Information and Exchange session
on the provisional upstream dialogue for nominations
to be examined in 2019 by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Room XI, UNESCO Headquarters
1 March 2019
Background
Established an open-ended informal ad hoc working group to examine among others the issues related to the consultation and dialogue between the Evaluation Body and the submitting States (Decision 11.COM 10)

Noted the view of the Evaluation Body that time should be allowed, at least until the end of the 2019 cycle, for a number of adjustments introduced in the evaluation process to take effect, before considering the establishment of a formal ‘dialogue’ process (Décision 12.COM 13)

Recognized the importance of dialogue to enhance the evaluation process and the need to develop an appropriate mechanism to strengthen transparency and credibility in consultation with the Evaluation Body (Resolution 7.GA 6)
Background

Decision taken by 13.COM

Decision 13.COM 6:
The Committee accepted the offer of Japan to support the global reflection on the listing mechanisms of the Convention.
• Organize experts meeting in September 2019; and
• support the convening an open-ended intergovernmental working group in 2021.

Decision 13.COM 10:
Given the long-term timeframe, the Committee requested in parallel step towards an ‘early harvest package’.

This should include an upstream dialogue mechanism between the Evaluation Body and the submitting States, in order to submit draft Operational Directives for adoption by the General Assembly at its eighth session in 2020.

Decisions 13.COM 10 and 13.COM 14
Requested the Evaluation Body to conduct, on an experimental basis, a provisional dialogue with submitting States Parties during the evaluation process of the 2019 cycle.

2018

13.COM
Compliance with the Operational Directives
55. Phase 2: Evaluation
December Year 1 to May Year 2

Evaluation of the files by the Evaluation Body.

April – June Year 2
Meeting for final evaluation by the Evaluation Body.

Four weeks prior to the session of the Committee
The Secretariat transmits the evaluation reports to the members of the Committee and makes them available online for consultation.

56. Phase 3: Examination
November Year 2
The Committee examines the nominations, proposals and requests and makes its decisions.

1.16 Incorporation of items proclaimed ‘Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity’ in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

57. In conformity with Article 31.1 of the Convention, the Committee shall automatically incorporate in the list foresee in Article 16 of the Convention all the items that had been...
Compliance with the Operational Directives

Bearing in mind the Operational Directives, in particular paragraph 55, as well as the provisional character of the upstream dialogue the Secretariat shared a proposed methodology with the Office of the International Standards and Legal Affairs of UNESCO who endorsed and gave its opinion.
Procedure and Timetable
Cases for dialogue

The process is initiated when the Evaluation Body considers that although the information included in a file is not sufficient to assess whether a criterion is satisfied (Referral), a short question and answer process with the submitting State(s) (the dialogue) could influence the result of its evaluation.
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<td>3 to 7 June 2019</td>
<td>Second meeting of the Evaluation Body</td>
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<td>10 to 14 June 2019</td>
<td>Questions sent to submitting States in English or French</td>
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<td>8 to 12 July 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for replies by submitting Parties in English and French</td>
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<td>18 to 20 September 2019</td>
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<td>Publication of the report of the Evaluation Body and opinion on dialogue</td>
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Opinion of the Evaluation Body

Provisional methodology within the limits of the Operational Directives:

- The Report will indicate files included in the dialogue process; however
- Body’s opinion on dialogue will not form part of its report
- The question(s), the answer(s) and the opinion of the Body will be communicated separately on the webpage of the Convention together with the nomination file.
Opinion of the Evaluation Body and Decision by the Committee

Report of the Evaluation Body

Opinion following dialogue process
Committee considers the report of the Evaluation Body and its opinion on the dialogue process.

The Evaluation Body initiates the dialogue.

Dialogue means exchange of written communication.

Questions in English or French, at the discretion of the Rapporteur of the Evaluation Body.

Answers within four weeks in English and French.

The procedure proposed is provisional.

**2019 Cycle**
Questions and answers