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

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

**Meeting of the Bureau**

**UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room I**

**11 September 2020, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**

**Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda:**

**Examination of requests for**
**International Assistance up to US$100,000**

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| **Summary**Paragraph 49 of the Operational Directives provides that International Assistance requests up to US$100,000 be examined and approved by the Bureau of the Committee. The present document includes an overview of six requests that the Secretariat treated, together with the draft decisions for each request.**Decisions required**: paragraph 8 |

1. As stipulated in Article 20 of the Convention, International Assistance may be granted to States Parties for purposes relating to: the safeguarding of elements of intangible cultural heritage inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding; the preparation of inventories in the sense of Articles 11 and 12 of the Convention, in support of programmes, projects and activities undertaken at the national, sub-regional and regional levels for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage; and for any other purpose that the Committee may deem necessary. In conformity with paragraph 47 of the Operational Directives, International Assistance requests up to US$100,000 (except for requests for preparatory assistance) can be submitted at any time. Paragraph 49 further provides that requests up to US$100,000 be examined and approved by the Bureau of the Committee.
2. **Overview of the present requests**
3. The Bureau is asked to examine and decide on the following six completed requests:

| **Draft decision** | **Requesting State** | **Title** | **Amount requested** | **File no.** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [15.COM 2.BUR 3.1](#Decision1) | Antigua and Barbuda | Strengthening capacities for the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Antigua and Barbuda | US$97,754 | 01624 |
| [15.COM 2.BUR 3.2](#Decision2) | Burundi | Updating of the 2009 inventory of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in Burundi with the participation of the communities | US$96,052 | 01428 |
| [15.COM 2.BUR 3.3](#Decision3) | Egypt | Inventory of intangible culture of craftsmanship in the core of Historic Cairo | US$86,950 | 01633 |
| [15.COM 2.BUR 3.4](#Decision4) | Gabon | Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage in Gabon | US$97,303 | 01562 |
| [15.COM 2.BUR 3.5](#Decision5) | South Sudan | Development of an inventory of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan | US$99,474 | 01535 |
| [15.COM 2.BUR 3.6](#Decision6) | Uruguay | The Bandoneon: sound of Tango | US$99,764 | 01634 |

1. Two requests, submitted by Antigua and Barbuda and South Sudan, respectively, are for International Assistance that will partly take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State, in addition to the provision of a grant. The provision of services from the Secretariat to the requesting States corresponds to the enlarged interpretation of Article 21, as endorsed by the Committee at its tenth session ([Decision 10.COM 8](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/10.COM/8)). This combined modality concerns the provision of experts, the training of the necessary staff, the development of standard-setting measures and the supply of equipment, pursuant to Article 21 (b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) of the Convention.
2. Financial assistance in the form of a grant means that a financial transaction through a contract will be made from UNESCO to the implementing agency, while the ‘service’ modality does not necessarily foresee such financial transactions to requesting States that will receive assistance from UNESCO. Both requests benefitted from a consultation involving the submitting States and the UNESCO Field Offices concerned to agree on the details of the project, including the budget and timetable. This concerns the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston for the request submitted by Antigua and Barbuda, and the UNESCO National Office to South Sudan in Juba for the request submitted by South Sudan. This is the fourth request submitted for the attention of the Bureau that includes the ‘service’ modality; while the Bureau granted assistance to those requests with this modality on an experimental basis, recent trends point to the fact that the modality is gaining understanding and support among States Parties as a useful tool for certain safeguarding projects.
3. In conformity with paragraph 48 of the Operational Directives, the Secretariat assessed the completeness of the requests. Considering the importance of International Assistance for achieving the Convention’s purpose of international cooperation, the Secretariat provided support to all six requesting States in improving their requests through comprehensive, detailed letters indicating that information was missing or insufficient. All the States concerned submitted a revised version of their request following an additional information letter from the Secretariat, respecting the deadline indicated. In addition, the International Assistance request submitted by Burundi was identified as requiring a more substantial revision. It therefore benefitted from the technical assistance mechanism set up by the Committee in its [Decision 8.COM 7.c](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/8.COM/7.c), in the form of specific advice provided by an expert. The International Assistance requests in question are available online for the Bureau’s consultation, in English and French, at <https://ich.unesco.org/en/15com-bureau>, together with the preceding versions and the Secretariat’s letters requesting additional information.
4. Furthermore, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the Operational Directives, the States Parties have been informed about the possible examination dates of their requests. As is also provided in the Operational Directives, the Secretariat shall communicate the decisions of the Bureau concerning the granting of assistance within two weeks following these decisions.
5. As previously requested by the Bureau, for International Assistance up to US$100,000, the Secretariat forwards each request to the Bureau together with a draft decision incorporating the Secretariat’s assessment of how it responds to the eligibility and selection criteria set out in Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives.
6. **Draft decisions**
7. The Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee may wish to adopt the following decisions:

**DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 2.BUR 3.1** 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/20/15.COM 2.BUR/3, as well as International Assistance request no. 01624 submitted by Antigua and Barbuda,
3. Takes note that Antigua and Barbuda has requested International Assistance for the project entitled Strengthening **capacities for the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Antigua and Barbuda**:

This nineteen-month project is aimed at strengthening capacities for the sustainable implementation of the 2003 Convention in Antigua and Barbuda to ensure the inventorying, promotion and safeguarding of living heritage in the country. To be implemented by the Cultural Development Division of the Ministry of Sports, Culture, National Festivals and the Arts with the assistance of the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston, the project responds to the urgent need to develop a national, coordinated strategy advancing the implementation of the Convention and is informed by stakeholders’ concerns about the risk of key elements of living heritage vanishing. A nineteen-member coordination unit (NITCU) will be established for the duration of the project and beyond, comprising custodians and stakeholders from the public and private sectors as well as civil society. The project will create the country’s first ever national inventory of living heritage, enhancing national technical capacities to harvest and interpret related data and improving upon the exchange of information between the public and private sectors as well as civil society. Two pilot safeguarding activities – focusing on the Game of Warri and Traditional Boatbuilding – will be undertaken to trial safeguarding measures and instruct future safeguarding activities. Training workshops will focus on the principles and workings of the Convention, community-based inventorying and the use of audiovisual equipment and archival software, and the resulting inventory will be published, accompanied by a report on the findings. The resulting inventory is expected to raise awareness of key elements of living heritage and their viability as well as to encourage better coordinated, and evidenced-based, investment and policy attention to safeguarding living heritage.

1. Further takes note that:
	* 1. this assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention;
		2. the State Party has requested International Assistance that will partly take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State; and
		3. the assistance therefore takes the form of the provision of a grant and of services from UNESCO (the provision of experts, the training of the necessary staff, the development of standard-setting measures and the supply of equipment), pursuant to Article 21 (b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Antigua and Barbuda has requested assistance in the amount of US$97,754 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project, which will be jointly implemented by the Ministry of Sports, Culture, National Festivals and the Arts and the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston;
3. Understands that the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston will be responsible for the provision of international expertise for capacity-building activities and the establishment of the related contracts, administrative support and technical backstopping (12 per cent of the requested amount), while the requesting State will be responsible for the logistical organization of capacity-building activities, the provision of national experts, the pilot inventorying exercises, the safeguarding activities and awareness-raising campaign and the purchase of equipment (88 per cent of the requested amount), as described in the request;
4. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01624, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1:** Prior to the submission of this request, a broad consultation took place with the involvement of individuals, communities, the private sector and civil society organizations. Community members in both islands (whose representatives will serve on the NITCU) will be fully involved in the activities implemented through this project and in the future activities, including updating the inventory beyond the closure of the project. Furthermore, the public awareness campaign is intended to keep community members updated on the progress of the project while their experiences and feedback will be reflected in the design of future safeguarding activities.

**Criterion A.2:** The budget is presented in a structured manner, reflecting the planned activities and related expenses. Since the project will be supported by a high proportion of in-kind contributions and contributions other than that of the submitting State, detailed information provided according to budgetary sources is helpful. The amount of assistance requested may therefore be considered to be appropriate for the implementation of the proposed activities.

**Criterion A.3**: The activities are well-conceived in relation to the objectives and expected results of the project, clearly demonstrating that each of them has been designed to build capacities and gain experience for the purpose of safeguarding living heritage in the country. It is also laudable that the project is intended to respond to the needs of communities that are continuing to recover from the 2017 hurricane Irma. Overall, the sequence of the proposed activities is logical and seem feasible within the project duration.

**Criterion A.4**: The project foresees a number of activities that are expected to continue beyond the duration of the project, including updating the first living heritage inventory at the national level, safeguarding programmes on two selected traditions and practices and awareness-raising activities. One of the main strengths of the project is the interconnection between the cultural sector and the educational and labour sectors for the safeguarding of the national living heritage, which augurs well for building strong mechanisms for the sustainability of this project.

**Criterion A.5**: The submitting State Party will contribute 68 per cent and other partners will contribute a further 10 per cent of the total amount of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: The project places a strong emphasis on the involvement of multiple stakeholders in order to respond to their capacity-building needs in the field of intangible cultural heritage safeguarding. All the activities have been planned in such a way as to build the capacities of community members and other stakeholders to plan and manage safeguarding actions, while privileging the sense of pride and ownership of the bearer communities.

**Criterion A.7**: Antigua and Barbuda has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners, including the Cultural Department Division of the Ministry of Sports, Culture, National Festivals and the Arts, the Heritage Department of the National Parks Authority, the Ministries of Education and Labour, the Community Development Division, the Barbuda Chair for Tourism, Culture, Sport, and Youth Affairs, the Environmental Awareness Group, the Precision Centre, the Antigua and Barbuda Warri Academy, maritime stakeholders, thirty-two community members, and the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The links amongst the planned activities are clearly thought-out and have been designed to produce a multiplier effect: the inventory is meant to serve as a starting point for supporting a system for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in the country and at the same time safeguarding activities are set up to be replicated for other traditions and practices in the country. The information given in the request clearly indicates the financial and technical engagements of the national authorities, the public sector and civil organizations to support the continuation of the activities beyond the duration of the project.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Antigua and Barbuda for the project entitled **Strengthening capacities for the implementation of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Antigua and Barbuda** and grants the amount of US$97,754 for the implementation of this project according to the modality described in paragraphs 5 and 6;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the work plan and the budget of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of all the expenditures;
3. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report when reporting on the use of the International Assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 2.BUR 3.2** 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/20/15.COM 2.BUR/3, as well as International Assistance request no. 01428 submitted by Burundi,
3. Takes note that Burundi has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Updating of the 2009 inventory of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in Burundi with the participation of the communities**:

Entrusted mainly to the General Directorate of Culture and Arts, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research through the Burundi National Commission for UNESCO, this project is aimed at updating the 2009 inventory of intangible cultural heritage in Burundi, with the participation of the communities concerned. Stemming from the expressed wishes of the communities concerned, the update will consist of systematically documenting the different elements of living heritage, establishing their degree of viability, and identifying their holders. The updated inventory will also be enriched with elements not identified previously. To this end, data collection will be preceded by training on the content of the 2003 Convention and on the inventorying methodology. The description of the elements and the layout of the inventory will be improved, and it will be published in both French and Kirundi to make it more accessible, including to its diaspora. It will then be printed and widely distributed to the country’s main libraries, youth centers, reading and cultural centers and on relevant websites. The update will cover the entire country and the resulting inventory is expected to be a comprehensive, practical tool.

1. Further takes note that this assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a** **grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Burundi has requested assistance in the amount of US$96,052 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01428, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The information provided in the request demonstrates that the project builds on the safeguarding efforts that Burundi has been undertaken over a long period of time. These include a series of workshops and consultations, which began in 2009, where the needs and recommendations of the communities were noted. In addition, the communities concerned – both those that participated in the original inventory and others – will be represented in the project’s steering committee and will be one of the main actors for the planning, implementation and monitoring of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget reflects the planned activities and related expenditures in sufficient detail. Therefore, the amount of assistance requested can be considered to be appropriate with regard to the objectives and scope of the project.

**Criterion A.3**: The request presents seven main activities, all of which correspond to the objectives and expected results of the project. They were designed with a clear understanding of the evolving nature of living heritage in such a way that the project foresees a regular updating of inventories to reflect the changing viability of many of the elements of intangible cultural heritage included in the original inventory. Since the work plan is well thought-out, with a logical sequence of all the planned activities, the implementation of the project within the planned timeline should be realistic.

**Criterion A.4**: Through the project, the implementing agency and its partners are expected to set up a sustainable framework in Burundi for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and, as such, to contribute to the revision of the country’s cultural policy. The project also reflects the aspiration of the communities to enjoy lasting peace, social cohesion and sustainable development. The capacity-building workshops and inventorying activities are intended to provide the communities, national authorities and other stakeholders with the methodological tools and skills needed to continue working on the management and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. Lastly, the project plans to incorporate intangible cultural heritage, and more particularly the results of the inventories, into school curricula.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 9 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: The project seeks to reinforce the capacities of governmental institutions, including the General Directorate of Culture and Arts, and community representatives through specific training on the 2003 Convention. They will also enable them to be trained in inventorying their living heritage for the purpose of its safeguarding. The communities are expected to contribute to the collection of information, the validation of the inventory results and the implementation of safeguarding measures.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 UNESCO Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project will be carried out at the national level and will involve a wide range of national partners in addition to communities, including the Parliament, the Presidency of the Republic and provincial administrations.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to mobilize additional contributions from the State Party’s national budget and potential donors. Furthermore, the communication materials developed under the project, such as the inventory booklet and the documentary film, will be distributed in cultural centres and libraries across the country, thus raising awareness among young people about the importance of safeguarding living heritage. At the end of the project, it is expected that intangible cultural heritage will be integrated into school curricula.

1. Takes note of the technical assistance provided to Burundi to finalize the request and commends the efforts made by the State Party in substantially revising the initial draft;
2. Approves the International Assistance request from Burundi for the project entitled **Updating of the 2009 inventory of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in Burundi with the participation of the communities** and grants the amount of US$96,052 to the State Party for this purpose;
3. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
4. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report when reporting on the use of the International Assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 2.BUR 3.3** 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined Document LHE/20/15.COM 2.BUR/3 as well as International Assistance request no. 01633 submitted by Egypt,
3. Takes note that Egypt has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Inventory of intangible culture of craftsmanship in the core of Historic Cairo**:

To be implemented by the Egyptian Society for Folk Traditions (ESFT), this eighteen-month project is aimed at preparing a community-based inventory of twenty types of crafts produced in the historic areas of Cairo, known as Historic Cairo, a World Heritage property under the 1972 Convention. Previous initiatives provide a useful starting point, particularly for noting the traditional crafts that have already vanished, along with the decline of knowledge, skills and values of the other crafts still present. However, this project will adopt a different, holistic methodology in line with the 2003 Convention. It is expected to have a notable impact on living heritage in the area through several expected results. Knowledge related to these twenty living traditional crafts will be identified, inventoried, safeguarded and transmitted with the widest possible participation of the practitioners concerned. Twenty practitioners concerned with traditional craftsmanship in two districts of Historic Cairo will be trained to produce an inventory of intangible practices and knowledge of traditional crafts through five training sessions. Approximately sixty practitioners will be interviewed and informed about the 2003 Convention and its principles, as well as about inventorying and its crucial role in safeguarding living heritage. An online inventory of traditional knowledge related to these crafts will be maintained and made accessible to the communities, and inventorying will be promoted as an important tool in the long-term safeguarding process. The deliverables of the project will be disseminated through a website, a public inauguration event, a handicrafts exhibition and a final report. Lastly, synergies will be established between key leaders in the cultural field and the community to identify potential areas for future actions.

1. Further takes note that this assistance includes the preparation of inventories and is to support a project implemented at the local level, in accordance with Article 20 (b) and (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the provision of a grant, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Egypt has requested assistance in the amount of US$ 86,950 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01633, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The primary beneficiaries of the project are the practitioners of traditional craftsmanship present in historic areas of Cairo. The project clearly outlines the central role of the communities concerned in the implementation of the activities, such as in capacity-building workshops and fieldwork inventorying as well as in the monitoring and evaluation process. Their representatives will be part of the project’s Steering Committee.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget reflects the planned activities and related expenditures in sufficient detail. Therefore, the amount of assistance requested can be considered to be appropriate with regard to the objectives and scope of the project.

**Criterion A.3**: The activities are articulated in a logical sequence and are described in sufficient detail, from the development of awareness-raising workshops on the 2003 Convention to community-based inventorying and the dissemination of the results of the project. Each activity is clearly identified and corresponds to the objectives and expected results outlined in the request. The implementing agency is an NGO accredited under the 2003 Convention with experience and knowledge in the field of the Convention. However, the proposed timeline, lasting eighteen months, seems short in comparison to the number of activities to be implemented.

**Criterion A.4**: The project is expected to strengthen the capacities of practitioners, who could then share and disseminate their traditional knowledge and skills to members of the community, in particular to apprentices and other artisans. The production of images, videos and audio materials would help promote the results of the project and thus raise awareness among civil society, youth and national stakeholders about the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. The project would also contribute to the viability of these practices and to the transmission of this knowledge to other members of the community. However, the request does not clearly explain how the information gathered during the project (including audio and visual materials), which is to be published on a website, would be used after the termination of the project and how this information could benefit other practitioners and communities in the long term.

**Criterion A.5**: The submitting State Party will contribute 17 per cent and other partners will contribute a further 3 per cent of the total amount of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: Involving capacity-building workshops on community-based inventorying and other activities that fully involve community members, the request convincingly demonstrate that the project will contribute to raising awareness of the importance of safeguarding living heritage and skills related to traditional crafts. Furthermore, the project pays careful attention to the meanings and ways of life that craft productions can bring to the communities in the long run, in addition to the economic benefits.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project will be carried out at the local level in cooperation with partners including the Cairo Governorate and the Cairo Heritage Preservation General Administration (CHPGA).

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The request highlights that the project could stimulate synergies with national authorities, civil society organizations, NGOs and the private sector. This pilot project could raise the interest of various stakeholders to pursue the inventories after the end of the project.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Egypt for the project entitled **Inventory of intangible culture of craftsmanship in the core of Historic Cairo** and grants the amount of US$86,950 to the State Party to this end;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund is precise and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of the expenditures and to reflect the desired duration of the project;
3. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04 Report when reporting on the use of the assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 2.BUR 3.4** 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/20/15.COM 2.BUR/3, as well as International Assistance request no. 01562 submitted by Gabon,
3. Takes note that Gabon has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage in Gabon**:

To be implemented by the Ministry of Culture and Arts, this project is aimed at strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage in Gabon as part of the implementation of the 2003 Convention. One of the main components of the project, which will last over a period of twenty-four months, involves preparing a national strategy for safeguarding living heritage which is currently absent. Similarly, as inventories – which are fundamental for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage – are not being carried out, a component on conducting pilot inventories is also included, targeting three communities in the selected regions: Shaké-Okandé from Lopé, Pygmies from Iboundji and Evia from Fougamou. Another aim is to equip participants and communities with the skills needed to conduct inventories and raise awareness of the Convention, its goals and challenges. A restitution workshop is also to be organized at the end of the project in the form of a closing workshop attended by all partners involved.

1. Further takes note that this assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Gabon has requested assistance in the amount of US$97,303 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01562, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The project is designed to mainly benefit institutions in charge of safeguarding living heritage (the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage, the Provincial Directorates as well as universities, research centres, associations and/or individuals). Although some cultural institutions and community associations are mentioned in the request, only a small number of their representatives are involved in the implementation of the activities; only nine members will take part in the training and only one community representative will accompany the inventorying teams on field missions. Finally, information on the involvement of the communities in the project evaluation is missing. It is therefore difficult to assess to what extent the target communities would be empowered to continue safeguarding activities beyond the completion of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: Although the budget is presented in detail, it will mainly cover workshop organization costs (41 per cent) and field missions (57 per cent). In addition, a number of expenses seem to have been omitted (e.g. acquiring equipment to conduct the inventories or fees for experts). Other costs appear to have been underestimated, such as the cost of the project evaluation. For all these reasons, the amount of assistance requested is not considered to be appropriate for the implementation of the planned activities.

**Criterion A.3**: The request presents eight different activities that combine raising awareness about the importance of safeguarding Gabon's living heritage. Unfortunately, the project does not sufficiently explain the connection between the different activities; for example, it is not clear how the results of the pilot inventory will contribute to the development of the national strategy for the safeguarding of living heritage. Moreover, the expected results, such as the development of a national strategy in six months, seem overly ambitious in relation to the timeframe of the project. Additional information is also needed to explain the responsibilities of each of the interested parties in the implementation of each of the proposed activities in relation to the expected results. Finally, the role of the UNESCO national office in Libreville, to which the organization of important tasks seems to be entrusted, is not clear, particularly in terms of the budget implications.

**Criterion A.4**: The proposed activities, as presented, do not seem to guarantee that the results would lead to the creation of a sustainable framework in which the communities would participate in drawing up inventories or in establishing a national network of experts in charge of intangible cultural heritage in Gabon. The request does not describe the processes by which the inventorying will be continued beyond the project or how the information collected would contribute to preparing the national strategy for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Furthermore, the request does not demonstrate how creating a database on the living heritage elements of these three communities would result in identifying and defining appropriate safeguarding measures for these elements.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 20 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: The project is aimed at reinforcing the capacities of heritage professionals from the Ministry of Culture and Arts and representatives of the three target communities. However, the project only seems to include one training session to be undertaken by an international expert for a relatively short period of time (a five-day training session). There is also a lack of clarity as to the content of the training activities and the role of the sole national expert involved in the project. This lack of information makes it difficult to determine to what extent the capacities of the communities and the national framework will be strengthened in the long term.

**Criterion A.7**: In 2015, Gabon received International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the project entitled ‘Inventory and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage of the Pygmy populations of Gabon’ (File no. 00949, 2015-2017, US$24,560). The tasks stipulated in the contract for this assistance were carried out in compliance with UNESCO regulations, while there was a delay to the finalization of the project, which was finally completed in 2019.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is to be implemented at the national level and involves partners such as the National Commission of Gabon for UNESCO, several cultural associations, the University Omar Bongo, laboratories and research centres as well as UNITWIN (University Twinning and Networking). The UNESCO Office in Libreville is also listed as an important partner.

 **Paragraph 10(b)**: The submitting State considers that the national strategy for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, which is to be validated at the end of the project, should make it possible to mobilize financial resources from the Ministry of the Budget. It is also hoped that the project would raise awareness among the private sector and donors about the importance of safeguarding living heritage.

1. Decides to refer to the requesting State the International Assistance request for the project entitled **Strengthening national capacities for safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage in Gabon** and invites it to submit a revised request to the Bureau for examination at a forthcoming session;
2. Encourages the State Party, if it wishes to resubmit its request, to revise the content of the project taking into account the above-mentioned concerns, and to ensure, in particular, that there is a clear correspondence between the overall objectives and the proposed activities, budget and timetable of the project.

**DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 2.BUR 3.5** 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/20/15.COM 2.BUR/3 as well as International Assistance request no. 01535 submitted by South Sudan,
3. Takes note that South Sudan has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Development of an inventory of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan**:

Led by the Ministry of Culture, in close collaboration with the UNESCO Office in Juba, the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee (NICHC) and the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, this twenty-four-month project is aimed at developing an inventory of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan in order to contribute to its safeguarding. Due to the ongoing social transitions in the country, coupled with a general lack of interest in cultural issues among young people, there is a strong need to make deliberate efforts to safeguard living heritage in the country. In this context, the project has three key objectives. Firstly, it aims to raise awareness among various stakeholders about intangible cultural heritage, measures and mechanisms for safeguarding it, the 2003 Convention and its implementation modalities. Secondly, it will build capacities among members of six communities (Bari, Lokoya, Anyuak, Acholi, Dinka and Nuer) on the community-based inventorying of intangible cultural heritage, providing training to thirty-one participants (community members, culture officers and members of the NICHC). Thirdly, inventorying exercises will be conducted to document thirty-six elements of living heritage, which will be added to the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan. DVDs will also be produced for the inventoried elements.

1. Further takes note that:
	* 1. this assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention;
		2. the State Party has requested International Assistance that will partly take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State; and
		3. the assistance therefore takes the form of the provision of a grant and of services from UNESCO (the provision of experts, the training of the necessary staff, the development of standard-setting measures and the supply of equipment), pursuant to Article 21 (b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that South Sudan has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,474 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project, which will be jointly implemented by the Ministry of Culture, Museums and National Heritage and UNESCO Office in Juba;
3. Understands that the UNESCO Office in Juba will be responsible for the logistical organization and provision of experts for the capacity-building activities, the purchase of the inventorying equipment, administrative support, and coordinating and monitoring the project activities (59 per cent of the requested amount), while the requesting State will be responsible for the logistical organization of project launch and closing events and the inventorying exercises (41 per cent of the requested amount), as described in the request;
4. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01535, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1:** In preparation of the request, a broad consultation took place in August 2018 among representatives of the six communities involved in the project.During the implementation of the project, the inclusion of youth and gender balance will be ensured when selecting the participants. Furthermore, the heads of the target communities will also be involved in monitoring the project.

**Criterion A.2:** The budget is clearly explained, reflecting the planned activities and related expenses. The total amount of assistance requested is therefore judged to be appropriate and in line with the scope of the project to achieve the desired results.

**Criterion A.3**: The project proposes seven main activities: capacity-building workshops on inventorying methodologies; three inventorying exercises to complete the full inventory of the target communities; the production of videos of the elements of intangible cultural heritage identified; the publication of the inventory; and the monitoring and evaluation of the project. The sequence of the proposed activities is logical and seems to be feasible with respect to the project duration and the expected results.

**Criterion A.4**: The project foresees awareness-raising activities on the safeguarding of living heritage that may continue beyond the duration of the project. These include promoting youth and gender inclusion when involving various communities in the development of the inventory, to ensure that capacities on safeguarding living heritage are built for future generations among different ethnolinguistic groups. Furthermore, the equipment used for this project will remain available for the communities involved for forthcoming updates to the inventory.

**Criterion A.5**: The submitting State Party will contribute 3 per cent of the total amount of the project for which International Assistance is requested. The Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund will therefore cover 97 per cent of the overall budget.

**Criterion A.6**: The project places a strong emphasis on building capacities for the implementation of the Convention among community members and different stakeholders, who will be aware of the importance of the Convention when developing research processes and public policies for the benefit of the community.

**Criterion A.7**: South Sudan has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a):** The project is national in scope and its implementation relies on the involvement of several foundations (i.e., the Maale Cultural Foundation, the Likikiri Collective, the Oruppaa Cultural Foundation and the Roots Project) in supporting communities’ efforts to safeguard their heritage.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to promote safeguarding processes for other living heritage practices to be identified through inventorying, supported by the involvement of the communities.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from South Sudan for the project entitled **Development of an inventory of intangible cultural heritage in South Sudan** and grants the amount of US$99,474 for the implementation of this project according to the modality described in paragraphs 5 and 6;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the work plan and the budget of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of all the expenditures;
3. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report when reporting on the use of the International Assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 15.COM 2.BUR 3.6** 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/20/15.COM 2.BUR/3 as well as International Assistance request no. 01634 submitted by Uruguay,
3. Takes note that Uruguay has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **The Bandoneon: sound of Tango**:

To be implemented by the Cienarte Foundation in cooperation with the Interministerial Commission for the Support of Tango and Candombe, this thirty-month project is aimed at safeguarding the traditional sound of tango produced by the bandoneon, its emblematic instrument. The bandoneon is an essential part of tango (a binational nomination between Argentina and Uruguay, inscribed on the Representative List of the 2003 Convention in 2009) and is now considered as one of the fundamental signs of Rio de la Plata identity. Nowadays, however, there are only a handful of bandoneonists, mostly over sixty years of age, and there are only three luthiers dedicated to tuning and maintaining the bandoneon in Uruguay. To address this situation, this project has the following objectives: to create an inventory of bandoneons, players and luthiers; to establish a decentralized bandoneon school offering free classes for young people in four regions in the country; to develop an updated bandoneon teaching method; to generate lutherie opportunities for young people; to increase awareness of the instrument in elementary schools; and to carry out an evaluation of the bandoneon and players. A Bandoneon Fest will also be established. As a result, the people of Uruguay will become more aware of the relevance of this instrument as living heritage. Knowledge about the bandoneon will be transmitted to new generations of musicians and the training of luthiers capable of restoring, tuning and manufacturing new instruments will help address the lack of bandoneons. Finally, the value of the bandoneonists as bearers and performers of this key tradition of living heritage will be socially recognized.

1. Further takes note that this assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Uruguay has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,764 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01634, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: In the preparation of the project, the concerns and aspirations of the communities and stakeholders concerned when it comes to safeguarding the viability of the bandoneon have been taken into account. Institutions from the public and private sectors, local governments, labour unions, musicians and authors, civil associations and institutions representing civil society related to the bandoneon, as well as tango communities, have been involved. In addition, the project adopts an open-ended approach as a special section of the website of the Cienarte Foundation will be dedicated to it, meaning that anyone concerned about the bandoneon and tango could contribute. Furthermore, a gender balance will be ensured by making sure that women make up at least 50 per cent of the project participants as well as by highlighting the role of women in the history of tango. Finally, tango dancers, independent performers and tango communities have endorsed the request.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a clear, comprehensive and detailed manner. The overall amount requested by the State Party adequately covers each of the proposed activities and can therefore be considered as appropriate. However, a better correlation between the description and the budget could have been provided for certain activities, such as the ‘Decentralized School of Bandoneon’ and the ‘Promotion of bandoneon in schools and development of teaching method’.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities are coherent and well-planned in terms of the objectives and expected results of the project. One strength of the project is that its design involves players and luthiers while bringing together different generations. Furthermore, the balanced gender approach makes the project even more worthwhile. Overall, the sequence of the proposed activities is logical and seems feasible with respect to the project duration.

**Criterion A.4**: The project foresees awareness-raising activities on the safeguarding of living heritage that may continue beyond its duration. These include creating updated teaching methods open to the public (copyright-free). At the same time, the project intends to develop lutherie opportunities for new generations and to incorporate the bandoneon into the regime of protected cultural properties of the nation, as a sustained measure to safeguard the element. Furthermore, the plan to encourage cooperation between the cultural sector and the educational and labour sectors is promising for the sustainability of this project.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 27 per cent and other partners 18 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested. The Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund will therefore cover 56 per cent of the overall budget.

**Criterion A.6**: The project places a strong emphasis on building the capacities of the communities to strengthen the viability of the bandoneon and tango in Uruguay and to transmit the knowledge and practice to future generations. The creation of updated copyright-free teaching mechanisms will enhance the opportunities to replicate this capacity-building methodology.

**Criterion A.7**: Uruguay had received International Assistance in the amount of US$186,875 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the project ‘Documentation, promotion and dissemination of the Candombe traditional drum calls, expressions of identity of the Sur, Palermo, and Cordón neighbourhoods in the city of Montevideo’, which was concluded in August 2015.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project involves national institutions such as the Ministries of Education and Culture, Foreign Affairs and Tourism, the Commission for National Cultural Heritage and local governments. It also includes labour unions of musicians and authors such as the General Association of Musicians of Uruguay and the Uruguayan Association of Performers, as well as civil associations such as the Uruguayan Federation of Tango, Jovetango, Avalancha Tanguera.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The multiplier effect of the project – both in terms of geographical reach within the country and across the generations – is expected to be ensured by its strong focus on transmission through teaching. It is also hoped that the increased visibility resulting from the project will make it easier to further promote the practice related to the bandoneon and the safeguarding of tango.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Uruguay for the project entitled **The Bandoneon: sound of Tango** and grants the amount of US$99,764 for the implementation of this project to the State Party for this purpose;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the work plan and the budget of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of all the expenditures;
3. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report when reporting on the use of the International Assistance provided.