



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
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Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Assistant Director-General for Culture a.i.

To the States Parties Members of the
Intergovernmental Committee for the
Safeguarding of the Intangible
Cultural Heritage

21 SEP 2017

Ref.: CLT/CCS/CRE/ITH/17/7442

Subject: Twelfth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (4-9 December 2017, Jeju Island, Republic of Korea)

Dear Ambassador,

On behalf of the Director-General, it is my honour to invite your country to the twelfth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which will take place at the International Convention Centre Jeju (ICC Jeju), on Jeju Island (Republic of Korea) from 4 to 9 December 2017. I should be grateful if you would transmit this information to the national authorities in charge of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in your country.

This session of the Committee will be preceded by an opening ceremony that is being organized by the Host country and that is scheduled to take place on 3 December 2017 at the Event Hall, ICC Jeju at 6 p.m. All participants in the session are welcome to attend.

Please find enclosed the provisional agenda for the session. Documents corresponding to the items inscribed on this agenda will be published on the Convention's website at: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/12com> no later than on 6 November 2017, in the two working languages of the Committee (English and French – Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee). General information concerning practical arrangements for the session also will be posted on the same website.

Out of concern for the environment and in order to reduce costs, hard copies of the documents will not be provided unless they are specifically requested. In the event that you are unable to download the documents, I invite you to send an e-mail to the Secretariat of the Convention at: ichmeetings@unesco.org. Please be advised that the debates of the meeting will be transmitted by audiocast and videocast, which will be made available in real time on the website of the Convention indicated above.

Expenses incurred by participants will be borne by the government they represent. Participation costs for representatives from developing States Members of the Committee may, however, be covered by the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural

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Heritage (the Fund), subject to the availability of resources and provided that such persons are experts in intangible cultural heritage. Kindly note that only one request for one expert per State Member shall be considered for such assistance from the Fund.

Requests for assistance must reach the Secretariat of the Convention at least four weeks prior to the session (Rule 5.5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee). Nevertheless, taking into account UNESCO regulations regarding the purchase of tickets, and to fulfil other logistical requirements, I invite eligible States kindly to send their request to the e-mail address of the Secretariat indicated above as soon as possible. Requests received before 6 October 2017 will be considered as priority. Such requests should be accompanied by the curriculum vitae of the proposed expert, a scanned copy of his/her valid passport and his/her travel itinerary.

For all enquiries concerning visas and other formalities required to enter the Republic of Korea, participants are requested to contact the embassy or consulate of the Republic of Korea in their own country directly. The present letter, together with a letter from you stating the name(s) of your country's representative(s), may be used when applying for a visa. If the Republic of Korea does not have diplomatic representation in your country, you may wish to send requests to the above-mentioned e-mail address of the Secretariat of the Convention, which will transmit it to the Host country. Please bear in mind that only the authorities of the Republic of Korea may determine whether a visa is granted.

I should be grateful if you would confirm your country's participation in this Committee session, as well as the participation of the expert for whom financial assistance is requested where relevant, by registering online on the Convention's website as soon as possible. In the event that you encounter technical difficulties, kindly send an e-mail to the Secretariat.

As is customary, a non-governmental organizations forum will take place on the eve of the opening of the session, on Sunday 3 December 2017. Further information on the agenda for that meeting will be made available at: <http://www.ichngoforum.org/> shortly.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in and support to the implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Yours sincerely,


pp Francesco Bandarin

Enc: Provisional Agenda

cc. Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Committee
Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to UNESCO
Permanent Delegation of the countries concerned
National Commissions of the countries concerned