**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE**  
**INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE**  
**SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Meeting of the Bureau**  
**UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room VIII**

**18 June 2019, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda:**

**Examination of requests for**  
**International Assistance up to US$100,000**

|  |
| --- |
| **Summary**  Paragraph 49 of the Operational Directives provides that requests up to US$100,000 be examined and approved by the Bureau of the Committee. The present document includes an overview of five requests that the Secretariat treated, together with the draft decisions for each request.  **Decisions required**: paragraph 8 |

1. As stipulated in Article 20 of the Convention, International Assistance may be granted to States Parties for purposes relating to: the safeguarding of elements of intangible cultural heritage inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding; the preparation of inventories in the sense of Articles 11 and 12 of the Convention, in support of programmes, projects and activities undertaken at the local, national, subregional and regional levels for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage; and for any other purpose that the Committee may deem necessary. In conformity with paragraph 47 of the Operational Directives, International Assistance requests up to US$100,000 (except for requests for preparatory assistance) can be submitted at any time. Paragraph 49 further provides that requests up to US$100,000 be examined and approved by the Bureau of the Committee.
2. **Overview of the present requests**
3. The Bureau is asked to examine and decide on the following five completed requests (all of which take the form of the provision of a grant):

| **Draft decision** | **Requesting State** | **Title** | **Amount requested** | **File no.** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [14.COM 2.BUR 5.1](#Decision1) | Cook Islands | Establishment of the Community-based ICH Inventory in the Cook Islands | US$100,000 | 01525 |
| [14.COM 2.BUR 5.2](#Decision2) | Guinea | Participatory inventory and promotion of instrumental ensembles of traditional music in Guinea | US$89,020 | 01526 |
| [14.COM 2.BUR 5.3](#Decision3) | Lao People’s Democratic Republic | Capacity building for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through creation of a community based ICH inventory for Luang Prabang | US$99,886 | 01448 |
| [14.COM 2.BUR 5.4](#Decision4) | Mauritania | National Oral Traditions (NOT), additional collection component | US$90,562 | 01528 |
| [14.COM 2.BUR 5.5](#Decision5) | Mozambique | Pilot project to create a local ICH management committee and first steps towards a national strategy for decentralized ICH management | US$91,430 | 01523 |

1. In conformity with paragraph 48 of the Operational Directives, the Secretariat assessed the completeness of the requests. Considering the importance of International Assistance for achieving the purpose of international cooperation of the Convention, the Secretariat provided support to all five requesting States in improving their requests through comprehensive, detailed letters indicating that information was missing or insufficient.
2. In addition, the International Assistance request submitted by Lao People’s Democratic Republic was identified as requiring a more substantial revision. It therefore benefitted from the technical assistance mechanism set up by the Committee in its [Decision 8.COM 7.c](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/8.COM/7.c), in the form of specific advice provided by an expert. The expert was asked to analyse the request, taking into account the points raised in the additional information letter previously sent by the Secretariat. Her tasks also included identifying those aspects of the request that required significant improvements, in keeping with the spirit and objectives of the Convention as well as the eligibility and selection criteria of International Assistance requests as set out in Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives. The advice was provided through emails, telephone calls and Skype conferences between November 2018 and January 2019, and the State Party submitted the revised version of the request in March 2019.
3. All five requests in question are available online for the Bureau’s consultation, in English and French, at <https://ich.unesco.org/en/14com-bureau>, together with the preceding versions and the Secretariat’s letter requesting additional information.
4. In accordance with paragraph 48 of the Operational Directives, the States Parties have been informed about the possible examination dates of their requests. As also provided in the Operational Directives, the Secretariat shall communicate the decisions of the Bureau concerning the granting of assistance within two weeks following the decision.
5. As previously requested by the Bureau, for International Assistance requests up to US$100,000, the Secretariat forwards each request to the Bureau together with a draft decision incorporating the Secretariat’s assessment of how it responds to the eligibility and selection criteria set out in Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives.
6. **Draft decisions**
7. The Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee may wish to adopt the following decisions:

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 2.BUR 5.1** [](#DraftDecision)

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined Document LHE/19/14.COM 2.BUR/5 as well as International Assistance request no. 01525 submitted by the Cook Islands,
3. Takes note that the Cook Islands has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Establishment of the Community-based ICH Inventory in the Cook Islands**:

To be implemented by the Cook Islands Ministry of Cultural Development, in partnership with the Island Governments, the proposed eighteen-month project is aimed at researching and recording intangible cultural heritage related to performing arts in Rarotonga and the eleven other inhabited islands. The Are Korero (Traditional Houses of Knowledge) on each island will be used to help gather information on performing arts from island elders and this information will then be collected, stored and shared to ensure its viability for future generations. In the short term, the project will identify knowledge-bearers in the communities, develop awareness among the communities about their own and neighbouring communities’ performing arts, and manage a rich cultural resource for future generations. In the medium term, it will utilize members to research their own communities and recognize the Are Korero as an on-site location for research. The expected results of the project include twenty community members being trained in inventorying living heritage, a group of four community members being formed to assist with inventorying and research, and a database with all the knowledge stored in the Are Korero of each community being established before such information is lost. As a result, the Ministry of Cultural Development will benefit from a centralised resource containing data on performing arts around the Cook Islands.

1. Further takes note that this assistance includes the preparation of inventories and is to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (b) and (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that the Cook Islands has requested assistance in the amount of US$100,000 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01525, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: Community members are described in the request as key actors in the different phases of the project, especially for the inventorying of practices and knowledge related to performing arts foreseen to take place in each of the twelve inhabited islands. Even though the request highlights their possible participation and contribution in this sense, there is no clear information on their involvement in the preparation of the request itself. This gives the impression that no prior consultations took place either with the practitioners themselves or with the traditional leaders and local communities, and that they were not actively involved in designing the project. From the request, it is also not clear how the communities will be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is not presented in a detailed and comprehensive manner, lacking sufficient information to provide an adequate justification for the planned expenditures. More detailed information about the expenditures for each activity, avoiding lump sums to the extent possible, is needed to determine whether all the amounts budgeted for are appropriate. Furthermore, there is a discrepancy between the budget overview presented in Section 17 of Form ICH-04 and the overall amounts and contributions included in Form ICH-04, Timetable and budget. Due to the absence of a detailed breakdown and the discrepancy of information, it is difficult to assess the overall amount requested in regard to the objectives, activities and scope of the project.

**Criterion A.3**: In general, the request presents a series of activities articulated in a logical sequence, such as the identification of individuals in each community as ‘ICH researchers’, the organization of a capacity-building workshop, the establishment of a database and so on. However, most of the activities are not described in sufficient detail to allow for the assessment of their feasibility and associated costs. Furthermore, considering that the project covers twelve islands, the coordination strategy of the implementing organization with the different communities concerned needs to be further explained. It is also mentioned that the information stored in the database will be accessible by others with prior consent from the knowledge holders or Are Korero (traditional houses of knowledge) on each island. This important point needs to be elaborated to demonstrate how it will be made possible in concrete terms. Therefore, additional information is needed on the implementation modalities and the role of the various project stakeholders in each activity to demonstrate their feasibility.

**Criterion A.4**: The database to be created, in the language of the communities concerned and English, on performing arts practised among the communities in each of the twelve inhabited islands of the Cook islands will provide a useful source of information for future generations. However, the request does not fully describe how the data collected will be used to raise public awareness, in particular among youth, or how they will contribute towards the overall viability of the performing arts expressions.

**Criterion A.5**: The State Party would share the costs of implementing the project but there is a discrepancy in the information presented in the request. Form ICH-04, Timetable and budget, indicates that the State will contribute 41 per cent and the partner agencies will contribute another 5 per cent of the total amount of the project for which the International Assistance is requested. According to Section 17 of the request, the State will contribute 13 per cent and there will be no other contributions from partners.

**Criterion A.6**: The project includes the training of community members on community‑based inventorying with the development of an inventory on performing arts. It is expected that the twenty community members as well as the four ‘ICH overseers’ from the Ministry of Cultural Development, with their enhanced knowledge, will be able to continue building up local inventories and safeguarding performing arts in the different islands. At the same time, staff at the Ministry of Cultural Development will also be trained and acquire competencies to further develop the cultural policy and strategy of the Cook Islands with the inclusion of intangible cultural heritage safeguarding.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners, including the Ministry of Cultural Development, the Ministry of Education, Island Governments and community representatives.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The request is expected to raise interest among other similar research processes in the field of inventorying living heritage as well as safeguarding it. However, little information is provided on how the project activities would stimulate financial and technical contributions from other sources.

1. Decides to refer to the requesting State the International Assistance request for the project entitled **Establishment of the Community-based ICH Inventory in the Cook Islands**;
2. Takes note that the request is a revised version submitted by the State following support provided by the Secretariat to improve the initial request through an additional information letter and acknowledges the recurrent difficulty that the submitting State is facing in revising the request;
3. Invites the submitting State to consider receiving technical assistance through the provision of experts, as described in Article 21 of the Convention, and requests that the Secretariat make timely arrangements for such assistance should the requesting State wish to receive it;
4. Encourages the State Party, if it wishes to resubmit its request, to revise the content of the project, taking into account the above-mentioned concerns, and ensure both that there is a clear correspondence between the overall objectives and the proposed activities, budget and timetable of the project, and that clear and sufficient details are provided through the presentation of a coherent budget.

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 2.BUR 5.2** [](#DraftDecision)

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined Document LHE/19/14.COM 2.BUR/5 as well as International Assistance request no. 01526 submitted by Guinea,
3. Takes note that Guinea has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Participatory inventory and promotion of instrumental ensembles of traditional music in Guinea**:

The proposed eight-month project – an initiative of the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Historical Heritage through the National Directorate of Historical Heritage – is geared at the participatory inventorying and promotion of instrumental ensembles of traditional music in two regions of Guinea, Kankan and Kindia. The project was identified by representatives of communities and institutions in charge of culture who participated in a workshop to validate the results of a national consultation on living heritage in Guinea. Given the many functions played by instrumental ensembles of traditional music in the country as well as the many threats that they face – as identified by a needs assessment in 2017 – a participatory inventory is deemed essential to safeguard, enhance and transmit them. To this end, the proposed project aims, inter alia, to identify, describe and document these instrumental ensembles and train prefectural inventory teams in techniques for identifying, describing and documenting the elements to be inventoried. The activities will be implemented by a steering committee in partnership with regional coordination teams and prefectural inventory teams. The project is expected to be later extended at the national level in order to establish a picture of Guinean instrumental ensembles of traditional music, by obtaining quantitative and qualitative data on these elements, identifying their state of viability and ensuring their promotion and transmission.

1. Further takes note that this assistance includes the preparation of inventories and is to support a project implemented at the local level, in accordance with Article 20 (b) and (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Guinea has requested assistance in the amount of US$89,020 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01526, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The project is based on a needs assessment carried out in 2017 during which several local communities expressed their concerns regarding the decreasing viability of their intangible cultural heritage associated with musical instruments. The communities concerned in the two target regions, Kindia and Kankan, are expected to actively participate in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project, through the steering committee of the project, regional coordination entities and inventorying teams.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a structured manner. However, the modalities for implementing the proposed activities are not sufficiently detailed in the request to allow the appropriateness of the amount requested to be fully assessed. Moreover, there are some miscalculations and lump sums are overused for a number of planned expenditures.

**Criterion A.3**: The project comprises a set of sixteen activities, from the training of authorities and communities in the community-based approach to inventorying and the development of a pilot inventory of practices associated with traditional musical instruments in two regions of Guinea. While the inventorying initiatives are set out in a logical manner, other activities are not structured around a coherent sequence. Notably, the formulation of a ‘strategy’ without clear objectives does not appear to provide a clear basis for the implementation of subsequent activities. Furthermore, the planning of a training workshop on the development of safeguarding measures prior to capacity-building efforts focused on inventorying and without any subsequent activity aimed at developing safeguarding plans raises doubts as to the feasibility of the project.

**Criterion A.4**: The request describes how the results of a nationwide inventorying project could be sustained with the development of a database and the creation of a permanent national committee overseeing the implementation of the Convention in Guinea within the framework of the current national cultural policy. However, the request does not distinguish the sustainability of future national inventorying efforts from that of the proposed project in the two pilot regions. In particular, it does not clearly explain how the results and lessons learned from the pilot project will guide the future development of a national inventory of intangible cultural heritage associated with musical instruments as stated in the request. Furthermore, additional information could have been provided on the ways in which the data collected during the project will be used for the development of safeguarding strategies, plans and measures.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 10 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: The project is aimed at reinforcing the capacities of communities as well as national and local authorities to safeguard and transmit traditional musical instruments and associated practices. To this end, the request foresees the organization of two training workshops focusing, respectively, on: (1) the development of safeguarding measures for national and regional project teams; and (2) community-based inventorying techniques for local inventory teams. However, the training on the development of safeguarding measures is not followed by any specific activity that would allow community members to develop safeguarding plans and measures; it is therefore difficult to understand how the communities will be in a position to better safeguard their living heritage upon the completion of the project.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is local in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners, including the central and decentralized services of the cultural administration, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forestry, the Guinean National Commission for UNESCO, research institutes and civil society organizations.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The proposed project is planned as a pilot project to be extended at the national level, although the funding sources of this extension are not specified. Furthermore, the results of the project are expected to stimulate the interest of partners from the private sector.

1. Decides to refer to the requesting State the International Assistance request for the project entitled **Participatory inventory and promotion of instrumental ensembles of traditional music in Guinea** and invites it to submit a revised request to the Bureau for examination at a forthcoming session;
2. Encourages the State Party, if it wishes to resubmit its request, to revise the content of the project, taking into account the above-mentioned concerns, and to ensure there is a clear correspondence between the overall objectives and the proposed activities, budget and timetable of the project.

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 2.BUR 5.3** [](#DraftDecision)

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined Document LHE/19/14.COM 2.BUR/5 as well as International Assistance request no. 01448 submitted by Lao People’s Democratic Republic,
3. Takes note that Lao People’s Democratic Republic has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Capacity building for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through creation of a community based ICH inventory for Luang Prabang**:

The proposed twenty-four-month project – to be implemented by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Team of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism in Luang Prabang – is geared at building capacities for safeguarding living heritage through the creation of a community-based inventory for Luang Prabang. In the long term, the project plans to merge intangible cultural heritage mapping with the existing Luang Prabang World Heritage Town Management Plan, to ensure that the safeguarding of living heritage and the management of Luang Prabang World Heritage Town are developed in a coordinated manner. To this end, a pilot project is proposed, with the following medium-term objectives: strengthen the capacities of communities, academic personnel and government officers in conducting community-based inventorying; develop tested training materials for trainers and materials for community members in the Lao language; enhance the participation and leadership of communities in creating inventories; evaluate the viability of elements of living heritage and identify those at risk; and raise awareness of the significance of intangible cultural heritage generally. The training of trainers will be organized at the provincial level and will include resource persons who have undergone training in previous UNESCO capacity-building programmes, and extended to community members, government officials, academics and cultural focal points. This is expected to build a network of national trainers to lay the foundation for subsequent safeguarding projects related to intangible cultural heritage. The project also foresees to conduct a provincial survey to understand the overall situation of living heritage and identify the elements at risk. Overall, the pilot project model of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage is aimed to be replicated all over Luang Prabang Province and to serve as a model at the national level.

1. Further takes note that this assistance includes the preparation of inventories and is to support a project implemented at the local level, in accordance with Article 20 (b) and (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Lao People’s Democratic Republic has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,886 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01448, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The information provided in the request indicates the interest, enthusiasm and active participation of community members concerned from the Luang Prabang province in the preparation of the project. In particular, the year-long consultation undertaken with the Had Hien community, where the pilot community-based inventory is foreseen to take place, further implies the central role communities may play during the implementation of the project. Community participation is further nurtured through the different activities foreseen within the framework of the project, including in the preparation of the training manual, the training of trainers and the pilot community-based inventory. Communities will be closely involved during the evaluation of these activities.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a systematic manner, reflecting the planned activities and related expenses. Therefore, the amount of assistance requested can be considered as appropriate for the implementation of the proposed activities. Nevertheless, more precise and detailed information would have been desirable for some expenditure items in all three components of the project.

**Criterion A.3**: The request consists of three main activities presented in a sequential manner, partly taking into account the recommendation to link safeguarding projects with sustainable development put forward through the Japanese Fund-in-Trust project on capacity building for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in Asia and the Pacific. Each activity is clearly identified and corresponds to the objectives and expected results outlined in the request. Even though more precise information, for instance on the number of community members undertaking the training of trainers, would have been desirable, the planned activities seem to be feasible within the proposed project duration.

**Criterion A.4**: The sustainability of the project depends on the training of trainers approach, to ensure that the capacities and skills acquired continue to be transmitted beyond the duration of the project. As the participants identified for this training primarily include community members, government officials, academics and culture focal points who have previously been involved in the inventorying activities, the reinforcement of their capacities will create a conducive environment for the further transmission of this knowledge to other community members. This will make it possible to merge elements of living heritage with the existing Luang Prabang World Heritage Town Management Plan and establish a well-rounded development plan for the Town.

**Criterion A.5**: The contribution of the State Party mainly relates to sharing the associated staff costs, which represent 29 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: The project is aimed at reinforcing the capacities of communities inhabiting the Luang Prabang province in safeguarding their living heritage through training on community-based inventorying as well as providing hands‑on experience through a pilot inventory in the Had Hien community. Since the project is grounded on the capacity-building activities already conducted in the State, an increased number of community members, government officials and civil society organizations will be trained, further ensuring the transmission of knowledge to community members in the province and assisting with developing additional inventories at the local and national level.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is local in scope and would imply cooperation with partners at different levels, including the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism in Luang Prabang and the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre at the provincial level, as well as the Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation, an accredited NGO that has provided support with past community-based inventory projects in the country since 2015.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The request suggests that the assistance would have a multiplier effect by replicating the experience gained through the proposed pilot community-based inventorying methodology in other provinces and districts of Lao People’s Democratic Republic. Furthermore, the materials developed within the framework of the project would be used in other parts of the country to develop the capacities of community members in the inventorying process. The request also highlights that the project could stimulate synergies with other civil society organizations, institutes and international NGOs.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Lao People’s Democratic Republic for the project entitled **Capacity building for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through creation of a community based ICH inventory for Luang Prabang** and grants the amount of US$99,886 to the State Party to this end;
2. Takes notes of the positive experience of the technical assistance provided to Lao People’s Democratic Republic in finalizing this request, and invites the State Party to capitalize on the skills of the staff who directly benefited from this assistance;
3. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund is precise and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of the expenditures and to reflect the desired duration of the project;
4. Further requests that the submitting State work with the Secretariat at the earliest possible opportunity to clarify the budget breakdown and ensure that detailed information is included for all components of the project;
5. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04 Report when reporting on the use of the assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 2.BUR 5.4** [](#DraftDecision)

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined Document LHE/19/14.COM 2.BUR/5 as well as International Assistance request no. 01528 submitted by Mauritania,
3. Takes note that Mauritania has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **National Oral Traditions (NOT), additional collection component**:

The proposed six-month project is an additional component of the National Oral Traditions (NOT) project, to be implemented by the Mauritanian Institute for Research and Training in Heritage and Culture (IMRFPC). The project was set up in 2015 to safeguard and enhance the sound corpus of the IMRFPC. Despite the high value of the corpus of oral traditions housed at the IMRFPC, it is not very representative of the country’s regions. This project is thus aimed at conducting an additional campaign to collect oral traditions from communities not originally targeted, giving priority to groups whose heritage is absent from written tradition, with the overall objective of supporting the safeguarding of local oral traditions through documentation, data collection and capacity building. Specifically, the project proposes to train resource persons from within the communities, prioritize the safeguarding of oral traditions at risk, correct a geographical and linguistic imbalance in previous collections, update the NOT project database and website, improve the technical and scientific skills of selected individuals and involve local associations and community representatives in safeguarding living heritage. At the end of this additional component, the project would thus make a more comprehensive, representative corpus of oral traditions from different regions and communities of Mauritania available to the public.

1. Further takes note that this assistance is to support a project implemented at the local level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Mauritania has requested assistance in the amount of US$90,562 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01528, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The request was prepared based on consultations with and the involvement of communities from the regions Hodh Chargui, Hodh Al Gharbi, Assaba, Trarza, Guidimakha, Tagant and Tiris-Zemmour in Mauritania, who will be the primary beneficiaries of the project. The project foresees that the communities concerned will designate the resource persons themselves, who will be trained to support the collection of data on oral traditions at the local level and ensure that the project contributes to efficient community-based safeguarding of living heritage.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget generally corresponds to the planned activities throughout the request, with sufficient detail provided, and the overall amount is appropriate.

**Criterion A.3**: The activities are well-designed and feasible in relation to the timeframe proposed and include training, field missions and different stages of data collection and processing such as sound treatment, filing, cataloguing and the updating of a dedicated data base and website. Each activity is clearly identified and corresponds to the objectives and expected results outlined in the request. The attention paid to the linguistic specificity of the project is noteworthy as the request foresees the inclusion of a supervisor for each of the three languages of the pilot communities, to support community-based inventorying.

**Criterion A.4**: The project may have lasting results as it could also encourage similar initiatives for the safeguarding of oral traditions in other regions of Mauritania. Moreover, communities may benefit from the work of the archiving units to be established under the project in the regions concerned even after the completion of the project.

**Criterion A.5**: The State Party is committed to sharing 20 per cent of the cost of the project.

**Criterion A.6**: The State Party confirms that the project could strengthen community members’ capacities to undertake subsequent efforts to inventory their living heritage and develop safeguarding plans. The training of resource persons from seven regions of the country designated among community members will make it possible not only to support experts in the implementation of the project, but also to help identify new resource persons within the communities who could play an important role in the safeguarding process in the future.

**Criterion A.7**: Mauritania received preparatory assistance in the amount of US$9,800 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the preparation of a nomination to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding in 2009 (file no. 00487). In addition, it was one of three beneficiary countries of a capacity-building project for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (2013–2018) funded by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund thanks to voluntary supplementary contributions from Norway and Spain (*Generalitat de Catalunya*); work stipulated by contracts with national counterparts related to this project was carried out in compliance with UNESCO regulations. Finally, the State Party received financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund to implement the project entitled ‘Strengthening the capacities of NGOs active in the field of intangible cultural heritage in Mauritania’ granted by the Bureau in June 2018 by its Decision 13.COM 1.BUR 3.7. This project is currently being implemented by the *Conservation Nationale du Patrimoine Culturel*.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is local in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners. It will be affiliated with the Mauritanian Institute for Research and Training in Heritage and Culture and does not foresee cooperation at the bilateral, regional or international levels.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to allow communities to identify and document oral traditions, especially those at risk, the practice and transmission of which are expected to continue after the termination of the project. It could also potentially lead to other forms of future cooperation between stakeholders involved to raise further awareness about living heritage.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Mauritania for the project entitled **National Oral Traditions (NOT), additional collection component** and grants the amount of US$90,562 to the State Party to this end;
2. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04 Report when reporting on the use of the assistance provided.

**DRAFT DECISION 14.COM 2.BUR 5.5** [](#DraftDecision)

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined Document LHE/19/14.COM 2.BUR/5 as well as International Assistance request no. 01523 submitted by Mozambique,
3. Takes note that Mozambique has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Pilot project to create a local ICH management committee and first steps towards a national strategy for decentralized ICH management**:

The proposed twenty-two-month pilot project – to be implemented by the ARPAC Provincial Delegation in Manica – is directed at creating a local committee for the management of intangible cultural heritage in the community of Chinhambudzi, Manica Province. Despite positive results achieved in recent years in safeguarding living heritage in Mozambique, resources and a defined institutional structure for managing living heritage are still lacking. To fill this lack, the proposed pilot project is intended to establish a local committee for intangible cultural heritage management in Chinhambudzi. In the medium term, the evaluation of this pilot community management project is expected to contribute to the development of a national strategy for the decentralized management of intangible cultural heritage throughout Mozambique. Through participatory community forums, participants will be encouraged to take ownership of the issues related to the creation of a local management committee and invited to develop a plan for its creation, operation and activities. These forums will be followed by coordinated efforts on the ground, leading to the creation of the local management committee. To enhance the continuity of its operations and activities, members of the committee will receive targeted training in Mozambican legislation and procedures, as well as in managing safeguarding projects. Finally, an evaluation of this pilot experience will be conducted by an independent expert, including strategic orientations and guidelines to support the development of a national strategy for the decentralized management of intangible cultural heritage in Mozambique.

1. Further takes note that this assistance is to support a project implemented at the local level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Mozambique has requested assistance in the amount of US$91,430 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 01523 the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**: The information provided in the request demonstrates the active role of the Chinhambudzi communities in the planning, implementation and follow-up of the project. The project was prepared as a direct request by the Chinhambudzi communities who had previously been trained in community-based inventorying and had expressed a further need to strengthen their safeguarding efforts. Through community-based forums and training workshops, the communities concerned will be actively involved in the creation of the local management committee for intangible cultural heritage. It is also envisaged that the communities will participate in the monitoring of the project through the Council of Elders as well as through their involvement in the steering committee of the project.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a structured manner, reflecting the planned activities and related expenses; therefore, the amount of assistance requested may be considered as appropriate for the implementation of the project. However, more precise and detailed information would have been appreciated for certain expenditures, such as ‘bank/financial fees’.

**Criterion A.3**: The proposed activities, which include community-based forums, training workshops on legislation and project management, as well as the development of guidelines for the national strategy, correspond to the expected results of the project. The activities appear to be well-conceived and articulated in a logical sequence. The request also presents an evaluation framework involving the implementing organization, the Council of Elders and the communities concerned.

**Criterion A.4**: The community-based forums and trainings are expected to raise awareness among a large number of community members on the importance of safeguarding their own intangible cultural heritage. The establishment of a local management committee could also ensure the continuation of safeguarding activities beyond the implementation of the project. Furthermore, the project intends to place communities at the centre of the development of a national strategy for the decentralized management of intangible cultural heritage. Nevertheless, the proposed measures to continue the structure and operation of the local management committee would need to be further strengthened in order to ensure the sustainability of the project. In addition, more precise information on the concrete and practical modalities to support the development of a national strategy would have been helpful to better understand how the project could achieve its long-term objective.

**Criterion A.5**: The requesting State will share 25 per cent of the overall budget of the project for which International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Criterion A.6**: The project includes a capacity-building component that will provide the local management committee members with basic knowledge and operational skills relating to legislations for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and project planning and management. The training workshops will be tailored to the needs and capacities of the members of the committee and implemented in a participatory and collaborative manner. The teaching materials will also be available to local management committee members to ensure the continuous training of future members.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is local in scope and its implementation involves local partners, including the Council of Elders and the District Government of Manica.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The request indicates that the results of the project could stimulate the creation of local management committees for other communities and contribute to the development of a national strategy for the decentralized management of intangible cultural heritage.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from Mozambique for the project entitled **Pilot project to create a local ICH management committee and first steps towards a national strategy for decentralized ICH management** and grants the amount of US$91,430 to the State Party to this end;
2. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and the work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide a sufficient justification of all the expenditures;
3. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report when reporting on the use of the International Assistance provided.