

TO: Tim Curtis
Secretary, Convention for the Safeguarding of
the Intangible Cultural Heritage
UNESCO Hqtrs, Paris
France
2nd June, 2023

FROM: The Chairman, Gender/Intellectual Property Working Group

SUBJECT: The 2023 Strategic Proposals of the Gender/Intellectual Property Working Group of the UNESCO ICH NGO FORUM

DATE PROPOSED FOR SEMINAR/WORKSHOP : September, 2023

Please sir, refer to our previous discussion on this during the margins of the 2022 December 17th.com at Rabat, Morocco. The outlines of the proposal is as follows:

1. Executive Summary

As presented by the chairman of the Gender/Intellectual Property (GIP) working group of the NGO Forum, we propose three activities in the year 2023-2025 to increase awareness and integration of gender, principles, ethics, values and mainstreaming into the implementation activities of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of humanity in the context of the 2003 convention. The sustainable development goals make it compelling that the stakeholders working under the ICH of mankind recognize the role and place. The proposed programs and activities will take place under **Four streams** in the following areas:

1.1. NGO FORUM SYMPOSIUM ON GENDER and ICH/OR

Considered as the topic of the next edition of **HERITAGE ALIVE**;

1.2. WORKSHOP in a Latin American Country, possibly Mexico;

1.3. BOOK PUBLICATION (An outcome of the activity above-workshop)

1.4. INTERNATIONALIZING THE NGO FORM AS A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

2. BREAKDOWN

2.1. NGO FORUM SYMPOSIUM ON GENDER and ICH

Title of symposium: Intangible Cultural Heritage and Gender—Moving towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)

ACTION PLAN: Members assigned to work out full symposium subthemes, speakers and date with the steering Committee members

ACTION PLAN: To be chosen as the symposium, workshop or seminar. It could also be the cover title of the next Heritage Alive

ACTION PLAN: Discussed with the Editor in Chief. As a title in Heritage Alive, it will be “The Place of Women in ICH Safeguarding world-wide”

2.2. A Two Day ICH and Gender WORKSHOP in Mexico-

Theme of workshop: Embedding Gender balance and Values in the ICH and the SDGS: Tools and Recommendations;

Subtheme: Traditional Practices that encourage Women's Participation in ICH Safeguarding Worldwide

Anchor facilitators- Professor Ani, Barbra Weeltars, Jorge and the Chairperson of ICHNGO Forum in collaboration with the UNESCO Secretariat-

ACTION PLAN : Meetings held with Secretary of the ICH Secretariat already: Agreed that interested state parties will be written by the Secretariat to sponsor presenters who will present their country narratives on Gender and ICH. Some countries have already expressed interest.

BOOK PUBLICATION OUTCOME-Proceedings and presentations by the speakers

SPONSORS/COLLABORATORS: Institute for Women, Mexico and the Mexican Ministry of Culture /some state parties

DATE IN 2023: Tentatively in September, 2023. The date is to be concluded in collaboration with the Director of the Institute and the Ministry, The Steering Committee of the ICH NGO FORUM and the UNESCO ICH Secretariat

2.3. INTERNATIONALIZING THE NGO FORUM AS A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Preamble:

Challenges have faced the ICHNGO FORUM in reaching out to state parties in different countries arising from the non-professionalization of the experts work of the ICH practitioners in our midst. The Forum needs an international instrument and legal entity which will break down diplomatic protocols and boundary barriers to freely act and operate seamlessly as an international operator and professional ICH facilitator in the implementation of the 2003 convention. With the establishment of the NGO ICH FORUM and other administrative processes, the need and urgency to start the modalities for the international institution building of the activities of accredited NGOS has arrived and need not be delayed further.

This will quicken the dynamics and will add international clout, leverage, penetration, resources, access and stability to the work of the FORUM.

To be controlled by the NGO Forum, it will give us access into different countries and enable us to contact and empower civil society in those countries with the permission of the state parties to the convention.

This will help us to establish a professional association which with members coming from all interested parties and stakeholders in ICH Worldwide. Through the agency of the institution, to be called the ***“International Association for the promotion of ICH”(IAPIC- Pronounced as ‘ahyaapeek’)***. Members are to be drawn from the academia, community ICH Bearers, field workers, state party officers in culture. It has the power to go into contract with Universities, Ministries of culture, parastatals in safeguarding with a code of ethics drawn from the FORUM’s working code.

It will have the authority to act as the last clearing house for recognition and approval of NGOs, FBOS, CBOS and INGOS engaged in ICH world with a data set on best practices on innovation and creative sustainable ICH safeguarding and economy. It will give the FORUM the power to influence state education policies, curriculum and programs with the integration of ICH traditional methodologies of education and transmission into formal education.

ACTION PLAN: The chairman is to set up a special committee with legal practitioners and experts from our midst who will submit a working plan for its establishment and operational take-off. The Committee will be given a Terms of reference with a dateline which is to be submitted to the steering Committee. The draft documents for the Association will be submitted to the UNESCO ICH Secretariat for final approval and take-off.

2.4. PIONEER MEMBERS ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING HELD AT THE NGOICH FORUM ROOM ON 3RD FLOOR OF THE AGORA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, BOGOTA ON THE 11TH DECEMBER 2019-1.00 -2.30PM.

It was at the initial meeting that members proposed this seminar/workshop but the onset of CORVID vitiated the planning process and other prospective sponsors. We are targeting Botswana and other countries and expect the Secretariat to support us on this. These members are as follows:

- 2.4.1. Dr Ani Casimir-cepperngo@gmail.com
- 2.4.2. Jorge Gustavo Caicedo-epci.ac@gmail.com
- 2.4.3. Bagagana Abubakar-babaganabubakar2002@yahoo.com
- 2.4.4. Laurier Turgeo-laurier.turgeon@hst.ulaval.ca
- 2.4.5. Ravi Sahu-gavimsahu@gmail.com
- 2.4.6. Monalisa Maharjan@gmail.com
- 2.4.7. Rafer Majid-rafer3341@gmail.com
- 2.4.8. Norov Urtnasan-urtnasan_norov@yahoo.com
- 2.4.9. Emily Drani-emily@crossculturalfoundation.org.ug
- 2.4.10. Ahmet Akcan-ahmet@gdeneleselsonatlac.org

2.4.11. Mark Schep-m.schep@immaterieelerfgoeu.nl

2.4.12. Hanna Schreiber hanna.s@uw.edu.pl

PRAYER

We seek the full support of the secretariat and gender unit of the Living Heritage Headquarters as partners to the full realization of the objectives of the

Gender mandate under the 2003 Convention of UNESCO. Thanks always for your generous support to the NGO Forum and our working group in particular

Sincerely

Professor Ani Casimir Kingston Chukwunonyelum,

Chairman of the Gender/IP Working Group /Secretary ,Centre For Peace

building &Poverty Reduction Among Indigenous African Peoples

(CEPPER)/Director, Strategic Contacts, Ethics &

Publications(STRACEP),UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA