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

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

**Eighteenth session**

**Kasane, Republic of Botswana**

**4 to 9 December 2023**

**Item 9 of the provisional agenda:**

**Follow-up on elements inscribed on the Lists of the Convention**

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| **Summary**  The present document reports on the correspondence from third parties received and treated from December 2022 to October 2023 concerning six inscribed elements in response to the request by the seventeenth session of the Committee (Decision [17.COM 8.b](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/17.COM/8.b)).  **Decision required:** paragraph 5 |

**Introduction**

1. Taking note of the increasing number of cases brought to the attention of the Secretariat regarding elements inscribed on the Lists of the Convention, the Committee at its thirteenth session in 2018 recognized the need to reflect on the follow up of inscribed elements (Decision [13.COM 9](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/13.COM/9)). Since that session, the Committee has been taking note of information received from third parties concerning already-inscribed elements as well as nominations submitted for possible inscription on the Lists of the Convention.
2. The present document provides an overview of correspondences received and treated between December 2022 and October 2023 concerning **six cases** of already-inscribed elements.
3. These communications were administered using the ‘Guidelines for the treatment of correspondence from the public or other concerned parties with regard to nominations’, adopted by the seventh session of the Committee in 2012 (Decision [7.COM 15](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/7.COM/15)). In terms of regional distribution, the elements concerned originate from Electoral Group I (two cases), Electoral Group III (three cases) and Electoral Group IV (one case).

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| **Element**  **(List, inscription year)** | **State(s) Party(ies)** | **Nature of the issues** | **Original correspondence and stakeholders** | **Action** |
| **Beer culture in Belgium** (Representative List, 2016) | Belgium | Concerns regarding the promotion of alcohol through intangible cultural heritage | Letter and email from an individual (September and October 2022) | * + Correspondence transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of Belgium in March 2023 |
| **Meshrep**  (Urgent Safeguarding List, 2010) | China | Concerns regarding the general situation of the element | Letter and report from a non-governmental organization (February 2023) | * + Correspondence transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of the People’s Republic of China in March 2023 |
| **Ancestral system of knowledge of the four indigenous peoples, Arhuaco, Kankuamo, Kogui and Wiwa of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta**  (Representative List, 2022) | Colombia | Concerns regarding community participation in safeguarding of the element and associated territory | Letter from organization representing the community (May 2023) | * + Correspondence transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of Colombia in September 2023 |
| **Carnaval de Negros y Blancos**  (Representative List, 2009) | Colombia | Health and environmental impacts resulting from the use of talcum powder | Three letters from civil society (February and March 2023) | * + Correspondence transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of Colombia in March 2023 |
| **Artisanal know-how and culture of baguette bread**  (Representative List, 2022) | France | Concerns regarding the financial sustainability of the practice | Letter from community members (January 2023) | * + Correspondence transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of France in February 2023   + Response provided by France in February 2023 and transmitted to initial sender in March 2023. |
| **Places of memory and living traditions of the Otomí-Chichimecas people of Tolimán: the Peña de Bernal, guardian of a sacred territory**  (Representative List, 2009) | Mexico | Concerns regarding community participation in safeguarding of the element and associated territory | Letter from organization representing the community (May 2023) | * + Correspondence transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of Mexico in August 2023 |

1. The Committee may wish to request that the Secretariat continue to bring information from third parties received and treated concerning the status of inscribed elements to its attention. This may again take the form of a summary to be included in a working document regarding the follow-up of inscribed elements.
2. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 18.COM 9

The Committee,

1. Having examined document LHE/23/18.COM/9,
2. Recalling Decisions [7.COM 15](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/7.COM/15) and [13.COM 9](https://ich.unesco.org/en/Decisions/13.COM/9),
3. Takes note of the correspondence concerning six inscribed elements brought to the attention of the Secretariat during the reporting period, as set out in the above-mentioned document;
4. Requests that the Secretariat continue to bring information from third parties received and treated concerning already-inscribed elements and nominations under consideration to the attention of the Committee, and that in the form of a summary to be included in a working document.