

IV. Meetings on Intangible Cultural heritage

Designing the National Inventory of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

The Secretary-General of the National Commission for UNESCO and ISESCO convened two meetings (16 February 2012 and 20 March 2012) on inventorying the intangible cultural heritage and establishing of the National ICH Committee. The meetings comprised of the government and non-government cultural heritage experts, academicians and craftsmen.

The meetings resulted in drafting the provisional intangible heritage list for nomination to UNESCO List (4 elements) and outline of the draft concept of the safeguarding of the intangible national heritage in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan: A New State Party to the 2003 Convention on the Road to Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?meeting_id=00177

A five-day training workshop on the Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage at the national level was organized from 6 to 10 April 2012 in Astana, Kazakhstan. It was only a few weeks after Kazakhstan officially became the 142nd State Party to the 2003 Convention. About 25 representatives from the Ministry of Culture and Information, the Agency for Tourism and Sport, representatives of leading universities in Kazakhstan, members of the National Committee for the Safeguarding of ICH, experts from the UNESCO Observatory on Central Asia, as well as ICH bearers - artisans, musicians, storytellers and representatives from youth NGOs - took part in the training.

The workshop is the first of a series of activities aiming at building the know-how and institutional capacity for the implementation of the 2003 Convention in four Central Asian countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It was developed through the generous support of Norway to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund and organized by the UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty in cooperation with the National Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan for UNESCO and ISESCO and the Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs.

The Meeting of the National ICH Committee

The National Commission for UNESCO and ISESCO in May 2012 adopted the regulations and membership of the National ICH Committee and Technical Expert Committee. The first meeting of the Committee occurred on 9 June 2012 and reviewed the procedures and plan of initial activities of the committee.

The Meeting of the ICH Technical Expert Committee

The meetings (on the 1st and 15th June 2012) reviewed:

- (a) Procedure for nominating of the ICH element to the provisional List and its expert reviewing;
- (b) List of the ICH elements proposed for nomination to the Provisional National Representative List.

The National Conference on the ICH Safeguarding

The conference was hosted by the Abai's National Pedagogical University, and the meetings were held in Almaty on 8-9 June 2012. More than 150 participants from universities, research centres and cultural communities took part in plenary sessions and panel discussions. Mr M.Auezov, Kazakhstan ICH National Committee, addressed the participants and informed about the initial inventorying work. The conference proceedings were published (two volumes) to guide the experts and cultural communities in practical applying of the Convention (2003) principles.

The Meeting of the TURKSOY Countries on the ICH Safeguarding

The meeting of TURKSOY Countries on the cooperation of the Turkic countries in safeguarding the common heritage was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 13-14 September 2012. It comprised of the delegations from almost all Turksoy member states and non-state members. The meeting reviewed the provisional lists of the ICH elements proposed by the delegations. The meeting also established the mechanisms for further review and adoption of the joint ICH representative list of Turkic countries to be followed within the framework of the ICH Convention (2003)