

Recommendation

by the participants in the Second Workshop for Better Practices in Communities' ICH Revitalisation (Tokushima, 12 to 15 November 2009) organised by the Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), representing seven communities from Africa, Asia and Latin America:

Having informed each other about their actions for safeguarding ICH elements, all seven with strong community involvement, that were selected by an international jury from among 37 submitted practices as good practices,

Being appreciative of the ways in which ACCU succeeded, between 2007 and 2009, in soliciting the submission of 66 safeguarding practices from three continents, and having them evaluated,

Having taken note of the exemplary way in which the communities in question and their organisations were involved in the execution of the selected safeguarding projects,

Considering that the States Parties to the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage are exploring ways to fully involve communities, their organisations and NGOs in the identification and management of the ICH present in their territory,

We strongly recommend the States Parties to the UNESCO Convention (i) to study and take example from the selected practices and from the procedures followed by ACCU to identify, encourage and empower communities developing and executing safeguarding plans for their ICH (see <http://www.accu.or.jp/ich/en/>) and

(ii) to actively assist and support the communities present in their territory in undertaking measures to safeguard their traditional performing arts and other elements of their intangible cultural heritage ;

Express the wish that this type of activities should be continued and further developed by international NGOs and by qualified institutions.

Tokushima, Japan
14 November 2009