

Contribution of the Ethics Working Group to the ICP NGO Forum Symposium on the Role of Accredited NGOs in the Implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention - Sunday 25 November 2018.

Working Group on Ethics and ICH

The Ethics Working Group of the ICHNGO Forum was established in Windhoek, Namibia, at the 10.COM session, in order *inter alia* to follow actively the issue of the twelve ethical principles that were proposed for adoption by the Intergovernmental Committee. The 2015 NGO Forum Symposium focused specifically on this theme. On this occasion, panelists from four NGOs discussed the theme of ethics in their conference (Conseil québécois du patrimoine vivant, FARO, Folkland India and China Folklore Society). The NGO Forum was then the instigator, with the support of States members of the Committee, of the addition of a paragraph in decision 10.COM/15A on the adoption of the twelve ethical principles.

The meeting of the Working Group on Ethics held on Jeju Island (Republic of Korea) in 2017 at 12.COM allowed Mr. Antoine Gauthier, head of the group, to present a draft proposal of ethical principles specific for NGOs. It also allowed Mr. Marc Jacobs to present different notions of ethics and ICH in an address, including the issue of participation in the 2003 Convention website, as adopted by the Intergovernmental Committee (10.COM/15A). From this meeting, the wish was expressed for the ICHNGO Forum to adopt an ethics-related document at the next meeting as well as to evaluate the practical possibilities of participating in the Convention's website.

The meeting of the Working Group on Ethics in Mauritius (13.COM), to be held on November 29, 2018 at 18h, will present for possible adoption the 12 ethical principles of the Convention preceded by a distinctive preamble for NGOs, as drafted in Brussels by Mrs J. Neyrinck and MM. M. Jacobs and A. Gauthier. The meeting will also propose to the Forum members to adopt proposals for UNESCO and its bodies to implement an online platform that would include various ethical tools, practical guidances, and capacity building initiatives related to ICH and ethics. The proposal to UNESCO will also include thinking about creating a global ethics observatory.

Meeting participants are invited to read the documents that will be sent to them. They are invited to think about ideas of tools, needs or projects related to ethics nationally or internationally. They are also invited to share tools or processes that have been beneficial for resolving ethical tensions.

Contact: Antoine Gauthier direction@patrimoinevivant.qc.ca