

2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

A consultation on the initial implementation stage of the Convention.

Consultation opens 23 December 2023, closes 23:59 29 February 2024.

1. For each of the criteria, please indicate whether you:

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Neither
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly Disagree

Please add any additional comments here...

- **The Intangible Cultural Heritage must be currently practised.**

Agree

- **The Intangible Cultural Heritage can be from any time.**

Disagree – For inclusion ICH should be able to demonstrate a degree of permanence. To quote the Convention itself: *This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation*. Therefore, we would propose that, to be included within the definition of ICH, there should be proof that the practice is a minimum of 30 years old. A period of 30 years would represent a standard definition of a generation; would align with definitions of tangible heritage; and would also imply a degree of permanence for the practice in question.

- **The Intangible Cultural Heritage can originate from anywhere.**

Agree

- **The Intangible Cultural Heritage must be a living practice and can not be a material product or object.**

Agree – It will be important, when considering safeguarding, to understand and reflect the important relationship that ICH has with tangible heritage. Whilst the ICH itself can not be a material product, object, structure or place, some, each or all may play a vital role in the practice itself and so will need to be understood and reflected in any safeguarding measures.

2. Are there any criteria in addition to the above that should be added in your view?

No comment.

3. Are you supportive of the concept of community representation? If not, why not? What suggestions do you have for obtaining support for a community for a submission to the Inventory?

- a. Strongly Agree

- b. Agree**
- c. Neither**
- d. Disagree**
- e. Strongly Disagree**

Please add any additional comments here...

Agree. We support the proposal that communities should be self-identifying and that ICH included in the inventory should be done with the consent and ideally proposed by the communities represented by the ICH.

4. What are your views on the 5 categories?

- a. Strongly Agree**
- b. Agree**
- c. Neither**
- d. Disagree**
- e. Strongly Disagree**

Please add any additional comments here...

Disagree - We feel that categories do not fully capture some elements of ICH, in particular expressions of the relationship people have with **places** and how they have been shaped by previous generations. For example, it isn't clear where, within the current categories, land management practices (e.g. commoning) could be included on the proposed Inventory. We would suggest that the category 'knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe' is widened to explicitly references the inclusion of practices that relate directly to people's relationship with the wider environment. An alternative form of words could be 'knowledge and practices concerning places, the environment and the universe.'

5. What are your views on the additional category of Traditional games and sports?

Please add any additional comments here...

No comment.

6. What are your views on the additional category of Culinary traditions / knowledge?

Please add any additional comments here...

No comment.

7. In your view, should there be any additional categories? If so, what categories would you want included?

(please include rationale for changes or additions - e.g. by referring to other countries' categories)

No comment.

8. Are you supportive of our intended approach to the approvals process?

- a. Strongly Agree**
- b. Agree**

- c. Neither
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly Disagree

Please add any additional comments here...

No comment.

9. Are you supportive of our intended approach to reviewing the inventory?

Should the period of review be:

More often (e.g. annual),

as proposed (2 yearly),

Less often (e.g. every 3 years),

not apply (e.g. no review required)

Please add any additional comments here...

No comment. We would, however, welcome further discussions on the issue of safeguarding, given its primary importance within the Convention.

Please send the completed form to ICH@dcms.gov.uk