**Purposes & Definition**

**Safeguarding**

**Implementation**

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**Adoption**

- Intergovernmental expert meetings
- 32nd General Conference of UNESCO
- Adoption on 17 October 2003
  - 120 votes in favour
  - 8 abstentions
  - No votes against

- Entry into force: 3 months after ratification by 30 States

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**Defintion**

For the purposes of the 2003 Convention, intangible cultural heritage means:

- expressions
- representations
- practices
- knowledge
- skills

+ associated:
- instruments
- objects
- artefacts
- cultural spaces

that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals, recognize as part of their cultural heritage

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**Purposes**

- Safeguard Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Ensure respect for Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Raise awareness
- International cooperation

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**Intangible & Tangible**

**Intangible**

- expressions
- representations
- practices
- knowledge
- skills

**Tangible**

- monuments
- groups of buildings
- sites
- natural areas

instruments, objects, artefacts, cultural spaces, cultural landscapes, traditional knowledge
This intangible cultural heritage is:

- transmitted from generation to generation,
- constantly recreated by communities in response to
  their environment
  their interaction with nature and
  their history,
- provides communities with a sense of identity and continuity
- Complies with
  Mutual respect
  Intern. human rights instruments
  Sustainable development

Zapara People, Ecuador-Peru

Oruro, Bolivia

Oral Traditions

Oral traditions of the Aka Pygmies of Central Africa

The Tenere Song, Italy

Hudhud Chants of the Bugao in the Philippines

Performing Arts

Art of Uyghur Muqam, China

Kutiyattam, India

Royal Ballet Cambodia

Kutiyattam, India

Social Practices, Rituals, Festive Events

Baltic celebrations

Makishi Masquerade, Zambia

Jongmyo ancestral rite, Rep. Korea

The Karkarang, Senegal, Gambia

Gauta, Dragora, Belgium, France

Carnival of Oruro, Bolivia

Traditional craftsmanship

woodcrafting knowledge of the Zafimaniry, Madagascar

Zapara cultural heritage, Peru - Ecuador
Knowledge & Practices about nature and the universe

Vanuatu Sand drawing
Zipara People, Brazil
Wajapi Expressions, Brazil
Andean cosmovision of the Kallawaya, Bolivia
Zápara People, Ecuador

Safeguarding

Convention’s Definition

- Identification
- Protection
- Promotion
- Enhancement
- Transmission
- Documentation
- Research
- Formal education
- Non-formal education
- Revitalization

Songs of Sanaa, Yemen
Iraqi Maqam

Role of States Parties

- Take necessary measures to ensure safeguarding
- Identify and define elements of intangible heritage, with participation of communities, groups and NGO’s

The Garifuna Language, Dance and Music, Belize

National Safeguarding Measures

- Inventory making
- Adopt a general safeguarding policy
  - to promote the function of ITH
  - to integrate safeguarding into planning programmes
- Establish competent safeguarding bodies
- Foster studies and research methodologies

Shashmaqom Music
Tajikistan - Uzbekistan

National Safeguarding Measures (2)

- Adopt legal, technical, administrative and financial measures:
  - training institutions for intangible heritage management and transmission
  - ensure access to intangible cultural heritage
  - establish documentation institutions

Gbofe of Afounkaha: the Music of the Transverse trumpets and the cultural space of the Tagbana Community
Côte d'Ivoire

Education, awareness-raising, capacity building

1. ensure recognition of and respect for intangible heritage
2. enhance ICH through training and transmission
3. inform the public of dangers threatening intangible cultural heritage
4. promote education for protection of natural spaces and places of memory

Gbofe of Afounkaha: the Music of the Transverse trumpets and the cultural space of the Tagbana Community
Côte d'Ivoire
Safeguarding at international level

- Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
- List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding
- International Cooperation and Assistance
- Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund

Implementation

- The General Assembly
- The Intergovernmental Committee (UNESCO)
- The Secretariat (UNESCO)
- The Advisory Organizations

General Assembly

- Sovereign Body of the Convention
- Meets for the first time after Convention’s entry into force
- Will meet in ordinary session every two years, or in extraordinary session
  - when it so decides, or
  - when requested by Committee
  - when requested by at least one-third of States Parties
- Adopts its own rules of procedures
- Elects the members of the Committee
- Approves the Operational Directives

Intergovernmental Committee

- Number of Members:
  - 18 after entry into force of the Convention
  - 24 after 50 ratifications
- 4 years term, renewal of half of the members every 2 years
- Principles of equitable geographical representation and rotation

Functions of the Committee

- Promote the objectives of the Convention
- Provide guidance on best practices
- Make recommendations on safeguarding measures
- Seek means of increasing its resources
- Prepare Operational Directives for implementation of the Convention
- Examine periodic reports of States Parties
- Examine requests for
  - inscription on the lists
  - granting international assistance

Cooperation

ICH is general interest to humanity

International cooperation

- Exchange of information and experience
- Joint initiatives
- Establishment of a mechanism of assistance to States Parties
- Bilateral subregional, regional and international cooperation
Purposes:

- Safeguarding of heritage inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding
- Preparation of inventories
- Support for programmes, projects and activities in the State Party

Forms:

- Studies
- Provision of experts and practitioners
- Training of staff
- Elaboration of standard-setting and other measures

International Assistance

Where are we now?

- Preparation of the Implementation of the Convention:
  - Organization of Experts meetings
  - Preparation of Thematic manuals
  - Preparation of meetings of the Statutory Bodies:
    - Rules of Procedure
    - Draft Operational Directives
  - Experience gained with the Masterpieces

Experts Meetings and Manuals

Experts meetings for preparing the implementation of the Convention:

- Gender and Intangible Cultural Heritage, December 2003
- Safeguarding Traditional Music and the Convention, December 2003
- Museums and Intangible Cultural Heritage, April 2004
- Inventory-making of the intangible cultural heritage, March 2005
- Archiving and Documenting Intangible Cultural Heritage, January 2006
- Management of ICH and its relation to development March 2006
- Participation of Communities in Safeguarding ICH, March 2006

Experts meetings for preparing the Manuals on ICH Domains:

- Manual on Music, Dance and Theatre Traditions, November 2005
- Manual on Oral Traditions and Expressions, January 2006

Experience gained with The Masterpieces

- Proclamation of the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity was created in 1997/8
- 90 masterpieces have been proclaimed by UNESCO in 2001, 2003 and 2005
- The 2003 Convention foresees that after the entry into force of the Convention no new Proclamations will take place
- The Intergovernmental Committee shall incorporate in the Representative List of the Convention the Masterpieces that were proclaimed before the entry into force of the Convention.

Masterpieces: Examples of Safeguarding

- Examples of safeguarding measures implemented within the framework of the Masterpieces activity:
  - Creation or strengthening of associations, cultural houses, special commissions
  - Provisions for the safeguarding of ICH included in urban planning programmes
  - Inventorying exercises of ICH
  - Adoption of new administrative provisions taking into account the specific needs of intangible heritage within general cultural heritage policies
  - February 2006: Meeting on the results of the Masterpieces Programme

Examples (1)

Mystery Play, Elche, Spain

- Identification of underlying problems concerning safeguarding
- Reinforced cooperation between the different agencies responsible for safeguarding the Mystery
- Development of sustainable cultural tourism in the city of Elche
- Renewal of the local interest for the Valencian language, in which the Mystery is sung
- Development of a system providing intangible heritage the same level of protection as tangible cultural heritage

Jemaa el Fna Square, Marrakesh, Morocco

- Increased cooperation between local associations NGOs and local authorities, resulting in the creation of a Commission in charge of the safeguarding of the Square.
- Measures taken to ensure the transmission of oral heritage by the organization of weekly sessions of story-telling with the cooperation of the Association Jemaa el Fna Square and a Delegation of the Ministry of Education.
- Studies are being made on the possibility of prohibiting all circulation in and around the Square, in order to reduce environmental and noise pollution.
Kutiyattam Sanskrit theatre, India

- Official recognition of this theatre thanks to its proclamation as a Masterpiece, which was about to disappear
- Sharing of techniques and know-how among the three last families who held, in an individual and private way, the secrets to this 2000 year-old tradition
- Increased social outreach of this theatre thanks to renewed involvement of local and national organisations
- Publicity in national and international media of the Proclamation helps make the public aware of the importance of the proclaimed cultural expression and of the need of protect it against risks of deterioration or even disappearance.

Cross-crafting, Lithuania

- The region of Prienai has decided to host the house of young masters of cross-crafting, with a view to developing and preserve the continuity of skills of this tradition.
- A considerable number of competitions and seminars, especially for children and young masters, have been organised in order to promote and develop the cross-crafting tradition.

The Convention: Meetings of Statutory Bodies

- 26-30 June: 1st session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
- Adoption of the Operational Directives: expected at the end of 2007
- 2008: the Convention will be fully operational

27 Ratifications by 7 December 2005

- Algeria
- Mauritius
- Japan
- Gabon
- Panama
- China
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Belarus
- Syria
- Republic of Korea
- Seychelles
- United Arab Emirates
- Mali
- Mongolia
- Croatia
- Egypt
- Oman
- Dominican Republic
- India
- Vietnam
- Peru
- Pakistan
- Bhutan
- Nigeria
- Iceland

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UNESCO

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