

To the Permanent Delegations of the
States Parties to the Convention for the
Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural
Heritage

25 March 2024

**Sector for Culture
The Assistant Director-General
and Secretary of the 2003 Convention a.i.**

Ref: CLT/LHE/24/L-130

Dear Ambassador,

I am writing to invite your country to propose an expert in intangible cultural heritage safeguarding who could be considered for participation in the forthcoming expert meeting on **safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and climate change**.

The meeting will be convened in two parts:

- Part I (in person) from 19 to 20 June 2024 (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France)
- Part II (online) from 25 to 26 September 2024.

This meeting is organized as part of the thematic initiatives of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, as established by the governing bodies of the Convention (Resolution [9.GA.6](#) as well as Decisions [17.COM 13](#), [16.COM 5.b](#) and [14.COM 10](#)), and at the specific request of the eighteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee (Decision [18.COM 12](#)). The outcomes of the meeting will be presented to the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee (2 to 7 December 2024, Asunción, Republic of Paraguay).

Climate change, biodiversity loss and the rising number of hazards stand out as some of the most critical challenges of our time, and while there is increasing awareness of the impact of climate change on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage of communities, groups and individuals, living heritage may also provide a dynamic repository of strategies that communities can draw on to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.

The overall aim of the meeting is to enhance understanding and to lay the groundwork for contributing with proposals for States Parties and other relevant stakeholders as regards the theme in question. The selected experts will bring in their expertise on the roles and risks for intangible cultural heritage in the context of climate change, and the challenges and opportunities for integrating intangible cultural heritage in climate change and emergency frameworks.

The meeting is organized as a category VI meeting. According to UNESCO terminology, this means that the experts will participate in a private capacity and not as representatives of any particular government or organization. Moreover, the

recommendations made during the meeting will not be ascribed to any participant by name.

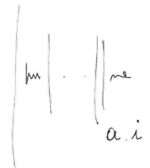
For Part I of the meeting, UNESCO will purchase an economy class round-trip transportation for selected experts to and from Paris, France, and provide a daily subsistence allowance for a maximum of three nights, as well as terminal fares and visa fees, if any.

I would be grateful if you could send the name and CV of an expert that your country wishes to propose **before 20 April 2024** to the following email address: ICH-capacity@unesco.org. Please note that the recommendation of an expert does not guarantee his or her participation in the expert meeting. The suggested experts will be appointed by the Director-General of UNESCO, taking into account their profiles, experience, geographical balance and gender.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat at the above-mentioned address.

Thank you for your interest in the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ernesto Ottone R.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ernesto Ottone R.

cc: National Commissions of States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage