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**CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE
DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS**

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10–12 June 2015**

INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Executive Summaries of Parties' Quadrennial Periodic Reports

At its

This document contains the executive summaries of the quadrennial periodic reports of the following Parties to the Convention:

- Albania
- Andorra
- Armenia
- Bangladesh
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- China
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Dominican Republic
- Egypt
- Kenya
- Malawi
- The Netherlands
- Romania
- Serbia
- Togo
- Ukraine
- The United Kingdom
- Viet Nam

ALBANIA

In the last decades, the world has been transformed fast, and the revolution of economy, communication and culture, has influenced largely in the development of cultural industries. These industries are playing more and more a crucial role in the development of economy in general. The 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Diversity is the most important tool develops such industries according to commonly set objectives and measures. Encourage creation, support production, stimulate dissemination and promote access to cultural expressions are the objectives of this Convention.

The Republic of Albania ratified the UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity on 17.12.2006 and since then, it's the ambition of the Government of Albania to ensure the achievement of these objects in the country.

Albania has been a member of the Intergovernmental Committee for the years 2007-2009 and it participated at the First Intergovernmental Committee on Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, held in Ottawa, Canada on 13 December, 2008.

Since then, considerable efforts to implement the obligations deriving from the Conventions has been made. The main objectives in broad terms has been strengthening the place and the role of culture in the policies and programmes compiled by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture Youth and Sports of Albania, which is the main institution responsible for implementation of the Convention, strengthening the contribution of culture to sustainable development and increasing collaboration with other countries in the field of cultural industries, promoting intercultural dialogue through implementation of different projects, awareness-raising activities and exchanges of good practice.

Specific objectives have been set meanwhile such as:

- Establishment of the proper mechanisms to enable the development of diverse cultural communities in Albania;
- Encouragement of projects on regional and international cooperation amongst libraries, information centers and cultural institutions, aiming at motivating the presentation, the study and the deep understanding of diverse cultures;
- Involvement of cultural institutions in cooperation programmes and exchange of information and ideas, the reorganization of the library system whilst including new technology in drafting a common electronic catalogue;
- Promotion and distribution of the Albanian written art and culture, projects to finance different editions, literature evenings, supporting the diverse cultural expressions through National prizes in literature, bibliophile, drama etc.

ANDORRA

ARMENIA

The preparation of this Report included the phases of organising and monitoring surveys, studying policies, collecting data, conducting analyses and forming conclusions.

This Report is a comprehensive study on the legal, social-economic, political and institutional opportunities for ens

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a country consisting of two entities (the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – F BiH and the Republic of Srpska - RS) and the Brcko District. The entity of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is further divided into 10 cantons that have their own responsibilities in the field of culture, which are then subdivided into municipalities.

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in April 2009 and thus confirmed the need to elaborate and develop the authenticity of the existing cultural expressions based on the historical and cultural particularities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to create new expressions. In this regard, certain activities were undertaken to implement the obligations arising out of the Convention. The Information and the text of the Convention are forwarded to all entity and cantonal ministries of culture for its implementation.

The Culture Development Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina was adopted by the Decision of the Council of Ministers of B&H in late 2008. The Action plan for implementation of the Culture Development Strategy in B&H 2011-2014 was adopted by the Council of Ministers of B&H on 15th of September 2011. The Federal Ministry of Culture and Sport is implementing above mentioned action plan. Also, the Government of Federation of B&H passed the Development Strategy of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2010 - 2020 in 2010, a strategic document which represents the first long-term projection of a comprehensive reform in the culture of Federation of B&H.

The Republic of Srpska Culture Development Strategy 2010-

Burundi

Burundi has been Party to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of

CAMBODIA

The Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts in close collaboration with Development partners such as UNECO Phnom Penh Office and UNESCO's field Offices in the region, European Union, etc. conducted several activities as follows :

- Organise national workshop on the dissemination and the implementation of the UNESCO 2005 Convention;
- Organise South East Asia Meeting on the UNESCO 2005 Convention from 20 to 21 October 2011;
- Establish the National Cultural policy of Cambodia;
- Organize several meetings of the programme management committee;
- Mission of the two experts from Paris insert creative industry component in the National Cultural Policy;
- Collaborating with local NGOs to promote minorities' culture, craft;
- Build a Cultural Center for minorities in Ratanakiri;
- Improved capacity of national institutions to preserve and develop Cambodia's tangible and intangible cultural heritage and living arts and promote its social and economic potential;
- Improved employment opportunities and income generation in the creative industries through enhanced cultural entrepreneurial skills, improved BDS and market access;
- Improved commercialization of local cultural products and services in domestic and international markets;

Cultural preservation:

- Research works initiated in view of publications
- Support to Preah Vihear Kuoy performing arts group
- Jars and pottery mentorship programme elaborated
- Entrepreneurship skills enhancement and BDS provision
- Support to resin producers in Mondulakiri province
- Financial literacy and rural marketing skills trainings
- Technical support to jars and pottery producers
- Skills assessment in Preah Vihear heritage site

Commercialization improvement

- Expertise on trade legislation and procedures
- Towards promotion from the grass roots
- increased employment opportunities amongst cultural producers through enhanced entrepreneur skills;
- increased revenues of cultural producers through improved commercialization of products and services.

COTE D'IVOIRE

Since 2011, Côte d'Ivoire has been committed to modernizing the State and rebuilding its social fabric, after a decade of socio-political crisis.

Having participated in the negotiations on the preliminary draft of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, Côte d'Ivoire has made implementation of the Convention a priority in the ongoing process to reshape the country's cultural policy and to foster its cultural and creative industries.

That is why, in this perspective, creating and reinforcing the conditions of the diversity of Ivorian culture and its cultural expressions constitutes a fundamental challenge for the Ivorian society and for its social and economic development.

Cultural policies and measures for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions

Since ratifying the Convention in April 2007, Côte d'Ivoire has started a review process of its cultural policies and measures by adopting new measures and strategies in successive stages and retaining those adopted before 2005 which are still suited to the current contsionaini co7(a)11(g)

when the country was drawn into war. In the formal sense, the policy was formulated in general terms, emphasizing market approach, freedom of creativity and professionalism. Cultural planning and funding gave priority to activities of “national interest” in culture and left all other activities to the emerging market and to NGOs.

Since 2000, when the new coalition government was elected, there has been a broader implementation of cultural policy with a particular stress on pluralist cultural orientations. A more balanced approach to tradition and a new evaluation of the national and the multicultural components has been undertaken, together with steps towards further decentralization and direct co-operation with NGOs.

Research on cultural development and the status of culture in society has shown that the cultural NGO sector has been growing dynamically during the post-2000 period. This has resulted in the establishment of an “independent cultural sector” and has separated “institutional” (government subsidized) and “independent” culture (subsidized mostly by foreign sources). The latter aspires to compete for domestic public funds and to fully establish itself as a part of the body of Croatian culture. Such claims are sometimes recognized, e.g. by the city of Zagreb which has established and finances the Centre for Independent and Youth Culture since 2008, and by the Ministry of Culture that proposed the new Law on the “Kultura nova” Foundation, passed by the Parliament in July 2011. The new Foundation, which is dedicated mainly to the development of the independent cultural scene, was thus established.

Since 2004, there have not been any major shifts in cultural policy and the overall cultural strategy. Major reforms were undertaken in the book sector, as well as in the media and audio-visual sector and performing arts, with the adoption of new laws.

A new 2011-2013 Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Culture was adopted in 2010 as a part of the government programme of strategic planning for this period which also entails a new system of monitoring expected results. The new Ordinance on the Internal Organization of the Ministry of Culture was issued in August 2011 (NN 113/11) and introduced a reorganization of several departments including a department that will be responsible for overall coordination and monitoring of strategic goals.

The period since 2005 has been marked by the negotiations for Croatia’s full membership in the European Union, which has given a new impetus to developments in all sectors. The negotiations were completed in June 2011. Croatia became a full member of the EU on 1 July 2013.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The accession of the Czech Republic to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”) was not of the easiest. The accession was approved by the Czech Parliament in August 2008; nevertheless subsequently it was rejected by Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. After re-negotiations it was finally approved in August 2010.

The implementation of the Convention in the Czech Republic is on its beginning. The administration of the implementation of the Convention is coordinated by the Ministry of Culture.

The completion of the 1st Periodic report on the measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions was done in cooperation with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Statistical Office, The National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture, cultural organizations and civil society.

In our first report you can find information about the promotion and protection of diversity of cultural expressions on the national level with the international dimension which is essential for the implementation of this Convention and about the most significant cultural – political measures for the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in the phases of the creation, production, distribution, dissemination and participation in culture that were adopted at the national and international levels in the legislative, institutional and financial areas.

The diversity of cultural expressions in the Czech Republic is part of most of the official documents referring to the culture issues. The most important is the national document Cultural Policy of the Czech Republic for the years 2009-2014, Concept of Foreign Policy of the Czech Republic or The Conception of a more efficient operation of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic in relation to foreign countries for the years 2013-2018.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic acceded to the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions on 24 September 2009, which is why this report covers a four-year period beginning in October 2009 and ending in July 2013. Given the newness of the Ministry of Culture, established in 2000 under Act No. 41-00, accession to the Convention had a significant effect on guiding the country's cultural policies and the advances made are considered as milestones in the field of culture.

In January 2010, there was a historic moment in Dominican culture when the cultural rights of the entire population were enshrined in the new Constitution of the Dominican Republic, whereby the diversity of cultural expressions was recognized. Following this breakthrough, the Dominican Government renewed its commitment to the promotion and protection of cultural diversity by including in the National Development Strategy of the Dominican Republic 2010-2030 a development objective based on interventions in the field of culture. General Objective 2.6 of the Dominican Republic National Development Strategy, "*Culture and national identity in a globalized world*", consists of recovering, promoting and developing the various cultural processes and events that reaffirm the national identity in a framework of participation, pluralism, gender equality and openness to the regional and global environment, as well as promoting decentralization in government intervention in the field of culture through strategic partnerships with municipalities and non-governmental popular cultural organizations that contribute to the integral and sustained development of communities. The aim is to promote the culture of equality, which gives new roles and values to men and women and makes women's contributions and rights visible throughout the life cycle. The goal is also to encourage participation in cultural activities that contribute to the development of critical understanding and individual thinking, based on the culture of reading and the ability to interpret cultural events, from as early as primary school, as well as the population's participation in cultural and artistic activities, especially girls and boys, teenagers and young adults.

Within this framework, the Dominican Government has acknowledged culture as an engine for development for the first time, immediately making cultural programmes an important part of national programmes, such as the national literacy plan, the plan to raise the quality of education, the programmes of the Social Cabinet – which runs the country's social policies – the social development programmes of the Presidency and the First Lady's Office and development plans in the sector of tourism – which is the country's main foreign currency generator – among others.

New opportunities regulated by the Ministry of Culture that until then had never been experienced in the country were opened to the entities of the National Culture System, enabling them to institutionalize legal and permanent measures and to develop decentralized or devolved programmes, which have democratized cultural management by engaging people in these events and protecting them while preserving them.

National standards have been extended to institutionally enable and ensure a policy framework for cultural expressions: extending, for example, fc5-7(an-6(e op))TJ 0(peopl)3)3(e pr)(ons)-2

EGYPT

Egypt is a country with an immense diversity of Culture expressions and its government has always believed strongly on the importance of working and living together.

Together, cultures could create a rich and strong tapestry and could be an engine for sustainable development for individuals, communities and countries.

In Cairo as well as major cities in Egypt, a large number of old Egyptian traditions remain from the time of the Pharaohs, and contrast with pure tribal customs brought in by many invaders throughout the centuries. That contradiction and contrast between areas of Egypt is what makes the singularity of the country as well as its culture's features.

"Our rich diversity . . . is our collective strength."(m)002 Tw 74(r)-6(as-7(anc)-2(e)11(o)11(fdoub7(anc7(h)1

KENYA

The UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural

MALAWI

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THE NETHERLANDS

The ratification of the Convention did not require any addition or amendment to existing legislation in the Netherlands. The Cultural Policy (Special Purpose Funding) Act has been the basis of the Dutch government's involvement in culture since 1993. Cultural diversity is firmly entrenched in the Act, which states that the Minister is responsible for preserving and

ROMANIA

This report provides a summary of the measures initiated nationally to protect and promote the cultural diversity of Romania between 2007 and 2012. We must underline the fact that the information provided concerns, in particular, the activities carried out by the Ministry of Culture and its subordinate institutions.

We followed the role of cultural diversity in the development of coherent cultural policies that act unitarily to promote cultural values, support contemporary creativity, and protect and recognize cultural heritage, and regional measures and projects implemented and/or coordinated at the national level by the Ministry of Culture. These measures represent the incorporation of culture in sustainable development policies.

One example is the local development pilot project of the Regional Programme on Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe (RPSEE), a Council of Europe initiative that is supported, directly or indirectly, by the European Commission, the Regional Cooperation Council, UNESCO, the Central European Initiative and the Forum of Heads of State and Government of South-East Europe, and has been implemented, in the case of Romania, in the Rupea-Cohalm region since 2007.

At the same time, in the spirit of the recommendations of the UNESCO Convention, the role of civil society has been marked by the conclusion of a series of partnerships with the public authorities at the central level along with other appropriate authorities, with the aim of stimulating the cultural and creative sector and fostering mobility.

By affirming the importance of the movable heritage, Romania has encouraged the mobility of the region's museum collections, both within South-East Europe and in Central and Western Europe, with joint exhibition projects that promote, in the spirit of tolerance and mutual recognition of values, the cultural diversity of the region, such as, for example, the exhibition project entitled "Imagining the Balkans. History, Memory and Dialogue in South-East Europe", initiated by UNESCO and for which the Romanian National History Museum hosted the fifth meeting of the working group in 2012.

As regards international cooperation, the Ministry of Culture has held activities with UNESCO as well as other organizations and structures, such as the Council of Ministers of Culture of South-Eastern Europe (CoMoCoSEE) and/or the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC).

Within the framework of UNESCO, we note the projects carried out on the occasion of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, such as the international seminar "South-East European Experts Network on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage", in Valcea, in partnership with the UNESCO Office in Venice.

The contribution of Romania, in terms of coordinating the activities of the BSEC Working Group on Culture during 2011-

SERBIA

Ratification of the Convention 2005 in Serbian Parliament scientifically contributed to the development of cultural system. In scope of 2009-2012., several new regulations and adopted laws have been addressing cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, while it presents one of the basic principles of cultural development in the Law on Culture. The production, dissemination and diversity of cultural expressions were provided by the Ministry of Culture and Media through annual Open Competitions for co-financing, as well as various cultural and media projects/programs were funded due to the signed documents of cooperation on different government levels. The Working group for the development of creative industries within the Ministry of Culture and Media was established.

Reconstruction projects with a longer-term impact enjoy priority over short-term projects. Cultural institutions of national importance, such as National Museum, National Library of Serbia, Yugoslav Cinemateque, were reconstructed in this period and network of cinemas were digitalized. Special emphasis was put on reduction of income taxes contributed to the improvement of artists' social and economic status and tax deductions for investments into culture were increased.

The outcome of state support to the networking and cooperation (CSO, SMEs, etc) is appearing of several collaborative platforms and clusters in cultural industries. In the four year period, five professional associations from the field of visual arts gain status of the representative cultural associations on national level. Apart from the signed Programs and Protocols on cultural cooperation with many countries at the bilateral level, activities at the regional and multilateral level also resulted in signing of Declarations with countries of the Southeast Europe emphasizing cultural diversity. A new practice in international cooperation, within the strengthening of traditional cooperation, is to introduce the areas of culture and arts, into the documents concerning economic and scientific technical cooperation. Likewise, presentation of Serbian culture abroad was high on the agenda on international relations. One of the important dates is the accession of Serbia to the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in 2009. Institutes of cultural studies conducted few national surveys addressing the cultural policy with focus on cultural resources of the cities and municipalities. The final results will be orientation for future cultural planning, in same time, ensuring an insight to overall cultural system of Serbia. Following this direction, unique local cultural potentials would become a vector for economic development of the Serbian regions, which is declared in the Law of Culture in force.

The visibility of the Convention was provided by organizing various public events dedicated to cultural industries field. In 2011 the Ministry of Culture signed the Protocol on cooperation with the umbrella organization "Independent Culture Scene of Serbia", which officially confirmed the significance and active role of the civil society in creating cultural policy.

It is clear that adoption of the Convention strongly contributed to cultural system reform process and on this way Serbia receives a stimulus for a long term development and democratic management reforms.

The main achievements in implementation of the Convention would be: new legislation becoming in force, financial support to cultural diversity and straitening p7a.152 TD [(i)3(ns)-2(i)3(ge)0.004

TOGO

Prior to the adoption by the Council of Ministers of Togo, on 30 Mars 2011, of the National Cultural Policy document, cultural matters in Togo were regulated by the programme of the Rally of the Togolese People (RTP), the former ruling political party in a single-party system. The programme contained in the Green Paper of the RPT, though very ambitious, at least had the advantage of guiding cultural action towards the emergence of a new type of Togolese, without mimicry and evolving in a national environment where development options were clearly defined.

Unfortunately, like any cultural programme implemented by a political party, particularly in a single-party system, culture was soon instrumentalized, which led to serious setbacks.

The political action contained in the current cultural policy document is very clear and is based on the people's deepest aspirations that are supported by the ten-year national strategic plan for culture, which will guide Togo up to the end of the first quarter of this century.

This report, the first of its kind in an area that was previously overlooked, has the advantage of paving the way for future action to promote culture.

However, it should nonetheless be noted that sometimes, the instrumentalization of culture has positive aspects (relatively speaking). Owing to the political imperatives of the dictatorship, minority cultures were all valued through popular entertainment programmes, because no absence of any kind in the national arena was tolerated. The political control exercised by political commissioners was organized in such a way that no matter how small a minority, all communities must, through their cultures, extol the virtues of the Guide.

This report traces the interconnections that should necessarily exist between the diversity of cultural expressions and national development as well as the existing interrelationship between culture and the other development sectors, the support for creativity and artists, participation in cultural life, the role of women and young people, grassroots communities, civil society, the private sector, the consolidation of the foundations of cultural development and the essential cultural cooperation that should exist between nations and peoples. A prominent place is reserved for cultural events, particularly traditional ones, which are the mirror of cultural life in villages and the countryside. This does not mean that there is no place for other types of cultural events such as music concerts, festivals and art exhibitions.

THE UNITED KINGDOM

VIET NAM

The Report was prepared by Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, highlighting: *cultural policies and measures; international co-operation; the integration of culture in sustainable development policies; protection of cultural expressions under threat; awareness-raising and participation of civil society; main achievements and challenges to the implementation of the Convention; as well as data and information (sources and statistics) in pursuance to the regulations of UNESCO.*

According to the viewpoint of UNESCO, cultural diversity is reflected in three different aspects: the right to cultural enjoyment, the right to cultural expression; and the right to recognition and respect for traditions, customs, history and cultural differences. The Report is designed based on this orientation, reflecting the reality Viet Nam has experienced, including challenges with regard to the protection of cultural diversity.

As a member of the Convention, Viet Nam has carried out many policies and measures to preserve the cultural diversity of a multi-racial country with a long history which stretches over many geographical regions and has recently undergone the process of enhanced industrialization and international integration. This process has provided opportunities for cultural development, but has also exposed potential threats and challenges to the cultural diversity and identities of many ethnic minorities. Cultural diversity is indicated in the system of cultural policies, orientations, investment preferences, target programmes and tax system, as well as integrated into the general socio-economic development strategy and reflected in the preservation of the heritages and cultures of the ethnic minorities, which are affected by modernization and widespread internationalization. The biggest challenge faced by Viet Nam is how to minimize the impacts of modernization on cultural diversity, creating a fair social environment where, against a background of international integration, the capacity for creativity is enhanced and everyone can enjoy culture in a market economy. Making strategies and policies to develop cultural industries will be the key to this process, together with other policies designed to protect and develop traditional and ethnic culture, which is a major strength of Viet Nam.