

MINUTES of the 6th meeting of the ICH NGO Forum Steering Committee

Skype meeting, 6 May 2020, 15–17 (Paris time)

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

Absent: Reme Sakr

Agenda:

1. Welcome, opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Approval of minutes of the 5th meeting of the Steering Committee
4. Current issues
 - 4.a. Work of ICH NGO Forum under Coronavirus epidemic
 - 4.b. Request from ICHCAP regarding co-organization of an online ICH NGO Conference
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. It started at 15:20. All members reported on their local situation under Coronavirus epidemic, including reporting on resilience capacity of some ICH, and even more on the silencing of ICH activities around the world. They also discussed possible scenarios for the future.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted.

3. Approval of minutes of the 5th meeting of the Steering Committee

Earlier on 6 May, Donghwan Choi sent his amendments to the agenda items 5, 7 and 9. The minutes were approved with these amendments. 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

After the publication of a general call to NGOs to share their experiences in safeguarding ICH under the epidemic in the last *Newsletter*, Jorge Caicedo presented to the Steering Committee some preliminary ideas on a new call which would focus on foreseeing the immediate future impact of the pandemic, how it may change the practice of ICH elements, what new challenges are expected in safeguarding, and what would be a path back into "normal". After the discussion, the members of the Steering Committee agreed that Jorge Caicedo will draft several key questions, send them in a few days to Naila Ceribašić, so that two of them can elaborate the complete call before the next meeting of the Steering Committee.

4.b. Request from ICHCAP regarding co-organization of an online ICH NGO Conference

Meg Nömgård and Donghwan Choi had a correspondence with ICHCAP concerning the possibility to co-organize an online ICH NGO conference in lieu of the third bi-annual ICHCAP Asia-Pacific conference. Initially, the selected theme was ICH and education, but due to circumstances, ICHCAP would like to broaden the topic to a range of challenges brought by the spread of Covid-19, and to involve the Forum as a co-organizer. All members of the Steering Committee were happy to support the acceptance of the proposal. Next steps will include clarification of the dates (towards the end or, rather, the beginning of November 2020), the articulation of conference programme and format, and the sharing of duties between the Forum and ICHCAP. Meg Nömgård will contact ICHCAP on these matters.

5. Preparation of programme for 8.GA

Following the conclusion at the previous meeting of the Steering Committee, Butholezwe Kgosì Nyathi has prepared application for the two side events of 8.GA that will be co-organized by the Forum: a session dedicated to the outcomes of the IMP project (in collaboration with the project), and a session on the wheel chart of sustainability and ICH (in collaboration with Finland). In coordination with Meg Nömgård, the application will be immediately sent to UNESCO Secretariat. Kaloyan Nikolov is ready to finalize the preparation of the Forum's information desk, depending on the confirmation of dates for 8.GA.

6. Preparation of programme for 15.COM

6.a. Establishment of the Election Board

Following the conclusion at the previous meeting of the Steering Committee, Reme Sakr contacted Laurier Turgeon, a member of the Election Board in two previous cycles, to clarify some details concerning the call for the establishment of the Election Board for the 2020 cycle. Taking into account his response, she will finalize the call and arrange with Kaloyan Nikolov and Gabriele Desiderio its sending to the accredited NGOs.

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

At its previous meeting, the Steering Committee decided to launch an invitation to all accredited NGOs to join a working group that will be directly and actively involved in the preparation of the report. As the draft of the invitation letter was not prepared for this meeting, the members of the Steering Committee agreed that Naila Ceribašić will join Jorge Caicedo in drafting the letter before the next meeting of the Steering Committee. As previously agreed, once the working group is established Naila Ceribašić will coordinate its activities on behalf of the Steering Committee.

7. Financial matters

7.a. Financial report

Donghwan Choi informed the Steering Committee that the Forum did not receive any new statement from the bank “Société Générale”. Last balance is from the end of February 2020.

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

Members of the Steering Committee extensively discussed the possibilities, implications and mutual relationship between closing of the existing bank account, opening of a new wallet bank account, the responsibility of the Forum’s treasurer and annual change of a person in that role, and the legal status and tax exemption for NGOs registered in France. It was concluded that Jorge Caicedo will ask his acquaintance, who is lawyer in France, to advise us on how to carry out the process.

8. Follow-up on each member responsibilities

All current responsibilities are noted down above, related to agenda items 4–7. It was decided that all tasks taken at a particular meeting need to be accomplished in a two weeks period, if possible.

9. Other business

No other business was raised.

10. Next meeting

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

11. Closing of the meeting

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

Minutes drafted by Naila Ceribašić on 20 May 2020; approved by the Steering Committee on 3 June 2020, followed by their publication on the ICH NGO Forum website; translation into French made by Donghwan Choi.