

Template for Annual Report

1. Name of the National Committee of MOW (hereafter referred as Committee);

Selection Committee for the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Programme, Japanese National Commission for UNESCO

2. Namelist of the Committee, Contact person of the Administration Office of the Committee;

Please refer to the attachment.

3. Contact Information (E-mail address, Postal address, Telephone no, Fax no and website, etc)

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website : <http://www.mext.go.jp/english/unesco/index.htm>

4. Structure of the Committee and any subsidiary bodies

As a National Committee for MOW in Japan, the Selection Committee for the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Programme has been established under the Cultural Activities Committee, which is one of the specialized committees of Japanese National Commission for UNESCO.

5. Statutes and the terms of reference of the Committee

The Law concerning UNESCO Activities

Guidelines for Establishment of the Selection Committee for the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Programme

6. Fundamental resources for year 2015

We allocate the budget to hold the meetings (personnel and travel cost) from the fiscal budget of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO.

7. Activities and achievement for year 2015

In March 2015, the Selection Committee for the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Programme started the call for proposals to select 2 nominations from Japan for inscription on the MoW Register in 2017. The committee examined 16 proposals submitted from various applicants, and selected “Three Cherished Stelae of Ancient Kozuke” and “The Sugihara List – Record of massive issuance of Japan transit visas for the rescue of refugees based on humanitarian and philanthropic resolution in 1940 by Chiune Sugihara” in September 2015.

In October 2015, 2 nominations from Japan, “Tōji Hyakugō Monjo” and “Return to Maizuru Port-Documents Related to the Internment and Repatriation Experiences of Japanese (1945-1956)” were approved and inscribed as new registers on UNESCO Memory of the World Register.

8. Any National Register of MOW? (if yes, please provide the list of the National Register, website link, etc)

We are preparing to join the regional register scheme of MOWCAP from next cycle, as well as the national register in due course.

9. Working plan for year 2016 – 2018

In 2016, we will discuss appropriate selection schemes for not only international register, but also regional and national register, which will be endorsed by the Selection Committee.

In 2017, we will open the call for proposals to select 2 nominations from Japan and submit them to UNESCO in 2018, for inscription on the MOW international register in 2019

10. Challenges and issues (please highlight any challenges the programme faces, include any priority projects you have identified)

One of the biggest challenges we face is starting the regional register scheme of MOWCAP from next cycle, as well as the national register in due course. We need to consider what kind of the selection scheme is appropriate for the regional and national registers in Japan.

As next priority in Japan, we will start joining the network of the researchers and memory institutions through the Sub-Committee on Education and Research of IAC. We newly nominated a Japanese researcher as a corresponding member and the National Archives of Japan as a cooperating institution to the Sub-Committee in January 2016.

Since it is important to contribute to not only the international register scheme but the whole programme, we would like to support to enhance the visibility of the Programme and disseminate the importance of safeguarding documentary heritage and archives at school and academic level, joining the Sub-committee.

11. Any news or suggestions for the next issue of MOWCAP Bulletin?

We propose to introduce the registered heritages to the MoW Programme in Asia and the Pacific regions in rotation through the MOWCAP newsletter. We have 5 registered documentary heritages in Japan, and we are ready to provide articles to introduce them at the MOWCAP newsletter or any other tools.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/memory-of-the-world/register/access-by-region-and-country/asia-and-the-pacific/japan/>