

2017 Annual Report

(Republic of Korea)

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

Committee ■ No separate MOW National Committee has been established in Korea. The Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU) acts in the place of a MOW National Committee

2. Namelist of the Committee; contact person of the Administration Office of the Committee

■ N/A

3. Contact Information (E-mail address, postal address, telephone no, fax no and website, etc)

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4. Structure of the Committee and any subsidiary bodies

■ N/A

5. Statutes and terms of reference of the Committee

■ N/A

6. Fundamental resources for year 2016-2017

■ Budget: Approximately USD 150,000 in total for the two-year period (2016: USD 75,000 / 2017: USD 75,000)

- These funds were financial contributions from the Cultural Heritage Administration of Korea (CHA) for the purposes of organizing the 7th and 8th UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Training Workshops

7. Activities and achievements for year 2016-2017

■ (2017) Inscription of 3 items on the Memory of the World International Register

- The Archives of the National Debt Redemption Movement
- Documents on Joseon Tongsinisa/Chosen Tsushinshi: The History of Peace Building and Cultural Exchanges between Korea and Japan from the 17th to 19th Century
- Royal Seal and Investiture Book Collection of the Joseon Dynasty

■ (2017) 8th UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Training Workshop

- This workshop was arranged jointly by KNCU, CHA and the Namibia National Commission for UNESCO, with the aim of helping under-represented fellow countries in the Africa Region to prepare their nominations for the Memory of the World (MOW) International Register.
- Date: 16-19 October 2017
- Venue: Windhoek, Namibia
- Participant Countries: Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Sudan, Zimbabwe

■ (2016) 7th UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Training Workshop

- Date: 26-29 September 2016
- Venue: Suva, Fiji
- Participant Countries: Nauru, Tuvalu, Bangladesh, Solomon Islands, Lao PDR, Maldives, Cambodia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa

■ Support for the establishment of an International Centre for Documentary Heritage under the auspices of UNESCO (Category 2) in the city of Cheongju

- The Government of the Republic of Korea submitted a formal proposal to the Director-General of UNESCO for the establishment of an International Centre for Documentary Heritage (ICDH) as a UNESCO category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

- KNCU, together with the National Archives of Korea and the city of Cheongju, provided support for the establishment of the ICDH in Korea.
- The proposal for the establishment of the ICDH as a UNESCO category 2 centre was approved at the 39th session of the UNESCO General Conference (39 C/Resolution 40).
- The ICDH, which will be located in Cheongju, will undertake research and provide education in the area of documentary heritage, as well as working to implement the Recommendation Concerning the Preservation of, and Access, to Documentary Heritage Including in Digital Form (2015).

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

- Korea has protected and preserved important national documentary heritage through its own system for designation of cultural heritage under the Cultural Heritage Protection Act enacted in 1961. The national treasure list, which includes items of documentary heritage, can be considered to be equivalent to a National MOW Register.

9. Working plan for year 2018 – 2019

- 9th UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Training Workshop
 - KNCU and CHA will jointly organize the 9th Regional Training Workshop in July 2018 with the aim of supporting under-represented fellow countries in the Asia-Pacific Region to prepare their nominations for the MOW International Register.
 - Date: 10-13 July 2018
 - Venue: Seoul, Republic of Korea

- UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize Award Ceremony
 - Korea established the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize in 2005, in commemoration of the inscription on the MOW International Register of Jikji, the world's oldest book known to have been printed using movable metal type. KNCU will work closely with the Cheongju Municipal Government to help organize the 6th Awards Ceremony for the prize.
 - Date: 1 October 2018
 - Venue: Cheongju, Republic of Korea

- **10th UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Training Workshop**
 - KNCU and CHA will jointly organize the 10th Regional Training Workshop in 2019 with the aim of supporting under-represented fellow countries in the Arab Region to prepare their nominations for the MOW International Register. (*Local partners to be decided)

- **Expert Consultation Meeting on the Operation of the ICDH**
 - Holding of two sessions of an Expert Consultation Meeting to develop plans for operations and programmes of the ICDH issues. The first session of the Expert Consultation Meeting was held 17 Apr 2018 in Paris. The second session will be held in October 2018 in Cheongju, Republic of Korea.

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

- **Launching of the ICDH**
 - KNCU will provide advice and cooperate closely with other stakeholders on the launch of the ICDH and establishment of its working processes.
- **Establishing and maintaining a national Memory of the World Committee**
 - KNCU will support and collaborate on the establishment of a Korean national Memory of the World Committee

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

- Expert Consultation Meeting on the Operation of the ICDH (1st session: 17 Apr 2018 Paris, France / 2nd session: Oct 2018 Cheongju, Korea)
- UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize Award Ceremony (1 Oct 2018)
- UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Workshop for Asia-Pacific Region (10-13 Jul 2018)

12. What actions have been taken to implement the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage?

- **International Council on Archives Congress 2016 Seoul Communiqué**
 - The National Archives of Korea released the 2016 Seoul Communiqué in support of international organizations' policy initiatives and the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage, and to help strengthen international cooperation with world experts in the field of archives.