

2018 Elections

Electoral Rules ¹

The Electoral Board² was designated to organize the election to the Steering Committee in 2017, according to the [decisions](#) adopted by the General Meeting of the ICH NGO Forum in Addis Abeba on November 28, 2016, and the amendments adopted at the General Meeting of the ICH NGO Forum in Jeju (Republic of Korea) on December 6 2017. Candidates are invited to submit their application no later than **November 5 2018** (midnight, Eastern Daylight Time, EDT) according to the following rules.

1. The ICH NGO Forum has to elect five members of the Steering Committee, one for each of the following UNESCO electoral regions: Western Europe and North America, Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Eastern Europe and an International NGO³.
2. Election will take place on November 28th, 2018 (date, time and place to be confirmed, last year on Wednesday evening) in Port Louis (Republic of Mauritius) during the ICH NGO Forum General Meeting. ⁴ The polling will be carried out by members of the Electoral Board.
3. Only individuals who are present at the Forum General Meeting of November 2018 can be elected Steering Committee members.
4. Candidates must represent an accredited NGO with its headquarters in the region.
5. If no accredited NGO with its headquarters in the region to be represented proposes a candidate, individuals representing either an NGO whose main activity is situated in the region, or an international NGO working in that region can also be candidates and shall submit their application no later than November 5 2018 (midnight, EDT). Those candidates will only be elected in the absence of a representative of an NGO with its headquarters in the region.
6. NGOs presenting a candidate can also propose an alternate candidate together with the statutory member, to enable the alternate member to replace the statutory member in case of necessity. The alternate candidate does not need to be present at the Forum General Meeting of November 2018. In case of absence of the statutory candidate at that meeting, the alternate candidate will be the candidate for his NGO to be elected as a member of the Committee, if he is present at the meeting.
7. The election of a member representing the international NGO will take place for the first time at the 2018 IGC session.
8. Steering Committee members are elected for a two-years period and can be reelected only once. The mandate of the Steering Committee members shall start at the end of the

¹The purpose of using masculine in this text is only to lighten its form and facilitate its reading.

²The Electoral Board is composed (in alphabetical order) of: Mr. Mohamed Beidjeu (Association mauritanienne pour la sauvegarde du PCI, Africa); Mr. Dag Feldborg (Norwegian Crafts Institute, Western Europe and North America), Ms. Hanhee HAHM (Center for Intangible Cultural Studies, Asia-Pacific) and Mr. Laurier TURGEON (Folklore Studies Association of Canada, Western Europe and North America).

³Please note that the membres elected in 2017 from each of the following electoral regions were: Mr. Jorge Gustavo CAICEDO (Latin America and Caribbean), Mr. Fares KALLAS (Arabe States), and Mr. Michal BUCHOWSKI (Eastern Europe). According to the rules and procedures of the Steering Committee adopted in Addis Abeba in November 2016, we will elect new members for the following regions: Europe-North America (to replace Ms Jorijn NEYRINCK), Africa (to replace M. Leonce KI) and Asia Pacific (to replace Ms Ananya BHATTACHARYA). We will also elect a new member for a one year term for Eastern Europe because Mr. Michal BUCHOWSKI has resigned, as well a representative of the International NGO. It was decided to add a representative of an International NGO on the Steering Committee at the the General Meeting of the ICH NGO Forum in in Jeju (Republic of Korea) on December 6 2017.

⁴The exact date time and place will be announced in due time.

- IGC session during which he was elected and shall end two years later at the end of the IGC Session.
9. If an NGO informs the Steering Committee either that his representative elected member of the Steering Committee has, during his mandate, lost contact with the NGO, or that he no longer represents the NGO, this Steering Committee member will immediately lose his status of member of the Steering Committee, and be substituted by the alternate member elected by his NGO or, in the absence of an alternate member, be replaced by the election of the member of another NGO from the region at the next General Assembly for the remainder of the mandate.
 10. The desirable profile for candidates is the following:
 - a) Be member of an accredited NGO under the 2003 Convention;
 - b) Have participated at a minimum of two sessions of the Governing bodies of the 2003 Convention;
 - c) Have a good working knowledge of English and/or French, both oral and written,
 - d) Have access to a good internet connection;
 - e) Have reasonable knowledge and be connected to ICH NGOs, accredited or not, in his region;
 - f) Be willing to draft and review documents related to the communication tasks of the Committee;
 - g) Be willing to moderate sessions at the Forum;
 - h) Be willing to undertake activities of representation for the Committee and for the Forum;
 - i) Be available to participate regularly at virtual meetings;
 - j) Have received the approval of his NGO to become member of the Steering Committee.
 11. Candidatures must be addressed to the Electoral Board (beidjeu@gmail.com; fatmacheikh01@gmail.com; dag.feldborg@handverksinstituttet.no; hanheeh@jbnu.ac.kr; Laurier.Turgeon@hst.ulaval.ca) no later than **November 5 2018 (midnight, EDT)**, using the candidature form and attaching a one to two pages curriculum vitae pointing out ICH related experiences.
 12. The Electoral Board will review the candidatures to check that they formally satisfy these rules, will announce the approved candidatures no later than **November 8 2018** and shall inform the candidates not selected of the reasons for such rejection.
 13. The Electoral Board will announce the final official candidates' list no later than **November 9 2018**.
 14. If there is no eligible candidate for one region, a second call for applications open to NGOs from all regions will be launched **November 12 2018** and will close by **November 15 2018**. The Electoral Board will announce the official candidates' list no later than **November 19 2018**.
 15. Each NGO can vote for only one candidate per electoral region. The election will take place by secret ballot.
 16. Candidates receiving most votes will be elected to the Steering Committee. If two or more candidates for the same region receive the same number of votes, a second round of voting will be organized. If two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes after this second round, they will be drawn.
 17. In case of a resignation of a member or of the loss of his membership in the Steering Committee, as provided in article 8 of these rules, and in the absence of an alternate member, the candidate receiving the second most votes for the region will become member of the Steering Committee.
 18. If an NGO's accreditation is not renewed during the mandate of a member of the Steering Committee, a new member from the same region will be elected at the following elections.