

IV. Relevant Meetings

Last 7 years there've been placed a numerous of national, regional, international symposiums, conferences, meetings, festivals and workshops on the issues of safeguarding and promoting of the intangible cultural heritage. Herein, we listed the main events which were hosted by Mongolian Government.

1. Symposiums on the issues of safeguarding and promoting of the intangible cultural heritage

(1) Conference on “Current status of traditional music of the Tsur and challenges”

“Traditional music of the Tsur” is an element included in the category of rare and invaluable intangible cultural heritage of Mongolia, and inscribed into the UNESCO List of Intangible Culture Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding in 2009. For the purpose of urgent safeguarding of the Tsur heritage, reviving the Tsur performance, its repertoire and related popular customs, and setting the basis for systematic study of the art of Tsur, a nation-wide program must be launched immediately. Within this framework, The Center of Cultural Heritage, and the “Hunnic Tsur Performers’ Association” NGO conducted the Conference on “Current status of traditional music of the Tsur and challenges”. The Conference took a place on 14th August, 2013 and in total 30 bearers, scholars were involved.

(2) “The Central Asian Epics” Regional Symposium Festival II

During 5th-7th August, 2013 in Ulaanbaatar was organized “Central Asian Epics” Regional Symposium Festival II. The Symposium II entitled “Means of the safeguarding the epic, reviving the living tradition of epic performance and ensuring viability” and involved more than 100 epic performers, researchers, experts, scholars and specialists from 15 countries.

The Mongol Tuul /Epic/, is an oral tradition that recounts heroic epics from Mongolian history. It is element included in the category of rare and invaluable intangible cultural heritage of Mongolia, and inscribed into the UNESCO List of Intangible Culture Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding in 2009.

(3) “Seminar on Cooperation towards Strengthening Networking and Information Sharing of ICH in North-East Asia”

29 June - 3 July 2014 Ulaanbaatar hosted the Seminar on Cooperation towards Strengthening Networking and Information Sharing of ICH in North-East Asia. This Seminar was jointly organized by UNESCO Beijing Office, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Mongolia, Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO and the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP). The overall objectives of the Seminar were to enhance intangible cultural heritage documentation practices for intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in North-East Asia and strengthen information exchange for regional ICH safeguarding.

(4) 1st International Symposium-Festival of Tsuur

The Government of Mongolia approved “Mongol Tsuur” National Program which reflects comprehensive actions, including to transmit Tsuur to young generations, to publicize their image and role as “national identity” among general public, to safeguard and reviving the Tsuur performance, its repertoire and related popular customs, and setting the basis for systematic study of the art of Tsuur, to intensify trainings, studies and publicity campaigns, and identify and reward practitioners, among others. Within the framework of the National Program the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences, Center of Cultural Heritage organized 1st International Symposium-Festival of Tsuur, in Ulaanbaatar, June 5th-8th, 2016. This event involved more than 100 Tsuur performers, researchers, experts, scholars and specialists from countries such as Mongolia, Tuva RF, China.

2. “Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage through the Strengthening of National Capacities in Asia and the Pacific”

Within the framework of “Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage through the Strengthening of National Capacities in Asia and the Pacific”, UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust project, has been supporting Mongolia’s endeavor to safeguard its valuable intangible cultural heritage since 2012 with a series following capacity-building workshops has been conducted:

- Implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention /2012/,
- Community-based inventorying /2013/
- Elaboration of nomination files for the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention /2015/,
- Developing safeguarding plans for ICH /2016/

This capacity-building workshop is the outcome of joint efforts by UNESCO Beijing Office, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia, the Center of Cultural Heritage of Mongolia and the Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO.

The workshop is aimed at enhancing capacities of Mongolian stakeholders in elaborating safeguarding measures for intangible cultural heritage under the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The duration of each workshop was 5 days, and every workshop involved more than 40 participants, comprising cultural officers from all 21 provinces of Mongolia and capital city of Ulaanbaatar, government officials and ICH practitioners representing selected ICH elements.