

ICCN Czech Republic Youth Declaration

The 2010 ICCN International Youth Forum

On “Intangible Cultural Heritage at the Young people’s view and the ways to encourage their participation”

(The cities of Vlcnov, Uheraske Hradiste and Prague, the Czech Republic, 9-11 September 2010)

All participants of the 2010 ICCN International Youth forum, meeting in Vlcnov, Uheraske Hradiste and Prague, the Czech Republic, from 9 September to 11 September 2010,

Expressing our gratitude to the host cities, organizers and other organizations who supported this forum which gives us the opportunity to widen our vision on the issues of Intangible Cultural Heritage, exchange and enrich our respective experiences,

Referring to the existing efforts on protecting our Intangible Cultural Heritage within our families, schools, neighborhood and associations in particular, ICCN members and UNESCO,

Considering that the challenge of preservation of this Intangible Cultural Heritage is heavy to meet due to the extreme fragility of this Intangible Cultural Heritage under the effect of time and human degradation,

Noting that Intangible Cultural Heritage plays a significant role in our everyday lives and it creates an invisible, yet very strong and cohesive asset that connects us all,

Noting further that Intangible Cultural Heritage passes down fundamentals for the affluence of our society that cannot be bought nor created in a short time – it is something that can only be earned over long periods of time,

Recognizing that the initiatives and participation of the young, which we consider is essential to preserve Intangible Cultural Heritage and harmonize different cultures, should begin today, wherever we stand,

Adopt the present declaration on 11 September 2010 and comfort as listed below:

We, youth delegations of Algeria, Canada, the Czech Republic and Republic of Korea, are calling on;

Youth

to be aware of that we have the right to receive the education of intangible cultural heritage and have full access to its knowledge and skills as future potential cultural inheritors,

to recognize that we have an obligation to safeguard our culture, in particular, through using new communication technology as a bridge between young people from all countries,

to urge to have an open mind towards other culture in the findings of diversity, similarities and differences,

Schools and cultural institutions,

to emphasize that it is necessary to deal with the intangible cultural heritage on the academic level as well as on the wide public level,

to include a subject that would focus exclusively on folk customs, music and folk art in general for encouraging students' interest,

to make joyful class activities about culture to promote creativity and encourage interest among the students,

Policy makers in the world,

to call upon create a strong sense of unity and understanding among the worlds' nations through mutual effort to share and understand different cultural views, including that of religion,

Intangible Cultural Heritage possessors,

to keep in mind that preserving and exchanging its heritage is their first obligation,

to inform its Intangible Cultural Heritage to the international society through participating in cultural exchange with other culture for cultural creativity.