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Preparing nominations to the Lists of the Convention: general framework and criteria following the global reflection on the listing mechanisms

Presentation by the Secretariat of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage



Listing mechanisms under the 2003 Convention

Urgent Safeguarding List (Art. 17) - USL

- Recognizes value of endangered living heritage for communities
- Possibility to request International Assistance for safeguarding plan

Representative List (Art. 16) - RL

- Raises visibility and awareness
- Encourages dialogue that respects cultural diversity

Register of Good Safeguarding Practices (Art. 18) - GSP

- Programmes, projects and activities that best reflect the principles and objectives of the Convention



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Outcomes of the global reflection on the listing mechanisms (2018-2022)



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- New and improved procedures to make the **listing mechanisms dynamic** and bring the **voice of communities** to the forefront
 - Criteria maintained for the USL/RL and simplified for GSP
 - Procedures established for the transfer from one List to the other
 - Simplified procedures for the extension/reduction of inscriptions
 - Removal and follow-up of inscribed elements
- **Simplified forms** for more accessibility
- Encouraged use of **technology**
- **Synergy** with other cooperation mechanisms

Criteria for the listing mechanisms



Urgent Safeguarding List/Representative List

Five criteria are obligatory (U.1-5, R.1-5), some are the same in the two lists (U.1/R.1, U.4/R.4, U.5/R.5) and some are different (U.2 and R.2 & U.3 and R.3). U.6 is only for cases of extreme urgency

The nominated element shall be **included in an inventory** of intangible cultural heritage prior to submission (Criterion U.5/R.5)

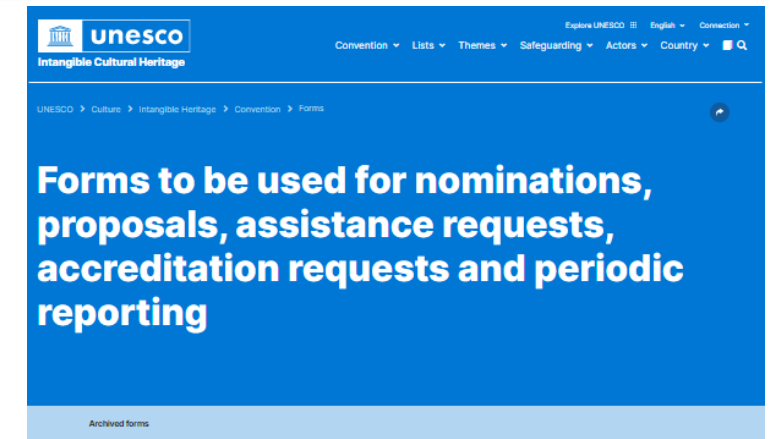


Register of Good Safeguarding Practices

From the 2026 cycle, four criteria are mandatory (G.1 to G.4)

Content of a nomination file

- Nomination Form ICH-01 / ICH-02 / ICH-03
- Evidence of community consent (written, audiovisual or others)
- Extract of inventory
- Video
- Photos
- Grants of rights
- Optional – Materials conveying the voice of communities (written, audiovisual or others)
- Optional – Additional list of community representatives



Good examples

- 38 files of elements inscribed have been considered good examples by the Committee
- 4 international assistance budget and timetable have been identified as good examples by the Secretariat

Key references

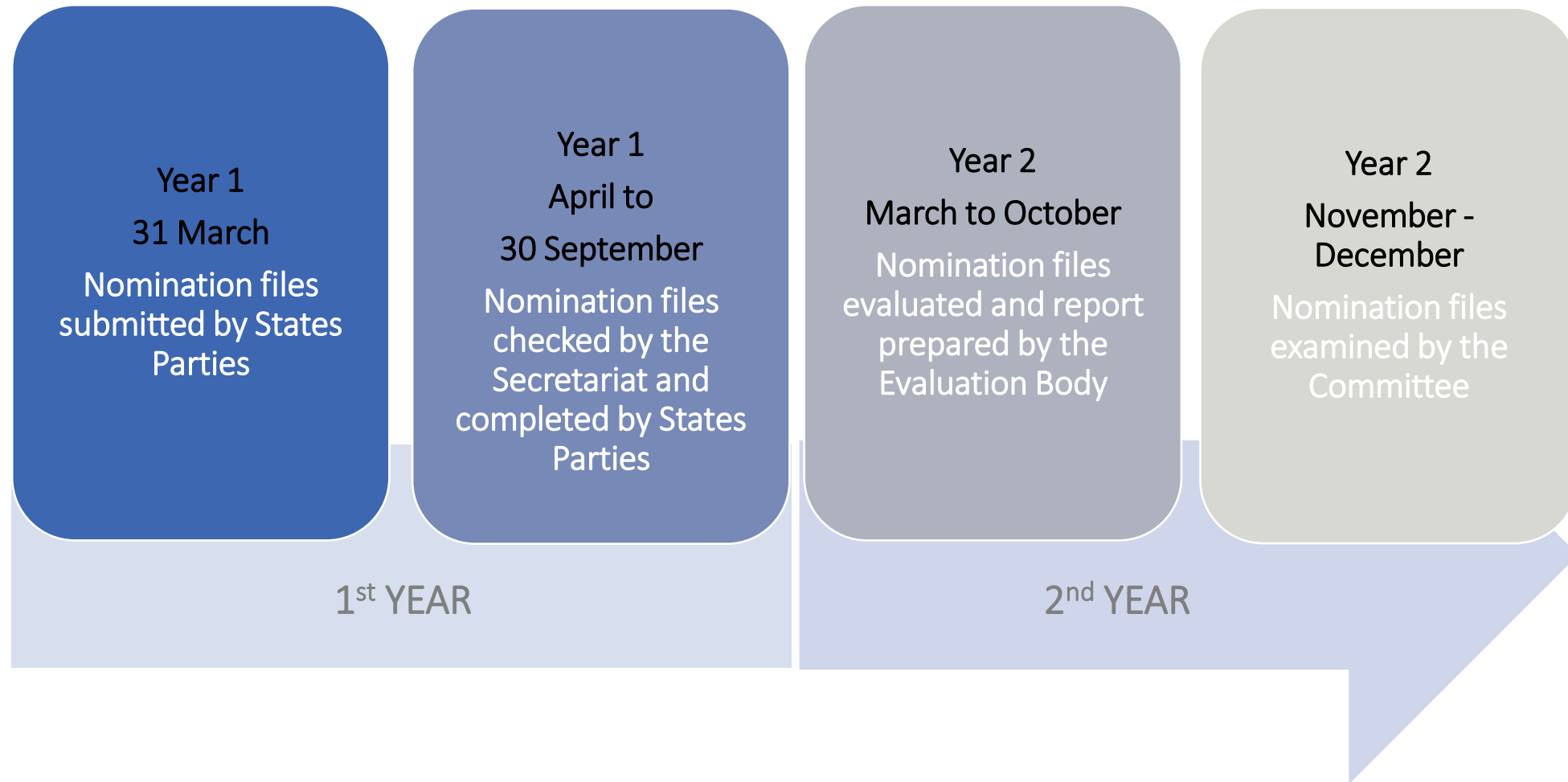
Operational directives: for any details concerning the procedures, please consult the [Operational Directives](#)

Urgent Safeguarding List	Forms	Instructions	Deadline
Nomination	ICH-01: English/French (revised on 31 December 2022)	ICH-01-instructions: English/French	31 March 2023 for possible inscription in 2024
Cession of Rights to include with nomination	ICH-07-photo: English/French ICH-07-video: English/French	ICH-07-instructions: English/French	
Nomination (national and multinational extension)	ICH-01 (Extension): English/French (revised on 31 December 2022)	ICH-01-instructions: English/French	31 March 2023 for possible inscription in 2024
Nomination (national and multinational reduction)	ICH-01 (Reduction): English/French (revised on 31 December 2022)	ICH-01-instructions: English/French	31 March 2023 for possible inscription in 2024
Request for transfer from the Representative List to the Urgent Safeguarding List	ICH-03 RL to USL: English/French (revised on 31 December 2022)	ICH-03-instructions: English/French	31 March 2023 for possible inscription in 2023
Request for financial assistance to prepare Urgent Safeguarding List nominations, transfer requests, extensions or reductions	ICH-05: English/French (revised on 3 January 2023)	ICH-05-instructions: English/French	31 March 2023
Report on the use of financial assistance	ICH-05-Report: English/French		
Contact: ICH-Nominations@unesco.org	-	-	-

ich.unesco.org/en/forms



Nomination cycle



Preparatory assistance

Financial assistance (\$5,000 to \$10,000) to prepare:

- USL nominations
- RL nominations for States with no “national” elements inscribed
- Proposals to the Register
- Requests for transfer
- Extensions and reductions

Minimum number of questions in Form ICH-05 to **facilitate access**.



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