



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

**REQUEST BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION TO BE
ACCREDITED TO PROVIDE ADVISORY SERVICES TO THE COMMITTEE**

DEADLINE 31 MAY 2012

Instructions for completing the request form are available at:

<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/forms>

1. Name of the organization

1.A. Official name

Please provide the full official name of the organization, in its original language, as it appears in the supporting documentation establishing its legal personality (section 8.b below).

Centrum voor Agrarische Geschiedenis (CAG)

1.B. Name in English and/or French

Please provide the name of the organization in English and/or French.

Centre for Agrarian History (CAG)
Centre d'Histoire Agraire)

2. Address of the organization

Please provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone or fax numbers, e-mail address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled (see section 8).

Organization: Centrum Agrarische Geschiedenis (CAG)

Address: Atrechtcollege Naamsestraat 63 3000 Leuven België

Telephone number: +32 (0)16 32 35 25

Fax number: +32 (0)16 32 35 26

Email address: contact@cagnet.be

Other relevant
information: www.hetvirtueleland.be

3. Country or countries in which the organization is active

Please identify the country or countries in which the organization actively operates. If it operates entirely within one country, please indicate which country. If its activities are international, please indicate whether it operates globally or in one or more regions, and please list the primary countries in which it carries out activities.

national

international (please specify:)

worldwide

Africa

Arab States

Asia & the Pacific

Europe & North America

Latin America & the Caribbean

Please list the primary country(ies) where it is active:

Belgium, the Netherlands, France, UK

4. Date of its founding or approximate duration of its existence

Please state when the organization came into existence.

2001

5. Objectives of the organization

Please describe the objectives for which the organization was established, which should be 'in conformity with the spirit of the Convention' (Criterion C). If the organization's primary objectives are other than safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, please explain how its safeguarding objectives relate to those larger objectives.

Not to exceed 350 words; do not attach additional information

The non-governmental organization CAG (Centre for Agrarian History) is officially recognized by the Flemish Government as an expertise centre for the heritage of agriculture and food. CAG aims to study and safeguard the history of agriculture, countryside and food since 1750. CAG wants to make this heritage accessible for a broad, national and international public.

Therefore, CAG offers support, advice and tailor-made cooperation with all active participants, organisations and people interested in the heritage of agriculture and food. CAG aims to inform, educate as widely as possible, by means of publications, lectures, events and the internet. The necessarily academic support is provided by its sister organization the Interfaculty Centre for Agrarian History (ICAG) of the University of Leuven.

CAG deals with the heritage of agriculture and food in an integrated way with attention to movable, immovable and intangible heritage. During the past 12 years, CAG has been developing much experience with safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Since July 2012, a CAG employee is particularly concentrating on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage of agriculture, countryside and food in a profound and renewed way.

6. The organization's activities in the field of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage

Sections 6.a to 6.c are the primary place to establish that the NGO satisfies the criterion of having 'proven competence, expertise and experience in safeguarding (as defined in Article 2.3 of the Convention) intangible cultural heritage belonging, inter alia, to one or more specific domains' (Criterion A).

6.a. Domain(s) in which the organization is active

Please tick one or more boxes to indicate the primary domains in which the organization is most active. If its activities involve domains other than those listed, please tick 'other domains' and indicate which domains are concerned.

- oral traditions and expressions
- performing arts
- social practices, rituals and festive events
- knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- traditional craftsmanship
- other domains - please specify:

6.b. Primary safeguarding activities in which the organization is involved

Please tick one or more boxes to indicate the organization's primary safeguarding activities. If its activities involve safeguarding measures not listed here, please tick 'other safeguarding measures' and specify which ones are concerned.

- identification, documentation, research (including inventory-making)
- preservation, protection
- promotion, enhancement
- transmission, formal or non-formal education
- revitalization
- other safeguarding measures – please specify:

6.c. Description of the organization's activities

Organizations requesting accreditation should briefly describe their recent activities and their relevant experience in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Please provide information on the personnel and membership of the organization, describe their competence and expertise in the domain of intangible cultural heritage and explain how they acquired such competence. Documentation of such activities and competences may be submitted, if necessary, under section 8.c below.

Not to exceed 750 words; do not attach additional information

Since the founding of the organization CAG has been developing much experience with safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Following the 'Vision Paper : a policy for intangible cultural heritage in Flanders' of the Flemish Government in 2010, CAG has increasingly focused upon intangible cultural heritage.

The center has set up several projects about intangible cultural heritage, such as 'Red cabbage with apples' (Rode kool met appeltjes) about the history and heritage of vegetables and fruit, 'Fruit Stories in Haspengouw' (Fruitverhalen in Haspengouw) that concentrated on the personal

narratives of people in the fruit sector, or the project 'The Grain Whisperers. Farmers, bakers and brewers' (De Graanfluisteraars. Boeren, bakkers en brouwers) that drew a picture of the production and consumption of grain in the Westhoek, an agrarian region in Flanders. In 'Sugared almond and Dutch rusk with aniseed comfits' (Suikerbonen en beschuit met muisjes) CAG, in cooperation with other researchers from the Netherlands, shed light on culinary traditions during important stages of life by means of interviews in different regions of Flanders and the Netherlands.

CAG provides support for organizations, societies and authorities in dealing with ICH of agriculture, countryside and food, f.e. when applying for a nomination for inscription on the Representative list of intangible heritage (the horseback shrimp fishermen of Oostduinkerke) and the inventory of the intangible cultural heritage in Flanders (such as Waregem Koerse or Houtem Jaarmarkt).

In some cases CAG itself takes the lead and provides intense and elaborate support in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, specifically in the domains of 'nature and universe' and 'rural craftsmanship and food', such as the current projects about the Belgian culture of fries (Frietkotchuur), the culture of beer (Biercultuur) and the traditional cultivation of Belgian endives or syrup.

CAG organizes colloquia and info-sessions about intangible cultural heritage of agriculture and food and shares its knowledge also by means of the website (www.hetvirtueleland.be) and the newsletter. CAG participates in national initiatives about intangible heritage, such as the Heritage Day and the Week of Taste.

In 2012, CAG founded a feedback and study group on intangible cultural heritage and oral history with representatives of several collegial heritage organizations. CAG is also member of the expertise committee for Intangible cultural heritage of the Flemish government. CAG encourages its heritage community to register elements of intangible cultural heritage in the database and platform www.immaterieelergoed.be.

Since July 2012, a CAG employee, dr. Chantal Bisschop, is particularly concentrating on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage of agriculture, countryside and food in a profound and renewed way. This employee has a PhD in rural history, is specialized in oral history and has experiences in the heritage sector. She is actively engaged in the constitution and developing of 2 networks of expertise in intangible cultural heritage in Flanders, one about nature and universe and one about traditional craftsmanship. Furthermore, CAG has a permanent staff of 5 employees and a temporary staff according to several temporary projects. They are all masters in history and art history. Each of them is paying attention to intangible cultural heritage where possible. All employees have often contact with staff members of collegial organizations, thus forming an extended network in the Flemish heritage sector, and increasingly abroad.

7. Its experiences cooperating with communities, groups and intangible cultural heritage practitioners

The Committee will evaluate whether NGOs requesting accreditation 'cooperate in a spirit of mutual respect with communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit intangible cultural heritage' (Criterion D). Please briefly describe such experiences here.

Not to exceed 350 words; do not attach additional information

The Centre for Agrarian History (CAG) is officially recognized by the Flemish Government as an expertise centre for the heritage of agriculture and food. CAG is a key player in a very dynamic heritage field that is characterized by a great amount of diverse initiatives from many actors in different thematic fields. It is striking that various institutions, organizations and governments frequently work together or even start partnerships. In this dynamic field CAG plays its role as driving force and research centre for the heritage of agriculture and food in Flanders. Depending on the specific activities or cooperations, relations with the partners in this heritage field differ from sheer knowledge exchange to the final responsibility for specific long-term or short-time projects. CAG works together with a whole range of individuals, organizations and institutions, with attention to mutual respect and cultural diversity. CAG offers support, advice and tailor-made cooperation

with interested individuals, collectors and hobbyclubs, local, provincial and regional authorities, organized interest groups, rural movements, socio-cultural organizations, media, educational organizations, heritage expertise centres, museums, archives, libraries and documentation centers, to research centers, experimental gardens and international institutions.

8. Documentation of the operational capacities of the organization

The Operational Directives (paragraph 97) require that an organization requesting accreditation shall submit documentation proving that it possesses the operational capacities listed under Criterion E. Such supporting documents may take various forms, in light of the diverse legal regimes in effect in different States. Submitted documents should be translated whenever possible into English or French if the originals are in another language. Please label supporting documents clearly with the section (8.a, 8.b or 8.c) to which they refer.

8.a. Membership and personnel

Proof of the participation of the membership of the organization, as requested under Criterion E (i), may take diverse forms such as a list of directors, list of personnel and statistical information on the quantity and categories of members; a complete membership roster usually need not be submitted.

Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section 8.a'.

8.b. Recognized legal personality

If the organization has a charter, articles of incorporation, by-laws or similar establishing document, a copy should be attached. If, under the applicable domestic law, the organization has a legal personality recognized through some means other than an establishing document (for instance, through a published notice in an official gazette or journal), please provide documentation showing how that legal personality was established.

Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section 8.b'.

8.c. Duration of existence and activities

If it is not already indicated clearly from the documentation provided for section 8.b, please submit documentation proving that the organization has existed for at least four years at the time it requests accreditation. Please provide documentation showing that it has carried out appropriate safeguarding activities during that time, including those described above in section 6.c. Supplementary materials such as books, CDs or DVDs, or similar publications cannot be taken into consideration and should not be submitted.

Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section 8.c'.

9. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this request. If an e-mail address cannot be provided, the information should include a fax number.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.):	dr.
Family name:	Bisschop
Given name:	Chantal
Institution/position:	Centre for Agrarian History (CAG)
Address:	Atrechtcollege Naamsestraat 63 3000 Leuven Belgium
Telephone number:	+32 (0) 16 32 35 73

Fax number: +32 (0) 16 32 35 26

E-mail address: chantal.bisschop@cagnet.be

Other relevant
information:

10. Signature

The application must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization requesting accreditation. Requests without a signature cannot be considered.

Name: prof. dr. Yves Segers

Title: coordinator CAG

Date: 18-02-2013

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yves Segers', with a long vertical line extending downwards from the end of the signature.