

## **MINUTES of the 4th meeting of the ICH NGO Forum Steering Committee**

**Skype meeting, 4 March 2020, 13–15 (Paris time)**

**Present:** Jorge Gustavo Caicedo, Naila Ceribašić, Donghwan Choi, Butholezwe Kgosi Nyathi, Kaloyan Nikolov, Meg Nömgård, Reme Sakr  
(Caicedo and Ceribašić joined around 13:40, during agenda item 4.c; Sakr left at 14:10)

### **Agenda:**

1. Welcome, opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Approval of minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee
4. Current issues – follow-up from the previous meeting
  - 4.a. Publication of the Newsletter
  - 4.b. The IMP project
  - 4.c. Invitation from NEMO
5. Preparation of programme for 8.GA
6. Preparation of programme for 15.COM
7. Financial matters
  - 7.a. Financial report
  - 7.b. A new ICH NGO Forum account
8. Follow-up on each member responsibilities
9. Other business
10. Next meeting
11. Closing of the meeting

### **1. Welcome, opening of the meeting**

Meg Nömgård opened and chaired the meeting.

### **2. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

### **3. Approval of minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee**

The minutes were approved. Donghwan Choi will make translation into French. Naila

Ceribašić will send the English version to Gabriele Desiderio, who will publish it at the Forum's website.

#### **4. Current issues – follow-up from the previous meeting**

##### **4.a. Publication of the Newsletter**

Butholezwe Kgosi Nyathi prepared the draft of the Newsletter, collaborating on that with Gabriele Desiderio. The draft was sent to all members of the Committee a few days in advance. The members suggested to additionally emphasize the latest volume of *#HeritageAlive*, and to make some changes in the selection of photos. The material related to the recent meeting of the IMP project will be published in the next Newsletter, while this one will focus on the outcomes of ICH NGO Forum programme at 14.COM. After these minor revisions, the Newsletter will be distributed to the membership.

##### **4.b. The IMP project**

Meg Nömgård informed the Committee about the outcomes of the concluding symposium of the ICH and Museums project, held on 26 February 2020 in Brussels. The Forum, represented since last year by Meg Nömgård and in preceding years by Reme Sakr, was one of the partners in the project, which aimed to gather dozens of cases, experiences, museums and ICH practitioners, professionals and decision makers from Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. The ending of the project, as emphasized on its website, should be understood as an open invitation “to join this on-going process for exploring the various ways in which museums and safeguarding living heritage go together, to step into reciprocal understanding of different methods, possibilities and approaches, and to foster fruitful interfaces of museum activity with living heritage, to be taken towards future elaboration” (<https://www.ichandmuseums.eu/en/events/detail/imp-concluding-symposium-museums-and-intangible-heritage-towards-a-third-space-in-the-heritage-sector>). The members of the Committee also discussed to dedicate one of the sessions planned for 8.GA to the follow-up of the project (see below).

##### **4.c. Invitation from NEMO**

The Network of European Museum Organizations (NEMO) invited the Forum to join the international advisory board of the project proposal within the Horizon 2020 call “Culture Beyond Borders”, which intends to design a comprehensive strategy for cultural heritage and museums. All members of the Committee supported the acceptance of the invitation. However, apart from funds secured from the planned project for travel and accommodation costs related to the meetings that will be held once or twice a year within a three years period, it is not known whether some additional funds will be available to cover extra working hours, in particular for associations such as the Forum, which operates outside of academic structures and their financial backing. Another question under discussion was whether the involvement of the Forum means the Forum at large or, rather, the specific expertise of some of its associated organizations, and consequently who should represent it in the advisory board of the proposed project. The Committee decided to express its support to the project in a form of a Letter of Intent (which will be prepared by Meg Nömgård), while the mentioned and other questions that may arise will be clarified as the planning of the project is developing further on.

## **5. Preparation of programme for 8.GA**

Meg Nömgård informed the members that 8.GA has been rescheduled from 2–4 June to 9–11 June. She also suggested a session dedicated to the outcomes of the IMP project to be included into the Forum’s programme. Through the discussion, the Committee decided to replace the previously planned panel presentation and in-depth discussion on one or two success stories of good, viable and innovative safeguarding practices with the one dedicated to the outcomes of the IMP project. In that, a special attention should be given to the roles of NGOs in general, and the Forum in particular. As for the session on the “wheel chart of sustainability and ICH”, which in the meantime the representatives of Finland agreed to co-organize with the Forum, it was decided to focus the session not only on the chart’s application in the work of ICH NGOs and their role in safeguarding, but also, more specifically, to make sure to include commentaries from selected NGOs from regions other than Western Europe. The basic outline of the two remaining planned activities – Forum’s desk and a panel presentation and discussion on the role of NGOs in safeguarding ICH in Latin America and the Caribbean, prepared in collaboration with the CRESPIAL – was already defined at the previous meeting (see the minutes from the 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee). Kaloyan Nikolov is in charge of organizing the desk, Jorge Gustavo Caicedo of the session co-organized with the CRESPIAL, and Meg Nömgård of the sessions on IMP project and the wheel chart. The contacts with the Secretariat regarding the organizational issues (Meg Nömgård), and with the Category 2 centers regarding a meeting of the Steering Committee with them (Donghwan Choi) are in the process.

## **6. Preparation of programme for 15.COM**

One of the main, as well as the most visible ways of the Forum’s participation at 15.COM will be through our report to the Intergovernmental Committee (thanks to the fact that the IGC decided to introduce it as a separate agenda item). The members of the Steering Committee briefly discussed the desirable accents of this report. It would be of great importance to include our reflection on agenda items that the IGC will examine and discuss at 15.COM and/or the major subjects and issues that they have worked on for the last couple of years (such as, for instance, the reform of the listing mechanism, regional reporting, application of the overall results framework, treatment of correspondence from the public, etc.). In order to start working on the report on time and to familiarize ourselves with all necessary background information and formal requirements, it was decided that Meg Nömgård will ask Tim Curtis for a meeting with the Steering Committee to be held during March.

## **7. Financial matters**

### **7.a. Financial report**

Donghwan Choi informed the Committee that the amount available on the Forum’s bank account is the same as the previous month.

### **7.b. A new ICH NGO Forum account**

Kaloyan Nikolov informed the Committee on the functioning of the wallet bank account at TransferWise that he opened for his NGO in February. Up to now, it works well. Donghwan Choi has, however, found out that wallet bank accounts cannot be open in some countries (e.g. in Sweden), what should perhaps make us

vigilant. Naila Ceribašić asked about the ways of controlling wallet accounts against possible misuses. It was decided to monitor the functioning of the Nikolov's account at TransferWise for additional two months before deciding whether to close the existing, non-functional bank account in France and open a new wallet bank account. In any case, the change cannot be made before the remaining members of the Committee sign the financial document from Bogotá, and this can be realized at earliest at the 8.GA in June.

#### **8. Follow-up on each member responsibilities**

Aside from above mentioned division of labour, this agenda item was not specifically addressed.

#### **9. Other business**

No other business was raised.

#### **10. Next meeting**

Observing Reme Sakr's obligations related to her studies, the next meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 April; Caicedo will not be able to join before 1:30, and Sakr will need to leave at 2 p.m.

#### **11. Closing of the meeting**

Meg Nömgård thanked all members and closed the meeting at 15:00.

Minutes drafted by Naila Ceribašić on 5 March 2020; approved by the Steering Committee on 8 April 2020, followed by their publication on the ICH NGO Forum website; translation into French made by Donghwan Choi.