@yahoo.com">qrashy2009@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mesopotamia Foundation for Cultural Development</td>
<td>Mohammed Mahdoul Al, Baghdad Governorate, Iraq, +9647707106275, <a href="mailto:drmaltae@yahoo.com">drmaltae@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zidni Ilman for Developing Abilities and Training</td>
<td>Alaa Hashem Al Badran, Dhi Qar Governorate, Iraq</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Form ICH-02-2022-EN – revised on 01/04/2020 – page 46**
Jordan
a. Jordan Palm Association
b. Zahi Ahmad Abu Koush
c. South Shouna - Al Karama - Jordan Valley
d. +962 777379309
e. jordan.palm@hotmail.com, Jordanpalm.com

Jordan
a. Al - Mazraa Cultural Forum
b. Dr. Awad Nwasra
c. Alhadetha Valley - Alkarak - Jordan Valley
d. +962 795295143

Jordan
a. Arar Farms
b. Haba Atta Al-Balawneh
c. Deir Alla - Jordan Valley
d. +96291324392
e. www.ararfarms.com

Kuwait
a. Date Palm Friends Society of Kuwait
b. Mr. Barak Al Handal - Secretary of the Date Palm Friends Society of Kuwait (www.dpfsq8.com)
c. +965 66670480
d. date.palm.q8@gmail.com

Mauritania
AlTayseer Participatory Cooperative Societies Union for Takanett Oases
AlTayseer Participatory Cooperative Societies Union for Adrar Oases
Al Waha Sustainable Organization

Mauritania
a. Federation of Participatory Cooperatives of the Oases of Tagant
b. Ahmedou Ould Syed Umm
d. platformtid@yahoo.fr

c. Adrar Oases Participatory Cooperatives
d. unionadrar@gmail.com

Morocco
a. Sustainable Oases
b. Mohamed Ould Bey
c. osis-durable@gmail.com
d. +22236284010

Oman
a. Ministry of Heritage and Culture
b. Ibrahim bin Saif bin Salem, Head of Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding, Ministry of Heritage and Culture
c. Sultanate of Oman, P.O. Box: 668, Zip Code: 113
d. +96824116644, +96899203029
e. baniarab8@gmail.com

Palestine
a. Palm Farmers Cooperative Association (PFCA)
b. Mamoon Jamil Jaser, Head of Administration
c. Jericho/Hejla and Alzoor
d. +599257744
e. mamoonjaser@yahoo.com

Qatar:
a. The Gharsa Association for Home Cultivation
b. Maryam Mubarak Al-Dossary / Gharsa Association Coordinator
c. Address:
d. 0097433844916
e. mdoseri@gmail.com

a. Qadrat Center for Development
b. Banna Ali Al-Harami, Director of Qadrat Center for Development
c. Address:
d. 0097455510963
e. b.81@live.com

a. Department of Agricultural Affairs
b. Yousef Khaled Al-Khulaifi, Ministry of Municipality and Environment
c. 0097455088552
e. yakhulaifi@mme.gov.qa

a. Traditional Crafts Center
b. Mohammad Mustafa Al-Salem, Director of the Waqf Market Department
c. Endowment Market
d. 0097455560809
e. E-mail:

a. Qattara Crafts Center
b. Dr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Sulaiti, General Director of the Cultural District
c. General Cultural District
d. 0097455886965
e. E-mail:

Saudi Arabia
a. National Center for Palms & Dates (NCPD)
b. Dr. Mohammed Al Nuwairan
c. King Abdullah, Riyadh 12711, Saudi Arabia
d. +966541025777
e. twitter@alnuwaira
Sudan
a. Sudanese Date Palm Society
b. Emad Edris Fadhl almawla Yousef
e. Phone: +249123863485
f. Sudanese.datepalm.society@gmail.com

Tunisia
a. Tunisian Union Of Agriculture And Fishing
b. Khayrieddin Layteem
c. Hadi Sadi Street 9, Wazref Gabès 6052
d. +216 26 548 450
e. messi_khayri@gmail.com
a. Tunisian Union Of Agriculture And Fishing
b. Abdelrazzaq Qraishan
c. Hassan Balaj Street, Sfax 3001
d. +216 74 22 1581
ea. Old Kebili City Safeguarding Association/Qays Yacoub
b. N/A
c. Nahj Al Marsa, Yacoub Sons Square, Kebili 4200
d. Phone: +216 98 950 676
e. association.sauvegarde.kebili@gmail.com

United Arab Emirates
a. Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation
b. Abdelwahhab Zayed, Secretary General
c. P.O. Box: 82872, Al Ain-UAE
d. +971 3387832434, Fax Number: +97137832550
e. kidpa@uae.ac.ae, helal.alkaabi@yahoo.com, servicedesk@uae.ac.ae

a. Farmer Services Center
b. Eng/ Mansour Al Mansoori
c. P.O. Box: 62532, Abu Dhabi-UAE
d. +971 2-813-8888, Fax Number: +9712 813-9999
e. info@adfsc.ae [Website: www.adfsc.ae]

a. Tadweer (The Center of Waste Management - Abu Dhabi)
b. Dr Salem Khalfan AlKaabi (General manager)
c. P.O. Box: 48448, Dalma Street, Abu Dhabi-UAE
d. +971 2 8185555
5. Inclusion of the element in an 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.b and 12 of the Convention.

The inclusion of the nominated element in an inventory should not in any way imply or require that the inventory(ies) should have been completed prior to the nomination. Rather, the submitting State(s) Party(ies) may be in the process of completing or updating one or more inventories, but have already duly included the nominated element in an inventory-in-progress.

Provide the following information:

(i) Name of the inventory(ies) in which the element is included:

Bahrain
Intangible Cultural Heritage List
Egypt
The Egyptian Society for Folk Traditions (ESFT) has updated the intangible cultural heritage, as per the element's inclusion through two projects. The first was established by the UNESCO National Commission, while the second was set up by non-governmental organizations, namely The National Folklore Archive and the aforementioned ESFT. These knowledge projects are open to the public in the Arabic and English languages and can be accessed via the websites below:
En: http://nfa-eg.org/En/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278
Ar: http://nfa-eg.org/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278

Iraq

Jordan
The heritage project's inventory based on the local communities found in the governorates of Karak, Salt and Zarqa, as per the form.
National inventories.

Kuwait

Mauritania
Inventory and documentation of the cultural heritage of Mauritania

Morocco
Inventory and documentation of the cultural heritage of Morocco (IDCPM)

Oman
National Inventory List - Traditions and Customs Section

Palestine
National Inventory List of the Palestinian Intangible Cultural Heritage Elements - Ministry of Culture
Traditional Knowledge and Beliefs Branch No.2 - Plants No. 13, Trees No.33 and Holy Plants No. 9.

Qatar
Inventory and documentation of Qatar's intangible cultural heritage.

Saudi Arabia
List of Inventory and Documentation of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
Sudan
The date palm and traditional date palm handicrafts in the Merowe Region and their role in social and economic development.
- The National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Tunisia
National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage

United Arab Emirates
- Heritage Register
- National Inventory List
The element was inscribed on the list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in the UAE in 2007 as an element of traditional handicrafts and was updated in 2012. Moreover, this element was also inscribed on the heritage register as part of traditional handicrafts in 2015 under the headings (a): Date palm-related crafts.
(b): Traditional products of the date palm tree.
This register is regularly updated according to both practical and safeguarding developments by concerned groups, communities, and individuals.

Yemen
Date Palm leaves

(ii) 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:

Bahrain:
The Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA)

Egypt:
الأرشيف المصري للحياة والماثورات الشعبية
الجمعية المصرية للماثورات الشعبية

Egyptian Archive of Folk Life and Folk Traditions.
Egyptian Society for Folk Traditions

Iraq:
دارة العلاقات الثقافية العامة - وزارة الثقافة

Department of Cultural Relations - Ministry of Culture

Jordan:
مديرية التراث الثقافي غير المادي - وزارة الثقافة
Ministry of Culture - Intangible Cultural Heritage Department

Kuwait:
المجلس الوطني للثقافة والفنون والأدب; دائرة الآثار والتراث، متحف الكويت الوطني
National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature; Department of Antiquities and Museums; Kuwait National Museum

Mauritania:
المحافظة الوطنية للتراث والثقافة
National Conservation of Heritage and Culture

Morocco:
مديرية التراث الثقافي التابعة لوزارة الثقافة والاتصال - قطاع الثقافة شعبة الجرد والتوثيق - مديرية التراث الثقافي
Cultural Heritage Directorate - Ministry of Culture and Communications, Culture Sector
Inventory and Documentation Division - Cultural Heritage Directorate

Oman:
دائرة التراث الثقافي غير المادي - وزارة التراث والثقافة
Intangible Cultural Heritage Department - Ministry of Heritage and Culture

Palestine:
إدارة التراث الثقافي غير المادي - وزارة الثقافة
Intangible Cultural Heritage Department - Ministry of Culture

Qatar:
إدارة التراث والهوية ورياضة - وزارة الثقافة والرياضة
Heritage and Identity Department - Ministry of Culture and Sports and it partners: groups, communities, and individuals interested in intangible cultural heritage.

Saudi Arabia:
إدارة التراث الثقافي غير المادي، وكالة الشؤون الثقافية - وزارة الثقافة والإعلام
Intangible Cultural Heritage Department, Cultural Affairs Agency - Ministry of Culture and Information

Sudan:
وزارة الثقافة والإعلام
المجلس القومي للتراث الثقافي وترقية اللغات القومية
Ministry of Culture and Media
The National Council for Cultural Heritage and the Promotion of National Languages

Tunisia:

National Institute for Heritage - Ethnographic Properties & Contemporary Arts Study and Survey Section

United Arab Emirates:

Ministry of Culture and Youth (National Inventory List Project)
Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi (Heritage Register)

Yemen:

General Authority for Antiquities and Museums

(iii) Reference number(s) and name(s) of the element in the relevant inventory(ies):

Bahrain: ICH/D4/01, The date Palm: Knowledge, skills, traditions, and practices.

Based on Paragraph 3 of the decision of the head of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities regarding the implementation of the UNESCO Convention of 2003, the National Inventory List is updated by decree of the Authority’s Chairman and evaluated by the National Heritage Department with the assistance of experts in the field of heritage. The local community and civil institutions submit proposals regarding the national inventory by contacting the head of the Authority.

Egypt: Traditional handicrafts and arts related skills. Please see the links below;
N : http://nfa-eg.org/En/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278
AR : http://nfa-eg.org/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278

Iraq:

Date Palm: Knowledge, skills, traditions, practices and inventory of the element as per serial No. (7) on the Iraqi National Inventory List for 2014 that was updated in 2017.

Jordan:

Agriculture -4/4/1

Knowledge and practices related to nature and the universe / botanical knowledge / agriculture (4-4-1).

Kuwait:
The dates palm tree element: Serial No: 16 dated 2017 on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory list in the State of Kuwait that is supervised by the Kuwait National Museum.

Mauritania:

Morocco:
The practices, skills and traditions associated with the date palm tree - idpcm:AB92 Pratiques et rituels liés au palmier dattier; N° d'inventaire national : idpcm:AB92

Oman:
Customs and traditions 8/93

Palestine:
The date palm: 2.13.33.9.2
- Its number in the national list is: 1

Qatar
The element was registered in the updated Qatar National Inventory List under Section Four: Knowledge and practices related to nature and the universe under No. (4/7).

Saudi Arabia: Date Palm: 001/07

Sudan:
The date palm tree and traditional crafts of date palm in the Murowe Region and its role in Social and Economic Development, 2015.

Reference number: 1 / Element name: Date Palm.

Tunisia:
The date palm: Knowledge, skills, traditions and practices, included in the inventory list under No. 33/6

United Arab Emirates:
Heritage Register, Traditional Crafts Art
Date palm tree related crafts, serial No: (15-7) in 2015
Date palm traditional products, serial No: (17-47) in 2015.

Yemen: 9-1: The date palm leaves

(iv) Date of inclusion of the element in the inventory(ies) (this date should precede the submission of this nomination):

Bahrain:
January 10, 2017
January 10, 2018

Egypt: 2016
Iraq: January 10, 2016 until April 18, 2017
Jordan: 2013-2014
Kuwait: April of 2017
Mauritania: 2017-2018
Morocco: December 4, 2017
Oman: January 01, 2017
Palestine: End of October 2017
Qatar: End of August 2018
Saudi Arabia December 23, 2017
Sudan: 2015
Tunisia: December 15, 2017
United Arab Emirates:

The date palm tree has been included in the National Inventory Lists in 2009 by the Intangible Heritage Department at the Department of Culture and Tourism. It has also been listed in the Heritage Register as part of the intangible cultural heritage (Traditional Handicrafts) from (22-7) serial since 2014.

Yemen: 2009

(v) Explain how the element was identified and defined, including how information was collected and processed 'with the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations' (Article 11.b) for the purpose of inventorying, including reference to the role of the gender of the participants. Additional information may be provided to demonstrate the participation of research institutes and centres of expertise (max. 200 words).

The element in each submitting state has been identified and defined through their respective methods, mechanisms, and techniques. In all cases, this has been done by engaging all groups, communities, and individuals as well as NGOs and associations in accordance with clause No. (116) of article (15) of 2003 Convention. The major mechanisms used were as follows.

In Bahrain, the 2003 Convention has been taken as the basis for identifying the element, whereby several researchers and experts at the Authority for Culture and Antiquities identified a preliminary list of the state's intangible heritage, including the element. This has been followed by field collection and a complete identification of the element in its essence.

In Egypt, the element has been defined and identified by researchers specialized in intangible cultural heritage with the participation of concerned groups, communities, and individuals through field information collected from farmers, craftspeople, and date palm tree users. This was also dependent on the general populace who typically maintain several relevant customs, traditions, and artistic compositions, including songs, poems, stories, proverbs, and aphorisms. To this effect, women held a vital role in identifying and defining the element.

Iraq has formed field committees and task forces responsible for conducting meetings with farmers and orchard owners of all genders as well as government and non-governmental agencies. These groups have expressed their consent and participation on the file's preparation and inscription.

In Jordan, relevant information has been collected by the mechanism based on the local
community, divided by Jordan’s governorates, where male and female researchers have been selected by various NGOs. In addition, personal interviews have been conducted with those concerned where relevant information pertaining to the nominated element was collected.

The Middler Project of the European Union (2010-2012), launched by UNESCO, was established, and funded jointly with Jordan to prepare inventory lists in line with the 2003 agreement. The Madaba governorate was subsequently nominated by community members (men and women) to implement this project. The palm tree features individually and linked to other intangible cultural heritage elements in inventories prepared during the aforementioned projects by community members, community facilitators, and relevant NGOs.

In addition to that, the collection of information related to the element was carried out by local communities. Jordan was divided by governorates and relevant NGOs selected male and female researchers from the local communities. Field interviews were conducted with the concerned parties and the relevant information specific to the element was collected.

In Kuwait, research teams have been formed to identify and define the element with farmers through visiting institutions, farms, markets, and houses.

In Mauritania, the element has been defined and identified through field work, which included interviews with local communities that resulted in gathering information and its eventual documentation.

In Morocco, the date palm element and its related practices and traditions have been identified and defined through field work with concerned groups, communities, and individuals. This has taken place through the following methods:

- Conducting direct personal interviews with farmers at their own farms where relevant information has been collected.
- Collecting and documenting information within the framework of meetings with male and female representatives of cooperative societies and profit organizations.

In Oman, many of those concerned, including the practitioners, academicians, and those working in the field of date palm, have been interviewed to elicit date palm information through a model form prepared as per the guide concerning inventorying and documentation.

In Palestine, the inventory and field work process has been carried out in cooperation with Nawa for Culture and Arts Association in Deir Al Balah City - Gaza Strip, which collected date palm heritage through the element bearers’ voice recordings. In addition, they collaborated with Cooperative Society for Palm Farmers in Jericho, where relevant information was provided.

In 2017, the Ministry of Culture / Department of National Registry of Heritage developed the National List of Intangible Heritage with the participation of a group of experts, heritage bearers, representatives of cultural institutions, heads of NGOs, and representatives of state employees working in cultural heritage, etc.

A list of representative heritage to be preserved in Palestine was drawn up. The representative list initially had 18 cultural heritage elements, and this list was updated a year ago.

In Qatar, the process of updating the national inventory list and field research on the date palm element was carried out in close cooperation with partners in the Ministry of Municipality and Environment and the concerned authorities in providing data related to farmers, farm numbers, and the amount of date production. Based on that, the field work was carried out in two phases:

1- Direct contact was made with some farm owners and specialized agronomists to collect information on traditional skills in benefitting from palm trees, such as traditional and modern
pollination and ongoing care.

2- The information was collected and documented in the framework of meetings, workshops, and seminars with specialists, researchers, farmers, and artists who were inspired by the date palm in their work.

- To complete the inventory, direct interviews were conducted with a group of women in the Gharsa Women’s Association and the Qudurat Center to gather their specialist knowledge and date palm-based handicraft skills.

In Saudi Arabia, the field collection and inventory related to the element of the date palm has been completed in collaboration with the National Center for Palm and Dates that provided the information pertaining to the relevant NGOs and farmers. In addition, personal interviews were conducted with numerous farmers at their own orchards about traditions concerning planting offshoots, pollination, and harvesting seasons, along with cultural aspects such as traditional songs and proverbs.

In Sudan, the element’s identification has been based on relevant research and handicrafts in the Murowe Region, in addition to their role in development, with the assistance of the youth and NGOs. Recorded interviews were conducted with innovators and practitioners of the date palm heritage. Some information was also collected from research institutes in the region, such as the Folklore Department of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Dongola, and associations such as the Sudanese Palm Care and Cultivation Association.

In Tunisia, the element’s identification was based on field collection between intangible heritage professionals and local groups and communities represented by non-government authorities and societies as well as corporate persons that served as a source of information. In addition, there was significant participation of the Water societies and women who were keen to complete the information and provide safeguarding proposals.

In the United Arab Emirates, a questionnaire was addressed to relevant non-government associations and agencies. Moreover, male and female researchers at the Abu Dhabi Department of Culture and Tourism have collected relevant data through personal interviews with concerned farmers, craftspeople, experts, and traders. In addition, meetings were held with NGO representatives and farmers at the annual date palm tree festivals.

In Yemen, inventorying and documenting traditional handicrafts from date palm leaves occurred with the participation and support of the Heritage Unit - Social Fund for Development, as well as active participation of concerned researchers and professionals. Furthermore, meetings with male and female craft specialists and factory owners were held.

(vi) Indicate how often the inventory(ies) is(are) updated (periodicity) (max. 100 words).

Bahrain:
The date palm element is updated whenever needed in coordination with the concerned authorities.

Egypt:
The list is constantly updated with photos and information from local communities.

Iraq:
Elements of ICH are proposed and updated approximately every two years based on the wishes of local communities, NGOs, and practitioners of the element. This is done by a national task force of specialists in ICH in the Public Cultural Relations Department of the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities. The team is tasked with studying these proposals and updating them according to the information received from relevant local communities and the NGOs themselves, in addition to collecting all the required documents and information.

Jordan:
The ICH Inventory List in Jordan is updated by the ICH Directorate at the Ministry of Culture every two years with the full participation of communities, groups, individuals, experts, and NGOs. They are inventoried and the results are reflected in policies and strategies related to ICH.

Kuwait:
Digital and paper copies are updated annually by the Department of Antiquities and Museums. The information provided by the interconnected network of cultural practitioners means that there is ongoing information about the element (deaths, who is now offering workshops, who is producing a new product, etc.). This regular participation of heritage related individuals or groups helps keep the inventory updated on an annual basis.

Mauritania:
The inventory list is updated whenever necessary in coordination with the groups, communities, and individuals concerned with heritage elements.

Morocco:
Responsibility for the inventory rests with the Directorate of Cultural Heritage, the only agency authorized to maintain the national inventory record. Heritage elements are updated as new information or data becomes available. This is done in coordination with relevant partners, associations and individuals representing communities. The period between each update does not usually exceed three years. The last update was on 24/9/2020.

Oman:
The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth is concerned with ICH in the Sultanate through the ICH Department, which includes a special section for national inventories called the Department of Inventory and Documentation. The National Inventory Department supervises the registration of elements and reviews and updates information whenever necessary with the help of the concerned communities, groups and individuals. There are electronic forms dedicated to registering the ICH elements in the national inventory list.

Palestine:
The Ministry of Culture endeavors to update the list every two years through a general meeting of groups of experts, heritage bearers, and specialists.

Qatar:
The element is updated every four years.
Saudi Arabia:
The date palm element, among other elements of the ICH, is updated every five years by the relevant departments in the ministries of culture and related organizations to monitor developments in terms of numbers of practitioners of both sexes, areas of spread, developments in element transmission, and methods of promoting it.

Sudan:
Element data is updated as new information becomes available such as: research, studies, activities, and various events. Policies have been set up to inventory the intangible cultural heritage in Sudan every four years.

Tunisia:
Inventory data are constantly updated according to the nature of each element and the groups and associations that were involved in the initial inventorying process. In addition, the National Institute of Heritage undertakes extensive field work with the aim of updating the elements included in the national inventory, in cooperation with civil society and practitioners, at an average of about three years for each element.

United Arab Emirates:
Inventory lists are updated by the concerned authorities every five years. Information includes developments in the practice of the element, its sustainability, preservation, and new roles of groups, communities, and individuals.

Yemen:
Element information is updated continuously and whenever necessary. The updating process includes either adding new information about the element or changing the information previously documented. When matters related to the elements are annual, such as festivals, updating takes place during these events. There is also constant contact with civil organizations and associations to document any and every development or change in elements that were previously inventoried.

(vii) Explain how the inventory(ies) is(are) regularly updated. The updating process is understood not only as adding new elements but also as revising existing information on the evolving nature of the elements already included therein (Article 12.1 of the Convention) (max. 200 words).

Bahrain
In accordance with clause No. 3 of the BCHR's President's decision concerning the 2003 UNESCO Convention's implementation, any changes made to the inventory list shall be approved by the Commission's Chairman. The elements are evaluated by the National Heritage Department, with the help of experts in the field of heritage. The community and NGOs must submit proposals for any additions to the national inventory list by addressing the Chairman of the Commission.

Provisions of the 2003 agreement, in addition to inventory management, are implemented by the National Heritage Department in the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities. A team was set up to collect data by contacting groups, communities, and individuals concerned with intangible heritage. The information and available resources and status of the element are updated accordingly.

Egypt
The inventory lists are updated by the Egyptian Society for Folk Traditions (ESFT) based on the
element’s inscription, which can be accessed via the link below:
N: http://nfa-eg.org/En/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278
AR: http://nfa-eg.org/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278

The skills and knowledge associated with the date palm were included in the inventory list based on field work carried out by researchers who archive the daily life of groups, communities, and individuals practicing the element in various oases in Egypt and in the Nuba community in Upper Egypt who were identified with the element.

They also follow up on exhibitions, workshops, and studies by civil associations and the Ministry of Culture for activities related to the element, and on the initiatives of the NGOs and date processing facilities in the oases (especially the Siwa Oasis). The inventory list was also updated with information provided by small projects that work in palm products, such as the “Nakhlati” project, and NGOs took the initiative to cooperate in updating the inventory list of the element.

Iraq
To ensure that the ICH of Iraq is defined and safeguarded, especially after joining the 2003 Convention in 2010, the General Department of Cultural Relations is the entity authorized by the Iraqi government to prepare the first National Inventory List in 2014. This list included elements of ICH, and the aforementioned list was updated in 2017 as per the wishes of the concerned communities, entities, and individuals, in accordance with article (12.1) of 2003 Convention. The General Department of Cultural Relations updates national lists every one to two years in coordination and participation with all concerned groups, communities and individuals.

Jordan
After the inventory process is completed, the information is reviewed by experts representing rural, urban and nomadic societal segments. Afterwards, any change that occurs to the elements is observed and any issues that could threaten them can be identified and discussed with such experts to come up with the appropriate recommendations on proposing safeguarding measures if possible. This takes place every three years as per a plan devised by the Intangible Heritage Directorate - Ministry of Culture.

The ICH inventory focuses on “diversity” and “inclusiveness” in the ICH in Jordan, and the establishment of a systematic inventory (2012). A dynamic and reciprocal update mechanism has been developed by the Ministry of Culture with the concerned communities in the regions / governorates.

Throughout the year, NGOs and concerned communities submit reports and inventory sheets, with approvals, to the Ministry of Culture. These contain information that enriches and/or reflects any changes to registered elements as well as elements that are proposed for inclusion on the inventory from different regions and communities. Sometimes these updates are sent directly to the Ministry of Culture portal or via Directorates of Culture offices located throughout the country.

Kuwait
The National Inventory List was created in 2017 after lists from various departments and entities were collected. Elements on the list are also updated as new information becomes available (such as new practitioners or new group leadership).

Mauritania
The National Conservation of Culture and Heritage seeks to take inventory and document ICH elements across the land with the participation of any concerned groups, communities and individuals. This documentation is held in a specialized database that updates relevant information within intangible cultural inventory framework. For example, if it is related to relevant activities such as festivals, the update is pursued by engaging any concerned communities,
groups or individuals. In addition, several relevant organizations strive to provide the National Conservation of Culture and Heritage with newfound data concerning the element that needs to be inventoried whether on the national list or the UNESCO Representative List.

Morocco

Through the Heritage Inventory and Documentation Section that encompasses ICH the Cultural Heritage Directorate is responsible for field activities concerned with any relevant inventory taking and documentation. This is done through the co-ordination of concerned communities, groups, and individuals. The inventory and documentation information is managed by a specialized database that is regularly updated (www.idpc.ma). The updating process is carried out through two integrated methods. The first method is to add relevant information and the second is to edit information within a contextual framework. When it comes to the element relating to annual activities such as festivals and events, the update is made through by engaging any concerned groups, communities, and individuals. In addition, concerned domestic organizations and societies strive to provide the Directorate of Cultural Heritage with all new sources of relevant information.

Oman

The Inventory and Documentation Department updates the elements included on the National Inventory List on a regular basis, in coordination with relevant practitioners, academics, and all those concerned with the element.

Palestine

Through the National Register of Heritage, the Heritage Department is concerned with collecting, inventorying, and documenting Palestine’s ICH. This is done with the participation of groups and communities supervised by intangible heritage experts.

Qatar

The Heritage and Identity Department works in cooperation with partners to review the inventory of the date palm element every four years to update it with changes that have occurred in Qatari society regarding this element. It also reviews scientific and literary publications and scientific research and the results of field and laboratory studies carried out by specialists, scholars and science students interested in heritage, agriculture, trade, and other topics to benefit from their work and new knowledge for maintaining inventories of all elements, including that of the date palm.

Saudi Arabia

As soon as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) signed the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention, a department concerned with inventorying and documenting ICH was set up. It also created a website to inscribe and document heritage elements in collaboration with civil societies totaling over (13) branches of the Saudi Arabian Society for Culture and Arts (SASCA) across the KSA. Moreover, there are societies and centers concerned with the date palm in addition to the National Center for Palm & Dates, Palm Center in Al-Ahsa, Al-Qassim and Medina. Communication takes place through seminars and festivals, where the largest dates festival in the world is annually held in the Al-Qassim Region on one of the richest date palm agricultural areas.

All these community-based organizations work side by side to provide the Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage with updated information on heritage elements.

Sudan:

A comprehensive inventory of the Palm and its associated traditional crafts has been prepared in
the Merowe region and is periodically updated.

The updating process is carried out by adding all the information related to the palm date element, such as conservation measures, community approvals and other information related to promoting the element in the media.

Tunisia

Survey and Study of Contemporary Arts Section is responsible for carrying out the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory Project in cooperation with a civil society that update the inventory. Professional researchers also update regularly the inventory based on knowledge acquired from heritage experts. Besides, there are contributions made by local groups and communities that organize some activities and events relating to the element. They come up with an advanced inventory that takes into consideration the dynamic nature of the element within the local contexts where they are practiced.

United Arab Emirates

The Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Youth is responsible for the inscription and inventory process of the ICH including the element of date palm through male and female research teams and proceed to inscribe as such on national lists as per the five aspects of heritage (heritage register). Currently, this effort is being completed by publishing lists on the internet, updated every five years by specialized committees. The purpose of doing so is to identify the new information that could describe methods of this element practice and promote it as well.

Yemen

Inventorying and documenting the ICH process have been carried out by the Ministry of Culture with the contribution and financial of Social Fund for Development and active participation of groups, communities and those concerned with the element. This list is updated whenever necessary by providing an integrated project by the parties concerned with this inventory. Thus, including a clarification of the required necessities to update/add certain element(s) with the guidance of the international organizations’ directions in this regard.

(viii) Documentary evidence shall be provided in an annex demonstrating that the nominated element is included in one or more inventories of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies), as defined in Articles 11.b and 12 of the Convention. Such evidence shall at least include the name of the element, its description, the name(s) of the communities, groups or, if applicable, individuals concerned, their geographic location and the range of the element.

a. If the inventory is available online, provide hyperlinks (URLs) to pages dedicated to the nominated element (max. four hyperlinks in total, to be indicated in the box below). Attach to the nomination print-outs (no more than ten standard A4 sheets) of relevant sections of the content of these links. The information should be provided in English or French, as well as in the original language if different.

b. If the inventory is not available online, attach exact copies of texts (no more than ten standard A4 sheets) concerning the element included in the inventory. These texts should be provided in English or French as well as in the original language if different.

Indicate the materials provided and – if applicable – the relevant hyperlinks:

Bahrain:

Administrative Decision No. (4) for the year 2014 concerning the inventory and issuance of lists of intangible cultural heritage of Bahrain.

The national inventory of the intangible cultural heritage includes the palm element (ICH / D4 / 01) issued by the Bahrain Culture and Antiquities Authority

Egypt: The weblinks below:

N: http://nfa-eg.org/En/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278
AR : http://nfa-eg.org/Inventory_Details.aspx?ID=278

Iraq: Attached, (3) pages on inventory lists and (2) pages on National Inventory List
Kuwait: Attached, (3) pages on inventory lists from Kuwait National Museum.
Mauritania: Statistics of the Ministry of Culture and Traditional Industry, 2016-2017
Morocco: Paper-based copy of the inventory form relating to the element of date palm along with the relevant practices, traditions and skills in addition to the webpage below that refers to the database webpage on the element inventory.
Oman: National inventory issued by the Ministry of Heritage and Culture.
Palestine: Paper based copy of the inventory form relating to the element of date palm along with relevant practices, traditions and skills in addition to the webpage below that refers you to the database webpage on the element inventory.
http://www.moc.pna.ps/

Qatar:
A copy of the updated National Inventory is attached to the Date Palm File: traditions, knowledge, practices, and skills.

Saudi Arabia: Attached, (2) pages on inventory lists.

Sudan: Attached, inventory list, (3) pages

Link for the inventory of the intangible cultural heritage in which the element was included:

Tunisia: The first card summary on the element inventory in Arabic and another one relating to the same subject in French as per the weblinks below:
-181%3AProjetinventpatimm&catid=9%3Aprojets&Itemid=124&lang=ar

United Arab Emirates: Attached, several documents on the inventory lists related to the date palm element.

Yemen: Attached, a copy of the inventory list.

6. Documentation

6.a. Appended documentation (mandatory)
The documentation listed below is mandatory and will be used in the process of evaluating and examining the nomination. The photographs and the video will also be helpful for activities geared at ensuring the visibility of the element if it is inscribed. Tick the following boxes to confirm that the related items are included with the nomination and that they follow the instructions. Additional materials other than those specified below cannot be accepted and will not be returned.
documentary evidence of the consent of communities, along with a translation into English or French if the language of the community concerned is other than English or French;

- documentary evidence demonstrating that the nominated 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 of the Convention; such evidence shall include a relevant extract of the inventory(ies) in English or in French, as well as in the original language, if different;

- ten recent photographs in high definition;

- grant(s) of rights corresponding to the photos (Form ICH-07-photo);

- edited video (from five to ten minutes), subtitled in one of the languages of the Committee (English or French) if the language utilized is other than English or French;

- grant(s) of rights corresponding to the video recording (Form ICH-07-video).

6.b. Principal published references (optional)

Submitting States may wish to list, using a standard bibliographic format, the principal published references providing supplementary information on the element, such as books, articles, audiovisual materials or websites. Such published works should not be sent along with the nomination. Not to exceed one standard page.

- Al Doori, Abdelaziz (1993), "The Economic History of Iraq in the 4th Islamic Hijri Century".
- Alizzawi, Abbas (1960), "The Date Palm in the History of Iraq", Baghdad.
- Al-Asfoor AAA (2012), "A Study of some Ecological and Biological aspects of the red palm weevil in the Kingdom of Bahrain". M.S. Thesis Arabian Gulf University.
- Ahmed, Muhieddin Yousef (2005), "The Palm and Dates in Marwi Region, Marwi Dam Series of Issues".
- AlJuboori, Nofal Mohammed, et al. (1971), "Description of One Hundred Ten Varieties of
Dates.
- Awad, Korkis (1953), "Palm and Date of Iraq: The Iraqi Agriculture", part-I, vol.8, Baghdad.
- Baroin, C- Prêt, "Le palmier de Borkou, végétal social total". Journal des Africanistes, LXIII (1), 5-20, 1993.
- Dr. Weshah, Ghassan Mahmoud (2017), "The History of the Date Palm & Dir Al Balah: A Scientific Historical Study".
- Gobert, E-G. (1940), "Usages et rites alimentaires des Tunisiens, leurs aspect domestique, physiologique et social", Archives de l'Institut Pasteur, Tunis.
- Ismail, Daeq (2008), "The Economies and Conditions of Date Palm Cultivation in Palestine", Duniya Agricultural Magazine.
- Khan, Mohammed Ali Redha (2000), "Local Trees in the United Arab Emirates", Dubai
Municipality.
- Mohammed, Jamal (2003), "The Old Crafts, Trades and Business Activities in Kuwait", Center For Research And Studies On Kuwait.
- Mufeed, Al Banna & Eid, Alaa (2007), "The Date Palm in Palestine (Facts and Prospects): An Analytical Study of Palm Waste to be Used in Gaza Strip", "The National Society for Palm and Dates Development, Gaza - Palestine".

The Holy Quran - And the Noble Hadith.
- "Al Ma'thurat Al Sha'biyya" magazine from the first issue (January 1986) to issue 95 (July 2016), Doha: The Arab Gulf States Folklore Centre and the Ministry of Culture and Sports.
- Rabia bin Sabah Al-Kuwari, (2016), "Qatari Proverbs from Qatar Diar", Doha: Ministry of Culture and Sports.
- Tahreer, (2006), "Research and Studies of the Laboratory of Plant Tissue Culture", Doha: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.

The poem “The Giving Palm” is part of the Aiynak Ya Dunia collection by Mustafa Al-Khashman.
7. Signature(s) on behalf of the State(s) Party(ies)

The nomination should be signed by the official empowered to do so on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multinational nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

Name:
Title:
Date:
Signature:

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (For multinational nominations only)
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

United Arab Emirates

Name: S. E. M. Ali Abdulla Al Ahmed

Title: Ambassadeur des Emirats Arabes Unis en France

Date: 31/03/2021

Signature:
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: Kingdom of Bahrain

Name: Shaikh Naser Khaled Al Khalifa

Title: First Secretary

Date: 1st April 2021

Signature:
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Name: AMBASSADOR / ALAA YOUSSEF

Title: PERMANENT DELEGATE TO UNESCO

Date: 31/03/2021

Signature:
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: Iraq

Name: Dr. Kadhim Nazar Al-Rikabi

Title: Charge d'Affairs

Date: 31-3-2021

Signature:
7. Signature(s) on behalf of the State(s) Party(ies)

The nomination should be signed by the official empowered to do so on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multinational nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

Name: Makram Queisi
Title: Ambassador, Permanent delegate of Jordan to UNESCO
Date: 31/3/2021
Signature:

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (For multinational nominations only)
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: State of Kuwait

Name: Adam Almulla

Title: Ambassador, Permanent Delegate Of the State of Kuwait to UNESCO

Date: 31/3/2021

Signature:
**Signature on behalf of the State Party**

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

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<th>State Party:</th>
<th>Namibia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td>Cisse Bofo Dje</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Ambassadeur délégué permanent de la Namibie auprès de l'Unesco</td>
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<td>In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.</td>
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<td>State Party: Kingdom of Morocco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name: Samir ADDAHRE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title: Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of The Kingdom of Morocco</td>
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Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

Sultanate of Oman

Name: H.E.Dr. Hamed Al Hamami

Title: Permanent Delegate of the Sultanate of Oman to UNESCO

Date: 31/03/2021

Signature:
**Signature on behalf of the State Party**

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: PALESTINE

Name: Mounir Anastas

Title: Ambassador, Alternate Permanente Delegate

Date: 31/03/2021

Signature: 📝
7. **Signature(s) on behalf of the State(s) Party(ies)**

The nomination should be signed by the official empowered to do so on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multinational nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: DR. NASSER HINZAB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Ambassador Permanent delegate of State of Qatar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date: 31 March 2022</td>
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<td>Signature: [Signature]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Name(s), title(s) and signature(s) of other official(s) (For multinational nominations only)
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Name: H.H. Haifa Bint Abdulaziz Al Mogrin

Title: Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to UNESCO

Date: 31/03/2021

Signature:
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: Republic of The Sudan

Name: Jubaif Ismail Jubaif

Title: Ambassador/chargé d'affaires

Date: 31.03.2021

Signature:
The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: TUNISIE

Name: Ghazi GHERAIRI

Title: Ambassadeur, Délégué permanent de Tunisie auprès de l'UNESCO

Date: 31 mars 2021

Signature:
Signature on behalf of the State Party

The nomination should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national nominations, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the nomination.

State Party: Yemen

Name: Mohammed Jumeh

Title: Ambassador

Date: 21/4/2021

Signature: [Signature]