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**DEPARTAMENTO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL**

***Comments on the Participation of NGO's in the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee***

Concerning the **Criteria for Accreditation of NGO's**, it is considered that the criteria outlined in the Guidelines specifically in **Chapter 3, Section 3.2 Participation of NGO's**, when talking about who should have proven competence, expertise and experience in safeguarding (as defined in **paragraph 3 of Article 2 of the Convention**) is an important element to consider, since the protection of intangible cultural heritage is a task that should not be left to government agencies, so that the participation of NGO's providing support and a great balance in the functions of both groups is also important that such expertise is not confined to one area but that the NGO has a broad spectrum in its action.

It is also important that the fields of action in which NGO's operate closely related to what the Convention provides for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, since it allows tasks to grapple with such safeguards do not frictions have negative equity.

When these same criteria is talk that the NGO's cooperate in an atmosphere of mutual respect with communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit intangible cultural heritage is a very successful approach, because if there is no such cooperation, the tasks to be deployed by them in connection with communities, groups and individuals that create, maintain and transmit intangible cultural heritage, you can get to fall in a duplication of jobs which nothing will come to work with the heritage which seeks to preserve. This duality is what the inputs would be wasted and, instead of safeguarding the heritage, what happens is that they cause conflict and that this leads to loss of interest in the heritage to be protected.

A criterion that is considered important to be included in the criteria is that the NGO should pledge not to abandon their work in safeguarding cultural heritage, as if this commitment is limited to certain period of time, which can happen is that if the work is being undertaken with the cooperation of a community, and the NGO comes a time that is detached from its commitment, this will impact upon the work done is lost, and endangering heritage that has been protecting.

Another criterion to be considered as important to the analysis, is that the NGO should have a financial budget that allows you to cope financially in its work in addressing the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage as an NGO that does not count with an

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adequate budget that can be reached at some point to withdraw to continue its work. Although here we must make the exception that many country-level NGO's receive external inputs that allow them to survive.

Overall, the outlined criteria for the accreditation of the NGO's, are criteria that it be fully realized, will promote the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage is a fact, and that all mankind will be highly grateful to the NGO's for his role in the protection of local cultural roots, national, regional and around the world, for this heritage that today we are protecting is the heritage we are leaving for future generations.

Now when we talk about the **Arrangements and Accreditation Review**, this is an enduring challenge for the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee, which we believe that this committee should be accompanied in this task by cultural operators who can provide their collaboration, because the knowledge we have of each NGO that intends to support the work of safeguarding, it is appropriate to recommend to the NGO's who have a broad understanding of the work that the NGO deployed either locally, nationally regional, etc.

It is important to analyze the trajectory of the NGO that is being recommended, since much of the work to develop the NGO, is covered in its path, because these records provide insights to where the NGO can fulfill the expectations that have a future.

Here it is important to involve the National Committees in the task of advising the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee, as they must have knowledge of the NGO that is being recommended, and not, at least have partners who can offer background of the NGO proposal.

For all the above, one can say that the topic of Test Procedures and Accreditation is a process that must take place in an extremely careful, because the good achievement of this process will be selected fruits and one or more accredited NGO's that support the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee in its work by ensuring that all heritage of nations is safeguarded by security measures, which in turn lead to the preservation of the cultural roots of each people, nation, region, etc.

In terms of **Advisory Functions**, it might say, where the support that the NGO's provide the Committee will be crucial, as will those NGO's in conjunction with government agencies in each country who know better situation facing the property,

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because they will spot better palpated the heritage context, since the consultation made by the NGO Committee will allow each to be continuously informed of the process is carried out cultural heritage protection.

That is why the task undertaken by the Committee at the global level, must be seen together with the advisory tasks must have the instance NGO's a committee in question, because as you mentioned, are these NGO's who know better the current situation and future cultural heritage of the people, nation or region conducting its work.

Regarding the **Accreditation Procedure**, there is much to say, because information is gathered, is that usually gets used worldwide to apply for such accreditation to the national and international, however, that information is collected, is a source for strengthening the decision made when selecting and accredit the NGO that is taking place currently falls within the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee.