

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS
CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023
for examination in 2023**

File may be downloaded at:
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

*Please provide only the information requested below.
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

A. Identification of the organization

A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

세계탈문화예술연맹

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

International Mask Arts and Culture Organization (IMACO)

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90295

A.2. Address of the organization

Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.

Organization: International Mask Arts and Culture Organization (IMACO)

Address: 200 Chukjejang-gil, Andong, Gyeongsangbuk-do, 36709 Republic of Korea

Telephone number: +82 54 853 6397

Email address: imaco.kr@gmail.com

Website: www.imaco.or.kr

Other relevant information:

A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Ms.

Family name: Lee

Given name: Dawon

Institution/position: Chief Programme Officer, Division of International Relations

Address: 200 Chukjejang-gil, Andong, Gyeongsangbuk-do, 36709 Republic of Korea

Telephone number: +82 54 853 6397

Email address: dwlee206@gmail.com

Other relevant information:

B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)¹

Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework², as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.

B.1. *Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.*

Not to exceed 250 words

In the Republic of Korea, there are four accredited NGOs (IMACO, KCHF, WoMAU, CICS), working in different fields with the common goal of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

Every twice a year, four NGOs conduct a capacity-building workshop to communicate and collaborate in order to strengthen the network. Each NGOs report its activities throughout the year and have an opportunity to share its initiatives and knowledge. Four NGOs discuss enhancing the roles of NGOs in the Intangible Cultural Heritage sector and cooperating with

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

each other to build up institutional and human capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

In addition, IMACO is participating ICHNGO forum through the intergovernmental committees as well as online platform. IMACO shares the current situations and experiences related to intangible cultural heritage information in each country, such as subjects handling intangible cultural heritage information, relevant policies or institutions, infrastructure, scope, and volume of information held.

B.2. Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO offers variety of educational programs for the transmission of mask dance among young people.

As a side event of the international conference, IMACO conducted special educational programs (mask dance class, mask making class etc.) for elementary school students in cooperation with the Mask Dance drama safeguarding association, and local government.

In addition, IMACO publishes educational materials to ensure the systematic transmission of mask dance. The material consists of dances, songs, and dialogue essential to the performance of each region's mask dance dramas, and also on mask-making skills and relevant history and culture. These materials disseminate from elementary school to high school.

B.3. Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO has developed a long-term plan to establish an International Mask Culture Archive, a hybrid platform combining an online archive with an offline museum that will provide interested individuals, groups, and communities with easy access to relevant information.

The Archive project systematically collect and preserve disappearing mask culture materials to be used for art creation, research, and education to become a place of knowledge that encourages the use and reproduction of mask culture content to enhance the value of intangible culture.

As both an international and domestic organization, IMACO will not limit the scope of its activities to simply mask culture, but will address intangible heritage in general through its exchange programs, organization of events, and other safeguarding efforts.

B.4. Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO consistently makes a platform between the central government, local governments, and communities to share various ideas actively on how to preserve and protect Korean mask dance drama, form and reinforce mutual networks, and develop plans through best practice analysis.

IMACO is organizing an annual policy forum that shows a valuable opportunity to safeguard intangible cultural heritage and contribute to the promotion of human creativity through close exchanges between cultural artists and organizations related to mask dance at home and abroad. During the policy forum, policymakers and stakeholders also gather in one place to promote understanding and cooperation, and to form a discourse for the sustainable development and globalization of mask dance drama.

B.5. Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO is conducting school visit program, which cooperate with local government to educate and promoting the role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society. IMACO participate as a special guest lecture, and give explain about the importance of intangible cultural heritage, and future direction of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

In addition, IMACO joins many ICH festivals and events by operating a promotional booth. IMACO promotes safeguarding activities to the public, and showcased ICH and mask culture videos, books, brochures that were produced.

B.6. Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO is promoting awareness of the importance of ICH in the communities where pertinent events are held such as theaters, schools, and cultural facilities.

IMACO has been supporting public events and festivals relevant to mask and mask dance in different places and occasions such as performances, exhibitions, and workshops. Especially, IMACO constantly supports Andong Mask Dance Festival, which is a sequence of events that is held yearly. Numerous visitors visit every year and enjoy shows of Korean mask dances.

During 10 days of event, IMACO produces various media and publications such as web-magazine, children's books, and many other types of content to raise public awareness of Mask dance. In addition, the international mask exhibition aims to raise local awareness and introduce foreign tourists to the art of International masks.

B.7. Describe your organization's participation in **facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage**.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO holds annual mask symposium to deepen research in the field of mask culture from broader perspectives, including issues such as the origin, transmission, myths, rituals, communities, performers, craft, preservation of mask, and its culture. The symposium explores the roles of ICH in multicultural, cosmopolitan societies, especially in terms of promoting community identity and fostering intercultural understanding among diverse communities.

The speakers and audience of symposium include international ICH experts, NGOs, ICH associations and practitioners, heritage groups and enthusiasts, academics, researchers, and students.

As a result, the mask symposium promotes the sharing of international best practices in safeguarding and promoting Mask cultures and facilitates networking and relationship building among ICH experts from different parts of the world.

B.8. Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

Not to exceed 250 words

Since its establishment in 2006, IMACO holds an international conference and symposium every two years for active exchanges among international members and strengthening the network and research on the mask culture of the co-host country.

IMACO hosted the first international conferences in Andong (Republic of Korea), followed by others in Bangkok (Thailand), in Singaraja (Indonesia), in Thimphu (Bhutan), in Shanghai (China), in Vientiane(Laos), in Bacolod (Philippines).

In December 15th 2022, the 8th International Conference was held in Andong, Republic of Korea. This conference is more meaningful than ever as it's held immediately after 'Talchum-Korean mask dance drama' was inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

The conference consists of various programs including mask exhibitions, academic symposiums, policy forum, and cultural performances. The conference promotes the importance of mask cultures, and expand Korea mask dance drama whose value were recognized as a universal traditional culture by the international community and to shed new highlight on the historical value of mask dance internationally.

In 2024, our possible next venue is Solo City (Indonesia) ; IMACO is already working on our documents and make an engagement in cooperation with city governments and mask museums in Solo City.

B.9. *Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.*

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO has not been involved in the State's Periodic Report

B.10. *Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Along with the Cultural Heritage Administration(CHA) and representatives of the communities, IMACO has actively cooperated in the preparation of nomination for inscription on the representative Lists.

The nomination dossier was drawn up and modified based on consultation with the communities and stakeholders. Safeguarding associations, the General Federation of Mask Dance Safeguarding Associations and IMACO have all closely cooperated throughout the entire nomination process from the initial agreement on the need for inscription to the preparation of the nomination file and drawing up of future safeguarding measures.

As a result, "Talchum, mask dance drama in the Republic of Korea" has inscribed as Representative list of the intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity on November 30, 2022 at the 17th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco.

C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO has been organizing many international conferences and symposiums in order to share experiences for the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, especially in Mask Culture.

In December 2022, 2003 Convention's Global Network of facilitators actively participated in IMACO international conference 2022 (name sponsored by Cultural Heritage Administration, and Korean National Commission for UNESCO) by presenting presentations and shared their opinions contributing to raising awareness of the importance of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and ICH NGOs' roles. IMACO also consistently cooperated with the category 2 center (ICHCAP), and 3 other Accredited NGOs (Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation, World Martial Arts Union, The Center for Intangible Culture Studies) in Korea.

D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

D.1 Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO has participated 15.COM, 16.COM by using online modality. IMACO has participated in 17.COM, and ICH NGO Forum (Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco)

In addition, IMACO has participated in the ICH NGO Forum regularly to exchange information about activities with other accredited NGOs. During the session, IMACO is focusing to enhance communication with international ICH organizations and NGOs to expand opportunities for cooperation through building network to share information

D.2 Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.

Not to exceed 100 words

IMACO has not yet had the opportunity to work as a member of the Consultative Body or Evaluation Body to the ICH Convention.

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

Not to exceed 500 words

IMACO always willing to provide advisory service for intergovernmental Committee for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage from Mask Culture aspect. As an ICH practitioner, IMACO is available to any services that shares current issues on ICH (mask arts in particular) safeguarding and transmission, and suggested future steps.

In addition, IMACO also actively participate in Intergovernmental Committee and ICH NGO Forum to update the recent directions and implications in ICH as well as information sharing with stakeholders whose who are finding the role of NGOs to Committee including NGO Forum.

E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):

E.1. *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO has 4 staffs who have a high level of competence in English.

E.2. *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Since Mask Arts has diverse contents, IMACO has been working across several ICH domains such as performing arts and crafts, social practices, rituals and festive events. IMACO hosts and organizes international conference, symposium, exhibitions as well as cultural exchange programs with member organizations.

IMACO supports many creative activities and events to promote traditional culture and art. In particular, IMACO supports many mask festivals in the world to vitalize the performances and festivals for mask cultures. IMACO helps festival organizations by inviting mask practitioners from our member states.

E.3. *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO has experience in evaluating and analysing documents to be sent as proposals and ICH application listings at the local and national level.

IMACO actively participated in the preparation of dossiers for ICH Representative List. In particular IMACO evaluated and analyzed the the case of Talchum (Mask dance drama in Republic of Korea) in various region as well as worldwide.

E.4. *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

2 Staffs of IMACO who are in charge of ICH section have good expertise in drafting texts in English and Korean. Since we have cooperated with many international members, our documents are always written in English and Korean. . IMACO publishes newsletters in English and Korean, as well as various documents and promotional materials for cultural events and exhibitions.

E.5. Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.

Not to exceed 250 words

IMACO is currently acting as a hub for safeguarding and promoting world mask culture through solidarity with academic experts, researchers, museums, public institutions, performers and cultural planners from 200 members in 60 countries.

IMACO is taking the lead in promoting cultural exchange and international cooperation projects such as international conference, exhibition, symposium, cultural events with various countries around the world, and building a network in field of cultural heritage. During the pandemic, we have continuously interact with our member organizations not only through documents, but also by using non-face-to-face method such as using online utilities (Zoom etc.)

F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: Hong Sik Jeong

Title: Secretary General

Date: February 14, 2023

Signature: 정 홍 식