**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 VIII**

**3 October 2019, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Item 4 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 requests up to US$100,000 are examined and approved by the Bureau of the Committee. The present document includes an overview of three requests that the Secretariat treated, together with the draft decisions for each request.  **Decisions required:** paragraph 7 |

1. As stipulated in Article 20 of the Convention, International Assistance may be granted to States Parties for purposes relating to: the safeguarding of 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 are examined and approved by the Bureau of the Committee.

1. **Overview of the present requests**
2. The Bureau is asked to examine and decide on the following three completed requests submitted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Namibia, and Uganda pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention. They only take the form of the provision of a grant.

| **Draft decision** | **Requesting State** | **Title** | **Amount requested** | **File no.** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14.COM 4.BUR 4.1 | Democratic People’s Republic of Korea | Capacity building on traditional Koryo celadon making practice | $37,177 | 01619 |
| 14.COM 4.BUR 4.2 | Namibia | Safeguarding of Okuruuo through community-based capacity building, inventorying and documentation interventions in Namibia | $100,000 | 01536 |
| 14.COM 4.BUR 4.3 | Uganda | Strengthening the capacity of community museums to promote inscribed intangible cultural heritage elements | $61,471 | 01534 |

1. 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 three requesting States, in improving their requests through comprehensive, detailed letters that indicated that information was missing or insufficient. All the States concerned submitted a revised version of the request following an additional information letter from the Secretariat within the deadline indicated.
2. The requests in question are available online for the Bureau’s consultation, in English and French, at <https://ich.unesco.org/en/14com-bureau>, together with the preceding versions and the Secretariat’s letters requesting additional information.
3. 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.
4. 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. The draft decisions to this document include the three requests that take the form of a grant only.
5. **Draft Decisions**
6. The Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee may wish to adopt the following decisions:

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 4.BUR 4.1**

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/19/14.COM 4.BUR/4 as well as International Assistance request no. 01619 submitted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK),
3. Takes note that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Capacity Building on Traditional Koryo Celadon Making practice**:

The proposed six-month project is aimed at building capacities relating to the traditional Koryo celadon making practice. The project is to be implemented by a working group established by the DPRK Academy of Social Sciences, in cooperation with the National Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for UNESCO. Recently, decreased interest in the tradition has resulted in dwindling ceramic production, and even in some long-standing celadon families losing pride in the practice. To overcome these obstacles, the proposed project aims to understand the viability of the practice in the country through on-site investigations and to raise awareness about the Koryo celadon making practice through the organization of a workshop and the publication of a book. Through its implementation, the project is expected to lead to the identification of more than seven major traditional Koryo celadon-making units. Furthermore, fifty local pottery makers are to be trained and a book on Koryo celadon making is to be published and distributed among the communities. The project would thus improve the skills of local makers concerned and increase public interest in the practice. If successfully implemented, it is expected to serve as a model for studying and safeguarding traditional handcraftsmanship and other elements of intangible cultural heritage in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

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 the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has requested assistance in the amount of US$37,177 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01619, 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 request indicates the involvement of several Koryo celadon makers as well as of representatives of different institutions, such as the National Folklore Institute and the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency, and various enterprises. They have participated in the design of the project and their regular participation is foreseen throughout its implementation, as well as in the monitoring and final evaluation of the project. The request also indicates that the active participation of community members is envisaged through a consultation process and their consent to the content of the book to be published as part of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: In general, the budget is presented in a clear way, demonstrating a balanced allocation of resources for each of the planned activities. However, more detailed information could have been provided for certain items of expenditure, such as those related to personnel costs and the publication of the book ‘Time-honoured Koryo Celadon Tradition’.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities are well-conceived in relation to the objectives and expected results of the project. They are formulated based on the initial measures undertaken by the government to safeguard the traditional Koryo celadon making practice and are structured around an on-site investigation, a three-day capacity building training workshop for celadon makers and the analysis of the data collected with relevant partner organizations to seek appropriate solutions for enhanced safeguarding. Awareness-raising and outreach for the practice are envisaged through the production and dissemination of a book entitled ‘Time-honoured Koryo Celadon Traditions’. Furthermore, the project seems sufficiently long for the proposed activities to be implemented effectively.

**Criterion A.4**: The activities to be undertaken within the framework of the project are expected to yield lasting results to allow for the continued practice of Koryo celadon making. Thanks to the increased knowledge and improved skill-sets of the fifty participants in the three-day workshop, it will also be possible to raise awareness among community members about the importance of safeguarding traditions of living heritage in general and Koryo celadon making in particular. Furthermore, the results of the on-site investigation will allow the implementing agency and its partner organization to devise effective measures for the safeguarding of living heritage.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 18 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: Through a three-day capacity building workshop targeted at specialists, researchers and community members, the project aims to reinforce capacities in the field of intangible cultural heritage at two different levels. At the community level, practitioners will become sensitized to the Koryo celadon making practice as well as to its social and cultural importance. At the institutional level, the project beneficiaries, including the staff of the Academy of Social Sciences, are expected to enhance their research and analytical skills in relation not only to the Koryo celadon practice but also to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in general.

**Criterion A.7**: The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has benefitted from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund once, for the project entitled ‘Strengthening the capacities of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for community-based inventorying of intangible cultural heritage and for elaborating nomination files under the mechanisms of the 2003 Convention’ (file no. 01444, 2018–2019, US$98,000). The project was carried out in compliance with UNESCO’s regulations and completed within the proposed timeframe.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and its implementation involves a wide range of national and local partners, including the Academy of Social Sciences, the National Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for UNESCO, the Sci-tech Complex, Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, the Social Science Publishing House and the communities of Koryo celadon makers.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to stimulate the research, safeguarding and dissemination of information on intangible cultural heritage. This is expected to trigger additional contributions from various organizations working in the field of the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. Furthermore, if successful, the project could be used as a model that could be replicated for safeguarding other expressions of living heritage present in the State.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for the project entitled **Capacity Building on Traditional Koryo Celadon Making practice** and grants the amount of US$37,177 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 budget of all the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund is sufficiently detailed;
3. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04 Report when reporting on the use of the assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 4.BUR 4.2**

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/19/14.COM 4.BUR/4 as well as International Assistance request no. 01536 submitted by Namibia,
3. Takes note that Namibia has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Safeguarding of Okuruuo through community-based capacity building, inventorying and documentation interventions in Namibia**:

To be implemented by the Namibia National Commission for UNESCO, the proposed thirty-six-month project is aimed at safeguarding Okuruuo. The sacred ritual practice of Okuruuo (meaning Holy Fire) is central to the cultural values and social practices of the communities concerned. However, the current situation – including a rapid increase in urbanization – threatens its continuous practice and sustainability. Awareness-raising, capacity-building and training initiatives have been undertaken, but there is a need to expand this exercise to other regions in Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Erongo and Kunene where the element is currently practised. In this context, the proposed project is aimed at improving the visibility of the element nationally, promoting and safeguarding it, enhancing national inventorying and documentation capacities, and improving and uploading the inventories and documentation of the element. This is to be achieved through awareness-raising, capacity-building, inventorying and documentation exercises. The project is expected to encourage the viability and continuous practice of the element.

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 Namibia has requested assistance in the amount of US$100,000 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01536, 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**: This request was submitted following wide consultations among the communities in the regions of Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Erongo and Kunene. It foresees the involvement of the communities concerned in the safeguarding activities for Okuruuo, through the existing structures of traditional authorities, regional councils, local development committees, civil society organizations and community meetings. Community members will participate in regional and national consultation meetings, awareness-raising activities, as well as community-based inventorying workshops and fieldwork exercises. The communities will also be fully involved in the final validation of the documented data concerning the element, as well as in the evaluation and follow-up of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a structured manner, reflecting the planned activities and related expenses. The amount of assistance requested may therefore be considered as appropriate for the implementation of the proposed activities. However, the amount of the State Party’s contribution, as indicated in Form ICH-04, needs to be aligned with the amount indicated in Form ICH-04 - Timetable and Budget.

**Criterion A.3**: To contribute to the safeguarding of Okuruuo, the project proposes a set of thirteen activities organized around five main components: awareness-raising, capacity building, inventorying, documentation and evaluation. The sequence of the proposed activities is logical and the proposed timeframe seems to be realistic for achieving the expected results of the project. Regular monitoring and final evaluation activities are also foreseen, with the contribution of implementing partners and the communities concerned.

**Criterion A.4**: The project foresees awareness-raising activities on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage that may continue beyond the duration of the project. These include community awareness radio programmes and the distribution of promotional materials in the local languages. The capacity-building activities, which are in line with previous efforts undertaken to ensure the continuous practice of Okuruuo, may also be duplicated at the national level through the ‘training of trainers’ approach proposed for these activities.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 17 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested.

**Criterion A.6**: The project has a broad capacity-building component for communities, implementing agencies and partner organizations through awareness-raising and training workshops that could help to ensure the viability of the element. The communities concerned and the local authorities involved in the project are expected to provide training on community-based inventorying and documentation after the completion of the project. The activities, aimed at enhancing the visibility of the element, could raise awareness among a wide audience, at both the local and national levels, about the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

**Criterion A.7**: Namibia has benefitted from Preparatory Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the preparation of the nomination of ‘Aixan (gâna/ob ‡ans tsî//khasigu), ancestral musical sound knowledge and skills’, submitted for possible inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding in 2020 (file no. 01418, 2018–2019, US$10,000). The work stipulated by the contract related to this assistance is being carried out in accordance with UNESCO regulations.

**Paragraph 10(a):** The project is national in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners, including the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, the Ministry of Local Government, the National Commission for Research, Science and Technology, as well as the traditional authorities.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The request indicates that efforts to enhance the visibility of the element could generate interest among stakeholders, individuals and donors to help safeguard it and provide better funding opportunities for further research on Okuruuo and other elements of intangible cultural heritage. However, the focus on income-generation through the promotion of tourism may raise concerns about the possible decontextualization of the practice.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Namibia for the project entitled **Safeguarding of Okuruuo through community-based capacity building, inventorying and documentation interventions in Namibia** and grants the amount of US$100,000 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 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 14.COM 4.BUR 4.3**

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/19/14.COM 4.BUR/4 as well as International Assistance request no. 01534 submitted by Uganda,
3. Takes note that Uganda has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Strengthening the capacity of community museums to promote inscribed Intangible Cultural Heritage elements:**

To be implemented by the Uganda Community Museums Association, the proposed twenty-four-month project is intended to strengthen the capacities of community museums to promote inscribed elements of intangible cultural heritage in Uganda. Although several safeguarding measures have been proposed for these elements, the concept of intangible cultural heritage is still not well-understood, particularly among young people, and the elements are not sufficiently visible at the local or national levels. The proposed project therefore aims to support five community museums in collaborating with their respective communities to enhance the understanding, appreciation and visibility of these elements. The project is expected to build on the capacities of community museum managers and selected representatives of the bearer communities to better appreciate the role they can play in promoting and safeguarding living heritage. The museums will be equipped with information which they can then creatively share through museum spaces, youth competitions and public events, increasing the visibility of the elements and strengthening transmission mechanisms. In addition, a film and publication will be prepared and disseminated, highlighting the role of community museums. As a result, it is expected that two managers and two bearers from each of the five community museums will acquire the knowledge and capacity to publicize and safeguard living heritage and that community members, especially youth, will become more involved in its safeguarding.

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 Uganda has requested assistance in the amount of US$61,471 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01534 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**: While the request was initiated by the Uganda Community Museums Association, as an association of community-founded museums it ensures the participation of the communities concerned. These include the bearer communities of the five elements in Uganda inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. The communities were involved in the preparation of the project and will be engaged in different phases of the implementation of the project, including the monitoring and evaluation of the proposed activities.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a structured manner, reflecting the planned activities and their related expenses. The amount of assistance requested may therefore be considered as appropriate for the implementation of the proposed activities. Nevertheless, more detailed information would have been appreciated for some expenditure items, for example in relation to the production of the film.

**Criterion A.3**: The request proposes a series of eight activities, which correspond to the main objective of the project – to raise the visibility and appreciation of the inscribed elements. These activities are structured in a coherent sequence and range from a training workshop and quarterly mentoring sessions to the production of promotional material and the organization of awareness-raising events. The activities also appear to be feasible within the proposed timeframe of twenty-four months.

**Criterion A.4**: Through the project, the community museums are expected to become centres of learning and engagement on intangible cultural heritage and to help enhance the intergenerational transmission of the elements concerned. While seeking to ensure the sustainability of these expected results, however, it is important that the proposed activities reflect the needs and aspirations of the communities at all times throughout the project, as well as the fundamental safeguarding objective to effectively ensure the viability of the elements concerned.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State Party will share 2 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested, while the Uganda Community Museums Association will cover an additional 1 per cent.

**Criterion A.6**: Capacity building will primarily benefit community museum managers and the bearer communities, including elders and young members of the communities. They will acquire practical skills in researching and documenting the elements, developing communication materials to promote the elements and organizing outreach and awareness-raising activities. In addition, the knowledge and competencies of local government authorities, such as the District Community Development Officers of the regions concerned, will be enhanced, to allow for the further promotion of the elements.

**Criterion A.7**: Uganda has benefitted from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for two completed projects – entitled ‘Inventorying the intangible cultural heritage of four communities in Uganda’ (file no. 00557, 2013–2015, US$216,000) carried out by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, and ‘Safeguarding and promotion of Bigwala, gourd trumpet music and dance of Busoga Kingdom in Uganda’ (file no. 00979, 2015–2017, US$24,990) by the National Council of Folklorists of Uganda – as well as two ongoing projects, entitled ‘Promoting intangible cultural heritage education in institutions of higher learning in Uganda’ (file no. 01310, 2017–2020, US$97,582), implemented by the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda, and ‘Community-self documentation and revitalization of ceremonies and practices associated with Empaako naming system in Uganda’ (file no. 01210, 2018–2020, US$232,120), by Engabu Za Tooro – Tooro Youth Platform for Action. The work stipulated by the contracts related to these projects was and is being carried out in compliance with UNESCO’s regulations.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners, including the Uganda National Museum, the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO and the District Community Development Officers.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The community museums are expected to share the experience and knowledge they acquire with other museums and to motivate them to replicate similar projects through the trained community museum managers. The request is also intended to attract additional financial support from local governments and school administrations.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Uganda for the project entitled **Strengthening the capacity of community museums to promote inscribed Intangible Cultural Heritage elements** and grants the amount of US$61,471 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 budget and the work plan 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.