

## **WG Meeting minutes**

### **Working group for more balanced geographical representation of NGOs**

Thursday, 26th May 2022 / 10:00 – 11:30 (Paris time/GMT+1)

#### **Welcome / Agenda**

Chairperson of the working group, Cholponai U-G from Aigine CRC, welcomed all the participants to the meeting and went through the Agenda of the meeting. Recording and minutes of the meeting are going to be distributed at the ICH NGO Forum's website and Youtube channel.

#### **Wrap up of a meeting with NGOs in Africa**

The results and reflections of the meeting with NGOs in Africa was discussed. It was decided that the plans for the future actions are good and appropriate. Next Africa-meeting: June 2, 2022 at 12:00 Central African time

The bullet points from NGOs in Africa -meeting:

- Targeted discussion within different regions was seen very valuable
- General awareness raising work about the 2003 Convention was seen also essential
- Different ways of implementing the capacity building work were highlighted:
  1. short infographic videos for the NGOs not accredited, to help to understand the steps of the accreditation
  2. short videos from the experts from ANGOs to talk about the benefits of and reasons behind the accreditation to the NGOs in regional languages
  3. brief handouts/leaflets about the accreditation system (printable PDFs)
- It was seen very important to continue with the regional meetings to get enough NGOs connected

#### **Presentation of a NGO**

Barbra Babweteera from Cross Cultural Foundation, Uganda, gave a presentation about the roles and realities of NGOs in Uganda/Africa. The presentation was regarded very important and enlightening.

#### **Q&A**

Challenges in different regions vary a lot. It was discussed how the State Parties could engage more in reaching out to NGOs in their country.

#### **Other business**

General discussion about the importance of the awareness raising and capacity building.

#### **Closing of the meeting**

Chairperson closed the meeting and concluded that the meeting was very fruitful.