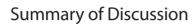# Appendix

Summary of Discussion
Rapporteur's Report
Profile of Participants

Summary of Discussion

International Conference on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: How to Apply Information and Networking

3-4 November 2009
Grand Hilton Hotel, Seoul

*T*he *International Conference on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: How to Apply Information and Networking* was held 3-4 November at the Grand Hilton Hotel Convention Center in Seoul. Official participants and observers from the Asia Pacific region and the Republic of Korea were approximately one hundred-twenty in total.

At the beginning of the conference, Mr Chan Kim, Deputy Administrator of the Cultural Heritage Administration, provided the opening remarks and welcomed attendees to the conference. Following the opening remarks, two key note speeches were presented by Mme Cécile Duvelle, Chief of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section of UNESCO and Dr Seong-Yong Park, Executive Director of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific. The conference was divided into three sessions over the two days that addressed international cooperation in the context of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, establishing ICH information systems and information sharing, and the construction of a cooperative network for the safeguarding of ICH. The conference brought together 22 experts in the field of intangible cultural heritage from 15 countries who participated in the three sessions as presenters and discussants. A comprehensive session chaired by Mme Cécile Duvelle immediately followed session three with the rapporteur's report and a comprehensive discussion.

»SESSION I
The 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage and International Cooperation

The Chairperson for Session I was Mr Alisher Ikramov, Secretary-General of the National Commission of UNESCO in Uzbekistan.

Regional ICH category 2 centres & tax incentives for ICH practitioners
Following Professor Dawnhee Yim's presentation on Strengthening Regional Capacity-building and International Cooperation for the Safeguarding of ICH, the chairperson mentioned the previous UNESCO General Conference and the proposals for regional category 2 ICH centres in Iran and Bulgaria in addition to Korea, Japan and China as evidence that countries are now acknowledging the importance of ICH. He also stated that with the category 2 centres in the Asia-Pacific region, there is less focus on the geographic perspective, and more focus on the competency perspective.

Mr Ikramov also commented on the issue of budgeting for ICH presented by Professor Yim and referred to the system in Uzbekistan where, in lieu of direct support, there are many forms of indirect support for practitioners, most notably in the form of tax incentives.

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Professor Sangmee Bak, from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Korea opened the discussion panel for Session I as the designated discussant for Mme Aikawa's paper Challenges to the Implementation of the 2003 Convention.

Critical issue of conceptual challenges
She began by commenting on the conceptual challenges raised in Mme Aikawa's paper, specifically the proper definition of 'intangible cultural heritage', the purposes, meanings and functions of the two Lists under the ICH Convention, and the balance in examining the applications to the two different lists. She stated that that these are critical issues that specialists and concerned parties need to find common ground on and explore workable solutions for. She mentioned that the discussion surrounding the definition, meaning and purpose touches on the essence of the philosophical background of the Convention, so it is a key issue in intangible cultural heritage. She

added that the conceptual challenges are also an issue in the Republic of Korea, particularly in light of Korea's relatively long history in the field of ICH safeguarding. She suggested that the Korean Centre could potentially exert its influence on clarifying the meanings, goals and purposes both in domestic and international arenas.

In terms of the discrepancy between the two lists, Professor Bak agreed that there is a lot of misunderstanding both in the field and among the general public. As Mme Aikawa had explained that the Urgent Safeguarding List reflects the true spirit of the Convention, Professor Bak pointed out that the list also reflects the state of the Asia-Pacific region largely undergoing major changes through urbanisation, industrialisation and globalisation as mentioned by Dr Seong-Yong Park in his keynote speech. She concluded that the salience of the safeguarding efforts may ironically be a main cause for its urgency, that the broad understanding of the fragility of ICH and its importance could be the reason for the extent of activity in the region. She concurred with comments from the conference that the collective scope should be widened to include other parts of the global society including Africa, where they are going through similar problems.

Potential roles for the Centre
In reference to the operational challenges presented by Mme Aikawa, which focused on the importance of the active involvement of practitioners and communities, a more balanced distribution of ICH nominations over diverse geographic regions and collaborative efforts toward multi-national nominations, Professor Bak remarked that the Centre could potentially be very effective in promoting multi-national nominations. She also agreed with Mme Aikawa's proposal that the Centre promote the Convention while serving the Asia-Pacific region by linking scattered human resources, sharing information in the field, and by channelling economic and technical resources in an informed manner to the right places.

Information resources to clarify misunderstandings around the Convention
In light of the problem of Member States misunderstanding the articles of the Convention which has led to the imbalance between nominations and inscriptions to the two lists as well as additional challenges in implementing the Convention, the Chairperson recommended that the Centre produce 'comments' on the Convention, meaning documents to help clear up the misunderstandings surrounding the Convention. Similar documents have

been produced in the past through UNESCO and are very much needed especially for countries going through the process of ratification. The documents would be for Member States, practitioners, experts and policy makers and would provide information about how to read the articles, explain points of importance and clarify priorities within the Convention.

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Mr Norov Urtnasan, the Secretary-General of the Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO was the second discussant for Session I and the designated discussant for Professor Dawnhee Yim.

Multinational nominations and cross border safeguarding approaches

One of the main points of Mr Urtnasan's talk was the issue of multinational nominations and cross border safeguarding approaches. He explained that because part of Mongolia is situated inside China's borders, there is an added dimension of complexity to the nomination process. There has been one joint inscription with China of the long song, which has resulted in a collaborative safeguarding effort between the two countries. But he noted that the issue remains of how to handle future nominations from Mongolia and whether they should be joint nominations.

In his paper, he also discussed this issue stating that without common understanding and mutual respect on issues concerning heritage, tensions could be created when one country claims to be the sole bearer of heritage found in multiple countries. A related issue being faced is how to develop regional capacity building measures for intangible cultural heritage shared by several countries.

Cooperative mechanisms on regional and international levels

Mr Urtnasan suggested the possibility of organising cooperative mechanisms at the regional level outside of the regional centres through the creation of regional networks, the management of which would rotate among countries in the region. Another possibility could be further exploration of cooperative relations between specialised centres and institutions in different regions.

Role of museums and cultural institutes & community involvement

He mentioned that while museums and other cultural institutes have an important role in cultural heritage awareness, they could play a more active role by organising interactive programmes and workshops for the public to

experience and expand awareness. He stressed that we should always bear in mind that the participation and involvement of communities is vital and should be the centre of safeguarding approaches.

Capacity building and connecting research and policy
Mr Urtnasan closed his talk by requesting that the regional ICH centres organise workshops for policy makers and specialists responsible for nominations in order to help clarify the concepts of the Convention. The chairperson impressed upon the last point of interlinkages between research and policy and suggested that the Centre promote networking among these different groups in society, to establish a bridge between the policy makers as well as the researchers and practitioners.

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Mr Weonmo Park, Chief of the Information and Research Division at the Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific in Korea was the final discussant for Session I and the designated discussant for Mr Gaura Mancacaritadipura's presentation on *Building Public Awareness, Particularly Among the Youth, Regarding ICH Safeguarding.*

Mr Park responded to Mr Gaura Mancacaritadipura's approaches to intangible cultural heritage safeguarding by applying them within the context of cases from the Republic of Korea.

Pros and cons of ICH associations
Beginning with the example of ICH associations, Mr Park explained that by officially acknowledging organisations affiliated with Important Intangible Cultural Properties, Korea maintains some ICH organisations. However because the standardised management system only recognises a single safeguarding organisation for each ICH property, the system tends to hinder the diversity of organisations.

In response to Mr Mancacaritadipura's comment warning against excessive bureaucracy, Mr Park said that it is important for Korea to diversify the activities of communities or groups. In this context, he said he would like to hear more about Mr Mancacaritadipura's experience in terms of ensuring diverse activities but avoiding organisational bureaucracy.

Promoting ICH transmission to youth through education
Mr Park explained that in Korea, informal education of ICH is carried out

through a system connecting holders, apprentices, graduates and students. However, the numbers of youth participating have declined and depending on the property, there are many cases in which transmission has discontinued. In Korea, half of the elementary school music education curriculum is devoted to learning traditional music. Teaching licenses are also granted to nationally designated Important Intangible Cultural Property holders, apprentices, and trainees in order to teach students directly.

Awareness changes in ICH due to modernisation of youth
Despite a growing interest in traditional culture among youth, it seems that there are sudden and significant changes occurring within ICH due to the generation gap with today's modernised youth. Furthermore, there are also frequent cases of confusion between intangible cultural heritage and cultural assets that seem like but are not in fact intangible cultural heritage. For our youth who have become accustomed to modes of Western education, it is very important for them to be able to willingly accept intangible cultural heritage.

In comparison with the outstanding case in Indonesia of implementing ICH safeguarding through education being inscribed as a Best Practice for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage, Mr Park noted that Korea, on the other hand, has solely focused on the Representative List. Learning from and developing cases of best practices as well as working toward inscription to the list of Best Practices are important and he stated that this is an area in which Korea should focus more on in the future.

Youth involvement and accessibility
After the Korean Cultural Heritage Protection Act was adopted in 1962 and a designation system was established, intangible cultural heritage public events like the National Folk Art Performance Contest have been held regularly. More recently, the Cultural Heritage Administration in conjunction with the Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation or other preservation societies has held public events such as exhibitions and performances. However, it is rare to find youth participating in these events in either organising or performing aspects in any major capacity.

Mr Park closed by calling for respect for practices that restrict access to informal knowledge and skills, and that serious consideration is needed for issues like intellectual property rights.

The Chairperson proposed that further discussion be held to address the topic of how to create public awareness activities among youth. He stressed

the importance of taking this issue into account by referring to Mdm Cécile Duvelle's remark that sometimes the accessibility of youth to intangible cultural heritage is restricted by cultural codes.

»SESSION II
Establishment of ICH Information Systems and Information Sharing

The Chairperson for session II was Mme Noriko Aikawa-Faure, Advisor to the Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO.

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Mme Minsun Song, Director of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Research Division at the National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage in Korea was the first designated discussant for Session II speaking in response to Tim Curtis's presentation on *Mobilising Communities to Document their Intangible Cultural Heritage.*

ICH documentation in Korea
She gave an introduction to the recording history of the Important Intangible Cultural Properties by the National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage. After mentioning the 1962 Cultural Heritage Protection Act in Korea, she described the 1964 Implementation Rule which followed allowing for recording, filming and photographing of skill holders and related materials. Thus full-scale film documentation in Korea began in 1965 and has continued to the present, divided into two periods. The first period from 1964-1994 was under the ICH division of the Cultural Heritage Bureau during which time performances or demonstrations of transmitters of intangible cultural properties were recorded in 30 minute segments, first in black and white 16mm, then color in later years. The second period began in 1995 when responsibility for documentation changed to the National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage (NRICH). Filming was no longer limited to 30 minutes in order to allow for a more complete documentation of the skills and art forms. As of 2006, the recording media was updated to Betacam, Digi-Beta and HD.

Mme Song explained that current documentation efforts include participation by transmitters, relevant experts, a production team,

photographers and NRICH. The content covers the social and historical background of the element, the transmission process and conditions, materials involved and the genealogy of the transmitters. During the first period of documentation, transmitters were the film subjects, but they have taken a more active role during this second period as not only subjects, but direct participants in the direction and production, which is attributed to greater awareness among transmitters of recording practices. NRICH maintains separate versions of the film documentation: the archive version, distribution version and the original footage.

Community documentation and beyond
Lastly, she asked how Mr Tim Curtis might interpret these documentation efforts in Korea in the context of community documentation. Mr Curtis responded that the fact that communities can self-document is in itself an important part of the safeguarding process, which it seems NRICH is already advanced in this process. The next phase is then, how do these recordings that are done by the various stakeholders, communities, custodians, and practitioners feed into the continued practice concerned and that may be one way in which an information network at a national or international level may be able to play a role.

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Professor Chul-Nam Lee from college of Law at Chungnam National University in Korea and designated discussant for Mr Wend Wendland's presentation on Intellectual Property Rights in Intangible Cultural Heritage, stated that he felt Mr Wendland had provided a good explanation of the international trends within the intellectual property system and that these could be applied to future ICHCAP activities.

For his presentation, Professor Lee focused on a domestic documentation project in Korea from the perspective that an intellectual property system should be established in order to provide greater access to those resources.

Intellectual property issues in documenting traditional cultural heritage
He outlined three issues regarding intellectual property (IP) in documenting traditional heritage:
First is the IP content. IP law defines content as new expressions produced, so IP laws can be applied to sound, stories, dances, rituals, etc.

Second is the ownership of IP. Under Korean law, the creator or performer

holds the IP rights.

Third is the benefit of IP, which is the defensive right to use that element. In other words, documenting and using ICH should be allowed by the owner of the IP right of that ICH.

When the Korean National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage undertook an ICH documentation project, a contract was signed with the relevant successors. Professor Lee advocated that other cultural heritage organisations take this approach for documentation efforts. However, in the case of the NRICH project, he felt that the contact was too abstract and simple, and if a contract would need to be signed with a profit organisation, such as a broadcasting company, then the contract would need to be more specific.

Points of incompatibility between the IP system and ICH

He addressed the incompatibility between the IP system and traditional cultural elements, because the IP system was originally established for commercial and popular culture. He explained that the focus of legal protection is very different between the two. In popular culture the focus is on the creators, whereas in traditional culture, the focus is on the original content and expressions of the ICH rather than the performer. Another point of incompatibility is the time limit applied to IP protections such that much older works cannot be protected under current copyright law. A prototype or original form of an ICH element also cannot be protected. He mentioned that the issue of revising this law is currently being discussed internationally.

Professor Lee also raised the point that in law, the entity eligible for protection should be a person, corporation or organisation. But in the case of ICH, the subject eligible for protection is not as clear-cut, since relevant community members are not permanently fixed. He also pointed out that the IP system assumes that cultural contents are produced solely for profit, but since ICH is produced for many reasons beyond economic benefit, there are limitations to applying the current IP system to ICH.

In closing, Professor Lee emphasised the need to raise awareness about intellectual property rights applicable to ICH.

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Need for intellectual property policy for documenting ICH

In response, Mr Wendland echoed Professor Lee's remarks that documentation of ICH is not an end in itself. Because documentation can in

fact undermine ICH rights, IP issues could arise before, during or after said documentation. Thus he advised introducing an intellectual property policy before documenting ICH, which could include a protocol or contracts.

Differences between copyright and safeguarding rationale

Mr Wendland remarked that he found the point raised by Professor Lee about the difference between the rationale behind the copyright system and safeguarding very interesting. He continued on this point saying that while both the copyright system and safeguarding efforts are aimed at protection of creativity, he understood the difference to be that safeguarding aims to preserve the environment where creative activity takes place, while the copyright system has a narrower focus on the creation or the final product itself.

Regarding ownership and shared TCEs between countries

In response to Professor Lee's question about ownership, Mr Wendland addressed the issue of shared TCEs between countries. He stated that WIPO is interested in the multinational approach of the UNESCO 2003 Convention and that it's a model they will try to build on. In light of the issue of shared TCEs, they have been working on regional laws for some time, involved in the drafting of regional model laws in the Pacific, Africa and the Caribbean in the hopes that they might provide some answers to the regional TK and TCEs problem.

IP protection and accessibility

The final question of whether IP protection restricts access, Mr Wendland acknowledged that some may say yes, but went on to explain that the rationale of the IP system is to facilitate access, and the word patent means open. As the opposite of the IP system is to keep something secret, the IP system thus encourages those not keeping things secret to provide access but on fair terms. In closing he stated that having regulation of access to ICH elements would not necessarily restrict fair access.

Professor Lee discussed the possibility that the IP system could act as a barrier to the dissemination and use of ICH, and clarified that he did not mean that IP protections restrict access to ICH elements. He pointed out that there are differences between the domestic and international situations and their perspectives.

Mr Shigeyuki Miyata, Director of the Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage at the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties in Japan was the designated discussant for Mr Simione Sevudredre's presentation on inventory-making and the cultural mapping programme in Fiji.

Focus on indigenous cultures & local capacity building

Mr Miyata began by noting that the cultural mapping project in Fiji is entirely based on respect for indigenous cultures, in contrast with Japan which as a country is 'not so good on such issues' toward the single indigenous group, the Ainu of Hokkaido.

He stated that he felt that one of the most important things in ICH safeguarding is capacity building among local communities, specialists and governments. He found the cultural mapping program in Fiji to be useful not only for national government but also for local capacity building.

Developing ICH inventories in Japan

Mr Miyata referenced his discussion paper which, despite the nearly 60 year history of ICH government protections in Japan, describes the fairly recent efforts to develop a national database of ICH documentation, and the challenges of compiling dispersed information. He also mentioned Cultural Heritage Online, the portal site of Japanese cultural heritage opened in 2008.

Data networks and language barriers

In the context of information and networking, Mr Miyata spoke of anticipated technical and legal difficulties and particularly language barriers. Although English may be the most commonly used language, he asserted that ICH data should be described in its own language. Thus if an international data network will only use English, it will not be very useful for most people in the region. He stated that the data network should be useful for both specialists of ICH as well as successors, practitioners, and supporters in local areas. He expressed the hope that the new centre in Korea will take initiative in this area, and pledged to cooperate and support these efforts.

As a follow up to the final remarks of Mr Miyata, the Chairperson directed a question to Dr Seong-Yong Park regarding how the Korean Centre planned to approach the question of language in terms of disseminating information. Dr Seong-Yong Park responded by mentioning the recently published ICH Courier newsletter. He recalled heated discussions among staff regarding

how to interpret and disseminate ICH-related information to the Asia-Pacific region and what languages should be used. While English is most widely used, there were also suggestions from experts involved to use additional languages from the region in the newsletter. He said that possibilities should be explored to find a way to be more inclusive of the languages of the region.

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A discussion followed the discussant presentations in which questions were raised from the audience.

Ensuring community and practitioner representation in documentation

Mr Jeong-yeop Cheon, Office Manager of the World Martial Arts Union addressed Mr Wendland's presentation and said that he was impressed by Mr. Wend Wendland's point of view that documenting intangible cultural heritage should be done from the perspective of the practitioner rather than the producer. Within the Republic of Korea, however, the Cultural Heritage Administration tends to place higher priority on the producers than the practitioners by following the standard regulations of the administration when documenting intangible cultural heritage. He stated that the government should keep this in mind in order to reflect the perspectives of practitioners and include community participation in documentation efforts.

Copyright guarantees of secondary work

Mr Jeongsoo Kim, Senior Researcher at the National Center for Korean Traditional Performing Arts directed his first question to Professor Chul-Nam Lee. He said that based on Professor Lee's presentation, he understood that if there were a production environment compatible with the existing copyright system, then it could be more widely used without a copyright problem because intangible cultural heritage is not an original creation but a reproduction of the original form. He felt that the issue regarding copyright guarantees of reproductions is more important than the issue of intangible cultural heritage prototypes in government documentation projects that Professor Lee mentioned, and that the current copyright system which focuses on popular culture should also be applied to documentation work. He asked Professor Lee what his thoughts were on this matter.

Educational curriculums for ICH

Mr Jeongsoo Kim mentioned that in his presentation, Dr Seong-Yong Park emphasised the importance of the role of youth in the transmission and promotion of intangible cultural heritage and the Centre's commitment to raising the awareness of youth. However, in the case of the Centre's plan to develop an e-learning system, he focuses more on ICH practitioners, experts and the general public as opposed to youth. Mr Kim asked what the plan is for youth in relation to the development of an e-learning system.

Lastly, Mr Kim asked Mr Gaura Mancacaritadipura a question about education. In Indonesia, he said, it seems that you are providing a lot of opportunities to learn about intangible cultural heritage through educational curriculum policy. He asked if the regional ICH centres had any plans to provide opportunities to learn about intangible cultural heritage through educational curricula?

Intangible heritage copyright protection issues

Professor Chul-Nam Lee addressed Mr Kyeongsoo Kim's questions saying that he had the impression that Mr Kim misunderstood his presentation. In answering the question, he said that ultimately CDs or other media recordings of traditional cultural heritage versus those of popular culture receive the same copyright protection. In contrast, he gave two examples of cases in which protections would not be extended.

Professor Lee's first example was around documenting Seungmu (monk's dance), in which the performer would naturally receive copyright protection. But there are two possibilities for the dance. First, if a practitioner performs the dance, both the performer and the dance would be protected. However, under the current copyright system, protection for the dance itself is not possible because the element's original form was created so long ago and has subsequently been passed down through generations, so any period of copyright protection that may have existed has already expired.

He provided a second example of a problem that could arise to do with copyright concerning the original form in an international context. When broadcasting an original performance of a small minority group, there could be some potential disadvantages for the community if they cannot be protected by copyright because of the prototype issue. This possible effect has initiated international discussion on establishing specific protection measures besides copyright.

Methods of transmission to youth

Mr Gaura Mancacaritadipura answered the question about education. He mentioned two ways in which they have focused on encouraging transmission of intangible cultural heritage to the youth: One is through an informal or traditional system of education where a master teaches a student. He said they've tried to facilitate this by providing assistance to teachers without destroying the traditional or oral methods of instruction. The second approach is to put the modules of intangible cultural heritage into the school curriculum as extra-curricular activities or part of the curriculum itself. Instead of just learning mathematics, history, or geography, they can also learn forms of intangible cultural heritage, in the hopes that they will retain what they've learned and some will go on to become practitioners.

Mr Mancacaritadipura pointed out that teaching or giving information about intangible cultural heritage is one thing, but unless the children or the youth get a chance to practice, demonstrate or exhibit what they've learned, then there will be less chance that they will retain what they've learned. For example, if you teach children about wayang, they have to get a chance to perform. In this way, the whole process must be looked at from beginning to end.

He remarked that it's not about raising passive awareness of intangible cultural heritage. If it was, they could make a big database and put everything on the internet for anyone to read but this wouldn't necessarily be effective to safeguard intangible cultural heritage. Instead, he said that they would like people to actually experience or practice, thus safeguarding the transmission of intangible cultural heritage.

Issue of language in relation to dissemination

Mr Norov Urtnasan addressed the issue of language in relation to dissemination that had been brought up. While the explanation of ICH elements should be in English, in order for the widest accessibility, but the expression of the element itself would naturally be disseminated in its original language, through ICT instruments, not only print materials. He stated that this is a future problem facing the regional intangible cultural heritage centres.

Copyrights in relation to intangible cultural heritage

Mr Urtnasan also raised the issue of copyrights in relation to intangible cultural heritage. The new regional centres will need to focus and deliberate on ways to deal with this problem that exists on both a national and regional/

international level. He also suggested that workshops be held on this issue at future international and regional conferences.

»SESSION III
Construction of a Cooperative Network for the Safeguarding of ICH

The Chairperson for Session III was Dr Seong-Yong Park, Executive Director, Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific in Korea. To preface the discussion, he briefly summarised the presentations from Session III.

The paper by Dr Sudha Gopalakrishnan, *ICH Inventory Making and Establishment of Information Systems,* read by Mr Tim Curtis, addressed a very important area for the future category 2 centre in Korea and other member states in the field of ICH safeguarding. Dr Gopalakrishnan began with the issue of endangered languages. She also explained the work of cultural mapping and inventory of intangible cultural heritage in India. The Cultural Atlas of India cooperative project, co-implemented by ICHCAP and the UNESCO Delhi office, sought to develop a very intensive web portal site to create accessible internet-based inventories of intangible cultural heritage in India. She also specified detailed processes of inventory making, through the establishment of the web portal service and site, and various challenges with regard to the inventory in terms of utilising information and technology.

Secondly, Professor Amareswar Galla presented his paper on community networks for the strengthening of intangible cultural heritage community activities, illuminating various projects and activities in which he has been involved. He also placed strong emphasis on community engagement. He illustrated the ecomuseological approach being used in Vietnam as an exemplary model of integrating both natural and human components in promoting sustainable development as well as highlighting the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. In addition, he introduced various activities with integrated approaches to the safeguarding of ICH.

With regard to the third speaker, Mr Diego Gradis, he discussed the role and tasks of non-governmental organisations related to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. He viewed the role of NGOs as crucial in

implementing the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage by bridging the gap between local communities and state government. NGOs have a revitalising effect on communities, he pointed out, based on their emotional approach toward promoting a mutual relationship. He also analysed the tasks of NGO's both at local and international levels. At the local level he illustrated three tasks: participation in inventories, educational awareness raising and capacity building as well as accompanying communities. Finally at the international level, his paper addressed the role of NGO's within the scope of the 2003 Convention and as a tool for communication and networking.

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Dr Le Thi Minh Ly, Deputy Director of the Department of Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism in Vietnam began the discussion panel for Session III in regards to the topic of ICH inventory-making and information systems.

Inventory making efforts in Vietnam In her presentation, Dr Ly gave a survey of inventory making efforts in Vietnam. She explained that although these undertakings began ten years previous, the results were inconsistent and lacked information because the objectives, methodology and subjects were unclear.

The two primary problems, according to the requirements of the Convention, were an absence of community involvement and the inventories were unrelated to cultural heritage transmission and education.

Dr Ly discussed the implications of a number of questions about inventory making regarding its definition, scope, creators, methods and process. She went on to share her experiences and challenges encountered with several pilot projects on inventory making conducted over the last three years in Vietnam. Among these projects, she explained that community participation was a priority condition.

Challenges and lessons learned
One example she gave was the Gong safeguarding project in Dak Nong province. With help from scholars enlisted, training workshops were held with ethnic minorities who do not speak Vietnamese, read nor write and hold different notions of culture and heritage. This work requires patience, she said. But from this experience, they learned that they cannot assume that all scholars understand heritage values. They also realised that community members are the only ones who fully understand their own culture.

Dr Ly mentioned that another problem encountered was widespread inaccuracy of information due to the lack of training among those taking inventories. Through these projects, they learned that ICH information is a holistic phenomenon which is difficult to be identified and classified if the person who makes the inventory lacks professional knowledge and practical skills. And that both inventory makers and researchers need capacity building training before taking inventory in which,

1) They must have in-depth understanding of the 2003 Convention and understand that the purpose of making inventories is to safeguard ICH and prepare for ICH safeguarding plans.
2) They have to identify their role is that of helping communities make these safeguarding plans, and not one of using community members to help them pursue personal research interests.

The final example was a project of the Vietnam Museum of Ethnology in which documentation was instrumental in reviving the cultural tradition of Tay puppetry in Tham Roc village, which had not been practiced for ten years.

Recommendations for establishing a regional information system
Lastly, she provided a number of recommendations for establishing an information system in the Asia-Pacific region.

1) Provide and disseminate information about the 2003 UNESCO Convention and legal safeguarding tools to the countries of the region,
2) Create a database of the ICH of the region accessible to researchers, managers and communities,
3) Organise professional meetings to discuss information standards and collaboration methods,
4) Provide model examples of projects and practices of ICH safeguarding, potentially in conjunction with a forum,
5) Create opportunities for collaboration and exchange with communities,
6) Establish a network of organisations and individuals involved in ICH safeguarding.

The Chairperson stated that he was impressed by the overall ICH policies, activities and efforts toward inventory-making of the Vietnamese government. He remarked that Dr Ly's presentation provided a good understanding of the various challenges faced in the early stages of inventory-making in terms of

definition, scope, framework, relevant entities involved, etc.

In particular, he pointed out that Vietnamese ICH policy can be taken as an exemplary case of prioritising the urgent safeguarding list within national policy and emphasising the viability of ICH. In addition, he commended efforts made in Vietnam to carefully avoid hierarchy among ICH elements which can become a by-product of creating national ICH inventories.

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Professor Jong Ho Choe from department of Cultural Properties Management at the Korean National University of Cultural Heritage was the discussant for Professor Amareswar Galla's presentation The Past is Not a Foreign Country: Community Networks for the Strengthening of ICH Transmission Activities.

ICH documentation, information systems & networking

Professor Choe began by stating that he found Professor Galla's presentation comprehensive and vastly informative. He mentioned that since the 2003 Convention, there have been a lot of discussions concerning the range of ICH in need of safeguarding. He wanted to talk specifically about safeguarding efforts in Korea. Within ICH documentation, he said that we need to pay attention to the ever-changing characteristics of ICH. In addition, while using the concept of documentation used in the tangible museum field, we need to be careful not to fossilise ICH and that networking should be used to document the living process of ICH.

When setting up an information system, a standard format for documentation should be designated that could be used throughout the region and would contribute to a standardised database of ICH information. In addition, he pointed out that the advantage of having a standardised database would allow for users to actively apply and use information in the realm of user created content.

For information and networking, we need to standardise the criteria to make the database which he explained in his paper. He said that we need to try to preserve the entirety of ICH according to the situation of each country and community. Also, we need to reflect on the issue of who controls the documentation. Government, NGOs, local communities, and practitioners should participate in the documentation of their own ICH. In light of this, the use of museums as a space for documentation was brought up. The first official mention of putting ICH in museums came from the ICOM 2004 General Conference in Seoul even if other developed countries had

already begun to display their ICH in museums. In Korea, we have the Seoul Training Center for Important Intangible Cultural Properties at the Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation for this purpose. To safeguard the diversity and continuity of ICH we need to properly take advantage of these facilities. He believes that NGOs should play an important role in giving opportunities to the socially vulnerable to be able to both experience and receive training around ICH, through museums or other avenues.

Documentation vs. archiving
The Chairperson went on to raise the point that documentation and archiving could be closely connected in terms of promoting the safeguarding of ICH. He suggested that further discussion about the Centre's role in relation to documentation and archiving could be explored.

Professor Choe described the differences between documentation and archiving such that an archive deals with tangible documents, whereas documentation focuses on the recording of intangible information as opposed to dealing with actual physical documents or materials.

Professor Galla responded in order to further clarify between the two by giving an example of the National Cultural Centre in Vanuatu and its Field Workers Network. He emphasised that while archiving is done at the Vanuatu Cultural Centre, documentation is a living process, in which information is collected, recorded and shared in order to contribute to the archive. He also pointed out that when dealing with ICH safeguarding, many terms are borrowed from the tangible cultural heritage area, thus it is necessary to rethink terminology and develop a glossary of terms, including glossaries made by local communities in order to develop a shared understanding.

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Mr Jiang Dong, Executive Director of the Preparatory Office of the Asia-Pacific Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre in China, was the third designated discussant for Session III speaking in response to Mr Diego Gradis' presentation on The Role and Tasks of Non-Governmental Organisations related to the Safeguarding of ICH. He began his talk by congratulating ICHCAP and proclaiming his excitement at watching the signing ceremony with UNESCO.

ICH safeguarding, inventories and the role of NGOs in the context of China
In addressing Mr Gradis' paper, he affirmed that the role of NGOs is very

crucial to the safeguarding of ICH. One of the most important points from the paper that he noted is the relationship between NGOs and holders of ICH. Although NGO culture is relatively new in China, NGOs are becoming more active than ever before.

He brought up the inventory making system in China, which has four levels at the national, provincial, city and county level. The national inventory has more than 1000 items with more to come.

Mr Dong touched on the point in Mr Gradis' paper addressing the consumerism of ICH and the pressure for safeguarding. Similarly in China, because there are so many ICH elements, the financial pressure is there and no matter how much you invest into safeguarding, it is not enough for ICH holders. In fact, many holders hope that they will be able to earn money through the practice of their ICH to support themselves, which could lead to the potential transformation of the purpose and form.

He referenced the fragile situation of NGOs that Mr Gradis mentioned, and that the ICH situation is also very fragile because of political and economic influences. He closed by touching on the challenges and future prospects facing the new ICH centre in China.

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The final designated discussant in Session III, Professor Jang Hyuk Im from the Department of Folklore at Chungang University in Korea, responded to each of the session's presentations. He commented on the diversity of voices represented, from academic researcher to civil activist, while he would be commenting from the position as a researcher in the field of ICH.

Regarding the first presentation on the Cultural Atlas of India, he found it interesting because the Korean government tried to make a similar map of ICH in Korea in 2000. However, the project ran into difficulties in terms of how to execute the mapping process. They were unable to designate a specific location for an ICH element. He explained that mapping ICH is not as simple as mapping geographic ethnicity or a linguistic range of people. ICH is not qualitative represented by numbers or quantities which are easily mappable. Because it was so difficult to express the geographic and environmental elements in map form, the Korean National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage abandoned the project in 2000 and instead produced a book on ICH. Professor Im stated that he hopes the Cultural Atlas of India can act as a model for many countries to map their ICH.

In regards to Professor Galla's presentation on the ICH museum, he felt

that a museum for ICH is not an effective way to safeguard ICH even if the ecomuseum in Vietnam is a good model. He wondered whether the elements within the museum could still be preserved 10-20 years later. He raised issue with the ability to present the value of ICH to the public when presented in a museum, as a tangible structure.

Lastly, Professor Im addressed the role of NGO activities in the safeguarding of ICH in relation to Mr Diego Gradis' presentation. He highlighted the necessity of NGOs involved in the safeguarding of both ICH and the environment in the face of state government induced environmental destruction for the sake of development. In light of this, it is also necessary to put endangered ICH elements on the Urgent Safeguarding List to protect them from thoughtless development, and in this aspect it is important for NGOs to be involved in promoting the Urgent Safeguarding List.

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An open discussion followed the discussant presentations for Session III.

Museums and ICH

Professor Galla concurred with Professor Im's comments about using a museum to preserve ICH in the context of focusing on the tangible while using the intangible to create a traditional museum, which would actually be detrimental to ICH. He went on to clarify that the Halong Ecomuseum is a very different type of museum which has no actual museum collection. The ecomuseum is in fact a floating civic space within the community that works towards the urgent safeguarding of ICH elements in the fishing communities through documentation and intergenerational transmission.

He mentioned that there have been questions as to how long this floating cultural centre can survive. At this point, estimates are that it could last another 20 years.

He also stressed that no society is frozen in time by pointing out that almost no one at that moment was wearing the traditional dress of their country from a century ago. While change is constant, the most important thing is that a community has a strong sense of ownership. They are responsible for safeguarding their own ICH elements. Despite centrifugal forces of globalisation and tourism pulling them apart, there are also the forces of identity and sense of place pulling them back in, and it is the cultural centre that mediates between these tensions, so that change can happen naturally from within the community.

Role of NGOs in safeguarding

Mr Gradis responded to the comment by Professor Im regarding the possibility of NGOs taking a direct part in bringing up cases to UNESCO in situations of urgent safeguarding necessities. He stated that he felt that the function of NGOs should remain as consultative bodies. Although NGOs represent specific sectors of civil society, NGOs are not in fact civil society. While the Convention has put communities at the centre of the safeguarding process, civil society organisations are not expected to take over the role of communities, but to boost and promote the role of communities while empowering communities to assume responsibility.

While according to the Convention, communities are unable to directly propose elements to UNESCO for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding or Representative Lists, NGOs have a role in bringing communities to pressure their governments when they feel that an element should be put on either list.

He gave an example from the Cañar region in Ecuador in which youth are playing a very active role in the safeguarding of ICH, using cultural revitalisation to resolve problems of integration and social imbalances among returnees to the community. In this way, he stated, he felt that NGOs can support and boost local initiatives to promote ICH, but not take direct responsibility.

COMPREHENSIVE SESSION DISCUSSION

A summary of the conference proceedings was presented by the rapporteur, Professor Amareswar Galla, which was followed by a general discussion. The full text of the rapporteur's report can be found in section 2 of the appendix.

Activites and roles for the UNESCO category 2 centre

Mr Alisher Ikramov proposed some practical suggestions that he felt could be a very substantial contribution of the Centre in terms of information and networking.

In light of discussions on the implementation of the 2003 Convention and the imbalance between national and multinational nomination files, and considering that Member States take care of national files, Mr Ikramov suggested that the Centre could concentrate on regional initiatives and

regional nomination files for ICH, which could be a substantial added value of category 2. The Centre could also promote better regional cooperation through its mandate as a regional centre.

Mr Ikramov gave two examples of potential projects, one for the Pacific and one for Asia. For the Pacific, he suggested using the concept of ocean navigation as a form of indigenous knowledge for a regional nomination file. Indigenous knowledge is one of the domains neglected in the implementation of the Convention, so this could be a very significant nomination. This idea of navigation also addresses establishing contact between human society and the universe and surrounding nations. This would be very useful for the community as well as a very important tool. He also mentioned that there previously was a DVD or multimedia project about navigation being prepared with the support of New Zealand.

Mr Ikramov's suggestion for Asia was doing a regional project around tea ceremony from western Asia to the Far East. As tea ceremony is a particularity of Asia that exists in communities and families, such a project would carry much value and would also be a good way to promote regional cooperation within the domain of social practices.

Adding on to Mr Ikramov's suggestion about multinational nominations, Mme Aikawa gave an example of what the new Centre could do based on the success story of CRESPIAL (the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Latin America), the first category 2 centre for intangible cultural heritage. Established in Peru, she explained that CRESPIAL works with eight countries and has worked on multinational nomination files for the registration of the best safeguarding practices, programmes, projects and activities about the ICH of the Aymara communities.

Mr Ikramov suggested that the Centre implement the UN 'Delivering as One' strategy in cooperation with UN agencies. He gave the example of the former Nobel Peace prize winner, Professor Muhammad Yunus, president of the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh because of his world-renowned microcredit system that he developed to eradicate poverty in rural areas. The micro credit loans provided went primarily to ICH related projects through the support of artisans, masters, and practitioners.

Thinking in terms of the role of ICH in relation to the Millennium Development Goals, he encouraged that the Centre find a way to promote the UN 'Delivering as One' initiative with other UN agencies to support ICH with a view toward eradicating poverty. He emphasised that ICH could be a very important tool for creating sustainable development.

Creating more opportunities for dialogue

Mr Gaura Mancacaritadipura reiterated that there is no one-size-fits-all regarding intangible cultural heritage but that by hearing the experiences of colleagues from other countries, who are, as Professor Galla pointed out, looking at the elephant from different aspects, we can all deepen and broaden our understanding of intangible cultural heritage both in terms of theory, knowledge and ways to move forward together.

He expressed his desire that more of these types of meetings be held because they are in some ways more beneficial than the official Intergovernmental Committee meetings, which don't allow much time to actually learn more about intangible cultural heritage nor discuss ways to safeguard intangible cultural heritage together. He proposed that future meetings also be opened up to non-State Parties to the Convention to help them understand what is actually happening beyond the procedural resolutions. He thanked Dr Seong-Yong Park and his staff and said he was inspired to work more with the Centre and committed to its success.

Drawing connections between conventions

Mr Norov Urtnasan addressed the UNESCO conventions related to culture, specifically the 1972, 2003 and 2005 Conventions. Despite the connections between these conventions, and the latter two being quite closely related, there has been very little discussion within UNESCO circles around their connections. He would like the regional Centre to address these issues, as they directly relate to the implementation of the ICH Convention and the content and type of activities.

Cooperative activity among UNESCO Category 2 Centres in the field of ICH

Mr Urtnasan remarked that while the three regional centres in the Asia-Pacific region are being divided according to function, such as networking, research and so on, in fact intangible cultural heritage is not something that can be formally divided in this way. He encouraged the regional centres to work together in the future to hold joint activities and share information with Member States, the region and the world. He also expressed the hope that interregional activities such as conferences and other cooperative activities be held with the European, African and other regions

Intercultural dialogue and community participation

As the only representative of a European country and vice-chair of a national

commission from Europe, Mr Diego Gradis mentioned that it was a privilege to witness the dynamism and concern for ICH in the Asia-Pacific region. He encouraged the establishment of intercultural dialogue in the region, as an extension of UNESCO's mandate. As cultural dialogue is fundamental to intangible cultural heritage safeguarding, he felt that favouring the participation of communities of ICH holders in all events is fundamental and encouraged their active inclusion so that their voices may be heard.

CLOSING

Mme Cécile Duvelle thanked Dr Park and his team. She stated that she, as well as UNESCO, were witnessing the dynamic role Dr Park and the future Centre are taking into this very challenging role of networking and sharing information. She affirmed that the progress made during the conference was made by mutual expression and the sharing of information, which is the way forward.

On behalf of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre of Asia and the Pacific, Dr Seong-Yong Park thanked all of the participants and observers for making the conference such a meaningful and successful event. He said how pleased he was at the variety of viewpoints that were raised and at the potential for future cooperation and development within the field of ICH safeguarding. He pledged that the constructive ideas and suggestions raised would be reflected in future activities of the Centre.