



**Regional
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SOFIA
REGIONAL CENTER
FOR THE SAFEGUARDING
OF THE INTANGIBLE
CULTURE HERITAGE IN THE
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
UNESCO

Tenth Annual Meeting of the South-East European Experts Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage

*“Intangible Cultural Heritage and World
Heritage: synergies and coordination
between the UNESCO 2003 and 1972
Conventions”*

Brac, Croatia, 14-15 June 2016

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Background

The South-East European Experts Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage was established in 2007 with the support of UNESCO, in order to support the implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention in South-East Europe. Annual meetings of the network took place in Arbanasi, Bulgaria, June 2007; Safranbolu, Turkey, May 2008; Zagreb, Croatia, April 2009, Râmnicu-Vâlcea, Romania, May 2010; Belgrade, Serbia, May 2011; Athens, Greece, May 2012; Sofia, Bulgaria, May 2013; Limassol, Cyprus, May 2014; and Venice, Italy, June 2015.

These meetings contributed to enhance a common understanding of opportunities and challenges linked to the safeguarding of the ICH as a key asset of South-East European cultural diversity, as well as to develop institutional and professional capacities within the relevant national authorities serving as a regional platform for sharing knowledge and good practices.

During last year's meeting in Venice, Italy, the participants agreed on focusing their annual meeting in 2016 on the relation between tangible and intangible heritage, with special attention to the coordination and synergies between the UNESCO 2003 and 1972 Conventions.

Topics of discussions

Session 1: Implementing the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: progress, experiences and challenges

During this first session, participants will give short presentations (10 minutes max.) on the main developments, achievements and challenges in the implementation of the 2003 Convention in their respective countries, with special focus on the period 2015-2016.

Presentations may include information on legal and regulatory frameworks, general policies, cooperation mechanisms, institutions, networks, as well as on specific safeguarding and awareness-raising activities.

Question-and-answer sessions will follow each presentation.

Session 2: The UNESCO 1972 and 2003 Conventions: convergences and coordination

Among the complementary set of standard-setting instruments elaborated by UNESCO for the protection of cultural heritage, the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage are those that count the highest number of State Parties, and are the only two that include a "List(s)" system.

In light of new and emerging challenges threatening the survival and transmission of cultural and natural tangible and intangible heritage to future generations, the scope and implementation of both conventions has moved beyond simple preservation in order to encompass a wide range of factors moving along the four dimensions of sustainable development: social; economic; environmental; peace and security.

Although each legal instrument is operational per se among its States Parties, according to its content and within its scope of application, the need to ensure an integrated approach when addressing the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage, in both its tangible and intangible expressions, is becoming increasingly relevant. This applies both at the general level, in the definition and actualization of sectoral policies, and at operational level with regard to the safeguarding of interrelated elements of tangible and intangible heritage.

Accordingly, discussion during this session will focus on the following issues:

- Differences and commonalities in the approaches of the 1972 and 2003 Conventions;
- Sustainable development at the junction of the 1972 and 2003 Conventions;
- Experiences, challenges and lessons learned in coordinating the Conventions at country level.

The session will be opened by a key-note speech, followed by presentations by participating countries and a round-table discussion. Participants who may wish to give a presentation within this session are kindly invited to inform the organizers in advance, possibly by no later than 27 May 2016.

Participants

The conference will be attended by experts in representation of the ministries of culture and/or other relevant authorities of Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria, Croatia; Cyprus; Italy; Greece; Montenegro; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia; The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and Turkey.

International experts and UNESCO staff will also participate in the meeting.

Working language

English

Conference venue and accommodation

Velaris Resort, Supetar - Brac Island (Croatia) <http://www.velaris.hr/>

Transportation to/from airport, as well as meals for the duration of the meeting will be arranged by the organizers.

General Contacts

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AGENDA

Monday, 13 June 2016

Arrival of participants – Transfer to Supetar, Velaris Resort

Tuesday, 14 June 2016

08.30 Registration of participants

09.30 **Opening addresses**

10.00 **Session 1**

Implementing the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: update on progresses, experiences, and lessons learned

Presentations by representatives of: Croatia; Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina

11.00 Break

11.30 **Presentations** by representatives of: Bulgaria; Cyprus; Greece; Italy

13.00 Lunch

14.00 **Presentations** by representatives of: Montenegro; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia

15.30 Break

16.00 **Presentations** by representatives of: Slovenia; The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Turkey

17.00 End of first session

20.00 Gala dinner offered by the city of Supetar (*venue to be defined*)

Wednesday, 15 June 2016

- 09.00 **Session 2**
- Synergies and coordination between UNESCO 1972 and 2003 Conventions**
- Key-note speaker: Tim Curtis – UNESCO, Chief of Section for Intangible Cultural Heritage**
- 09.30 **Presentations by participating countries** (*on request*)
- 11.00 Break
- 11.30 **Round-table discussion**
- 13.00 **Conclusions**
- 13.15 Lunch
- 14.30 **Field excursion** (*to be defined*)
- 20.00 Dinner at the hotel

Thursday, 16 June 2016

Departure of participants