**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE  
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Fifteenth session**

**Online**

**14 to 19 December 2020**

**Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda:  
Establishment of the Evaluation Body for the 2021 cycle**

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| **Summary**  In conformity with Paragraph 27 of the Operational Directives, the evaluation of nominations for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, of proposed programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention and of International Assistance requests greater than US$100,000 shall be accomplished by the Evaluation Body. The present document proposes the establishment of such an Evaluation Body for the 2021 cycle.  **Decision required:** paragraph 10 |

1. Article 8.3 of the Convention provides that ‘[t]he Committee may establish, on a temporary basis, whatever *ad hoc* consultative bodies it deems necessary to carry out its task’. The Operational Directives further provide, in Paragraph 27, that ‘[o]n an experimental basis, the evaluation of nominations for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, of proposed programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention and of International Assistance requests greater than US$100,000 shall be accomplished by a consultative body of the Committee established in accordance with Article 8.3 of the Convention, to be known as the ‘Evaluation Body’.
2. Pursuant to Rule 20.2 of the Committee’s Rules of Procedure, the Committee shall define the composition and terms of reference (including the mandate and duration of office) of such ad hoc consultative bodies at the time of their establishment. A set of terms of reference for the Evaluation Body for the 2021 cycle, including its mandate and duration, is proposed in Annex 1 to the present document, for decision by the Committee. It is to be noted that, by its [Resolution 8.GA 10](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/8.GA/10), the General Assembly endorsed amendments to the Operational Directives to include an additional intermediary dialogue process between the Evaluation Body and submitting States in the nomination cycle. The proposed terms of reference include provisions for conducting such a dialogue process.
3. In conformity with Paragraph 27 of the Operational Directives, ‘[t]he Evaluation Body shall be composed of twelve members appointed by the Committee: six experts qualified in the various fields of intangible cultural heritage representatives of States Parties non-Members of the Committee and six accredited non-governmental organizations, taking into consideration equitable geographical representation and various domains of intangible cultural heritage’. Paragraph 28 of the Operational Directives further specifies that ‘[o]nce appointed by the Committee, the members of the Evaluation Body shall act impartially in the interests of all the States Parties and the Convention’.
4. Paragraph 28 of the Operational Directives also stipulates that ‘[t]he duration of office of a member of the Evaluation Body shall not exceed four years’ and that ‘[e]very year, the Committee shall renew one quarter of the members of the Evaluation Body’. The purpose of this system is to balance the need for continuity and institutional memory on the one hand, and the need for reinvigoration and fresh inputs on the other; the principle of equitable geographic representation shall also be strictly respected.
5. Pursuant to the Committee’s Decisions [9.COM 11](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/9.COM/11) and [14.COM 18](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/14.COM/18), the following three seats are to be newly elected by the present session of the Committee, to begin serving from the 2021 cycle:

* Electoral Group III – expert
* Electoral Group IV – expert
* Electoral Group V(b) – non-governmental organization

1. In conformity with Paragraph 28 of the Operational Directives, the Secretariat informed the States Parties in September 2020 of the vacant seats to be filled from each Electoral Group. Thereafter, the Chairperson of each Electoral Group concerned sent up to three candidatures to the Secretariat. Annex 2 to this document provides the names of one candidate expert from Electoral Group III, three candidate experts from Electoral Group IV and three candidate non-governmental organizations from Electoral Group V(b), together with a link to the website and the request for accreditation in the case of non-governmental organizations, and to the curriculum vitae in the case of experts.
2. The Committee is therefore asked to name three new members in accordance with section B of Rule 39 (Rules 39.7 – 39.16) of the Rules of Procedures of the Committee, and to renew the appointments of the nine remaining incumbent members.
3. It is to be noted that, for future cycles, the Evaluation Body shall continue to be renewed according to Paragraph 28 of the Operational Directives, whereby three seats are replaced annually as they become available. According to this system, twelve new members shall be elected over the next four years.

**Sequence in evaluating and examining files**

1. At the last session of the Committee (Bogotá, Republic of Colombia, from 9 to 14 December 2019), a new practice was introduced to determine the sequence in which the files were evaluated. Instead of following the same order and always beginning by examining the files of those States whose names fall at the beginning of the English alphabet, the Committee decided that, for this cycle (2020), files would be evaluated by the Evaluation Body and subsequently examined by the Committee in an alphabetical order starting with the files of States whose names begin with ‘Q’ (Decision [14.COM 18](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/14.COM/18)). The letter (‘Q’) was randomly selected by a member of the Committee through a lot. The Committee may decide to continue this practice for the evaluation and examination of files in the 2021 cycle. Were this the case, the present session of the Committee would need to select the first letter for the order in which the files would be examined.
2. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 10

The Committee,

1. Having examined document LHE/20/15.COM/10 Rev. and its annexes,
2. Recalling Article 8.3 of the Convention, Paragraphs 27 and 28 of the Operational Directives and Rules 20 and 39 of its Rules of Procedure,
3. Further recalling its Decisions [9.COM 11](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/9.COM/11) and [14.COM 18](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/14.COM/18) as well as Resolution [8.GA 10](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/8.GA/10),
4. Establishes a consultative body to be known as the ‘Evaluation Body’ for the evaluation in 2021 of nominations for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, of proposed programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention and of International Assistance requests greater than US$100,000, and adopts its terms of reference as annexed to this Decision;
5. Appoints the following individual experts and accredited non-governmental organizations as members of the Evaluation Body for 2021:

**Experts representatives of States Parties non-Members of the Committee**

1. EG I: Mr Pier Luigi Petrillo (Italy)
2. EG II: Ms Ľubica Voľanská (Slovakia)
3. EG III: \* \* \* (Name/State Party)
4. EG IV: \* \* \* (Name/State Party)
5. EG V(a): Mr Limeneh Getachew Senishaw (Ethiopia)
6. EG V(b): Mr Saeed Al Busaidi (Oman)

**Accredited non-governmental organizations**

1. EG I: Workshop intangible heritage Flanders
2. EG II: European Association of Folklore Festivals
3. EG III: Erigaie Foundation
4. EG IV: Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation (CHF)
5. EG V(a): Association pour la sauvegarde des masques (ASAMA)
6. EG V(b): \* \* \* (NGO)
7. Notes that for the purpose of the election at its future sessions, the twelve seats of the Evaluation Body shall be filled as follows:

Seats to be filled for the 2022–2025 cycles:

EG III NGO

EG IV NGO

EG V(b) Expert

Seats to be filled for the 2023–2026 cycles:

EG I Expert

EG II Expert

EG V(a) NGO

Seats to be filled for the 2024–2027 cycles:

EG I NGO

EG II NGO

EG V(a) Expert

Seats to be filled for the 2025–2028 cycles:

EG III Expert

EG IV Expert

EG V(b) NGO

1. Decides to examine the 2021 cycle files in alphabetical order, starting with the files of States whose names begin with the letter XX in the English alphabet, and requests that the Evaluation Body follow the same order when evaluating the files and that it present its report in that order.

**Annex 1: Terms of Reference of the Evaluation Body for the 2021 cycle**

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| The Evaluation Body | | |
| 1. | shall be composed of twelve members appointed by the Committee: six experts qualified in the various fields of intangible cultural heritage representative of States Parties non-Members of the Committee and six accredited non-governmental organizations, taking into consideration equitable geographical representation and various domains of intangible cultural heritage; | |
| 2. | shall elect its Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur; | |
| 3. | shall hold private meetings in accordance with Rule 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee; | |
| 4. | shall be responsible for the evaluation in 2021 of nominations for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, of proposed programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention and of International Assistance requests greater than US$100,000, in conformity with the Operational Directives for the implementation of the Convention. In particular, it shall include in its evaluation: | |
|  | a. | an assessment of the conformity of nominations to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding with the inscription criteria, as provided in Chapter I.1 of the Operational Directives, including an assessment of the viability of the element and the feasibility and sufficiency of the safeguarding plan, and an assessment of the risks of it disappearing, as provided in Paragraph 29 of the Operational Directives; |
|  | b. | an assessment of the conformity of nominations to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity with the inscription criteria, as provided in Chapter I.2 of the Operational Directives; |
|  | c. | an assessment of the conformity of proposed programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention with the selection criteria, as provided in Chapter I.3 of the Operational Directives; |
|  | d. | an assessment of the conformity of International Assistance requests greater than US$100,000 with the selection criteria, as provided in Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives; |
|  | e. | recommendations to the Committee:  - to inscribe or not to inscribe the nominated elements on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding or the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, or to refer the nominations to the submitting State(s) for additional information;  - to select or not to select the proposed programmes, projects or activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention, or to refer the proposals to the submitting State(s) for additional information;  - to approve or not to approve the International Assistance requests greater than US$100,000, or to refer the requests to the submitting State(s) for additional information; |
| 5. | shall provide the Committee with an overview of all files and a report on its evaluation; | |
| 6. | shall conduct a dialogue process with submitting States Parties during the evaluation process; | |
| 7. | shall cease to exist following the submission and presentation to the sixteenth session of the Committee of the report on its evaluation of the files to be examined by the Committee in 2021 and with the establishment of the next Evaluation Body. | |
| Once appointed by the Committee, the members of the Evaluation Body shall act impartially in the interests of all States Parties and the Convention. | | |

**Annex 2: List of candidates**

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| **Electoral Group III** | | |
| **Expert** | | |
| Mr Nigel ENCALADA | Belize | [CV](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/15COM-EB-CV-ENCALADA-Belize.pdf) |
| **Electoral Group IV** | | |
| **Experts** | | |
| Mr Moazami Goudarzi SHERVIN | Iran (Islamic Republic of) | [CV](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/15COM-EB-CV-SHERVIN-Iran.pdf) |
| Ms Gulnara AITPAEVA | Kyrgyzstan | [CV](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/15COM-EB-CV-AITPAEVA-Kyrgyzstan.pdf) |
| Mr Kirk Siang YEO | Singapore | [CV](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/15COM-EB-CV-YEO-Sinagpore.pdf) |
| **Electoral Group V(b)** | | |
| **Accredited non-governmental organizations** | | |
| L'association des Lauréats de l'Institut National des Sciences de l'Archéologie et du Patrimoine (ALINSAP) | Accredited in 2016  ([Accreditation form](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/NGO-90345-10.COM-ICH-09.pdf)) | |
| Syria Trust for Development | Accredited in 2012  ([Accreditation form](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/NGO-90251-ICH-09.pdf))  Renewed in 2017 ([Activity report](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/35849-EN.pdf))  [Website](http://www.syriatrust.sy/) | |
| The Saudi Heritage Preservation Society | Accredited in 2020 ([Accreditation form](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/45530.pdf))  [Website](http://www.shps.org.sa) | |