

CRIHAP NEWSLETTER

CRIHAP Events

Workshop on Implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage for Pakistan opened in Beijing

Hosted by International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (CRIHAP), Workshop on Implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage for Pakistan was organized in Beijing from December 18 to 23, 2015.

Vice-President of Chinese National Academy of Arts Niu Genfu, Director-General of CRIHAP Xu Rong, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, and National Heritage of Pakistan Nadeem Iqbal Abbasi, Cultural Program Specialist of UNESCO Islamabad office Jawad Aziz attended the opening ceremony of the

workshop.

During the five-day event, UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage facilitators Zhang Min and Sajida Vandal gave lessons to 20 officials from related cultural departments in Pakistan through lectures, group discussions and reports as well as cultural excursions and evaluations, covering wide range of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) safeguarding topics, including identifying ICH elements and describing them under the framework of the 2003 Convention, ICH policies and related institutions, brief introduction to carrying out ICH inventory and awareness raising.

Facilitators also discussed roles of

states, communities, experts and NGOs in ICH safeguarding, and mechanisms of community involvement, etc. Executive Deputy Director of China National Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage Luo Wei, and officials from the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, and National Heritage in Pakistan introduced situation of implementing the 2003 Convention and ICH safeguarding experiences in China and Pakistan separately.

During the workshop, participants went on a field trip to Beijing Enamel Factory to study the enamel manufacturing techniques, which is one of China's national intangible cultural heritage



items. Officials from Beijing Bureau of Culture presented a lecture to Pakistan participants on ICH safeguarding practices in Beijing.

2015 marks UNESCO's 70 anniversary. The global intangible cultural heritage safeguarding capacity-building strategy initiated by UNESCO has accomplished

its vigorous achievements. This workshop devotes itself to the promotion of the 2003 Convention, sharing experiences on ICH safeguarding practices, and making contributions to enhance capacity of ICH safeguarding in Pakistan.

In the future, CRIHAP will further cooperate with department concerned

in Pakistan to actively conduct ICH capacity-building activities in order to promote comprehensive developments of ICH safeguarding in Pakistan.

According to an MoU to be signed by CRIHAP and the Ministry, a series of training activities will be conducted for the ICH safeguarding capacity-building of Pakistan.

Workshop on Ratification and Implementation of the 2003 Convention in the Pacific Held in Australia

The Workshop on the Ratification and Implementation of the 2003 Convention in the Pacific was co-organized by International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (CRIHAP) and China Cultural Centre in Sydney from Nov 2 to 6 in Sydney, Australia. With strong supports from UNESCO Bangkok Office and UNESCO Office for the Pacific States, the workshop invited cultural officials and NGO representatives from 9 South Pacific countries

including Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Tuvalu, etc.

Mr. Sipiriano RANUKU, a UNESCO facilitator and Ms Akatsuki TAKAHASHI were invited to be facilitators for the workshop. By giving lectures and organizing a field trip, through case study, Q&A and group discussion, two facilitators briefed trainees on basic concepts of the Convention, capacity building, inventorying, safeguarding plan making, international cooperation and the nomination of ICH elements

to UNESCO's ICH Lists and the Register. All the trainees were engaged in an in-depth discussion and communication.

Two experts from China lectured on "Implementation of UNESCO's 2003 Convention in China" in which she introduced China's experience in safeguarding its ICH from the perspectives of institutions, working mechanism, legislation and implementation practices and introduced the Strategy for the Training of Coming Generations of Fujian Puppetry Practitioners which



CRIHAP Events

was inscribed on UNESCO's Register of Best Safeguarding Practices.

Mr. NIU Genfu, Vice President of Chinese National Academy of Arts attended the opening session of the workshop. He highly praised UNESCO's remarkable achievements in safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage (ICH), and briefed on CRIHAP's related work in recent years. Ms Akatsuki TAKAHSHI, Programme Specialist for Culture of

UNESCO Office for the Pacific States, pointed out that the ICH in the South Pacific region is facing a challenge of sustainable development. It's urgent to help member states to strengthen their ICH safeguarding capacity by all kinds of measures, and to promote more member states in this region to ratify the Convention. Mr. Timothy CURTIS, Chief of Culture Unit of UNESCO Bangkok Office attended the workshop and stressed in his

closing remark that the South Pacific countries should enhance cooperation and share experience in safeguarding the ICH, and he expressed the hope for having more countries ratify the Convention in the near future.

The workshop is the 6th training workshop organized by CRIHAP for the South Pacific region. Up to now, CRIHAP has held 11 training workshops in total, benefiting 24 countries and over 300 trainees.



CRIHAP Launches a Programme Titled “Review of Chinese ICH elements inscribed in ‘Lists and Register’”

Since Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices(Lists and Register) were established under the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

(ICH) adopted in 2003, 38 Chinese ICH elements have been inscribed in the lists and register. CRIHAP is now working with the World Heritage Magazine to publish the information that vividly explaining how the 38 Chinese ICH elements inscribed in the Lists and Register have been safeguarded and transmitted in

accordance with the Convention based on first-hand information in order to make more readers informed of the safeguarding and promotion of those 38 ICH elements and demonstrate China's achievements in safeguarding ICH. So far, two volumes have been published, covering 4 of those ICH elements.



Coordination Meeting of Category 2 Institutes and Centres Under the auspices Of UNESCO and UNITWIN Networks/UNESCO Chairs Related to the Culture Sector in UNESCO Headquarters

Coordination meeting of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO and UNITWIN Networks/UNESCO Chairs related to the Culture Sector was held on 14 December 2015 the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris. Ms Mechtild R. ssler, Director of the

Heritage Division, gave the welcome address on behalf of the Assistant-Director General for Culture. Introductions on UNESCO's culture programme and emerging priorities, procedures for renewal and evaluation for C2Cs and Chairs were presented in the morning and

two panel discussions were held in afternoon. Ms XU rong, director general of CRIHAP, attended the meeting and shared opinions with other participants on the panel discussion of "Creating bonds and networks for increasing effective collaboration".

UNESCO Praises China for Its Support

On the first day of the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO held from November 3 to November 18, 2015 in Paris, Mr. Stanley Mutumba Simataa, Deputy Minister of Information and Communication Technology of the Republic of Namibia, was elected president of the session to replace HAO Ping, vice Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, who served as president of the previous session for two years.

In the past two years, China has been well recognized and appreciated by UNESCO for its great efforts to support UNESCO by working more closely with it. In an interview

with Xinhua News Agency, Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General, said that the last two years are very important to UNESCO for it is a period to make a plan for Post-2015 Development Agenda. In those two years, Mr. HAO, President of the General Conference, conducted many cooperative activities with the Chinese Government, extending the cooperation between China and UNESCO. The Director-General also recalled the defining time when President XI Jinping visited UNESCO, PENG Liyuan (President XI's wife) assumed the position of special UNESCO envoy for the promotion of education of women and

girls, and Chinese Vice Premier LIU Yandong visited UNESCO during the exhibition themed the "Silk Road and the Creative Cities". Additionally, with Mr.'s help and support, many important activates were held in China in the last two years. Ms Bokova hopes that UNESCO can continue broad cooperation with China and the two sites can maintain the active bilateral cooperation in the fields of protection of world heritage, promotion of education in poverty-stricken regions and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage after Mr. HAO left from the office of President of the General Conference. (Xinhua Daily Telegraph)

ICH Transmitters from Shanghai Sharing Views with International ICH Experts

Recently, an activity themed “Exchanges between ICH Transmitters from Shanghai and International ICH Masters” jointly sponsored by Shanghai Overseas Returned Scholars Association and PACC was held in Gaojing Town, Shanghai. ICH experts from 5 foreign countries including Australia, Ecuador, Peru and the Republic of Colombia exchanged views with folk artists from Gaojing Town

on folk art. ICH transmitters from Gaojing displayed the craftsmanship and work of fabric stickers and cross-stitch embroidery. In response, foreign experts exhibited their own crafts, such as stone carving and seal art and gave their works to visitors as gifts.

This activity not only presents an opportunity to communication between Chinese and international ICH transmitters, but also builds a

connection among people of different colors, languages and cultural backgrounds to help them share the joy of spiritual communication. With such a close and interactive activity, more ordinary Chinese people have an access to learn about and enjoy the beauty of art and the friends from other countries could get a deeper understanding of Chinese folk art. (<http://www.ichshanghai.cn/>)

Qianjiang District, Chongqing Promotes the Construction of Pilot Zone for Cultural Ecology Protection

2015 Chongqing-Qianjiang Seminar for Cultural Ecology Protection Pilot Zone Construction of Southeast Chongqing was held in Zhuoshui Town, Qianjiang District, Chongqing on 31th, Oct. 70 experts and scholars from the Ministry of Culture, the Publicity Department of the Chongqing CPC Municipal Committee and the Chongqing Municipal Culture Commission attended the meeting.

At the seminar, the participants actively provided plans and strategies for promoting the construction of the Cultural Ecology Protection Pilot Zone of Tujia and Miao Nationalities

in Wuling Mountain Region (Southeast Chongqing).

At the seminar, representatives discussed the issues of “Effective Safeguarding, Rational Utilization and Healthy Development”, “Keep Nostalgia and Memories Alive” and “Cultural Ecology under the Background of Cultural Transformation” and so on and provided suggestions concerning how to protect, utilize and promote culture and ecology.

It is learned that the National Cultural Ecology Protection Pilot Zone of Tujia and Miao Nationalities in Wuling Mountain Region boasts rich

and concentrated cultural resources, covering 6 districts (or counties) where ethnic minorities live in local communities. As one of 6 key cities in Wuling Mountain Region, Qianjiang District pays close attention to the protection of endangered cultural heritage. During this seminar, there were many other activities including presentation of ICH programs and an award ceremony for authors whose papers won prizes in the summit forum for the construction of Cultural Ecology Protection Experimental Zone of Southeast Chongqing. (China Culture Daily http://epaper.ccdy.cn/html/2015-11/05/content_166441.htm)

Traditional Craftsmanship of Intangible Cultural Heritages Exhibition Presents Over Hundred ICH Elements

The second Traditional Craftsmanship of Intangible Cultural Heritages Exhibition was opened on November 10 in Shexian County, a national historic and cultural city, by National Centre for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage, Anhui Provincial Department of Culture and Huangshan Municipal Government under the sponsorship of Anhui Government.

This event is featured by the “scholar's four jewels” (writing brush, ink stick, ink slab and paper) with over 100 ICH elements, including famous carving skills of such ink slabs as Zhaoqing's Duan Ink Slab, Huizhou's She Ink Slab and Jiangzhou's Chengni Ink Slab, characteristic papermaking skills of

such paper as Xuan Paper, Mulberry Paper made in Hetian of Xinjiang and Qianshan of Anhui and Liansi Paper produced in Qianshan of Jiangxi and making crafts of Hui Ink Stick made from pine soot, Xuan Writing Brush, Hu Writing Brush, Baisha Maolong Writing Brush made in south of the Five Ridges and Yangzhou Writing Brush. In addition, it also presents craftsmanship of block printing of Yangzhou, woodblock printing of Rongbaozhai (Studio of Glorious Treasures), stone brick & wood & bamboo carving of Huizhou, etc. This exhibition focuses on historical origins, crafting processes, existing genres and core craftsmanship of

those items. It is attended by over 200 practitioners and researchers of traditional craftsmanship from 22 cities, districts and provinces including Anhui, Beijing, Xinjiang, Guangdong, Guizhou, Jiangsu and Zhejiang. Among them, there are 38 ICH transmitters of provincial level or above.

Experts and scholars from Chinese National Academy of Arts, Center for Ethnic and Folk Literature and Art Development under the Ministry for Culture of P.R.C. and Nanjing University delivered special speeches to the public at ICH workshops held during this exhibition. (Chinese Cultural Market Network)

China's ICH Items

Peking opera (京剧)

This element was inscribed on the “representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity” in 2010 by UNESCO.

In mid 19th Century, having incorporated elements of various opera forms from both northern and southern China, Peking Opera came into being. It is the most widespread and influential among over 300 opera forms in China. Peking Opera, as the

most representative performing art of opera of China, and with its unique national characteristics and significant aesthetic achievements, is popular among the public all over China. Peking Opera is based on stories about history, politics and social life. It is the practitioners' special expression of their feelings and aesthetic ideals. It is also an important symbol of Chinese cultural identity.



Art of Chinese seal engraving (中国篆刻)

Heritage information

This element was inscribed on the “representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity” in 2009 by UNESCO.

A form of fine art and craftsmanship in China for more than 3,000 years, seal engraving derived from the cutting of Chinese characters into seals primarily formed of stone. The use and appreciation extended

across all spectrums of society, from men of letters to average citizens. In this single object was displayed an artisan's skill with Chinese calligraphy and the owner's personal expression and preference of strokes and composition. As a work of art, a valued seal may be both appreciated for itself and widely employed in application to traditional Chinese paintings and for calligraphy.



Advance Notice

Third Session of the Advisory Committee of CRIHAP,
27-28 January, 2015, Beijing, China

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