



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Culture Sector
Division for Cultural Expressions and Heritage

Engabu Za Tooro
P.O. Box 886
Fort Portal
UGANDA

7 March 2013

Ref.: CLT/CEH/ITH/13/033

Subject: Accreditation to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental
Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Dear Sir/Madam,

The 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage attaches great importance to the role of non-governmental organizations. Those with recognized competence in the different domains of intangible cultural heritage can be accredited, according to the criteria and procedures referred to in paragraphs 91 to 99 of the [Operational Directives](#)⁷⁵, to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, responsible for the implementation of the Convention at the international level.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention, during its fourth session in Paris from 4 to 8 June 2012, accredited your organization as one of 59 new non-governmental organizations to provide such advisory services. I apologize for this late communication.

According to paragraph 26 of the Operational Directives, accredited non-governmental organizations may be selected by the Committee as members of the Consultative Body in charge of examining nominations to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, proposals to the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices, and requests for international assistance greater than US\$25,000.

In accordance with article 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, any accredited NGO may attend the meetings of the Committee in an advisory capacity. At its fourth session, the General Assembly also dedicated a certain percentage of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the participation in the sessions of the Committee of experts on the intangible cultural heritage

⁷⁵ <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/directives/>

representing accredited NGOs from developing countries. When I send invitations to the eighth session of the Committee (4 to 8 December 2013 in Baku, Azerbaijan) I will include further details about this opportunity.

The status of organization accredited to the Committee does not allow an NGO to use the emblem of the Convention, nor that of UNESCO, without being specifically authorized in advance and in writing, under the provisions of paragraphs 124 to 150 of the Operational Directives (see [dedicated webpages](#)⁷⁶). Furthermore, this status does not confer on the NGO the right to represent itself as having formal or consultative relationships with UNESCO, which are subject to specific regulations and procedures.

In accordance with paragraph 94 of the Operational Directives 'The Committee reviews the contribution and the commitment of the advisory organization, and its relations with it, every four years following accreditation, taking into account the perspective of the non-governmental organization concerned.' Thus, the first review of your organization will be conducted in 2016. I encourage you therefore to inform us regularly of your activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

Sincere congratulations for the accreditation of your NGO, and thank you for your interest in the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Yours sincerely,



Cécile Duvelle
Secretary, Convention for the Safeguarding of
the Intangible Cultural Heritage
Chief, Intangible Cultural Heritage Section

cc: Permanent Delegation of Uganda to UNESCO
Uganda National Commission for UNESCO

⁷⁶ <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/emblem/>