

# **Chair Report at the 18<sup>th</sup> MOWCAP Bureau Meeting**

16-17 May 2019, Gwangju, Republic of Korea

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## **I. Introduction**

MOWCAP was established in 1998 as a Regional Committee under the provisions of the 'Memory of the World General Guidelines to Safeguard Documentary Heritage'. MOWCAP is a co-operative structure that encourages information exchange, the mentoring of new national committees, and preservation, access and awareness raising issues specific to the region.

2018 marked an important milestone in the history of MOWCAP: Our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Many things were achieved during this year, and here is a brief recap of some of the key activities:

- The 8<sup>th</sup> MOWCAP General Meeting was held in May 2018 and was attended by delegates from 27 countries: The largest MOWCAP meeting ever held!
- 10 new inscriptions were added to the MOWCAP register, taking the total to 56.
- An exhibition and publication were created for the MOWCAP 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- The MOWCAP-ACC cooperation continued to flourish, including the launch of the small grants program to support organizations from the Asia-Pacific

I am sure that in 2019 our activities will continue to grow and develop as we endeavor to serve our current MOWCAP members, as well as to support new and emerging committees from across the region.

## **II. Membership**

The members of MOWCAP are the autonomous National MoW Committees (or equivalent bodies such as the sub-committee of a UNESCO National Commission) within the region, as defined in the MOWCAP Statutes. MOWCAP is a co-operative structure that encourages information exchange, the mentoring of new national committees, and preservation, access and awareness raising issues specific to the region.

At present there are 21 countries in which National MoW Committees and equivalent bodies operate. The newest is the Tuvalu National MoW Committee,

which was formed in 2018.

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Australia                 | 12. New Zealand       |
| 2. Cambodia                  | 13. Philippines       |
| 3. China                     | 14. Republic of Korea |
| 4. Fiji                      | 15. Sri Lanka         |
| 5. Indonesia                 | 16. Tajikistan        |
| 6. Iran, Islamic Republic of | 17. Thailand          |
| 7. Japan                     | 18. Timor-Leste       |
| 8. Kazakhstan                | 19. Tuvalu            |
| 9. Kyrgyzstan                | 20. Uzbekistan        |
| 10. Malaysia                 | 21. Vietnam           |
| 11. Mongolia                 |                       |

In addition, there are 10 committees in various stages of formation (including a number that attended the MOWCAP General Meeting in 2018), namely:

- |                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 6. Lao PDR          |
| 2. Afghanistan | 7. Myanmar          |
| 3. Bangladesh  | 8. Pakistan         |
| 4. Bhutan      | 9. Samoa            |
| 5. India       | 10. Solomon Islands |

### **III. Organization Structure**

The current Bureau for the term 2018-2022 was elected during the 8<sup>th</sup> General Meeting held 2018.

*MOWCAP Bureau:*

Chair: Kim Kwibae

Vice-Chairs: Diane Macaskill, Vu Thi Minh Huong, Mitsuru Haga

Secretary General: Andrew Henderson

UNESCO Ex Officio Member of the Bureau: Misako Ito, UNESCO Regional Advisor for Communications and Information

*Goodwill Ambassador:*

The role is currently unfilled as Rujaya Abhakorn decided to step down from the position in October 2019.

*Special Advisers:*

Ray Edmondson, Simon Chu, Sarah Choy, Richard Engelhardt, and Helen Swinnerton have been the Special Advisors for MOWCAP (the continued term in office of these roles is subject to confirmation).

*The Register Subcommittee:*

Chair: The role is currently unfilled as Rujaya Abhakorn decided to step down from the position in October 2019.

Member: Alla Aslitdinova, Kyung-ho Suh, Ms. Hongmin Wang, Helen Jarvis.

#### **IV. Additions to the MOWCAP Register**

In 2008, the regional register for Memory of the World was established and to date we have 56 inscriptions from 25 countries have been so far inscribed into it. The register contains a rich variety of documentary heritage, reflecting the immense cultural, linguistic, economic and political diversity of the Asia-Pacific region, and remains an important awareness raising tool for the safeguarding and access to documentary heritage from the region.

#### **V. The ACC-MOWCAP Cooperation**

MOWCAP and the Asia Culture Center have renewed their cooperation for a further three years at a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremony held Seoul, in December 2018.

The MoU provides a framework of cooperation to promote the protection, preservation, awareness, universal access to and use of the documentary heritage in Asia and the Pacific.

Through the MOU, MOWCAP and the ACC will continue to develop and organise activities including exhibitions, publications, seminars, talks and other education and outreach activities, including the extension of the MOWCAP-ACC Small Grants program. In addition, the ACC will also continue to host the MOWCAP Office for a further three years.

On behalf of the MOWCAP Bureau and Members I sincerely thank our partner, the Asia Culture Centre, whose support has made a number of important initiatives possible for the preservation of our region's rich documentary heritage. I would also like to thank the Asia Culture Institute, who have generously supported the work of the MOWCAP Office. We look forward to continuing our cooperation for the benefit of MOWCAP's members in the Asia-Pacific.

#### **VI. Selected Activities**

*MOWCAP-Asia Culture Center (ACC) Grants*

[Grants were awarded to](#) Asia-Pacific organizations from Timor-Leste, the Philippines, Tuvalu, Fiji, Myanmar, Vietnam, Iran and Malaysia. The generous financial support of the Asia Culture Center (ACC), and operational support of the Asia Culture Institute (ACI), has made these grants possible.

#### *Asia Pacific Cinema Documentary Heritage Conference*

[An Asia Pacific Cinema Documentary Heritage Conference](#) took place in Manila from 26-28 October. MOWCAP and the Asia Culture Center are very pleased to have supported (along with many others) this important initiative.

#### *Tuvalu National MoW Committee:*

The newly formed Tuvalu Memory of the World Committee held a workshop to establish the national MoW register. This workshop was supported by the MOWCAP-Asia Culture Center.

#### *Advocacy award by the Association of Moving Image Archivists*

Ray Edmondson, Former Chair, and current Special Advisor to MOWCAP, was awarded the inaugural Advocacy award by the Association of Moving Image Archivists. Congratulations Ray!

#### *World Inter-regional Conference on Preservation and Accessibility of Documentary Heritage*

The first UNESCO Memory of the World Inter-regional Conference on Preservation and Accessibility of Documentary Heritage was held in Panama City from 25-26 October 2018. One of the objectives was to foster co-operation among the members of the MoW community. Kwibae Kim, Dianne Macaskill, Mitsuru Haga, and Andrew Henderson represented the MOWCAP Bureau at the meeting.

#### *Safeguarding and Increasing Access to the Documentary Heritage of the Silk Routes*

The meeting was held in Fuzhou, China, from the 6-8 November 2018. The meeting was organised by the National Archives of China, in cooperation with the East Asian Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (EASTICA), and hosted by the Fujian Provincial Archives. Misako Ito and Andrew Henderson presented at the meeting.

#### *International Symposium on Petition Movements in the Nineteenth Century*

The symposium was held in September 2018 at the Advanced Center for

Korean Studies in Andong, Republic of Korea. Dianne Macaskill attended the meeting.

*Memory of the World consultation on documentary heritage for Sustainable Development in Africa.*

Andrew Henderson, the Secretary -General of MOWCAP was invited to participate in a Memory of the World consultation on documentary heritage for Sustainable Development in Africa, held in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 2018.

*Exhibition for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MOWCAP*

An exhibition of Asia Pacific documentary heritage inscribed on international MoW registers was held at the Asia Culture Center marked the 20th anniversary of MOWCAP and opened on the last day of the General Meeting (June 2018).

*Publication for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MOWCAP*

Publication for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MOWCAP was developed and published thanks to the generous support and initiation of Misako Ito and the team from UNESCO Bangkok Office, along with contributions from MOWCAP Bureau members, and with the support of the City of Andong and technical support from the Korean Studies Institute

8<sup>th</sup> MOWCAP General Meeting

A record 28 countries were represented at the 8th General Meeting. The meeting was successfully held thanks to the support of the ACC, ACI, MOWCAP Bureau members, and the wider MOWCAP community.

## **VII. Acknowledgements**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dear colleague Rujaya Anhakorn for his fantastic contributions to MOWCAP over many years. His work as the Goodwill Ambassador has helped grow MoW program across our region, and under his guidance as Chair of the RSC the register has grown to include many important and diverse collections. Rujaya has been a central part of MOWCAP for many years, and I am sure he will continue to be involved in the program.

Taking this opportunity, I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Ms. Misako Ito, the Bureau members, special advisors, RSC specialists, ACC, ACI, staff of MOWCAP Office and all the member states for your help and support.

