

ICH-NGO Forum

HOW TO PREPARE FOR 9 COM IN PARIS (Nov 24 - 28, 2014)

It is very important to prepare ahead of time in order to be able to intervene during the 9 COM debates at the appropriate moment and in a productive manner on each of the Agenda items of special interest to your NGO or in its field of competence.

It seems particularly important for NGOs to examine in priority the following items of the agenda notwithstanding possible special interest of your NGO for other items:

5. **Reports of States Parties**

- a. Examination of the reports of States Parties on the implementation of the Convention and on the current status of elements inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
- b. Examination of the reports of States Parties on the current status of elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding
- c. Reports of States Parties on the use of international assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund

9. **Report of the Consultative Body** on its work in 2014

- a. Examination of nominations for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding
- b. Examination of proposals to the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices
- c. Examination of requests for International Assistance

10. **Report of the Subsidiary Body** on its work in 2014 and examination of nominations for inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

11. **Establishment of the Evaluation Body** for the 2015 cycle

13. Follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Committee and the General Assembly at their previous sessions:

- a. Draft **amendments to the Operational Directives on periodic reporting**
- b. **Expert meeting** on safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development
- c. Reflection on the **referral option for the Representative List** of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
- d. **Evaluation of the implementation of previous decisions of the Committee** in connection with the inscription of elements, selection of proposals to the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices, and granting of International Assistance
- e. Developing an overall **results framework for the Convention**
- h. Exchange of **experiences, cooperation and synergies between UNESCO's culture Conventions**

14. Accreditation and evaluation of **non-governmental organizations**

We insist that wise, constructive and productive comments, preferably documented, on nominations for any of the three lists and/or on requests for International Assistance (points 7. a, b or c and 8), will be most welcome.

In the previous sessions of the IGC, NGOs have usually been quite discrete. It is important that, besides the collective statements by the NGO Forum, individual NGOs prepare before getting to Paris, very short, right to the point interventions on points on which they have expertise.

The idea is to enrich the debates either by bringing additional information or sharing thoughts on the substance that State parties experts may have overlooked. Obviously, these prepared individual statements will need to be adjusted depending on the way discussions will have taken place between Committee members, before the floor is given to the NGO representatives.

At some point during the November 23 ICH-NGO Forum, NGO representatives will be given some information on how (procedure) to participate in the debates. At any time during the week in Paris, members of the NGO Forum Organizing Committee will gladly advise NGO representatives who might wish to take the floor.

Be assured that by preparing themselves thoroughly for the 9 COM session, NGOs will be able to have informal individual consultations with Committee members prior to the debates and decisions being made, which will be obviously most useful too.

Provisional agenda of 9 COM:

http://www.unesco.org/pv_obj_cache/pv_obj_id_1297F411EDF260A45ABEC3A1142B0BB3008E0100/filename/ITH-14-9.COM-INF.2.1-EN.doc

List of documents with links on each:

http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/doc/src/ITH-14-9.COM-INF.2.2_Rev._-EN.doc