Cooperation with Member States in planning and implementing programmes

3rd Coordinating Meeting of the World Category 2 Centres on ICH
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Under the Auspices of UNESCO (Category 2)
Background

- Geographical domain of Tehran ICH Centre
  - States from three Electoral Groups
- Conditions and developments over the Region
- State of ICH over the Region
  - Different interpretations of ICH
  - Different orientations to ICH
  - Inequality in levels of involvement (e.g. local community, women, NGO, etc.)
  - Different orientations to ICH safeguarding

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1. Need for sub-regional confidence
2. Need for awareness-raising
3. Need for capacity-building
4. Need for equal chances to be represented
5. Need for regional synergy, cooperation,
Geographical Domain
UNESCO Guidelines

- Results-based Programming, Management, and Monitoring (RBM) approach as applied at UNESCO (Guiding Principles), June 2011
- BSP Guide for RBM
- 37 C/5 (2014-2017): Approved Programme and Budget
- Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres Under the Auspices of UNESCO, November 2013
- Excerpt from the draft 37 C/5 revised as of 22 July 2013
- Medium-term strategy for UNESCO’s cooperation with Category 2 Centres in the field of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2014-2021)
- 37 C/5 MP IV Expected Result 6
- Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO
- Training materials distributed in 1st and 2nd meetings of the World Category 2 Centres on ICH (Sozopol and Paris)
Activities on participation

• The Agreement
• Invitation with the collaboration of Iranian Natcom
  • Participation by Kazakhstan, Iran, Tajikistan
  • Two GC Meetings in 2012 and 2013
• New initiatives
  • Advice from UNESCO Headquarters, UNESCO Bangkok
  • 2014 Meeting of Ambassadors of the States over the Region
  • Close collaboration with UTCO
  • Correspondence with Permanent Delegations of the States of the Region to UNESCO
  • Direct information-sharing at the level of UNESCO Natcomes and governmental organizations over the Region (namely, through correspondence, participation in events, etc.)

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  • Participation of 10 countries from the 3 Electoral Groups
  • The 2015 GC Meeting with the participation of 10 Member States (Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey), and three Observer States (Afghanistan, Oman, Qatar)
  • Participation issue followed eagerly in other states (e.g. Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Oman, Qatar, Syria, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan)
Some Initiatives

- The Centre is working on a proposal on minor modifications in the Agreement to pave the way for all participating Electoral Groups to be represented in the GC and involved in the Centre’s decision-making processes and activities.

- Non-GC Member Observer States were actively involved in the discussions in the course of the last GC Meeting.

- Representatives from non-Member States on the Region were invited to the last GC Meeting as special guests to observe the debates and become acquainted with the nature of the Centre.

- The Centre is working on methods of establishing expert/consultative bodies affiliated to the Centre, and to invite representatives, especially from non-GC Member States to participate in their activities.
Some Initiatives

Some attractive/promising programmes have been included in the 2015 Action Plan to point to the nature of the Centre, as a regional centre where all Member States have an equal share for being represented and involved.

- The international competition on the design of the permanent logo of the Centre
- The special design of the Centre’s website (www.tichct.org), as a virtual space where all participating states enjoy equal opportunities to be represented
- The proposal on an interactive virtual calendar of the West and Central Asian ICH
- The 2015 expert meeting to be held with the participation of experts from the Region to discuss concrete measures to safeguard ICH
Some Initiatives

• The Centre is closely cooperating with UNESCO Headquarters, UNESCO Bangkok, UTCO, as well as the Embassies, Permanent Delegations, Natcoms, and cultural organizations of its Member States in planning and implementing its activities;

  e.g.

  • Cooperation with UTCO and UNESCO Bangkok in organizing two workshops for Turkmenistan
  • Cooperation with Iraqi Cultural Centre in Tehran in organizing a workshop for Iraq

• In the course of the last GC Meeting the Participating States were asked to make the Centre informed of their capacity-building needs, so that the Centre can be in a better position to draft its Action Plans for the coming years
Topics for discussion

• What are the methods of encouraging membership of states within the geographical domain of a Category 2 Centre, and their involvement in planning and implementing its activities?
  • Guaranteeing the participation of non-GC Members in its meetings as observers?
  • Updating the GC Rules of Procedure in a way that all of the Electoral Groups are always represented among GC Members?
  • Promoting the membership of natural persons from non-GC Members among GC Members?
  • Drafting the Rules of Procedures of the Centre’s Executive Board in a way that non-GC Members can be members to it?
  • Establishing “consultative bodies”, “expert committees”, etc, affiliated to the Centre, and guaranteeing the participation of representatives from countries on the region in them?
  • …

• Will cooperation with other Category 2 Centres contribute to promoting the involvement of states in the geographical domain of a Category 2 Centre in planning and implementing its activities? If yes, how?
  • Cooperation according to the undertakings of the C2C’s?
  • Cooperation justified based on overlaps in geographical domains?
  • …
Topics for Discussion

• Will a pilot (sub-)regional activity initiated and guided by a Category 2 Centre promote the involvement of the Member States in planning and implementing its activities?
  • Creation of a (sub-)regional inventory for an ICH element (e.g. traditional games)?
  • Drafting a multi-national nomination file with the participation of a majority of the Participating States?
  • ...

• To what extent will distribution of questionnaires/other instruments among participating states on their needs will help in promoting their involvement in planning and implementing effective activities (e.g. questionnaires on their needs for capacity-building workshops)?
Topics for Discussion

• Do direct contacts with governmental bodies always constitute a first reliable step to encourage their involvement in the activities of a Category 2 Centre?

• Does the following constitute an exhaustive list of parties that can be consulted for support in encouraging involvement of states on a region in a Category 2 Centre’s activities? If yes, what order should be followed in consulting them?
  • UNESCO Headquarters
  • Permanent Delegations to UNESCO
  • UNESCO Field Offices
  • Natcoms
  • Embassies of Participating States
  • Cultural centres of Participating States
  • Universities
  • NGO’s
  • Local communities
  • Other Category 2 Centres
Topics for Discussion

• Do regional/international gatherings help in promoting cooperation with Member States in planning and implementing programmes for a Category 2 Centre? If yes, at what level?
  • Awareness Raising?
  • Capacity-building?
  • Expert meeting?
  • Festival/cultural event?
  • ...
Topics for Reflection

• Other methods to encourage effective cooperation with Member States to a Category 2 Centre in planning and implementing programmes

• Topics for inclusion in an action plan best suitable for encouraging active involvement of Member States to a Category 2 Centre programming and implementation processes