**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, Room VIII**

**5 June 2023**

**10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**DECISIONS**

DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 2

The Bureau,

1. Having examined document [LHE/23/18.COM 2.BUR/2](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-2_EN.docx) and its annex,
2. Adopts the agenda of its second meeting as annexed to this Decision.

**ANNEX**

**Agenda of the second meeting of the 18.COM Bureau**

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| Agenda item | | Document |
| 1. | Opening |  |
| 2. | Adoption of the agenda | LHE/23/18.COM 2.BUR/2 |
| 3. | Examination of an emergency request for International Assistance | LHE/23/18.COM 2.BUR/3 |
| 4. | Examination of requests for International Assistance up to US$100,000 | LHE/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4 |
| 5. | Examination of a request for preparatory assistance for a proposal to the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices | LHE/23/18.COM 2.BUR/5 |
| 6. | Other business   1. Statutory meeting dates in 2023 2. Consultation on the establishment of the Bureau for the Open-ended intergovernmental working group in the framework of the reflection on a broader implementation of Article 18 of the 2003 Convention (UNESCO Headquarters, 4 to 6 July 2023) 3. Update on the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Convention in 2023 4. Update on nominations under the 2024 cycle 5. Identification of a host country for the nineteenth session of the Committee 6. Other issues | LHE/23/Schedule Rev.3 |
| 7. | Closure |  |

DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 3.1

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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/3](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-3_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02049 submitted by Haiti,
3. Takes note that Haiti has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Supporting the community of artists and artisans of the village of Noailles to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of metal cutting in the context of the security crisis and for resilience in Haiti**:

For several generations, the village of Noailles was home to communities of metal cutters, listed in the inventory of Haiti’s intangible cultural heritage. This form of expression was revived in the mid-twentieth century, using recycled drums as raw material. Cutting metal is the primary means of subsistence and source of resilience for the artisans and community members. To be implemented by the UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Communication of Haiti, this three-year project aims to ensure the continuity and sustainability of the art of metal cutting, which has been jeopardised by the security crisis in the country. The crisis has led to the displacement of most bearers from their places of life and work, the loss of skills, and the disappearance of distribution networks. The artisans and communities concerned will be represented by the Association of Artists and Craftspersons of Croix-des-Bouquets (ADAAC). Focusing on metal cutters displaced from the village of Noailles, this project seeks to provide them with the conditions and means to resume their activity, to strengthen social organization of the community, to build the capacities of the artisans, to support the development of new channels of distribution, and to promote the intangible cultural heritage of metal cutting in Haiti and abroad.

1. Further takes note that:
   * 1. This assistance is to support a project implemented at the local level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention;
     2. The State Party has requested International Assistance that will take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State; and
     3. The assistance therefore takes the form of the **provision of services** from UNESCO (100 per cent of the financial transactions are to be managed by UNESCO), pursuant to Article 21 (b) and (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Haiti has requested assistance in the amount of US$280,092 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for this project, which will be implemented by the UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Communication of Haiti;
3. Understands that the UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince will be responsible for the management of the total amount requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, while the requesting State will be responsible for co-managing the project and contributing to the elaboration of media dissemination tools to raise awareness among the public, including a ten-minute video and a series of TV and radio programmes. Other partnering organizations will also contribute to the project. The European Union will support the project with the development of the website and its management during the time of the project implementation, and the House of Culture of the World in Berlin will support some artisans in their participation in international fairs. The Haiti Association of Psychology will also cover a part of the costs of psychological treatments;
4. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02049, 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 involvement of communities in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the project is at the heart of the project, with the artisans being the main beneficiaries. When designing this project, the UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince hosted four workshops in a hybrid format, bringing together representatives from the Association of Artists and Craftspeople of Croix-des-Bouquets (ADAAC), the Ministry of Culture and Communication and the Haitian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO. During these meetings, the community outlined needs and proposed the necessary measures for the revival and sustainability of the practice.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a clear, comprehensive and detailed manner. The amount requested adequately covers each of the proposed activities and can therefore be deemed appropriate.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities are well-planned and coherent in terms of the objectives and expected results of the project, enabling artisans to resume, practice and transmit the art of metal cutting in the ongoing emergency situation. The activities include capacity building for the practice and transmission of metal cutting, training to strengthen the capacity of the ADAAC, the establishment a cooperative as well as an online sales site, participation in national and international events, and an awareness campaign. Additionally, given the importance of living heritage to promote resilience of communities in times of conflict, the project will also provide psychological support to all beneficiaries.

**Criterion A.4**: The project aims to enable artisans to resume, practice and transmit the art of metal cutting. After the end of the project, the community will have quality materials for awareness raising, communication and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage related to metal cutting, through virtual galleries, videos, and an updated inventory. The artisans will also benefit from renewed professional networks and opportunities, including abroad through participation in international events.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 9 per cent and other partners will contribute a further 15 per cent of the total amount of the project budget (US$368,092). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 76 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**:Capacity-building of the communities in the village of Noailles is one of the main objectives of the project. Through tailor-made training programmes, the artisans will improve their technical skills and acquire new ones, both in terms of metal cutting skills and for the development of their activity. In general, the involvement of the community in the direct implementation of all activities will contribute to strengthening its capacity to effectively safeguard its intangible cultural heritage, including awareness-raising and promotion, but also organization, planning and evaluation.

**Criterion A.7**: The requesting State has benefited from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the project entitled ‘Programme in support of the education system for the transmission of intangible cultural heritage (PASS-TPCI)’ (August 2018 – August 2021; US$98,970); the project is undergoing administrative and financial closure.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: While the proposed activities are local in scope, the project promotes cooperation with several national organisations (i.e., la Fondation AfricAmericA and the Haiti Association of Psychology) and international organizations (i.e., European Union and the House of Culture of the World in Berlin).

**Paragraph 10(b)**: Through this project, artisans will be able to recover their mode of expression and financial autonomy, collectively and individually. The transmission and training workshops will allow the community to regain a trained workforce, with expanded skills to meet demands, such as orders from collectors or museums, and to diversify income sources and thus sustain their livelihoods.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from **Haiti** for the project entitled **Supporting the community of artists and artisans of the village of Noailles to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of metal cutting in the context of the security crisis and for resilience in Haiti** and grants the amount of US$280,092 for the implementation of this project according to the modality described in paragraphs 5 and 6;
2. Takes further note of the positive experience of the technical assistance provided to Haiti in finalizing this request, and invites the requesting State to build on the skills of the staff who directly benefited from this assistance;
3. Requests that the project be implemented in phases to allow for a close monitoring of the ongoing security situation and the adjustment of implementation as needed;
4. Further requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

DECISION 18.COM 2.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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02004 submitted by The Bahamas,
3. Takes note that The Bahamas has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Community-based inventorying of the intangible cultural heritage in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas**:

To be implemented by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture (Division of Cultural Affairs), this twenty-four-month project aims to raise awareness about the importance of intangible cultural heritage in The Bahamas and to build local capacities to create and manage a national inventory. The project involves preparing a two-year plan to implement and ensure the sustainability of the inventory and creating an online multimedia platform to provide national access to the information and data. A national awareness campaign will be launched to engage traditional communities, academia, civil society and students and to spark conversations about living heritage. The project also entails implementing a local technical training programme, including train-the-trainer modules, to teach cultural practitioners, teachers and community leaders how to identify, define and catalogue elements of Bahamian living heritage. The trainees will then be charged with raising awareness about intangible cultural heritage and conducting inventorying exercises on an ongoing basis. In addition to identifying elements in need of urgent safeguarding, this project is expected to increase understanding of living heritage and its intrinsic value among the people of The Bahamas. It will also increase involvement in traditional cultural practices and contribute to their transmission.

1. Further takes note that:
   * 1. This assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention;
     2. The State Party has requested International Assistance that will partly take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State; and
     3. The assistance therefore takes the form of the **provision of a grant** and of **services from UNESCO** (the provision of experts), pursuant to Article 21 (b) and (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that The Bahamas has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,363 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project, which will be jointly implemented by the Division of Cultural Affairs of the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture of The Bahamas and the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston;
3. Understands that the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in Kingston will be responsible for the provision of one international expert for the capacity-building workshops, administrative assistance and technical support of the project (15,1 per cent of the requested amount). The requesting State will be responsible for all of the other activities related to project setup as well as: (a) the provision of materials, equipment and services; (b) the organization of a national awareness campaign, capacity-building workshops and community-based inventorying; and (c) dissemination of the intangible cultural heritage inventory and the results of the project (84,9 per cent of the requested amount).
4. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02004, 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**: Preliminary fact-finding exercises were conducted with key stakeholders and local communities on five major islands in The Bahamas (and will be duplicated in eleven additional islands). Furthermore, while implementing the project, an ‘ICH Corps’ composed of communities, practitioners and stakeholders will play an integral role in identifying, defining, recording and safeguarding their living heritage elements, while reflecting the aspirations and interests of communities.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a structured manner, reflecting the planned activities and related expenses. Detailed information on the part of the funds to be managed by the UNESCO Field Office is provided.

**Criterion A.3**: The request is clearly organized and includes a series of activities that are well-conceived and presented in a logical sequence. These include: (a) a national awareness campaign; (b) a local technical training programme, including train-the-trainer modules; (c) the development of a national intangible cultural heritage inventory; and (d) the creation of an online multimedia platform dedicated to the inventory. The expected results seem achievable within the proposed project duration and timetable.

**Criterion A.4**: The capacity-building workshops and pilot inventory projects are intended to provide participants (including community representatives, cultural stakeholders, teachers and national authorities) with the methodological tools and skills needed to continue working on the management and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage within their communities. For instance, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture of The Bahamas will train their staff to monitor and sustainably maintain the website and registry in collaboration with the ‘ICH corps’ on the various islands.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 56 per cent (including in-kind contributions) and other partners will contribute a further 2 per cent of the total amount of the project budget (US$237,850). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 42 per cent of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: The project mainly aims to reinforce capacities in intangible cultural heritage at two levels. At the community level, community members will be sensitized and trained to inventory their living heritage, while at the institutional level, the project will strengthen the capacities of government officials from The Bahamas. Capacity-building activities will be conducted in sixteen islands. These activities will include awareness raising and training in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, as well as data collection and reporting mechanisms. The project is expected to involve at least 67 persons: 32 ‘living heritage ambassadors’, 25 participants in the capacity-building workshops and 10 persons to be recognized in the framework of the awareness-raising campaign.

**Criterion A.7**: The requesting State has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and involves a wide range of national and local implementing partners. The partnership was established when preparing this request, with representatives from the Local Government Administrations, the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The requesting State has foreseen a series of actions to generate multiplier effects of the project and to solicit financial and technical contributions from other sources. Such actions include partnership with local business, support for entrepreneurship and the establishment of a cultural endowment fund. The establishment of an intangible cultural heritage inventory is also expected to serve as inspiration for other archipelago States Parties.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from The Bahamas for the project entitled **Community-based inventorying of the intangible cultural heritage in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas** and grants the amount of US$99,363 for the implementation of this project according to the modality described in paragraphs 5 and 6;
2. Takes notes of the positive experience of the technical assistance provided to The Bahamas in finalizing this request, and invites the requesting State to build on the skills of the staff who directly benefited from this assistance;
3. Recommends the requesting State to be mindful of the progress of the ongoing Japanese Funds-in-Trust project ‘Capacity building for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in emergencies in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific and the Caribbean’ in The Bahamas, Belize, Fiji, Tonga and Vanuatu and to harmonize the activities of the two projects where appropriate;
4. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the budget of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, to ensure that the planned budgetary expenses are detailed and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report when reporting on the use of the International Assistance provided.

DECISION 18.COM 2.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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02046 submitted by Mauritania,
3. Takes note that Mauritania has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Safeguarding and inventories of children’s tales and narratives in Mauritania**:

To be implemented by Association Maison des Théâtres, this eighteen-month project aims to safeguard children’s tales and narratives in Mauritania by creating an inventory and ensuring the transmission of the practice to future generations. The project involves the implementation of community workshops on how to develop participatory inventories, followed by the identification and inventorying of children’s tales and narratives across Mauritania. The tales identified during the inventorying process will be transmitted through a series of workshops targeting youth. Existing storytellers will organize a series of theoretical and practical workshops on how to recite tales and narratives for children. The participants of this workshop will transmit the practice within their communities in the future. Communication materials will be created to spread awareness about living heritage and to disseminate the collected stories and narratives in writing. This project is expected to revitalize the practice of children’s tales and narratives and to contribute to the safeguarding of Mauritania’s intangible cultural heritage in general. The workshops will increase national capacities to plan and conduct inventorying activities. By supporting opportunities in education and theatre, the project will provide resources for educational activities among the communities concerned.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims 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 Mauritania has requested assistance in the amount of US$87,460 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project.
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02046, 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 project indicates that communities were consulted in five separate meetings held in different rural and urban areas between January and May 2022. They also collaborated with the project team in the development of the request. The project outlines the active role of communities during its implementation. It foresees that the communities will participate in the capacity-building workshops, fieldwork exercises and safeguarding activities. They will also participate in the planning, monitoring and follow-up of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget defines the planned activities and related expenditures in sufficient detail. The amount of assistance requested seems appropriate for the objectives and scope of the project.

**Criterion A.3**: The request is structured in a series of activities in a logical sequence, from training workshops on the core principles of the Convention and community-based inventorying, to inventorying exercises. The project also includes four regional training workshops that focus on the transmission of the practice from storytellers, mainly women, to young community representatives. The expected results seem to be achievable within the proposed project duration.

**Criterion A.4**: Throughout the project, the implementing agency and its partners will seek to establish a sustainable framework to safeguard living heritage in Mauritania and to integrate the results of these inventories into the national inventory of the requesting State. Furthermore, the capacity-building workshops and inventorying activities aim to provide communities and other stakeholders with the methodological tools and skills needed to continue safeguarding the children’s tales and narratives traditions beyond the project completion. Finally, the focus on youth and women as a means of ensuring a sustainable transmission of knowledge related to this practice should lead to its revitalization within the communities.

**Criterion A.5**: The implementing partner will contribute 11 per cent of the total amount of the project budget (US$98,060). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 89 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: Capacity building will principally benefit members of the community, notably women and youth. Their capacities will be strengthened during various trainings, firstly through capacity-building workshops and participatory inventories, and secondly through the revitalization of the practice and training on the methods for transmission of children’s tales and narratives. At the community level, the project is expected to train 120 community members on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. Sixty young members of the communities will also be involved in the transmission and safeguarding activities.

**Criterion A.7**: Mauritania has benefited from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for four completed projects[[1]](#footnote-1) as well as for one ongoing project entitled ‘Safeguarding the Oulad Mbarek epic’ (US$88,375; August 2022–December 2023). 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 authorities, including the Ministry of culture and associations and NGOs working in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project foresees that the various stakeholder meetings with communities and the communication materials developed within the framework of the project will provide greater visibility of intangible cultural heritage at the national level. The project is expected to trigger additional contributions from donors that could fund future safeguarding projects.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Mauritania for the project entitled **Safeguarding and inventories of children’s tales and narratives in Mauritania** and grants the amount of US$87,460 to the requesting State for this purpose;
2. Requests the implementing agency to work in close collaboration with the national authorities to ensure their active participation in all activities foreseen under this project and encourages the requesting State to take into consideration the results of this project in all national initiatives in the field of intangible cultural heritage;
3. Further encourages the implementing agency to consider the results of previous International Assistance granted to the requesting State in order to build on their achievements and to benefit from the lessons learnt;
4. Further requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

**DECISION 18.COM 2.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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02042 submitted by Nicaragua,
3. Takes note that Nicaragua has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Inventory of the intangible cultural heritage of traditional and religious festivities in the municipalities of Bluefields, Diriamba, León, El Viejo and Masaya**:

To be implemented by the Nicaraguan Institute of Culture, this twenty-four-month project aims to prepare an inventory of Nicaraguan intangible cultural heritage and to contribute to the safeguarding of elements related to the following traditional and religious festivities: (a) the traditional May Pole Festival; (b) the San Sebastian Patron Saint Festival; (c) the Festival of the Virgin of the Throne; (d) ‘La Gritería’, in honour of the Immaculate Conception of Mary; and (e) the San Jerónimo Patron Saint Festival. The project involves a series of capacity-building workshops on the identification and inventorying of intangible cultural heritage. Community workshops will also be implemented to spread awareness about the importance of living heritage and of community participation in its safeguarding and transmission. Other activities include data collection and inventorying and the publication of a book about the intangible cultural heritage of traditional and religious festivals.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims 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 Nicaragua 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. 02042, 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**: Community consultations were held with bearers and practitioners from the five communities that will participate in the project. Each community expressed full support, consent and participation. The Nicaraguan Institute of Culture will also actively work with local authorities, bearers, community leaders, cultural youth movements and other stakeholders. An inclusive gender and age perspective is aimed to be achieved as well.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is well-structured and specific details, descriptions and calculations of the cost of the proposed project are clearly explained. The amount of assistance requested is appropriate for the proposed activities.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities are well-planned and coherent in terms of objectives, activities and expected outcomes. The project is based on three main actions: research and inventory documentation, capacity building and awareness-raising. It is expected that the inventory will be published as a book.

**Criterion A.4**: The project foresees capacity-building and awareness-raising activities for multiple stakeholders, including living heritage bearers and academics and staff of governmental institutions. The project ensures the transmission of knowledge and collaboration amongst communities and with other stakeholders. Furthermore, the project will promote continuing inventory processes at local and national levels.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 13 per cent and other partners will contribute a further 3 per cent of the total amount of the project budget (US$119,199). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 84 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: The project emphasizes building the capacities of communities and stakeholders. Government officers will gain enhanced understanding of the meanings of living heritage for the communities, as well as of the role of the bearers in the enactment of intangible cultural heritage elements. Communities will be encouraged to participate in safeguarding processes. The project is expected to engage 40 participants in the awareness-raising workshop as well as 35 persons in the inventory preparation workshops and inventorying exercise.

**Criterion A.7**: Nicaragua has benefited from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for one completed project[[2]](#footnote-2) and one ongoing multinational project (Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama) entitled ‘Capacity building for community leaders and public managers to safeguard the living heritage of Afro-descendant communities in the SICA region and Cuba’ (US$99,986; February 2023 – March 2024). 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 to be implemented at the local level and involves partners such as the National Network of Public Libraries, the Ministry of Education, the Nicaraguan Institute of Tourism, the National Commission of Creative Economy, and the country’s academic sector, heritage foundations and civil associations.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: As part of the multiplier effects of the project, the project may lead to other initiatives to inventory other types of Nicaraguan intangible cultural heritage elements, with a view to establish a national inventory of Nicaraguan intangible cultural heritage.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Nicaragua for the project entitled **Inventory of the intangible cultural heritage of traditional and religious festivities in the municipalities of Bluefields, Diriamba, León, El Viejo and Masaya** and grants the amount of US$100,000 to the requesting State for this purpose;
2. Takes note of the positive experience of the technical assistance provided to Nicaragua in finalizing this request, and invites the requesting State to build on the skills of the staff who directly benefited from this assistance;
3. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State 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;
4. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

**DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 4.4**

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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02078 submitted by Peru,
3. Takes note that Peru has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Strengthening and promotion of the intergenerational transmission of knowledge and meanings related to the production of traditional pottery in Checca Pupuja, Puno**:

To be implemented by the UNESCO Office in Lima in cooperation with the Intangible Heritage Directorate of the Ministry of Culture of Peru, this eighteen-month project aims to promote the intergenerational transmission of the knowledge and techniques related to traditional Checca Pupuja pottery. One of the main aspects related to the importance of this pottery is that it fulfils three main functions: utilitarian, decorative and ceremonial. The associated practices of the Checca Pupuja pottery are disappearing. The project involves carrying out a study to update the meanings associated with the pottery production process. It also entails recognizing masters and apprentices and analyzing their production capacities. Moreover, it will identify opportunities to strengthen the production processes and support local and regional economic exchange. Three paid pottery masters will facilitate a workshop to increase the capacities of youth to safeguard and produce traditional pottery. The workshop will include a combination of theoretical and practical modules addressing the history, meanings and values of traditional pottery and its production and commercialization. The project also entails publishing and disseminating educational materials to promote traditional Checca Pupuja pottery in family and community spaces. The project is expected to contribute to the safeguarding of traditional pottery production and its transmission to younger generations. It will serve as a pilot for similar projects in other locations while promoting the economic revitalization of the heritage sector in the southern Andean region.

1. Further takes note that:
   * 1. This assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention;
     2. The State Party has requested International Assistance that will take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State; and
     3. The assistance therefore takes the form of the **provision of services from UNESCO** (100 per cent of the financial transactions are to be managed by UNESCO), pursuant to Article 21 (b) and (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Peru has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,275 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project, which will be implemented by the UNESCO Office in Lima, in close cooperation with the Intangible Heritage Directorate of the Ministry of Culture of Peru;
3. Understands that the UNESCO Office in Lima will be responsible for the management of the total amount requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, while the requesting State will be responsible for co-managing the project by renting premises for communication, hiring communication staff, and providing an intangible cultural heritage and museums specialist from the Ministry of Culture of Peru. All the above activities will be financed by the requesting State;
4. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02078, 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 project concerns practitioners and artisans of the community of Checca Pupuja associated with the production of traditional pottery in the district of Jose Domingo Choquehuanca, province of Azángaro, department of Puno. A series of community workshops took place for the establishment of a safeguarding plan in 2018, and for the preparation of the request between 2020 and 2022. Furthermore, the main beneficiaries of the project are the practitioners and artisans of these traditional practices as well as future apprentices, who will also have an active role throughout the implementation and monitoring of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget breakdown and the proposed timetable are well structured and in line with the activities described in the request. The amount of assistance requested is deemed appropriate.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities are coherent and well-planned in terms of the objectives and expected results of the project. The project is structured around three main activities: (a) identifying the meanings related to the production and using of the traditional pottery of Checca Pupuja; (b) capacity building to strengthen the learning of the history and production of traditional pottery among Checca Pupuja youth; and (c) publication and dissemination of educational materials.

**Criterion A.4**: The project occurs at the community level, strengthening the skills of master potters and young apprentices, who will acquire the tools and technical skills to continue working at school and in family workshops. As a result, practitioners will guarantee the transmission of knowledge to new generations.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 21 per cent (including in-kind contributions) of the total amount of the project budget (US$126,095). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 79 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: Through its co-management strategy with community members and state institutions, the project takes a transversal approach to building the capacity of the bearers and stakeholders to strengthen traditional knowledge and techniques associated with the meanings and production of ceramics in Checca Pupuja, ensuring its transmission to future generations. Moreover, the project will contribute to the strengthening of pottery masters’ and youth’s skills for transmitting knowledge in new workspaces such as schools and for developing educational tools. The project is expected to involve 12 participants in the capacity building and learning workshop. The publication and dissemination of educational materials aim to target children and adolescents; in addition, the texts will be translated in Quechua to reach out broadly to community members.

**Criterion A.7**: Peru has benefited from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for one completed project.[[3]](#footnote-3) The work stipulated by the contract related to this project was carried out in compliance with UNESCO’s regulations.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is local in scope and its implementation involves the Checca Pupuja community, national partners, the Ministry of Culture, the National Museums Office and local authorities.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to contribute to safeguarding traditional pottery production and its transmission to younger generations, as well as to the economic revitalization of the heritage sector in the southern Andean region of Peru, which has been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the project, the implementing agency will seek to generate private sector participation strategies to stimulate new financial contributions that will strengthen the project results.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Peru for the project entitled **Strengthening and promotion of the intergenerational transmission of knowledge and meanings related to the production of traditional pottery in Checca Pupuja, Puno** and grants the amount of US$99,275 for the implementation of this project according to the modality described in paragraphs 5 and 6;
2. Recommends that the requesting State ensures the involvement of the communities concerned throughout the implementation of the project and in particular in the activity that aims to update the meanings related to the production and use of the traditional pottery of Checca Pupuja;
3. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to justify the expenditures;
4. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

**DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 4.5**

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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02050 submitted by Rwanda,
3. Takes note that Rwanda has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Elaboration of an inventory of national intangible cultural heritage**:

To be implemented by the Rwandan National Commission for UNESCO, this eighteen-month project aims to develop the first inventory of the intangible cultural heritage of Rwanda and to support the government’s national safeguarding efforts. The project involves: (a) implementing a capacity-building training workshop about the Convention and the importance of intangible cultural heritage, including training on relevant techniques and tools; (b) conducting community-based inventories; (c) collecting and analysing information on intangible cultural heritage in the communities; and (d) organizing awareness-raising meetings in the communities. Other activities include consulting over 300 project stakeholders, including community members, government entities and researchers. Fieldwork will also be conducted to inventory intangible cultural heritage throughout the country, and the collected materials and data will be digitalized. The project is expected to contribute to the strengthening of existing resources in the field of living heritage. It will benefit communities and cultural professionals in Rwanda, who will be able to carry out safeguarding activities in the future. It is also intended that national authorities use the results of the inventories to prepare a nomination file for inscription of an element on the Representative List.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims to support a project to be 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 Rwanda has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,230 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project.
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02050, 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 project was designed following the ‘Needs assessment for the implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Rwanda’ carried out in 2017 by a member of the Global Network of Facilitators of the 2003 Convention. Four bearers and community leaders collaborated with national authorities in the development of the request. The project outlines the vital role of the communities concerned in the implementation of the activities, such as in capacity-building workshops and inventorying as well as in monitoring and evaluation.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is well thought-out and structured to support the different components of the project. The overall amount of assistance requested seems appropriate with regard to the objectives and scope of the project.

**Criterion A.3**: The request is structured around four main activities: (a) awareness-raising stakeholder meetings in the thirty districts of Rwanda; (b) capacity-building workshops on the 2003 Convention; (c) community-based inventory field exercises in the different areas; and (d) elaboration of the inventory of national intangible cultural heritage. The proposed activities are clearly identified and correspond to the objectives and expected results outlined in the request. Furthermore, the timeframe is realistic to enable the effective implementation of the project.

**Criterion A.4**: The request adequately describes how the project will contribute to building capacities at two levels. At the institutional level, it will strengthen the capacities of the staff from the Ministry of Culture and the National Commission to UNESCO through the various training workshops. At the community level, the project is expected to train almost 100 community members on the safeguarding and inventorying of intangible cultural heritage. The project will thus contribute to building long-term capacity for the safeguarding of living heritage, for professionals involved in the field of intangible cultural heritage safeguarding, as well as for youth and community leaders.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 13 per cent of the total amount of the project budget (US$114,585). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 87 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: Through the project, the implementing agency and its partners are expected to set up a sustainable framework for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in Rwanda. The elaboration of the first national inventory will result in the identification of elements for potential inclusion. Through the development of the inventory, the project should raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage among the population while contributing to their pride in its recognition.

**Criterion A.7**: The requesting State has not previously received any financial assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 UNESCO Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners, including the Ministry of Culture and district administrations.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to promote safeguarding measures for living heritage practices to be identified through inventorying, supported by the involvement of the communities.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Rwanda for the project entitled **Elaboration of an inventory of national intangible cultural heritage** and grants the amount of US$99,230 to the requesting State for this purpose;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
3. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

**DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 4.6**

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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02072 submitted by Togo,
3. Takes note that Togo has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Identification, capacity-building, safeguarding and promotion of traditional dances of Togo as a vector of sustainable cultural development**:

To be implemented by CUL.DEV (Culture and Development), an accredited NGO under the Convention, this twenty-five-month project aims to identify, safeguard and promote traditional dances in Togo. The project involves inventorying the dances, including categorizing them and describing the related performance techniques, music, rhythms, contexts, dress and norms, as well as their social, spiritual and secular roles within the communities. The development of the inventory will engage youth, women and men, who will be specially trained for this purpose and will be mentored by professionals. To ensure the sustainability and transmission of the dances, the groups and associations holding the traditional knowledge and skills will contribute to the initiation of young practitioners representing communities from all Togo prefectures. The initiation sessions will be filmed and will cover techniques, songs and rituals related to the traditional dances. Demonstration sessions will also be organized in each region to feature rare or endangered dances and to present the project results to the communities concerned, dance associations, researchers, and other stakeholders. The project is expected to contribute to increased awareness about the cultural significance of traditional dances in particular, and about the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in general.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims 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 Togo has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,876 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02072, 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 information provided in the request demonstrates that the project builds on the safeguarding efforts that Togo has been undertaking since 2011 with the general inventory of intangible cultural heritage. Furthermore, a series of national and regional consultations with communities, which took place from 2018 to 2022 as part of the implementation of the project ‘Inventory, safeguarding and promoting knowledge of how to manufacture and play Togo’s traditional musical instruments (national phase)’, also highlighted community needs to identify and safeguard traditional dances. Moreover, the request provides a detailed description of the role of the communities, including women and youth, and their close involvement in the proposed activities, including the monitoring and evaluation of those activities.

**Criterion A.2**: The total amount of assistance requested and the budget per activity seem appropriate and in line with the scope of the project to achieve the desired results.

**Criterion A.3**: The project has been developed taking into account the lessons learned from the previous International Assistance. The nine proposed activities are described in detail and presented in a logical sequence. They include: (a) awareness-raising activities through fifteen meetings throughout the country; (b) capacity building of communities on inventory techniques and safeguarding; and (c) revitalization actions.

**Criterion A.4**: The project is part of a long-term strategy implemented by the submitting State aimed at implementing a national programme for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. This includes a training component on traditional dance practices. Furthermore, the Regional Institute for Higher Studies and Research in Cultural Development (IRES-RDEC) will offer high-level training to artists of all genders who wish to have a career in dance. Existing festivals, groups and local clubs also offer a framework for the sustainability of the project’s results, as they will contribute to revitalizing the transmission of the social and cultural values of this living heritage.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 7 per cent of the total amount of the project budget (US$106,991). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 93 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: Capacity building of national institutions and of communities, especially women and youth, is an important aspect of the project, especially in terms of participatory inventories of living heritage and revitalizing the transmission of practices associated with traditional dances through training workshops and dance demonstrations. More than 500 people will be made aware of the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and almost 200 young people will be initiated by practitioners and bearers to the techniques, know-how, songs and rituals linked to traditional dances. The project will also contribute to strengthening the capacities of government and NGO staff working in the field of safeguarding living heritage, thus helping to maintain safeguarding efforts in the country beyond the end of the project.

**Criterion A.7**: Togo has benefited from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for three completed projects.[[4]](#footnote-4) The work stipulated in the contracts related to these projects was carried out in accordance with UNESCO regulations.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and involves national and regional partners, including the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and civil society institutions.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project foresees that the Fund to support cultural activities (FAC - Fonds d’aide à la culture) will support the future projects related to the practice of traditional dance. This demonstrates the State’s capacity to mobilize financial resources with the aim of safeguarding traditional dance practices in Togo.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Togo for the project entitled **Identification, capacity-building, safeguarding and promotion of traditional dances of Togo as a vector of sustainable cultural development** and grants the amount of US$99,876 to the requesting State for this purpose;
2. Requests the implementing agency to work in close collaboration with national authorities to ensure their active participation in all activities foreseen under this project and encourages the requesting State to take into consideration the results of this project in all national initiatives in the field of intangible cultural heritage;
3. Further encourages the implementing agency to consider the results of previous International Assistance granted to the requesting State in order to build on their achievements and to benefit from the lessons learnt;
4. Further requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

**DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 4.7**

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/23/18.COM 2.BUR/4](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-4_EN.docx) as well as International Assistance request no. 02146 submitted by Uzbekistan,
3. Takes note that Uzbekistan has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Urgent safeguarding of the making of traditional musical instrument Kobyz and its tradition of Zhyrau performance**:

To be implemented by the UNESCO Office in Tashkent in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Uzbekistan, this eighteen-month project aims to safeguard and raise awareness of Karakalpak living heritage in Uzbekistan, with a focus on the endangered kobyz and zhyrau traditions. Using a gender-based approach, the project involves identifying and documenting the techniques of creating kobyz (a traditional string instrument) and performing zhyrau music. It will also entail workshops to build the capacity of youth to craft the instrument and perform zhyrau. The workshops will be filmed, and the footage will be used to create a documentary that will be broadcast on local and national television. Other project activities include: (a) raising awareness about related safeguarding processes, including among local communities and youth; (b) implementing a workshop on the 2003 Convention and UNESCO’s inventorying methodology, including guidance and hands-on practice on compiling, recording and documenting elements of intangible cultural heritage; (c) mapping, inventorying and documenting kobyz and zhyrau and related elements; and (d) organizing awareness-raising activities with public education and media outlets. The project is expected to support traditional craftspeople and performers while encouraging youth to learn, appreciate and transmit their cultural heritage.

1. Further takes note that:
   * 1. This assistance is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention;
     2. The State Party has requested International Assistance that will take the form of services from the Secretariat to the State; and
     3. The assistance therefore takes the form of the **provision of services from UNESCO** (100 per cent of the financial transactions are to be managed by UNESCO), pursuant to Article 21 (b) and (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Uzbekistan has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,903 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project, which will be implemented by the UNESCO Office in Tashkent in close cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
3. Understands that the UNESCO Office in Tashkent will be responsible for the management of the total amount requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund, while the requesting State will be responsible for co-managing the project by renting the office for the management team for the duration of the project and providing venues for the capacity-building workshops and awareness-raising meetings;
4. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02146, 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**: Representatives of local communities and bearers from Karakalpakstan were involved in the project design, which foresees the broad involvement of community members and practitioners throughout the project implementation, particularly in capacity-building and awareness-raising activities. Gender responsiveness will be monitored and evaluated through gender-specific indicators, stakeholder involvement and the recognition of women’s contributions.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is well-structured and realistic. The details regarding the activities and cost of the proposed project are clearly explained.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities are coherent and well-planned in terms of the objectives and expected results of the project. Two main actions are proposed: (a) capacity building on safeguarding methodologies (with an emphasis on inventorying living heritage) and traditional knowledge and skills of kobyz and zhyrau; and (b) awareness-raising actions. Overall, the sequence of the proposed activities is logical and seems feasible with respect to the project duration.

**Criterion A.4**: The project foresees awareness-raising activities on safeguarding living heritage that may continue beyond its duration. Moreover, alliances with the schools in Karakalpakstan will be promoted to ensure the transmission of the kobyz and zhyrau traditions to new generations. The plan to encourage cooperation between the cultural sector and educational sector is promising for the sustainability of this project.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 5 per cent of the total amount of the project budget for which International Assistance is requested (US$104,903). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 95 per cent of the total amount of the project.

**Criterion A.6**: The project emphasizes building the communities’ capacities to strengthen the viability of kobyz and zhyrau traditions in Uzbekistan and to transmit the knowledge and practices to future generations. The project is expected to involve 130 people in different activities related to training, inventorying and awareness raising initiatives.

**Criterion A.7**: The requesting State has not previously received any financial assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project aims to establish cooperation and networking at the national level. Cultural organizations and national institutions such as the Ministries of Education and Culture have been invited to participate in the project implementation.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: This project has the potential to stimulate financial and technical contributions from other sources and to inspire similar efforts elsewhere. Cultural organizations and national institutions such as the Ministries of Education and Culture have been engaged in the preparation of the project and will take part in its implementation. The requesting State expects to generate interest in Karakalpakstan, providing economic benefits for the local communities.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Uzbekistan for the project entitled **Urgent safeguarding of the making of traditional musical instrument Kobyz and its tradition of Zhyrau performance,** and grants the amount of US$99,903 for the implementation of this project according to the modality described in paragraphs 5 and 6;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to justify the expenditures;
3. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

**DECISION 18.COM 2.BUR 5.1**

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and selection criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document [LHE/23/18.COM 2.BUR/5](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/LHE-23-18.COM_2.BUR-5_EN.docx) and the request for preparatory assistance no. 02145 submitted by Mongolia,
3. Takes note that Mongolia has requested International Assistance in the amount of US$8,340 to prepare a proposal for possible selection of the **Nomadic Mongolia festival** as a programme, project or activity for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage that best reflects the principles and objectives of the Convention:

To be implemented by the Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage, this ten-month initiative aims to prepare a proposal in view of sharing safeguarding experiences related to the Nomadic Mongolia festival through the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, in the sense of Article 18 of the Convention. The Nomadic Mongolia festival is a nationwide celebration of intangible cultural heritage, held every three years since 2018; around 1,500 living heritage bearers and practitioners showcase their living heritage and safeguarding experiences in front of more than 16,000 visitors. It reflects Mongolia’s integrated policy and approach towards the safeguarding of elements of intangible cultural heritage, with a focus on transmission and dissemination. The Mongolian government considers that the safeguarding experience related to this festival could serve as a model to be shared at the international level.

1. Further takes note that this assistance is to prepare a proposal for the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices 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. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02145, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance set out in Paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: Reflecting the inclusive nature of the festival in question, the request indicates that the preparation of the proposal would broadly involve bearers and practitioners of living heritage, communities concerned, NGOs as well as policy makers and local authorities of the twenty-one ‘aimags’, or provinces, where the festival takes place.

**Criterion A.2**: The requested amount seems appropriate in relation to the activities proposed for the preparation of the proposal. The costs are presented in sufficient detail.

**Criterion A.3**: The preparatory assistance would be used to organize meetings and consultations with the communities concerned and other stakeholders to obtain their consent for the proposal. The request also foresees the drafting of the proposal and the translation of the texts into one of the languages of the Committee, as well as the preparation of a ten-minute film and high-quality photography to be submitted as part of the file. There is a clear link between the planned activities to support the preparation of the proposal.

**Criterion A.4**: The requesting State commits to submitting the proposal as a programme, project or activity that best reflects the principles and objectives of the Convention. The submission is expected before 31 March 2024 for possible selection by the Committee at its twentieth session, provided that the proposal can be included in the 2025 cycle in application of the annual ceiling for the number of nominations and the priority system in force at the time of the submission.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will contribute 19 per cent and other partners will contribute a further 9 per cent of the total amount of the budget (US$11,560). Consequently, preparatory assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 72 per cent of the total amount of the budget.

**Criterion A.6**: Community members and all stakeholders are expected to be widely consulted and involved in the preparation of the proposal, including the production of audio-visual materials.

**Criterion A.7**: Mongolia has received International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for seven completed projects[[5]](#footnote-5) as well as for one ongoing project, ‘Sustaining and transmitting Mongol Biyelgee’ (US$172,095; September 2021–September 2025). The work stipulated by the contracts related to these projects was and is being carried out in compliance with UNESCO’s regulations.

1. Approves the request for preparatory assistance from Mongolia for the preparation of the proposal on the **Nomadic Mongolia festival**, in view of submission for possible selection in the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, and grants the amount of US$8,340 to the requesting State to this end;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures.
3. Invites the requesting State to use Form ICH-05-Report when reporting on the use of the assistance provided.

1. 1) Preparatory assistance (Register of Good Safeguarding Practices) for the project ‘Safeguarding and promotion of the Imraguen intangible cultural heritage’ (US$9,800; December 2009 – April 2010); 2) Preparatory assistance (Urgent Safeguarding List) for the project ‘Moorish epic T’Heydinn’ (US$9,800; December 2009 – April 2010; the element ‘Moorish epic T’heydinn’’ was subsequently inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List by the sixth session of the Committee in 2011, Decision [6.COM 8.13](https://ich.unesco.org/en/decisions/6.COM/8.13)); 3) International assistance entitled ‘Strengthening the capacities of NGOs active in the field of intangible cultural heritage in Mauritania’ (US$94,300; July 2019 – July 2021); 4) International assistance entitled ‘National Oral Traditions (NOT), additional collection component’ (US$90,562; Octobez 2020 – December 2022). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Preparatory assistance (Urgent Safeguarding List) for the project entitled ‘Oral traditions and expressions of Rama people’ (US$9,695; December 2009 – April 2010). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Preparatory assistance (Register of Good Safeguarding Practices) for the multinational (Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Peru) project entitled ‘Aymara Cultural Universe’ (US$7,500; February – April 2009). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 1) ‘General inventory of intangible cultural heritage’ (US$24,770; March 2010 – September 2011); 2) ‘Inventory, safeguarding and promoting knowledge of how to manufacture and play Togo’s traditional musical instruments (Pilot phase in the Maritime region, south Togo)’ (US$24,950; December 2015 – December 2016); and 3) ‘Inventory, safeguarding and promoting knowledge of how to manufacture and play Togo’s traditional musical instruments (national phase)’ (US$99,890.39; March 2019 – June 2022). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. (a) Preparatory assistance (Urgent Safeguarding List) to prepare the nomination ‘Mongolian folk dance’ (US$6,500; December 2008–April 2009); (b) Preparatory assistance (Urgent Safeguarding List) to prepare the nomination ‘Mongolian Traditional Heroic Epic’ (US$6,000; December 2008–April 2009; the element ‘Mongol Tuuli, Mongolian epic’ was subsequently inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List by the fourth session of the Committee in 2009, Decision [4.COM 14.10](https://ich.unesco.org/en/decisions/4.COM/14.10)); (c) ‘The elaboration of the “Inventories of the Representative List and List in Need of Urgent Safeguarding of Intangible Heritage in Mongolia”’ (US$24,000; October 2009–February 2011); (d) ‘Safeguarding and revitalizing the Mongolian traditional epic’ (US$107,000; June 2013–June 2016); (e) ‘Improving the capacities of intangible cultural heritage related NGOs in Mongolia’ (US$24,900; April–December 2015); (f) ‘Transmitting and stabilizing the folk long song performance technique of Limbe performers - circular breathing - through the old repertoire to the new generations’ (US$99,946; January 2019–January 2022); (g) ‘Supporting natural and cultural sustainability through the revitalization and transmission of the traditional practices of worshipping the sacred sites in Mongolia’ (US$98,500; February 2019 – December 2021). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)