

MINUTES of the 7th meeting of the ICH NGO Forum Steering Committee

Skype (and partly Zoom) meeting, 3 June 2020, 15–17 (Paris time)

Present: Jorge Gustavo Caicedo, Naila Ceribašić, Donghwan Choi, Kaloyan Nikolov, Meg Nömgård, Butholezwe Kgosi Nyathi, Reme Sakr

Agenda:

1. Welcome, opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Approval of minutes of the 6th meeting of the Steering Committee
4. Current issues
 - 4.a. Work of ICH NGO Forum under Coronavirus epidemic
 - 4.b. ICH NGO Conference co-organized by ICHCAP and ICH NGO Forum
 - 4.c. Next *Newsletter* of the Forum
5. Preparation of programme for 8.GA
6. Preparation of programme for 15.COM
 - 6.a. Establishment of the Election Board
 - 6.b. ICH NGO Forum report for 15.COM
7. Financial matters
 - 7.a. Financial report
 - 7.b. Possibility to close the Forum's account before members of the Steering Committee meet in person
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. All members reported on their local situation under COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted.

3. Approval of minutes of the 6th 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

4.a. Work of ICH NGO Forum under Coronavirus epidemic

As a follow-up regarding the UNESCO's platform on living heritage experiences in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jorge Gustavo Caicedo presented to the Steering Committee the draft call to all accredited NGOs to participate in a video presentation with Q&A on how the pandemic has impacted their activities, what are the measures that they are implementing to confront the situation, and what is the expectation of NGOs on the forthcoming future. All presentations are planned to be held in English, French or Spanish (in one of these languages for a single event) on the Zoom communication platform, and broadcast live to ichngo.net, ichngoforum.org, YouTube and Facebook. The proposal was endorsed by the members of the Steering Committee. The first such "conversation" or "debate", as these events will be called, will be held towards the end of June or the beginning of July. Jorge Gustavo Caicedo will facilitate those in English and Spanish, and Donghwan Choi those in French. For the start, Caicedo will provide his Zoom key, while further on, if the events will take hold, the Forum will purchase its own license for the Zoom. At the moment, the first task is to complete the call, which will be done by Caicedo in a few days, then to sent it to all accredited NGOs, and then to form the actual online events which, depending on the responses, will stem from regional or thematic interconnections.

4.b. ICH NGO Conference co-organized by ICHCAP and ICH NGO Forum

The Steering Committee has received from ICHCAP the first draft of the Conference concept note containing the outline, background, objectives, provisional programme, and the list of responsibilities for each of the two co-organizers, ICHCAP and ICH NGO Forum. It was decided that Reme Sakr and Meg Nömgård will be our contact persons for this joint project, while Naila Ceribašić will provide help if/when necessary. These days Sakr and Nömgård will analyze the concept note in detail, elaborate our position on each of the mentioned aspects, and clarify with ICHCAP some points (such as the proposal that Forum will be responsible to "manage online platform during the Conference"). As for the main topic, the Steering Committee is of the opinion that it should be ICH and education, while the pandemic can be one of important sub-topics. In contrast, it seems that ICHCAP is in favour of placing the pandemic as the main topic, and education as one of sub-topics.

4.c. Next *Newsletter* of the Forum

The next *Newsletter* was initially planned to be published in June, focusing on

responses of NGOs to the pandemic. As only a few NGOs responded to our call published in the last *Newsletter*, it was decided that by the mid June Butholezwe Kgosi Nyathi will contact individuals from each of six regions of the world, asking for their contributions to the *Newsletter*. In addition, Naila Ceribašić will prepare contribution on musical responses of ICH communities to the pandemic, and Jorge Caicedo on responses of communities devoted to traditional games and sports. Besides, the *Newsletter* will include a report on IMP project, which will be prepared by Kia Tsakiridis, as well as information on ongoing work related to the preparation of the Forum's activities at 8.GA and 15.COM, and the joint conference with ICHCAP.

5. Preparation of programme for 8.GA

These days, Meg Nömgård was in contact with Tim Curtis regarding the date and format of 8.GA. At the moment, there is no new information. It is expected to be announced in a few weeks.

6. Preparation of programme for 15.COM

6.a. Establishment of the Election Board

The call regarding the establishment of the 2020 Election Board was prepared by Reme Sakr, and due to help of Gabriele Desiderio and Kaloyan Nikolov it was sent to all accredited NGOs after the last meeting of the Steering Committee. Up to now, we did not receive any application. It was decided for a reminder to be sent on 8 June, two days prior to the deadline.

6.b. ICH NGO Forum report for 15.COM

On 22 May Naila Ceribašić drafted a letter to be sent to accredited NGOs concerning the formation of a sub-committee for the Forum's report at the 15.COM. In its amended form (concerning the clarification about the planned way of work of the sub-committee), it was endorsed by the Steering Committee. These days, Gabriele Desiderio and Kaloyan Nikolov will send it to the membership.

7. Financial matters

7.a. Financial report

Donghwan Choi reported that, as of the end of April, the balance at the Forum's account is 4,225.02 €.

7.b. Possibility to close the Forum's account before members of the Steering Committee meet in person

Jorge Gustavo Caicedo has contacted his acquaintance, who is lawyer in France, to advise us on how to carry out the closing of our account in France. He still waits for her response.

8. Follow-up on each member responsibilities

Naila Ceribašić suggested reviewing the division of labour between the members of the Steering Committee, which was agreed upon at our first meeting, held in Bogotá in December 2019. It has appeared that some *continuous aspects* of the work of the Committee still deserve more attention, namely the enhancement of regional networks (all members of the SC, but especially those from under-represented regions of Eastern Europe, Latin America, Africa and Arab States), and the improvement of contact with the chairs of the Working Groups (responsibility of Kaloyan Nikolov). As for the Forum's *main projects* that were designed in Bogotá last year, the Committee has confirmed that the preparation of programmes attached to 15.COM is expected to start very soon, namely the capacity-building (responsibility of Naila Ceribašić), the symposium (responsibility of Reme Sakr in collaboration with programme coordinator Albert van den Zeijden), and the "Report on the state of safeguarding ICH in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the role of ICH NGOs in safeguarding processes" (responsibility of Jorge Gustavo Caicedo in collaboration with CRESPIAL).

9. Other business

No other business was raised.

10. Next meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 1 July.

11. Closing of the meeting

Meg Nömgård thanked all members and closed the meeting at 17:10.

Minutes drafted by Naila Ceribašić on 3 June 2020; approved by the Steering Committee on 1 July 2020, followed by their publication on the ICH NGO Forum website; translation into French made by Donghwan Choi.