

2007 Recommendation of Inter-City Cooperation Network for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage

The participants in the 2007 International Conference on Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage and International Workshop of Local Government Administrators on “Safeguarding of the ICH and Networking” held in Pecs, Hungary from 17-20 September, 2007 express their sincere gratitude to Ministry of Education and Culture of Hungary, Pecs City and European Folklore Institute for excellent organization of this forum.

Recognizing the importance of the intangible cultural heritage which lies on the foundation of our cultural identity and is also core of the cultural diversity of the society;

Concerned that the intangible cultural heritage is under threat from globalization and unsustainable developmental policies;

Understanding the challenges facing local governments in safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage and the need to take appropriate measures to develop strategies and policies in this area,

For the further development of the Inter-City Cooperation Network for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage, the participants in this Conference agree as follows;

(i) To promote effective cooperation between various cities in order to expand ICCN and reinforce the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage as a platform for the world wide collaboration of mayors, local governments and local people.

(ii) To request Gangneung City as ICCN' s Secretariat and Principal Coordinator to enhance and strengthen its role of Secretariat and to ask not only for Gangneung but also for member-cities to initiate cooperative research projects among ICCN' s members in cooperation with the intergovernmental committee of UNESCO;

(iii) To use ICCN in the regular holding of joint festivals, cultural events and educational programmes among its member-cities, particularly reminding the exchange programmes between Qalyubian Governorate and Gangneung city in 2005 and 2006.

(iv) To convene the 2nd round tables of mayors in Qalyubia, Egypt and thematic workshop in 2008, in accordance with the recommendation on rotation principle among ICCN' s members adopted in 2006.