

From the Chair

Welcome to the seventh issue of the MOWCAP newsletter, which brings news of activities and events in the “Memory of the World” community across the Asia Pacific region.

Your contribution to the newsletter is welcome. Please do send your news to the MOWCAP Secretary General, Helen Swinnerton, for inclusion in the next or any future newsletters.

Ray Edmondson, MOWCAP Chair

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Call for Nominations to the Asia Pacific MOW Register

Nominations of documentary heritage to the Asia Pacific MOW Register are presently open. The Register works on a biennial calendar and nominations for the current intake close on 30 November 2013. The nomination form and other details can be found at

<http://www.unesco.mowcap.org/nominations.htm> and to help you prepare nominations you can read the new MOW Companion at <http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/mow/Register%20Companion.pdf>

Nominations will be researched by the MOWCAP Register Subcommittee, and will be presented for decision at the next MOWCAP General Meeting, which will be held in early 2014 (details to follow later). For further information, please contact the Chair of the MOWCAP Register Subcommittee, Dr Rujaya Abhakorn (rujaya2000@yahoo.com)

New inscriptions from the Asia Pacific on MOW International Register

Eighteen collections from the Asia Pacific region are among 55 new additions to the Memory of the World International Register, approved in June by UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova.

The complete list is available at:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-an>

[d-information/flagship-project-activities/memory-of-the-world/register/access-by-year/2013/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/memory-of-the-world/register/access-by-year/2013/)

Twelve countries proposed these new elements of documentary heritage from the Asia Pacific region. They were evaluated and recommended by the International Consultative Committee for the Memory of the World programme, meeting in Gwangju (Republic of Korea) from 18 to 21 June.

UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize 2013 Awarded

The fifth ceremony of the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize took place on 12 September 2013. The Prize, consisting of an award of US\$ 30,000, is awarded every two years to individuals or institutions that have made significant contributions to the preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage.

The 2013 Prize was awarded to ADABI (Apoyo al Desarrollo de Archivos y Bibliotecas), a Mexican non-profit civil association that actively supports the development of archives and libraries of Mexico whose documentary collections are endangered. The aims of ADABI are to preserve Mexico's knowledge and identity, by encouraging communities throughout the country to play an active role in conservation and preservation. In this way, all governmental and/or

non-governmental archives are partners in establishing a collective memory.

The award and the operating costs of the Prize as well as all costs related to the award ceremony are funded by Cheongju City in the Republic of Korea.

Workshop on MOW held in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

A workshop, entitled "Memory of the World – Protecting Ancient Documentary Heritage in DPRK", was organized by UNESCO's Office in Beijing in July in Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Twenty-four participants from various national bureau and departments related to archives, libraries and culture attended the two-day activity, which was facilitated by Prof. Simon Chu, Special Advisor to the MOWCAP. The event introduced the MOW Programme, including best practices for the establishment of MOW national committees, and the criteria for identifying significant documents to be submitted for inscription on MOW International and Regional Registers.

Conference in Republic of Korea Commemorates MOW Human Rights Records

An international conference, held from 15 to 18 May 2013 in Gwangju, Republic of Korea, as part of the 2013 World Human Rights Cities Forum, commemorated inscriptions of 14 institutions holding items on the MOW International Register relating to human rights. Representatives from all regions stressed the importance of ensuring recognition of the value of human rights records and described solutions necessary to protect and manage such collections.

MOWCAP Bureau Meeting held in Cambodia

The MOWCAP Bureau met in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in March 2013. At this annual meeting, the Bureau reviewed the progress the MOWCAP programme has made in 2012 and agreed plans for 2013/ 2014. The Minutes of the meeting are attached in the email accompanying this newsletter. The MOWCAP Bureau would like to thank Dr. Helen Jarvis, Mr. H E Hab Touch and the Cambodia Ministry for Culture and Fine Arts for hosting the meeting. Following the meeting, the Bureau attended a stakeholders' meeting to discuss progress towards the formal establishment of a Cambodian MOW Committee (MOWCAM). The Bureau also visited the Genocide Archive at Tuol Sleng, the Killing Fields at Cheoung Ek and the Bophana Audiovisual Centre.

Recent and Forthcoming Workshops

A number of workshops have been arranged in the region over the past few months. The MOWCAP Chair conducted an MOW and documentary preservation workshop in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan hosted by the UNESCO National Commission of Kyrgyzstan from 1 to 2 October.

A workshop on the MOW programme was held in Hanoi, from 7 to 8 October, hosted by the Vietnam MOW Committee and the Vietnam State Archives. MOWCAP Bureau members Rujaya Abhakorn and Simon Chu presented at the workshop.

In Phnom Penh, from 26 to 29 November, a workshop on preparing MOW Register nominations will be hosted by UNESCO National Commission of the Republic of Korea.