

# **MEMORY OF THE WORLD PROGRAMME**

## **Report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Committee Meeting for the Memory of the World Programme in Asia/Pacific (MOWCAP)**

**17-18 February 2008  
National Library of Australia, Canberra**

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 The 3<sup>rd</sup> UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Committee Meeting for Asia and the Pacific was convened by the UNESCO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Bureau of MOWCAP together with support from the National Library of Australia and the Australian Memory of the World Committee on 17 and 18 February 2008 at the National Library of Australia, Canberra.

1.2 The meeting's objectives were:

- i) to receive reports from the Bureau, national committees and the Goodwill Patron;
- ii) to consider the recommendations of the Register Subcommittee for inscriptions to the Regional Register and to announce the successful inscriptions;
- iii) to consider the report of the Editorial Subcommittee and its current publishing project;
- iv) to assist the development of national Memory of the World committees;
- v) to review the forward work plan;
- vi) to advance the development of "Memory of the World" within the region; and
- vii) to make appropriate preparations for the Asia Pacific region contribution to the International MOW Conference.

1.3 The meeting was attended by some 33 delegates including 28 participants from 15 countries (Australia, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, New Zealand, Vanuatu, Fiji, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam), 3 UNESCO officials (UNESCO HQ, UNESCO Bangkok, UNESCO Apia), and 2 representatives from different regions (Africa, and Latin and Caribbean). Please refer to **Appendix B** for the complete listing of participants.

1.4 Apologies were recorded from Dr Alla Aslitdinova (Tajikistan), Ms Sarah Choy (Hong Kong SAR, China), Prof. Domii Tumurtogoo (Mongolia), Mr Marat Rakhmatullaev (Uzbekistan) who were unable to be present due to travel or financial practicalities.

## **2. Opening Ceremony**

## **Welcome Remarks**

2.1 Dr. Jan Lyall, Chair of the Australian Memory of the World Committee, opened the meeting, and extended a warm welcome to all participants. The opening remark was followed by a brief congratulatory remark delivered by Ms. Joie Springer, Acting Chief of the Section for Universal Access and Preservation, UNESCO HQ.

## **Introduction of Participants and Observers**

2.2 Mr. Ray Edmondson, Chair of MOWCAP, introduced members of the MOWCAP Bureau to the meeting. MOWCAP extended Bureau Members present were:

Chairperson: Mr. Ray Edmondson (Australia)

Vice-Chairperson: Ms. Carmen Padilla (Philippines)

Secretary-General: Mr. Simon F.K. Chu (Hong Kong SAR, China)

UNESCO Regional Advisor: Dr. Susanne Ornager (UNESCO Bangkok Office)

Register Subcommittee Chair: Dr. M. R. Rujaya Abhakorn (Thailand)

Editorial Subcommittee Chair: Dr. Eun-su Cho (Republic of Korea)

Special Adviser: Mr. Jinsung Jeon (Republic of Korea)

2.3 Participants and observers were then invited to make brief self-introductory remarks including Ms. Elizabeth F. Watson (Vice-chair of the MOW Regional Committee in Latin America and Caribbean), and Ms. Ellen Ndeshi Namhila (representative from the MOW Regional Committee in Africa).

## **Opening Remarks from UNESCO Regional Advisor**

2.4 Dr. Susanne Ornager, Regional Advisor for Communication and Information in Asia UNESCO Bangkok expressed her gratitude to the Australian hosts for their kind support in organizing the meeting. She outlined MOWCAP's major achievements over the past 2 years, and highlighted the various efforts of the bureau to promote the programme in the region including publication of a coffee table book on Asia-Pacific documentary heritage, the visit of the goodwill patron to Lao PDR, Vietnam and Cambodia in 2007, and the launching of the MOWCAP

website. In closing, she expressed her hope that the meeting would contribute to the future development of MOWCAP as well as the establishment of a national committee for MOW in all 45 member states in the region, noting that Singapore had recently joined UNESCO (and will be part of the Bangkok cluster).

### **3. Adoption of Agenda**

3.1 The draft agenda (**Appendix A**) was adopted with minor amendments: Since Dr. Cho, chair of the editorial subcommittee, was only able to attend on the afternoon of 18 February 2008, presentation of the report from the MOWCAP Editorial Subcommittee was rescheduled for the same afternoon.

### **4. Establishment of Voting Status & Appointment of Rapporteur**

#### **Establishment of Voting Status**

4.1 In accordance with the MOWCAP Rules of Procedure, the delegates from the “Memory of the World” national committee of each participating country (Australia, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam) were each given one vote. In addition, it was agreed that one vote was given to delegates representing the Pacific island countries. It was noted that eligibility rested on whether the group in each country had responsibility for MOW matters and fulfilled the function of a MOW national committee as defined in the *General Guidelines*, irrespective of whether they are formally styled as “national MOW committee”.

#### **Appointment of Rapporteur**

4.2 Mr. Simon F.K. Chu (Hong Kong SAR, China) and Mr. Jinsung Jeon (Republic of Korea) were appointed as the rapporteurs for the meeting.

### **5. Overview of International MOW Programme**

5.1 Ms. Joie Springer gave an overview of the international MOW programme. She highlighted the major achievements of the programme, for example: increased

awareness of the programme within UNESCO, increased interest in the MOW international register among member states, a series of training programmes offered to member states, establishment of the UNESCO-Jikji Memory of the World Prize and award ceremony, and the establishment of MOW regional committees for the Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, and Africa.

5.2 However, Ms. Springer also pointed out some of the shortfalls of the programme, including low visibility of the programme, lack of sustainable funding sources, shortages of staff members, and low programme implementation. To overcome these obstacles, she stressed the importance of networking, improving the MOW programme profile at the national level, and finding creative ways to mobilize assistance.

## **6. Overview of Regional Asia/Pacific MOW Programme**

6.1 Dr. Susanne Ornager presented the UNESCO Bangkok Office's recent marketing efforts to increase the visibility of the MOW programme in the region, including production of bookmarks and a coffee table book on Asia-Pacific documentary heritage. In addition, she noted that UNESCO is currently developing an appropriate working methodology for inter-sectoral cooperation between the UNESCO Culture Sector and the Communication and Information Sector.

## **7. Review of Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> MOWCAP Meeting (2005)**

7.1 Mr. Simon Chu, Secretary-General of the MOWCAP Bureau, presented the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> MOWCAP meeting including the main outcomes, such as adoption of MOWCAP statutes and rules, adoption of election rules, establishment of regional MOW register guidelines and processes, election of the MOWCAP bureau, development of the MOWCAP website (<http://www.unesco.mowcap.org>), development of regional projects, and discussion of fund-raising methods for MOWCAP activities. After the presentation, the minutes were adopted without any amendments. (The minutes are posted on the MOWCAP website).

## **8. Report on Bureau Activities 2005 – 2008**

8.1 Mr. Ray Edmonson, Chair of MOWCAP, presented a report on MOWCAP activities carried out between 2005 and 2008. He noted the MOWCAP Bureau's efforts to raise awareness of the programme in the Asia Pacific region, including a set of bookmarks depicting local documentary heritage, a coffee table book, and a MOW cap (sale of the caps was originally intended as part of a fundraising effort but the caps were now given out for free as a promotion measure). In addition, he discussed the results of the three MOW workshops held in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

8.2 He then pointed out that the number of MOW national committees in the region and their functionality have not been fully identified, and that it would require further clarification. Concerning financial and other resources, he explained that MOWCAP's operating resources come from various sources, including the immense commitment of volunteers and the costs-in-kind absorbed by supportive institutions. He further noted that direct financial costs have been met by UNESCO's Regional Office in Bangkok and thanked them for their assistance. He also thanked the Australian MOW Committee and the National Library of Australia who contributed greatly to organizing the meeting.

## **9. Report from Goodwill Patron**

9.1 Dr. Rujaya Abhakorn, who was appointed "Goodwill Patron" by the MOWCAP Bureau and UNESCO, reported on his mission to Lao PDR and Vietnam respectively in July and August 2007, and intensive communication with Cambodian authorities for submission of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum Archive to the MOW Regional Register. His efforts as Goodwill Patron to promote the MOW programme by helping member countries to establish national committees was well recognized and endorsed by the meeting participants.

## **10. Reports from National MOW Committees and UNESCO National Commissions**

10.1 Mr. Ray Edmonson invited all participating countries to present on the structure and main activities of their MOW national committees. For those countries that have not yet established national committees, representatives from the national commission for UNESCO briefly presented their plans and steps toward doing so. Presentations were given in the following order; Republic of Korea,

Sri Lanka, China, Thailand, Lao DPR, Joint committee for Pacific island countries, New Zealand, Indonesia, Macau, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, Australia. Please refer to **Appendix C** for the complete set of country reports.

10.2 In particular, it was noted that apart from Australia and New Zealand, none of the fifteen Pacific island countries have documentary heritage listed on the international MOW register. Limited resources and inadequate communication infrastructures were identified as the greatest challenges facing those countries. It was noted that more attention and support from UNESCO and other member states is required to overcome this situation.

## **11. Discussion on Setting up and Operating National MOW Committees**

11.1 Mr. Ray Edmonson opened the discussion on setting up and operating national MOW committee. He pointed out that activities varied according to the interests and environments of different countries. However, he stressed that MOW national committees should remain flexible and accessible in order to not become be another form of bureaucracy.

11.2 Regarding use of the MOW logo, Ms Joie Springer stated that the current MOW logo is under reappraisal as part of a general review of UNESCO branding. Until this task is completed, the current logo should always be used in tandem with the main UNESCO logo – not on its own. The MOW programme will be fully consulted in the course of this review. It was noted in passing that experience in using the logo to date has revealed some of its limitations – for example, it is language dependent, does not reproduce well in black and white and is visually complex.

11.3 It was noted with pleasure that, during the course of the meeting, the Cambodian delegate received official confirmation that the instrument establishing the Cambodian MOW Committee had been signed by the King of Cambodia.

## **12. Role of Regional Committee**

12.1 Ms. Joie Springer stated that there are currently three MOW Regional

Committees (Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, and Africa). Potentially sub-regional committees could be formed based on geographical location or inter-country commonalities such as shared languages. Mr. Ray Edmonson, then invited the floor to discuss the role of MOW regional committee and other related issues.

12.2 Since many member states in the region still lack experience with filling in a MOW nomination form, it was requested that MOWCAP actively assisted countries in need by organizing a workshop or seminar on the MOW nomination procedure and other useful tips. It was understood that such mentoring efforts would contribute to improved representation of countries that are under- or non-represented in the international MOW register. However, it was equally stressed that each country must do some ground work before soliciting outside help.

12.3 In relation to the current MOW nomination form, some participants pointed out that the current form are rather complicated and difficult to understand. It was suggested that the form be simplified and clarified.

12.4 Since UNESCO HQ has faced some difficulties in collecting information on each member country's MOW activities, it was suggested that the regional committees, acting as intermediary bodies between UNESCO HQ and MOW national committees, were better placed to monitor and mentor national committees and collect necessary information on a regular basis on behalf of the Paris HQ. In this regard, establishing a one tier reporting system (national committee – regional committee – UNESCO) and closer working relationships between regional and national committees were proposed.

12.5 Some participants pointed out that MOW was still seriously under-resourced, with various limitations. In order to improve the situation, a few suggestions were made including establishment of a MOW Convention and organization of more active fundraising activities.

### **13. MOWCAP Bureau Marketing Efforts**

13.1 Dr. Susanne Ornager stressed that more coherent and coordinated marketing efforts were needed to improve visibility of the MOW programme and UNESCO in the region. She suggested production of a short video clip to be shown

on airplanes as one form of marketing.

## **14. Discussion of MOW Registers - International, Regional and National – and Their Relationship**

14.1 Mr. Ray Edmonson moved onto discussion of the purpose and value of the MOW register, and the different interrelated levels of MOW register. Over the past years, the MOW register has greatly contributed to the promotion of documentary heritage while attracting more attention from the general public worldwide. However, it was pointed out that the aim of the programme was not only about conserving documentary heritage but empowering people with knowledge and information.

14.2 As regards the three different levels of register (national-regional-international), it was pointed out that the distinction between them was based solely on the geographical impact and influence of the documentary heritage. Included in each register. However, since the geographical impact of each item cannot always be accurately measured, participants expressed the need for further clarification on the distinction between different registers.

## **15. Regional Project : Coffee Table Book**

15.1 Since the report on the publication of a coffee table book, an on-going regional project, was scheduled to be presented at a later stage of the meeting, participants were invited to propose additional regional projects. Training workshops, seminars, and mentoring activities regarding MOW nomination were suggested as possible regional projects.

## **16. Fundraising and Financing of MOWCAP**

16.1 When discussing fundraising, the issue about MOWCAP's legal capacity to receive donation and opening a bank account was raised again by Secretary-General Mr. Simon Chu. Concerning the limited resources for MOWCAP, a discussion was held on fund raising methods, relevant guidelines, and opening of a bank account

for MOWCAP. It was noted that MOWCAP could not seek to raise funds or gather sponsorship unless it had the formal means to manage such funds and be accountable for them. The lack of such facility has been an inhibition to date. As a possible option, opening a bank account in Hong Kong under the relevant societies ordinance was suggested by Simon Chu. It was understood that this was a complex procedure: it would give MOWCAP a legal personality while not requiring it to formally incorporate. There was discussion on the precise legal nature of MOWCAP.

16.2 Ms Joie Springer noted that since MOW is a UNESCO programme, it might be more appropriate to first investigate the possibility of allowing MOWCAP to have its formal personality within the UNESCO structure and thereby allowing it to establish a bank account within that structure. She said she would consult with the appropriate person at UNESCO HQ on the best way ahead and inform the MOWCAP Bureau of the outcome. Ms Springer also stressed that the parameters of the UNESCO mandate should not be forgotten when carrying out fundraising activities or working with the private sector.

16.3 Whatever the final course of action, it was felt prudent for MOWCAP to adopt a formal resolution on the matter. Should the “Hong Kong option” be proceeded with, it would be essential to have a motion of this meeting which could be cited as the Bureau’s authority for action. It was therefore resolved by the meeting that:

***For the purpose of establishing a legal personality and the ability to manage a bank account, to receive donations and income, the meeting resolves to register MOWCAP as an association under the Societies Ordinance of Hong Kong.***

Action on this resolution would be subject to prior advice from Ms Springer as mentioned before.

## **17. Report of MOWCAP Register Sub-committee**

17.1 Dr. Rujaya Abhakorn informed the meeting that four applications for nomination to the regional MOW register had been received from Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Thailand.

- i) Australia, Landmark constitutional documents of the commonwealth of Australia
- ii) Cambodia, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum Archives
- iii) Indonesia, Nagara Kertagama: one of the oldest historical accounts on palm leaf manuscripts in existence in Southeast Asia.
- iv) Thailand, The epigraphic archives of Wat Pho.

17.2 It was recommended by the MOWCAP Register Sub-committee that the four items be inscribed to the regional register. MOWCAP member countries with a voting right considered and voted on each nomination in turn. In each case, the vote was unanimous in favour of inscription. (Also in each case, the delegate from the nominating country abstained from voting).

17.3 Concerning the MOWCAP regional register nomination form, Dr. Abhakorn recommended that the current form be revised to clear away any ambiguities. He also proposed the use of new electronic communication media such as Skype for more efficient and cost-effective communication among sub-committee members.

17.4 Dr. Abhakorn stated that the next nomination deadline for MOWCAP regional register would be announced on the MOWCAP website in due course.

## **18. Presentation on MOW Regional Committee in Latin America and Caribbean (MOWLAC)**

18.1 Ms. Elizabeth F. Watson, Vice-chair of MOWLAC, gave a presentation on the historical background of the region and MOW activities in the region. She highlighted some similarities and differences between the LAC and AP region, and drew comparisons between MOWCAP and MOWLAC. She enumerated MOWLAC's key responsibilities as follows:

- i) to further the MOW programme in the region;
- ii) to encourage the development of national committees;
- iii) to develop regional projects;
- iv) to encourage the development of regional and national registers; and
- v) to encourage member states to submit collections for inscription to the international register.

18.2 Even though 18 national committees have been established in the region to date, many are not truly active. Thus, reenergizing them while establishing more national committees in the region have been identified as future tasks for MOWLAC. Fragmentation of culture and identity, rooted in the past history of colonialism, and political and economic instability as well as lack of interest in and poor safety measures for documentary heritage have been identified as the main challenges facing MOWLAC.

18.3 Despite these many challenges in the region, significant achievements have been made, including the inscription of 24 items from the region to the international MOW register. She further noted that MOWLAC aimed to improve their web presence, develop national registers in countries without it, and improve the number of international inscriptions, and so forth. In addition, she noted that MOWLAC was planning to submit a cross-regional nomination in relation to the Indian slavery route in 2011.

## **19. Presentation on MOW Regional Committee in Africa (ARCMOW)**

19.1 Ms. Elle Ndeshi Namhila, representative of the MOW regional committee in Africa, briefed members that the African Regional Committee for MOW (ARCMOW) was established and held their first meeting in January 2008 in the Republic of South Africa. She added that the committee consisted of representatives from different language groups but had not yet been fully functional.

19.2 She also briefly noted that Africa had a rich cultural and historical heritage, most of which was suppressed, destroyed, and exported during the colonization of Africa. What had survived by accident or by local resilience was often ignored by Africans themselves because of poverty, and the neocolonial education system. In this regard, she regarded the value of the MOW as an incentive to examine and evaluate their culture and heritage, and to encourage local efforts to keep it alive and preserved.

## **20. Report of Editorial Sub-Committee**

20.1 Dr. Eun-su Cho, Chair of the Editorial Sub-committee, and Mr. Nick

Deocampo, editor of the coffee table book, presented a progress report on MOWCAP's new initiative 'Coffee table book publication' including description of the material, and content and a tentative table of contents. According to Mr. Deocampo, the book consisted of three parts: an introduction of the organization; descriptions of Asia-Pacific documentary heritages listed in the internal or regional MOW register; and an item and country index. However, Mr. Deocampo suggested that the items be categorized by genre, such as architectural design, artifact, film and audiovisual document, music, printed literature, recorded sound, and so forth rather than by alphabetical country order. Dr. Rujaya Abhakorn also proposed different styles of categorization, such as freedom, liberation, sacred words, routes, invention of languages, good governance and arts of ruling, and healing and medicine. The editorial sub-committee took note of this suggestion.

20.2 Mr. Deocampo then explained the finalization process and respective schedule for the work. He distributed a 'contributor's guideline' and requested contributions from member states in collecting necessary materials such as images, short essays, and poems to be included in the book. The initial deadline for submissions was proposed for the end of July 2008. It was projected that the book would be published by December 2008.

20.3 After the presentation, some participants questioned whether the book should be published for commercial purposes based on a contract with publisher or published based on sponsorship. It was decided that the MOWCAP bureau would try to find sponsors for this project in cooperation with member countries.

## **21. Presentation on the Great Asian Tsunami of 2004**

21.1 A presentation prepared by Mr. Jan Sopaheluwakan on the 2004 Tsunami illustrated the collection of records on this disaster. Mr. Sopaheluwakan stressed the importance of safeguarding documentary heritage in vulnerable areas that were threatened by natural disasters. A "Memory of the Tsunami" nomination for the regional and international registers is in contemplation.

## **22. Summation and Action Plans**

22.1 Mr. Ray Edmonson briefly summarized the important points raised during

the MOWCAP meeting and invited comments from the floor. Some different views were expressed concerning the issue of drawing up an international convention on MOW. Members agreed in principle. Members then discussed the issue of the MOW logo, and confirmed the need for a new one. Finally, establishing MOWCAP as a legal entity and opening a bank account were discussed. It was decided that no action would be taken until Ms. Joie Springer reported on the outcome of her investigation.

## **23. Closing**

23.1 At the end of the meeting, Ms. Susanne Ornager expressed her gratitude to Dr. Jan Lyall, Chair of the Australian Memory of the World Committee, Mr. Ray Edmondson, Chairperson of the MOWCAP, and the host institution for their commendable organization of the meeting and hospitality. She also thanked all the participants from different parts of the Asia-Pacific region for their active participation and valuable contributions.

# **APPENDIX A - Agenda**

## **UNESCO 'MEMORY OF THE WORLD' REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (MOWCAP)**

### **THE THIRD GENERAL MEETING February 17 and 18, 2008 National Library of Australia, Canberra**

#### **AGENDA**

##### **DAY 1**

1. Opening ceremony  
Dr Jan Lyall, Chair, Australian Memory of the World Committee  
Mrs Joie Springer, UNESCO Paris  
Representative of National Library of Australia
2. Opening remarks from UNESCO Regional Advisor  
Dr Susanne Ornager
3. Roll call, establishment of voting status and appointment of rapporteur
4. Adoption of agenda
5. Business arrangements and expectations of the meeting
6. Overview of international MoW program  
Mrs Joie Springer
7. Overview of regional Asia/Pacific MoW program  
Dr Susanne Ornager  
Mr Ray Edmondson, MOWCAP Chair

8. \*Review of minutes of the second MOWCAP Meeting ( 2005)  
Mr Simon Chu, MOWCAP Secretary General
9. \*Report on Bureau activities 2005 to 2008  
Mr Ray Edmondson
10. \*Report from Goodwill Patron  
Dr Rujaya Abhakorn
11. \*Reports from National MoW Committees and UNESCO National Commissions
12. Discussion on reports
13. \*Discussion on setting up and operating national MOW committees
14. \*Pacific countries in MOWCAP:  
Committee structure  
Pacific inventory  
Towards a Pacific Register
15. Summation of the day, and action arising

## **DAY 2**

16. \*Report from MOWCAP Editorial Subcommittee  
Dr Eun-su Cho, Chair  
Mr Nick Deocampo, Editor
17. \*Report from MOWCAP Register Subcommittee  
Dr Rujaya Abhakorn, Chair
18. Discussion and decision on proposed inscriptions to the Asia Pacific Regional Register
19. Presentation on MOWLAC  
Ms Elizabeth Watson, Deputy Chair of MOWLAC

20. Presentation on African Regional Committee  
Ms Mandy Gilder, Chair of African Regional Committee
21. Discussion on role of regional committees
22. Discussion on MOW Registers – international, regional and national – and their relationships
23. Regional projects
24. Fundraising and financing of MOWCAP
25. Discussion of forward plan
26. Any other business
27. Summation and action arising
28. Closing ceremony

\* Denotes agenda paper or paper

## **APPENDIX B : Participants**

### **Australia**

Adrian CUNNINGHAM: Director, Strategic Relation, National Archives of Australia

Ray EDMONDSON: Principal of Archives Associates, former Deputy Director General of the National Film and Sound Archives of Australia

### **Cambodia**

Chea SORPHORN Secretary of State in charge of Council of Ministers

### **China**

LI Minghua Deputy Director General, State Archives Administration China

LI Wendong State Archives Administration of China

Simon F.K. CHU Adjunct Associate Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong and former Government Records Service Director of the Hong Kong SAR.

Helen H.K. Jeong Functional Head, Public Access and Document Unit, University of Macau Library, Macau SAR

### **Indonesia**

Jan SOPAHELUWAKAN Research Professor and Deputy Chair for Scientific Services, Indonesian Institute of Sciences  
Chair, Indonesia MOW Committee

### **Korea**

SUH, Kyung-Ho Professor, Dept. of Chinese Language & Literature, Seoul National University

CHO Eun-su Director, International Centre for Korean Studies, Seoul National University

JEON Jinsung Programme Specialist, Korean National Commission for UNESCO

### **Laos**

THONGSA, Sayavongkhamdy Director General, Department of National Heritage,  
Ministry of Information and Culture  
Chair of Sub-Commission on Culture for UNESCO

### **Malaysia**

Munazzah ZAKARIA Deputy Director, National Library of Malaysia

### **New Zealand**

STEVENSON, Alison Director, New Zealand Electronic Text Centre.  
John Heremia MOHI Director, Services to MAORI, Pan-Library  
Responsibility for International Relations, National  
Library of New Zealand  
Evelyn WAREHAM Manager, Government Recordkeeping Programme,  
Archives New Zealand

### **Pacific – Apia Samoa**

Abel CAINE Adviser Communication & Information, Cluster  
Office for the Pacific States

### **Pacific – Vanuatu**

Ralph REGENVANU Director, Council Board Member, Pacific Islands  
Museums Association

### **Pacific – Fiji**

Setareki TALE President of PARBICA  
Sin Joan YEE University Librarian, University of the South Pacific  
Laucala Bay.

### **Philippines**

Carmen PADILLA  
Nick DEOCAMPO  
Ana LABRADOR Vice Chairperson, International Council of Museums,  
International Committee for the Training of  
Personnel.

### **Sri Lanka**

Saroja WETTASINGHE Director National Archives

### **Thailand**

Prachark WATTANANUSIT Secretary, Thai National Committee on MOW  
Programme of UNESCO

Rujaya ABHAKORN Goodwill Patron of MOWCAP

### **Uzbekistan**

Dilshod YUSUPOV Chairman of Uzbekistan University Libraries' Section  
Vice-Rector, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of  
Uzbekistan Tashkent State Institute of Law

### **Vietnam**

TRAN Hoang Director General, State Records and Archives  
Department

NGUYEN Pham Kim Chi Senior Official, Vietnam National Commission of  
UNESCO

### **UNESCO**

Susanne ORNAGER Adviser for Communication and Information in Asia  
UNESCO Bangkok

Joie SPRINGER Programme Specialist, Information Society Division,  
Communication and Information Sector, Paris.

### **MOWLAC**

Elizabeth WATSON Librarian, University of the West Indies

### **MOW Africa**

Ellen NAMHILA

## APPENDIX C – Countries' Reports

# Memory of the World Programme in Korea

Korean National Commission for UNESCO

## I. The Institutional Framework on Documentary Heritage

### 1. Mechanisms

#### A. Historical Documentary Heritage

Historical documentary heritage is preserved in the same manner as other kinds of heritage, under three basic mechanisms concerning cultural properties.

1) *Cultural Properties Protection Law (CPPL)*

The purpose of this law, promulgated on 10 January 1962, is to contribute to the cultural advancement of the general public as well as to the cultural development of human beings through the preservation and utilization of cultural properties. The CPPL provides a comprehensive legal framework, such as definitions of cultural properties, the establishment of a Committee on Cultural Properties, the designation of national cultural properties, protection, investigation, and so on.

2) *Committee on Cultural Properties (CCP)*

The CCP currently consists of 90 experts in the field of cultural properties. The CCP determines basic policies on nationally designated cultural properties, and conducts research, development, and evaluations of cultural properties. The CCP is divided into 8 sub-committees in accordance with the categories of cultural properties. Documentary heritage belongs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> sub-committee that deals with movable cultural properties, which is

composed of 13 members who specialized in the field of art, Korean history, and preservation.

### 3) Cultural Heritage Administration (CHA)

The CHA is a special bureau under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, which implements preservation, restoration, enhancement, and publicization of cultural properties.

### 4) Related Institutions

- The Academy of Korean Studies
- *Kyuganggak* Archives
- National History Compilation Commission
- Korean Institute of Korean History
- Korean Studies Advancement Center
- National Research Institute of Cultural Properties

## **B. Other Documentation**

Other documentation besides historic documentation such as films, modern documentation, and so on, are promoted and preserved according to established legal frameworks:

- Film Promotion and Preservation Law (1995)
- Public Records Management Act (1999)
- Library Promotion Law (2003)

The representative institutions are the National Library of Korea, the Korea Film Archive, and the Research Institute for Korean Archives and Records.

## **2. Archives**

The two main archives in Korea are the *Kyuganggak* Archives and the National Archives and Record Services. The former holds old documents from the *Choson* Dynasty (1392-1910), while the latter holds comparatively modern documents of the Republic of Korea, including those from Japanese colonial rule to the

present date. (1910-present)

1) *Kyujanggak Archives*

*The Kyujanggak Archives* were established as the royal archives of the *Choson* Dynasty in 1776, and rare books and documents from the Dynasty were collected and preserved. The collection consists of approximately 150,000 volumes of old books and over 100,000 other materials, including 5 national treasures and 8 treasures such as the “Annals of *Choson* Dynasty”, as MOW-registered heritage. In addition, computerized indices and databases have been completed, and online data retrieval through the internet is also available.

2) *National Archives and Records Services (NARS)*

NARS was established in 1969. As a central records and archives management institution in Korea, NARS establishes public records and archives management policies and provides guidance on and supervises public records management in public agencies. NARS also preserves national archival material to safeguard the nation’s history, and provides access to the public. The collection includes millions of government documents, drawings, audio-visual materials, microfilms, and publications. Approximately 1.3 million records have been entered into the automated system in order to preserve the originals and provide online access. All archival material will be uploaded into the system within five years.

3) *Others*

- The Academy of Korean Studies
- National Institute of Korean History
- National Library
- Korean Studies Advancement Center
- University Libraries, etc.

## II. Memory of the World (MOW) Activities in Korea

The Memory of the World Programme in Korea, including a register of MOW and other promotion activities, was implemented and coordinated through the Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU). The main programmes are as follows:

### 1. The 5<sup>th</sup> MOW Advisory Committee Meeting

The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Advisory Committee for the "Memory of the World" Programme (IAC) was organized by KNCU in cooperation with Cheongju City from 27-29 June 2001 in Cheongju City. The purpose of the Meeting was to review the Programme's progress and to assess nominations for inclusion on the MOW register. 10 members of the IAC, 3 ex-officio members of the Committee, and 2 representatives from UNESCO participated in the meeting.

### 2. Regional Workshops

Within the framework of the MOW Programme, KNCU and Cheongju City, with the support of UNESCO, jointly organized the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> UNESCO Regional Training Workshops on the Preservation of and Access to Documentary Heritage in Asia and the Pacific in Cheongju City. Around 10-15 professionals from some 10-13 countries in the region participated in each Workshop.

#### 1) 1st Workshop

- 5–8 June 2002 , Cheongju City
- 'Preserving Access to Paper-based Documents'

#### 2) 2nd Workshop

- 4-7 September 2004, Cheongju City
- 'Digitalization of Documentary Heritage for Preservation and Access'

#### 3) 3rd Workshop in 2006

- 4-7 September 2006 Cheongju City
- 'Risk-preparedness and Preservation Treatment of Documentary

## Heritage'

Greatly aware of the necessity and importance of expanding regional cooperation in enhancing capability for documentary heritage preservation in Asia, KNCU also initiated the UNESCO Cooperative Project on the Preservation of Documentary Heritage in Asia 2006. Pursuant to the first workshop that was successfully held in Mongolia in 2006, KNCU helped the second training workshop held in Sri Lanka in June 2007, which was jointly organized by UNESCO and the Sri Lankan National Library and Documentation Services Boards, and financially sponsored by the Cheongju Municipal Government.

### **3. UNESCO Jikji/Memory of the World Prize**

The UNESCO Jikji/Memory of the World Prize was established in April 2004 to further promote the objectives of the MOW Programme and to commemorate the inscription of Jikji, the oldest known book of movable metal print in the world. KNCU played an instrumental role in establishing the Prize and supported the organization of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize Award Ceremonies held respectively in 2005 and 2007.

The National Library of the Czech Republic and the Austrian Academy of Sciences were awarded the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize respectively in 2005 and 2007 in recognition of their contributions to the preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage. (The Prize, consisting of an award of US\$ 30,000, is given every two years to individuals or institutions that have made significant contributions to the preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage).

### **4. Others**

In cooperation with Cheongju City and the Goethe Institute, the Exhibition of *Jikji* and the Gutenberg Bible was held in Germany from 22 September – 5 October 2003, with an International Symposium on the Development of Early Printing Cultures held concurrently. The digitalization of *Jikji* was also implemented in 2003 to ensure the accessibility and promotion of *Jikji*, the oldest book of movable metal type printing, which is housed in the French National Library.

### **III. National Committee and MOW Register**

#### **1. MOW Register**

The official process of nomination of Korean heritage to the MOW register is managed by the Cultural Heritage Administration(CHA). In close cooperation with KNCU, CHA has been initiating and supporting nominations for the international MOW register, together with publicity, promotion and awareness raising, and cooperation with various bodies concerned at the national level. (National selection process is managed by the sub-committee on movable cultural properties within CHA)

#### ***Registered Documentary Heritages***

- *Annals of Choson Dynasty*, 1997
- *Hunmin-chongum* Manuscript, 1997  
(The royal proclamation of the creation and use of the Korean alphabet)
- *Seungjeongwon Ilgi*, 2001 (The Diaries of the Royal Secretariat)
- *Buljo Jikji Simche Yojeol*, 2001 (the second volume of the ‘Anthology of Great Buddhist Priest Zen Teachings’)
- Printing woodblocks of the Tripitaka Koreana and miscellaneous Buddhist scriptures, 2007
- *Uigwe*, 2007 (The Royal Protocols of the Joseon Dynasty)

#### **2. National Committee**

In Korea, a National Committee for MOW has not yet been established. KNCU and the CHA sub-committee on movable cultural properties actually serves as a MOW national committee. However, since the UNESCO MOW programmes include various forms of documentary heritage, they involve a wide range of institutions that specialize in different fields, which makes coordination difficult. In this regard, the establishment of the Committee is considered positively by KNCU.

The Committee would consist of representatives from related governmental organizations, such as *the Kyuganggak* Archives, the National Archives and Records Services, and renowned experts in related fields. The proposed functions of the National Committee would be the selection of nominations for

the MOW register, approval of the usage of the MOW logo in Korea, participation of international MOW activities, fundraising for the implementation of domestic MOW activities, and facilitation of information sharing and joint projects among related organizations in Korea.

# MEMORY OF THE WORLD OF INDONESIA:

## **Country report**

By

Jan Sopaheluwakan

Indonesia National Committee Memory of the World

## **Introduction**

The Memory of the World (MOW) is the documented, collective memory of the peoples of the world – their documentary heritage –, which in turn represents a large proportion of the world's cultural heritage. It charts the evolution of thought, discovery and achievement of human society. It is the legacy of the past to the world community of the present and the future.

Indonesian memory of the world documentaries stay in libraries, archives, museums and repository places across the archipelago and much of it is now at risk. Many documentary heritages are recorded in a fragile media in the sense that they are chemically unstable media made of bark, palm leaf, and woods. Moreover, humidity and high temperatures environmentally threaten these documentary heritages. This situation may create mould, pest and harmful insect to deteriorate manuscripts.

Another natural threat is that many parts of Indonesia are disaster prone areas. The presence of multicultural ethnic in the archipelago may also create potential conflicts. Human induced disasters such as flood and landslides in villages and cities, especially during rainy season, may also increased the susceptibility of dismissal of many documentary heritages.

Human ignorance or negligence in providing basic care, driven by lack of knowledge and appreciation on their documentary heritage may worsen the situation.

So far there has no report the damaged documentary heritage because of the above natural disaster. However, the disaster like Tsunami of Aceh has probably perished some local documentary heritage owned by individual of family group. Unfortunately, we do not know whether there is some documentary heritage in a particular region because they have not been registered yet.

## **Foundation and membership**

The Great Asian Tsunami and the preceding series of natural disasters has awoken the awareness amongst Indonesians on the importance of documentary heritage for the future generations. It was strongly felt that we have to provide a better access to Indonesian documentary heritage. Based on this notion we have conducted a one-day seminar on the importance of Memory of the Worlds for institutions that keep the documents and other artefacts, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2005. In this seminar the Ministry of Research and Technology stated that the programme is critically important and appointed the Indonesia Institute of Sciences to establish Indonesia National Committee of Memory of the World.

The Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) established the Indonesia National Committee Memory of the World (see attachment) with the initial participating members of The National Library of Republic of Indonesia, The Indonesian Institute of Sciences, The Ministry of Research and Technology, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, The National Center of Indonesian Languages , The National Archives, Indonesian National Commission for UNESCO (KNIU), Center of National Archaeology The Indonesian Sultanate Association, Nusantara Manuscripts Foundation (Yanassa) and Oral Traditions Association. The committee has conducted a series of campaigns and awareness on the importance of documentary heritage for nation character building.

## **Activities**

The Committee has conducted a number of internal consolidation meetings and thematic workshops attended by specialists and the public as follows:

1. Workshop Reinventing of Collective Memories: Improving Nation's Dignity on 14-15 September 2006.

This was aimed at disseminating UNECCO's guidance of Memory of the World. The workshop formulated critical issues on revitalizing national heritage by bibliographic control on manuscript (systematic documentation and networking).

## 2. Workshop Indonesian Nomination for Memory of the World on 10 May 2007.

This workshop was aimed at understanding the importance of preservation of documentary heritage, and procedure of proposing nomination of memory of the world. There were seven proposed nominators during the workshop, i.e. The Indian Ocean Tsunami, The Endangered Languages of Indonesia, Local Writing Systems in Indonesia, Nagara Kertagama, I La Galigo, Mak Yong, and Non Aligned movement. One nominator (Nagara Kertagama) is proposed to be registered.

## **Nagara Kertagama**

The panegyric poem called Nagara Kertagama written in honor of King Hayam Wuruk of Majapahit, describing the King's journey through the kingdom in an attempt to know the country and his people and to comprehend their aspiration and needs.

The Nagara Kertagama gives testimony to the reign of a king in fourteenth century Indonesia in which the modern ideas of social justice, freedom of religion, and personal safety and welfare of the people were held in high regard. It also testifies to the democratic attitude and openness of authority before the people in an era that still adhered to the absolute rights of kingship.

The author, who held an official rank in the Majapahit government, also gave an accurate description of the land and its countryside. It is interesting to note that the route of the king's journeys can be traced geographically in the present-day Java. A number of monuments have also been discovered by following indications found in this text. Through the poem, the modern reader perceives a complete and close picture of a community in fourteenth century Indonesia with the political background of the state and its government.

## **Future Activities (2008)**

1. Commemorating the 80 Years Sumpah Pemuda (Indonesian Youth Pledge)
  - a. National Congress (The National Center of Indonesian Languages )
  - b. National Exhibition
2. Submitting the Mak Yong and I La Galigo as nominator for the MOW
3. Reinventory of documents of the already proposed nominators, e.g. Local Writing Systems, Indonesian Endangered Languages

## **Funding sources**

Memory of the world activities are funded by sources such as:

1. State Annual Budget through different member institutions. Each member of National Committee of Memory of the World has allocated budget through their own system to support the activities (meetings and workshops).
2. Philanthropic funds

The Committee is in the process of further raising some other sources, including the likely philanthropic sources.

## **Issue and concerns**

1. Raising the awareness and promotion of MOW

The committee is working to increase national awareness of the significance of documentary heritage, and the need to preserve and provide access to it by a series of workshop and seminar, including raising the awareness to the school community. Public campaign to raise the importance of MOW is considered to be one of the crucial issues in the future. Best practices among MOWCAP

members are then invited.

## 2. Preservation

Some parts of Indonesia are prone to natural disasters. Many documentary heritages are recorded in a fragile media in sense of chemically unstable media that are made of bark, palm leaf, and woods. Moreover, these documentary heritages are environmentally threatened by humidity and high temperature. This situation may incur the presence of mould, pest and harmful insect to deteriorate manuscripts. Good management and surveillance practice can be applied in the storage environment of documentary heritages. Preserving intellectual content by migration to stronger media or digitations is also being considered.

## 3. Accessibility

There have been efforts to provide a better access to Indonesian documentary heritage by translating and dissemination the information, as well as calling for support from stakeholders to get access to original or copy documentary heritages that are kept overseas.

Conserving an original document and protecting its integrity is also an issue to prevent that no information is lost, and all future options for preservation and access are kept open.

Copying a document onto a different format is useful and often necessary for access purpose. Indeed, digitisation and microfilming as a means of providing universal access, and access copy of any kind will reduce the pressure on getting the original document and, hence will enhance the preservation.

## 4. Cooperation

In such an increasingly complex field, we need to share facilities and expertise. Some institutions develop specializations, and having this sort of resource sharing will lead to a cost effective service to the community.

## 5. Bibliographic control

This programme is aimed at identifying the holding and recent condition of the documents, so that they can be handled with an appropriate conservation treatment.





## **UNESCO AUSTRALIAN MEMORY OF THE WORLD COMMITTEE**

*Under the auspices of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO*

### **Report**

### **UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Program**

Prepared for UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Committee Meeting for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)

Canberra, 17-18 February 2008

Prepared by: Adrian Cunningham and Alan Howell, UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Committee

#### **1. Foundation**

The Australian Memory of the World Committee was founded on 18 December 2000, seven years after a framework was developed by the newly formed UNESCO Advisory Committee, and five years after the first Programme Guidelines were accepted at a meeting in Paris.

#### **2. Authority**

The Australian Program is conducted under the auspices of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO (the Commission), <http://www.dfat.gov.au/intorgs/unesco/>, The Commission is jointly responsible,

along with the International Advisory Committee (IOC) of the Memory of the World Programme, for endorsing the Terms of Reference of the Australian Memory of the World Committee. Members of the Australian Memory of the World Committee (see below) are also approved by the Commission.

The Commission operates as part of the Australian Federal Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), <http://www.dfat.gov.au/>.

### **3. Terms of Reference**

The Australian Memory of the World Committee has responsibility for the overall management and monitoring of the program in Australia and:

- receives and assesses nominations of documentary heritage for entry on the International and Australian Memory of the World Registers
- works in close cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organisations in establishing the Australian Memory of the World Register
- maintains the Australian Memory of the World Register
- forwards nominations to the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Program for entry on the World Register
- raises the awareness of and promotes the Memory of the World Program in Australia
- encourages and attempts to gain government and private sector sponsorship for specific Memory of the World projects and activities in Australia
- works in close cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organisations to identify and substantiate recommendations to remove entries from the Australian and World Registers
- monitors all Memory of the World activities taking place in Australia
- works in close collaboration with the Asian and Pacific Regional Memory of the World Committee
- maintains regular contact with and responds to requests from the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Program.

### **4. Committee membership**

The Australian Memory of the World Committee is drawn from a variety of institutions, organisations and individuals that reflect the diversity of moveable cultural heritage in Australia. They are conscious of the strengths of institutions

that manage Australia's heritage and are aware of the significant challenges in keeping this heritage preserved and accessible. Only one member is appointed from any one organisation or peak body. Members are chosen on the basis of their knowledge of the field and on their ability to contribute to the achievement of the Program's objectives. The Committee comprises:

**Dr Jan Lyall** (Chair and Member of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO)

**Mr Ray Edmondson** (Deputy Chair and representative of audio visual sector and of the Asia/Pacific Regional and International Memory of the World Committees)

**Mr Gordon Bower** (Treasurer)

**Ms Margy Burn** (Representative of library and preservation sectors)

Assistant Director-General, Australian Collections and Reader Services, National Library of Australia

**Mr Adrian Cunningham** (Representative of archive and preservation sectors)

Director, Strategic Relations, National Archives of Australia

**Professor Ross Harvey** (Representative of lost and missing documentary heritage sector)

Professor of Library and Information Management, Charles Sturt University

**Ms Dianne Hosking** (Representative of Indigenous sector)

Manager, Australian Indigenous Cultural Network (AICN)

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)

**Mr Alan Howell** (Website manager)

**Ms Roslyn Russell** (Representative of history sector, Rapporteur of the Bureau of the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme, Chair International Register Sub-Committee)

Roslyn Russell Museum Services

**Dr Joanna Sassoon** (Western Australian representative)

**Dr Linda Young** (Representative of museum sector)

Senior Lecturer Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies, Deakin University

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#### **ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Ms Roslyn Russell** (Chair)

**Ms Margaret Anderson** (Member)

Director, History Trust of South Australia

**Ms Maggie Shapley** (Member)

University Archivist, Australian National University (ANU)

**Dr Linda Young** (Member)

**Mr Rod Stroud (Member)**

Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

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**LOST AND MISSING DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Professor Ross Harvey (Chair)**

**Ms Anne Lloyd (Member)**

Lecturer, School of Information Studies  
Charles Sturt University

**Mr Damian Lodge (Member)**

Lecturer, School of Information Studies  
Charles Sturt University

**Mr Bob Pymm (Member)**

Lecturer, School of Information Studies  
Charles Sturt University

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**PROMOTION SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Mr Ian Cook (Chair)**

3CS AsiaPacific

**Mr Mark Nizette (Member)**

Nizette Consulting Services

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**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

**Mr Evan Gallagher**

Secretary-General of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO

## **5. Meetings**

The Committee holds approximately six meetings a year.

## **6. Funding**

The Australian Program's activities have been funded for the last two years by a grant averaging A\$12,000 per annum from the Australian National Commission for UNESCO, significant in-kind support from a number of Australia's national and state cultural institutions and the university sector, and a massive amount of volunteer effort by the honorary Committee.

## 7. Activities and achievements

In its eighth year of operation the Australian Memory of the World Program has succeeded in increasing its public profile and has gained a solid reputation nationally and internationally. The Program's major activities and achievements are:

- Establishing an Australian Register that has 30 inscriptions. The Committee has adopted a biennial schedule that works in phase with the International Programme enabling it to select material every two years for inscription on the Australian Register and to put forward nominations in the following year for consideration by the International Committee. The Committee holds high profile presentation ceremonies to award certificates to the custodians of material inscribed on the Register. There are four Australian entries on the International Register (the *Endeavour* journal of James Cook, the Mabo Case manuscripts, the 1906 feature film *The Story of the Kelly Gang*, and Convict Records of Australia held in three different State Archives). See [http://www.amw.org.au/register/amw\\_reg.htm](http://www.amw.org.au/register/amw_reg.htm) for details.
- Organising the Third UNESCO International Memory of the World Conference in Canberra, 18-22 February 2008. This Conference has attracted over 130 delegates from more than 30 countries. See <http://www.amw.org.au/mow2008/mow/mow2008.htm> for details.
- Continuing a search for lost and missing documentary heritage. A team at Charles Sturt University lead by Professor Ross Harvey has worked for a number of years conducting research and producing and delivering papers on the topic. See [http://www.amw.org.au/rlmh/rlmh\\_reg.htm](http://www.amw.org.au/rlmh/rlmh_reg.htm) for details.
- Holding workshops. In 2006 and 2007 the Australian Program ran very successful workshops in Adelaide, Perth and Darwin to over 50 custodians of documentary heritage materials. The primary goal of these workshops was to provide assistance in determining significance. In addition they raised awareness to the Program and UNESCO. See <http://www.amw.org.au/significance06/significance06.htm> for details.

- Producing an online instructional manual to assist in applying for entry onto the Australian Register. The feedback from the workshops was used to produce an instructional manual to clarify the various steps involved in filling out a nomination form and to make appropriate changes to the Program Guidelines. The Manual has now been incorporated into the Website as an online guide. See <http://www.amw.org.au/guidelines/2006/manual.htm> for details.
- Improving the functionality, appearance and content of the website <http://www.amw.org.au>. The Program's website is its principal mechanism of communication. It offers a unique opportunity to raise awareness of the value of Australia's documentary heritage, to improve its preservation and to increase access to it. It assists greatly in increasing the profile of UNESCO throughout the country. The success of these strategies is evidenced by: the continuing use of the website – the site is visited on average about 200,000 occasions per year.

## **8. Issues and concerns**

The Australian Memory of the World Program has three principal issues and concerns:

- Raising awareness. Memory of the World is a relatively new programme. Substantial, concerted and focused effort is required at world, regional and national level to increase participation in and raise awareness of the programme's purpose, aims and benefits.
- Defining significance. Although relatively easy to conceptualise, achieving consensus on the items of documentary heritage possessing world, regional or national significance remains largely allusive. The workshops held in Australia in 2005-2007 demonstrated the wide range of views present in the community on what constitutes significance and – as importantly – the low expertise in writing Statements of Significance that will stand up to scrutiny across sectors and over time. The latest call for nominations to the Australian Register requires nominees to submit a formal Statement of Significance. See [http://www.amw.org.au/nomination\\_form/nom\\_page/amw\\_nom.htm](http://www.amw.org.au/nomination_form/nom_page/amw_nom.htm), and particularly section 6 *Assessment against selection criteria*, for a discussion on significance.

- **Achieving sustainability.** Underpinning the first two issues is the need to find ways to make the Memory of the World Programme sustainable at world, regional and national levels.

**Adrian Cunningham and Alan Howell**

**14 February 2008**

## **Country Report – China**

Our first contact with the MOW program was in 1994 when the State Archives Administration of China participated in the MOW expert meeting held in KL. After the meeting, we submitted the nomination of Tibetan archives to the Secretariat of MOW program.

In order to better carry out MOW program in China, in 1995, the State Archives Administration of China took the lead to establish the Chinese National Committee of MOW, which constitutes of 5 members led by the Deputy Director-General of the State Archives Administration of China. The members include representatives from the Ministry of Culture, the UNESCO Chinese National Committee, the National Library and the National Information Center. From then on, the committee began to investigate and register the endangered documentary heritage in China. In year 2001, the State Archives Administration of China formally launched its Chinese Documentary Heritage Program under the umbrella of the MOW program. Set out below are the details of the Chinese National Committees of MOW:

1. The Chinese National Committee comprises a leading group, a National Advisory Committee and an Administrative Office.
2. The leading group is constituted by major leaders of the State Archives Administration of China and other relevant persons. The National Advisory committee comprises a director, a deputy director and a couple of members who are experts in the field of archives, libraries, museums, ancient Books and literatures and history, etc. Staffs in the Administrative Office are mainly archivists designated by the leading group.
3. The leading group is responsible for working out plans for the Chinese Documentary heritage program and overseeing its implementation, such as formulating nomination procedure and the selection criterion, the forms and publication plans of the National Register. It is also responsible for the development of rescuing and preserving strategy for the Chinese documentary heritage. Entrusted by the leading group, the National Advisory Committee establishes and amends its own Rules of Procedure. It oversees the assessment of nominations for inclusion in the National Register and recommends nominations to be submitted to the international register. The

Administrative Office provides secretariat service to the leading group and the National Advisory Committee. It is also responsible for organizing activities and maintaining the National Register.

4. **Activities.** The leading group regularly holds meetings and arranges work based on the 'General Plan for Chinese Documentary Heritage Program'; The National Advisory Committee also holds meetings regularly and carries out its work according to its rule of procedures. The Administrative Office takes care of the daily routines and reports to the leading group. Till now, two batches totaling 83 Chinese documents have been included in the "National Register of MOW." The major work in year 2007 is editing 'National Register of Documentary Heritage (the second volume)'.
5. **Funding resources.** The MOW program in China is funded by the government. Up to now, we don't have other sources of funding.

# **VIETNAM: COUNTRY REPORT FOR THIRD MOWCAP MEETING**

## **THE ACTIVITIES OF MOW PROGRAMME IN VIETNAM**

### **1. Introduction**

Vietnam is a country with a long-standing historical and cultural tradition. However, due to prolong time of wars, hot and humid climate plus insufficient human awareness, the documentary holdings created through different Vietnamese generations had been seriously affected. Therefore, the Memory of the World (MOW) Programme has a special significance to Vietnam to help in defining policies for preserving and promoting value of the documentary heritage as well as facilitating its accessibility and use for the researchers, scholars and public in the context of international integration. Nevertheless, until 2005, this programme did not have specific activities in Vietnam because of lacking of the organization that was responsible for the unified implementation and coordination of the Programme throughout the country. During the last two years, under the instruction of Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO, the MOW Programme started undertaking actively in Vietnam.

### **2. Action taken**

#### **2.1. Establishment of Vietnam National Coordination Board for MOW Programme**

In November 2006, the Vietnam National Coordination Board for MOW Programme was formed by the decision of the Chairman of the Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO. The reason for its forming in stead of a national committee was that the procedure for setting up any national committee in Vietnam would require a considerable amount of time meanwhile the Programme needed to be implemented immediately. In the long term, after gaining some experience, the Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO will submit a proposal to the Government for the establishment of Vietnam MOW National Committee.

Members of the MOW National Coordination Board are some staff of the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam and the Secretariat of Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO. (*The list of members is as in Appendix.1*). The terms of reference for the Board are to organize and coordinate the implementation

of MOW Programme in Vietnam.

## 2.2. Organizing a meeting on launching of MOW Programme in Vietnam

In December 2006, the Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO held a meeting with related organizations to discuss the participation of Vietnam in MOW Programme. Apart from representatives of Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO, there were representatives from 13 archives institutions, libraries, museums, some research institutions and news agencies, which keep worthwhile materials, such as the State Records and Archives Department, National Library, Film Institute, Ho Chi Minh Museum, Social Scientific Information Institute, *Han-nom* Institute (Chinese- chino transcribed Vietnamese Institute), Vietnam Radio broadcasting station. After the announcement on the establishing MOW Vietnam National Coordination Board, the Chairman of the Board outlined some current activities of MOW programme at international and regional levels and proposed the action plan of MOW Programme in Vietnam in the coming time. The meeting had come up with the recommendations as follows:

- For the long term, it is necessary to broaden the work for surveying and identifying the endangered documentary heritage at nationwide. Based on this result, the Coordination Board will carry out necessary procedures to determine the list of the documentary heritage to be included in the national register. From the national significant documents, according to priority will be selected the documentary collections for the nomination of MOW register at regional and international levels.
- Outreach programme should be promoted to raise public awareness on MOW Programme.
- Professional training, especially on the knowledge and skills of preservation, for the staff of organizations and individuals, who possess documentary heritage, should be enhanced.

The participants of the meeting also unanimously chose the two most special collections of Vietnam to nominate them as world documentary heritage for the year 2008:

1. Woodblock documents of Nguyen Dynasty (1802-1945) preserved at the National Archives Center No. 4 under the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam;
2. Photo collection about Vietnam and Indochina (1870-1950) preserved at the Social Scientific Information Institute.

The Coordination Board also translated and disseminated the Vietnamese version of the Guidelines of MOW Programme published by UNESCO in 2002 to the participants of the meeting.

### 2.3. Preparing the nomination files for MOW register in 2008

Under the guidance of the Coordination Board, the National archive center No. 4 and the Social scientific information institute have completed the nomination forms which were sent to UNESCO by Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO at the end of December, 2007, for consideration and approval. (*Copies of the nomination forms are as in Appendix 2*)

### 2.4. Meeting with Dr. Rujaya Abakorn, goodwill ambassador of MOW Programme

The National Coordination Board for MOW programme in Vietnam received Dr. Rujaya Abakorn – goodwill ambassador of MOW Programme during his visit to Vietnam last August. Dr. Vu Thi Minh Huong, Deputy Director General of the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam - Chairman of the Board, reported some initial activities of Vietnam for this Programme. Dr. Rujaya Abakorn also introduced the staff of the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam about the aims of the MOW Programme and procedures for registration at regional and international level.

2.5. Preparing a proposal for a project to identify the rare and valuable materials in Vietnam, to submit competent agencies for approval.

## **3. Future plan**

In the coming time, the plan of action of Vietnam National MOW coordination Board is as follows:

3.1. Implement the project on surveying rare and valuable documents at nationwide and help the organizations and individuals who possess them to register with Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO for consideration to be included in MOW register at national and international levels.

3.2. Raise public awareness on the MOW Programme by following activities:

- Disseminating information about MOW Programme through Mass Media (television, radio, newspapers, and magazines) and publishing and distribution of brochures and pamphlets.
- Organize training course to enhance the understandings on MOW Programme

3.3. Funding sources

The budget for the above-mentioned activities is intended to be allocated from the sponsorship of Vietnam Government, the aid of commercial companies, economic groups and UNESCO's participation programmes.

#### **4. Conclusion**

With the support of Vietnam Government and other organizations and individuals on safeguarding the documentary heritage in the country, and the active involvement of Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO, the activities of MOW Programme will be further enhanced in Vietnam in the coming time.

# **MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGIONAL COMMITTEE 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING AND INTERNATIONAL MEMORY OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE**

## **NZ NATIONAL COMMISSION SUMMARY**

**23 JANUARY 2008.**

New Zealand has two items on the international Memory of the World Register:

- The Treaty of Waitangi
- The 1893 Women's Suffrage Petition

Both items were added to the register in 1991. Since then no further nominations have been made.

New Zealand does not have a National Memory of the World Committee but various organisations have an interest in the Programme including UNESCO NZ National Commission, National Library, Ministry of Culture and Heritage, and Archives NZ.

In 1995 the New Zealand UNESCO National Commission was represented at the last Asia-Pacific Regional Committee Meeting by Dr Brian Opie, Chair of NZ's Council for Humanities. Dr Opie recommended in his report that:

- The Comms and Culture Sub Commissions of UNESCO jointly recommend to the National Commission that a National Memory of the World Committee with its own website be established
- The Australian Memory of the World Committee be considered as an appropriate model for the establishment of a NZ committee
- The kinds of expertise needed by the national MOW Committee be investigated (curatorial and academic particularly)
- Consultation with relevant persons and agencies about the composition of such a committee, and Pacific nations be invited to participate in NZ National Committee
- If possible, two nominations for the current round of the International Advisory Committee be made

While the above recommendations were taken to the National Commission and endorsed, none were implemented.

In September 2006 the UNESCO Office in Apia funded a study by the New Zealand Electronic Text Centre to identify significant founding documents within the Pacific, and report on their condition and whereabouts with a view to developing a regional register of the documentary heritage of the Pacific Islands. The report is available online at <http://hdl.handle.net/10063/138>

# **PROGRESS OF THE MEMORY OF THE WORLD PROGRAMME**

## **MALAYSIA: A COUNTRY REPORT**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The responsibility of coordinating the Memory of the World Programme has been taken over by the Department of Heritage of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage Malaysia from the National Archives of Malaysia effective 2007. Subsequently, the Department of Heritage has been named as the Secretariat for the National Memory of the World Committee.

### **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 2.1 To identify institutions, organizations and individuals who possess materials that can be categorized as endangered heritage;
- 2.2 To determine strategies and action plan at national level in creating awareness in the documentary treasures;
- 2.3 To identify preservation needs of the national heritage;
- 2.4 To identify projects for inclusion in the Memory of the World Programme.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

The members of the National Memory of the World Committee are as follows:

- 3.1 Department of Heritage – Secretariat
- 3.2 UNESCO Representative in Malaysia
- 3.3 Department of Museum Malaysia
- 3.4 National Library of Malaysia
- 3.5 Department of Information
- 3.6 Language and Literary Bureau

- 3.7 Academic Libraries (selected)
- 3.8 Sabah State Archive
- 3.9 Johor Heritage Foundation
- 3.10 Sarawak State Library
- 3.11 Heritage Trust of Malaysia

## **4. ACTIVITIES**

### **4.1 Launch of the National Heritage Register – First 50 Items**

The Department of Heritage launched the National Heritage Register which listed 50 items of tangible and intangible heritage on 6 July 2007. Under Section 67 of the National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645), the Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage has declared these items of heritage as “National Heritage”. An Online Heritage Register was also launched in conjunction with the launching of the National Heritage Register.

### **4.2 Nomination for the Memory of the World Register**

At the Meeting of the National Memory of the World Committee held on 21 January 2008, 6 documents have been identified for nominations. Two documents will be further short listed to be submitted to the International Advisory Committee.

## **5. FUNDING SOURCES**

The Memory of The World activities at national level is funded by the government of Malaysia.

## **6. ISSUES/CONCERNS**

### **6.1 Lack of awareness and interest in the documentary heritage**

Lack of awareness amongst the public on the important of maintaining the various sources of documentary heritage may affect the

preservation of the heritage.

## **6.2 Usage of documentary heritage in research studies**

There must be continuous efforts to promote the use of the heritage materials especially in research studies.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

The government of Malaysia has given a very high commitment to support the Memory of the World programme with the establishment of the Department of Heritage under the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage Malaysia, and also by assigning the responsibility in coordinating the Programme at national level to the Department. It is hoped that with the strong support from the government, the new National Memory of the World Committee will be able to achieve its objectives in preserving the world documentary heritage.

**Country Report**  
**of**  
**The Thai National Committee on**  
**Memory of the World Programme of**  
**UNESCO**

**by**

**Dr.Prachark Wattananusit**

Secretary, The Thai National Committee on Memory of  
the World Programme of UNESCO

Presented at

**The Meeting and Seminar of**  
**UNESCO Memory of the World Programme**  
**Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific**  
**(MOWCAP)**

**February 17 and 18, 2008**

**National Library of Australia, Canberra**

UNESCO MEMORY OF THE WORLD  
REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (MOWCAP)  
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**1. Terms of Reference**

Thailand has been participating in the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO since 1992 when the Ministry of Education Royal Thai Government nominated Khunying Maenmas Chavalit the past Deputy Director General Fine Arts Department, Technical Adviser of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction Development Ministry of Education, the President of the Thai Library Association Under the Patronage of H.R.H. Princess Mahachakri Sirindhorn and Library and Documentation Officer, Southeast Asian Minister of Education Organization Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO – SPAFA) as the member of the International Advisory Council (IAC) of the Memory of the World Programme during 1995-1997. In the same period the Ministry had appointed the Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO. But this Committee had a short life span. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2002 and then on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2006 the Cabinet appointed the Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO. Again after the political reform and the forming of new Government on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007 the Cabinet approved the new Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO. Khunying Maenmas Chavalit is the President of the Committee once again. Objectives and the Working of the Committee follow the Guideline of UNESCO MOW Programme.

## **2. Membership**

Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO has two types of committee members namely **Advisory Committee Members** and **Committee members**.

**Members of the Advisory Committee:** the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Professor Adul Vichiancharoen and Secretary General of the Thai National Commission for UNESCO.

**Members of the Committee:** Khuning Maenmas Chavalit the President, the Director-General Fine Arts Department vice President, Professor Dr. Prasert Na Nagara Vice President of the National Historical Research Committee and renown scholar, Mrs.Savitri Suwansathit the past Deputy

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Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education, Dr. M.R. Rujaya Abhakorn historian, Miss Kongkaew Weeraprajak Oriental language expert, Mr.Term Meetem Oriental language specialist, Director of the National Electronic and Computer Center, Director of the National Library of Thailand, Director of the National Archives, Director of the Literature and History Division Fine Arts Department, Director of Sirindhorn Anthropology Center, the Representative of the National Commission for UNESCO. Dr.Prachark Wattananusit librarian the Secretary, Miss Korapin Thaweeta archivist, Miss Wilasinee Thabuengkarn, Administrative Officer of Southeast Asian Minister of Education Organization Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO-SPAFA), Assistant Secretaries respectively.

## **3. Activities**

### **3.1 The King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription in the World Memory Register**

After examined many documentary heritage, Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO had submitted through the Thai National Commission for UNESCO the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription to UNESCO in late 2002. Then in March 2003 UNESCO had informed the Thai National Committee that after the consideration of the International Advisory Committee on MOW the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription had not yet included in the World MOW Register, but asking for addition information. With addition information, Prof.Dr.Adul Wichiencharoen, Member of the National Commission for UNESCO, Prof.Khuning Maenmas Chavalit, President of Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO and Mrs.Sawitri Suwansathi Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education had observed the International Advisory Council 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> August 2003 at Gdanz, Poland.

Then in 29<sup>th</sup> August 2003 UNESCO had inform Thai Government Ministry of Education on the inclusion of the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription in the Memory of the World.

### **Celebration**

With great pleasure the National Committee had informed the Government on this matter and proposed to the Government to national wide celebrate the register and the 720 years of the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription in World Memory List the during 2003-2004. The Government by Deputy-Prime Minister H.E. Chaturon Chaisaeng had the opinion that The National Committee on MOW, the Ministry of Education Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Information Technology and Communication celebrate this important event. The National Committee on MOW had therefore organized many activities for example:

- National seminar on the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription
- Lecture and panel discussion about the history of Sukhothai
- Published the bibliography and documentation on the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription
- Published the book on the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription

**3.2 The Committee Monthly Meetings.** During 2006-2007 the Committee had organized 21 monthly meetings. There were 11 meetings in 2006 and 10 meetings in 2007. These meetings took place at the National Library of Thailand, The National Archives of Thailand, the

SEAMEO-SPAFA

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and the External Relations Bureau of the Ministry of Education. Topics and issues during meetings were the conservation and preservation of national document collections, identification of significant national heritage, the cooperation of national network of conservation and preservation, the studying of prominent and valuable documents, preparation of document lists, the preparation of the seminars of the Network and the preparation of nomination for MOW Regional and International Register.

### **3.3 Important documents**

Some important documents closely examined and studied by the Thai National Committee on MOW are:

- 3.3.1 Thai Law and Proclamations on the abolition of slavery published in the Ratchakitchanubeksa (Royal Gazette) 1874-1911
- 3.3.2 Inscriptions of Wat Raja Orasaram on traditional pharmacy.
- 3.3.3 The Royal Proclamation on the Prohibition of Opium Smoking in

the Reign of King Rama IV of Bangkok period

- 3.3.4 Tribhumikatha a treatise on Buddhist cosmology and the three planes of existence.
- 3.3.5 Archival documents on national reform of King Chulalongkorn or Rama V of Bangkok period
- 3.3.6 Rare manuscripts of provinces especially northern and northeastern Thailand
- 3.3.7 Inscriptions of Wat Phra Chetuphon Wimolmangalaram or Wat Pho especially on Thai tradition medicine and traditional yoga and massage.

**3.4 National Seminars** During 2007 the Thai National Committee on Memory Programme of UNESCO had organized three national seminars namely

**3.4.1 The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Network Seminar on Preservation and Dissemination of Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous Knowledge on “Universal Values of Wat Phra Chetupon or Wat Pho Inscriptions”**

With the very kind supports of Wat Phra Chetupon or Wat Pho a Buddhist temple or monastery in Bangkok on 26 February 2006, the Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO had organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Network Seminar on Preservation and Dissemination of the Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous Knowledge on “Universal Values of Wat Phra Chetupon or Wat Pho Inscriptions” in the Monastery. This Monastery was constructed in the Reign of King Phet Raja of Ayutthaya period more than 400 years ago. King Rama I the Great of Bangkok period had enlarged it. It was astonishingly when King Rama III had enriched the monastery during 1832-1848 as an honor of his Grand father King Rama I. He uplifted the Monastery as the cradle of education for Thai people. Many inscriptions on many subjects had ordered to be inscribed on walls of temple buildings. After the blessing by the Lord Abbot of the Monastery Phra Dhammapanyabodi, the Seminar was open by Dr. Wichit Srisa-an Minister of Education while Khunying Khaisri Sri-Aroon the Minister of Culture gave her special lecture on the Ministry of Culture Policy on Preservation of national document heritage. This Seminar was attended by 80

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representatives of libraries, archives, museums, monasteries and related organizations in Bangkok and provinces. After the full day seminar in the mist of beautiful Buddhist art and architecture, stupas, ordination hall, Buddha images and

other objects. Then in the evening Phra Rajvethi Assistant Lord Abbot of the Monastery had kindly guided participants around glittering temple especially certain areas where inscriptions were preserved. Members of the Seminar agreed that inscriptions and manuscripts on many subjects especially on traditional medicine is the most valuable heritage and suitable to be listed in MOW international or regional register.

#### **3.4.2 3<sup>rd</sup> National Network Seminar on Preservation and Dissemination of the Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous Knowledge : “Important Documents of Lan Na”**

During 19-20 July 2007 the Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Network Seminar on Preservation and Dissemination of Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous Knowledge on “Important Documents of Lan Na” at the Institute for the Local Leader Development Center, Phrae Provincial Administrative Organization with the financial support of the Fine Arts Department, Ministry of Culture and Sungmen District Municipality. It was attended by 134 representatives of libraries, archives, museums and monasteries etc. The Committee had the opinion that there were many valuable manuscripts in Lan Na or Northern Thailand especially palm-leaves written by princes, scholars, monks in the old days waiting for our generation to study. These manuscripts had been kept in many monasteries, cultural institutes and persons in the North especially at Wat Sungmen, Sungmen District venue of the Seminar. Topics of Seminar led by well known scholars of the North. On the 1<sup>st</sup> day were the network development, selection criteria for the Memory of the World Register, Wat Sungmen as the main depository of valuable Lan Na documents, Lan La document as the source of Lan Na language studies, literature, religion and history. Then on 2<sup>nd</sup> day the participants had a good chance to visit the depositories of valuable Lan Na documents in Wat Sungmen, Wat Phra Luang, Wat Luang, Wat Phrathat Ming Muang, Khum Chaoluang and Wat Phrathat Chohae.

#### **3.4.3 The 4<sup>th</sup> National Network Seminar on the Preservation and Dissemination of the Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous Knowledge: Memory of the World and Audiovisual Heritage**

With the idea that audio-visual is also part of documentary heritage. The Committee therefore during 27-28 August 2007, organized the 4<sup>th</sup> National Network Seminar on the Preservation and Dissemination of the Documentary Heritage of the

Thai Indigenous Knowledge at the Nongkhai Grand Hotel, Nongkhai province, Northeastern Thailand, with the very kind financial support of the Ministry of Education. It was attended by more than 150 representatives of the National Library and its branches, the National Archives, National Museums, monasteries and related organizations. The opening Address by Dr. Chinnapat Bhumirat, Secretary-General of

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the Thai National Commission for UNESCO stressed on objectives of UNESCO on the Memory of the World Programme as the guide and the advice for member countries in preservation and dissemination of indigenous documentary heritage. He also expressed the support of the Ministry of Education Royal Thai Government to this programme. After that there were discussions and presentations of topics on preservation network and criteria for the selection of national documentary heritage for the MOW registers, the importance of the preservation and dissemination of audiovisual heritage, audiovisual heritage of the Mahasarakham University, Northeastern Thailand and the preservation in Lao-PDR by Directors of the National Library, the National Film Archives and Video Centre and Specialist of Lao PDR. On Tuesday 28 August 2007 participants had very special chance to visit the Lao National Library, National Film Archives and Video Centre, National Museum and other cultural institutes of Lao PDR.

#### **3.4.4 National Network Seminar in the future**

To promote MOW programme and to alert Thai people all over the Kingdom, on the significant of documentary heritage kept in southern part of the country the Committee is planning to organize other national network seminars namely:

##### **3.4.4.1 The 5<sup>th</sup> National Network Seminar on the Preservation and Dissemination of the Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous Knowledge : Significant Documents of Southern Thailand.**

It will be held at the Rajaphat Nakhon Si Thammarat University in Nakhon Si Thammarat province Southern Thailand on 5-9 May 2008 with the cooperation of that University and the Fine Arts Department. Ministry of Culture. Nakhon Si Thammarat or Ligor was the most powerful center in Southern Thailand and Malay archipelago sine 6<sup>th</sup> century A.D. It has been flourishing from ancient time until present day. Many archaeological and documentary evidence had been found. Some documentary evidence need to be preserved and to be listed will be many

topics to discuss and agree during the Seminar.

**3.4.4.2 The 6<sup>th</sup> National Network Seminar** The Committee had the opinion that Southern Thailand has long coastal area full of indigenous heritage both along the gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea. It should therefore organized the 6<sup>th</sup> National Network Seminar on the Preservation and Dissemination of the Documentary Heritage of Thai Indigenous knowledge on significant documents of Andaman coastal area and Tsunami in Southern Thailand in Phuket Province Southern Thailand at around October-November 2008.

**3.5 8<sup>th</sup> UNESCO's International Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Memory of the World Programme Workshop (11-12 June 2007) and close meetings (13-15 June 2007), South Africa**

As part of Thailand's cooperation with UNESCO, during 2006-2008 Thailand submitted one nomination namely:

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**Thai Laws and Proclamations on the Abolition of Slavery Published in the Royal Gazette (1874-1911)** The Meeting were observed by Mrs.Savitri Suwansathit the past Secretary – General the Thai National Commission for UNESCO member of the Thai National Committee of MOW and Dr.Somsuda Leeyawanit Deputy-Director General, Fine Arts Department. However this nomination was not recommended and supported by the 8<sup>th</sup> UNESCO's International Advisory Committee (IAC) of the World Programme. But the Advisory Committee had the opinion that

“The Thai initiative to end slavery by Royal Proclamation was deemed an outstanding achievement of the reign of King Chulalongkorn, However, the abolition of slavery by legislation was in itself not unique, nor was the Thai Royal Gazette the oldest in existence, as other printed government gazettes can be identified dating back to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The Majority of the Committee felt that linking the document to a wider movement to eradicate slavery as part of Thailand's process of modernization could assist in establishing the international significance of the documents. They also acknowledged that, as Siam remained a sovereign state as was free to implement its own policies, the nomination should better reflect the role played by King Chulalongkorn in this regard, as well as his standing in the wider Thai community (including the Thai diaspora).”

The Registration Sub – Committee therefore recommends the submission of a revised

nomination in a future round.

### **3.6 Nomination to the Asia Pacific Memory of the World Register 2007**

On 29 October 2007 the Thai National Commission for UNESCO had nominate **the Epigraphic Archives of Wat Pho** to the Asia Pacific memory of the World Register 2007. The Epigraphic Archives of Wat Pho in Bangkok is a unique collection of 1,360 Thai language inscriptions on marble plates in the 1830's on both religious and secular subjects, representing a wide range of Thai knowledge of Asian and local roots of the time. It was a conscious effort by King Rama III and Thai scholars to preserve them in and made then visible to the public with the ultimate aim in general education on cultural heritage, diversity and civilizations. The knowledge related to Thai yoga had recently become widespread through devoted practitioners, schools, spas and wellness centres worldwide.

Appreciated by peoples far and near, the Thai National Committee now hope that this nomination will be recommended and supported by the UNESCO Memory of the World Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP) at its next meeting in Canberra in February 2008.

## **4. Funding Sources**

At the moment there is no direct funding source for the work of Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World of UNESCO. The Ministry of Education through the Secretariat of the Thai National Commission for UNESCO at the External Cooperation Bureau had kindly support the monthly meeting, a national seminar, and the attending of IAC Meeting. The Ministry of Culture through the Fine Arts Department's National Library of Thailand, National Archives of Thailand and

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Wat Phra Chetupon Wimolmanglaram or Wat Pho had kindly support many project and events especially monthly Committee Meetings and three national network seminars in Bangkok and provinces of the North and the Northeast. It is hoped that the 5<sup>th</sup> National Network Seminar to be held at Nakhon Si Thammarat in the South during 5-9 May 2008 will receive the financial support from the Rajabhat Nakhon Si Thammarat University and related organizations and institutes. Thai National Committee agreed that after the long period of promotion, national network seminars, communication through media and the website, Thai authority and public now aware on the availability of this programme in Thailand and the significance of the collecting, preserving and disseminating of documentary heritage. It is now believed that in the few years to come certain authorities and public will extend their long financial support to this programme.

## **5. Issues and Concerns**

The Kingdom of Thailand, therefore, enriched by documentary heritage on various subjects. For example at the National Library of Thailand, there are about 70 inscriptions dated from six century A.D. including to 4,869 sheets of stone rubbing. Apart from these inscriptions, there are about 225,733 valuable palm-leave manuscripts, 33,514 Thai traditional books, 59,933 eastern mulberry papers, 3,486 western papers etc., waiting to be explored, classified and listed in the National Register. The new Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World of UNESCO enthusiastic working to study, to coordinate, to preserve, to register, to promote Thai written heritage and to make them accessible by the world. Some documents in good condition but some are in critical conditions in need to be preserved, studied and disseminated. UNESCO Memory of the World Programme has now been recognized by the Thai public especially through programmes organized by The Thai National Committee in many parts of the Kingdom.

It is hoped that with suitable support by authorities concerned, Thai documentary heritage as part of world documentary heritage and memories will be coexisted with humanity forever.

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## **Report on Macao**

In Macau, people normally don't know about Memory of the World program, and I learnt it from Mr. Simon Chu few years' ago. In early of 2005, I have written an article about the MOW program in the newspaper, and caused some scholars interesting and the feedback, I will keep on try my best to promote it in Macau.

Macao is a small city, besides many casinos, its cultural is very unit, and the historical documentation collections are also significant. For example, starting the years of sixteen century, the catholic missionaries used Macao as home to enter China as well as East Asia; they have contributed certain among of variety documentation resources for Macao region. For example, the Catholicism documentation that is for dissemination of religions; the publications from Europe that are used to teach Chinese people mathematics, geology, almanac, astronomy, philosophy and theology, which has been built up the western academic collection in Macao; further more, in order to fuse with Chinese people effectively, the missionaries had to learn Chinese language and Chinese culture, which created the collection of Chinese traditional literature to go with their study purpose; fourthly, because Macao is the important place for missionaries to learning and improving knowledge, they built up the text books and reference books collection such as encyclopedias and dictionaries to fulfill their needs. Thus, Catholics made a significant contribution to Macao documentation resources, that had represented the culture exchanged between Western and Asia in the 16 to 19 centuries. .

## **MOW ACTIVITIES IN THE PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS, 2006-2007**

Sin Joan Yee  
University Librarian  
University of the South Pacific

Pacific countries have found it difficult to establish national IFAP and MOW committees due to limited resources and the smallness of countries.

In May 2006, at the request of Unesco Pacific Office (CI), the New Zealand IFAP programme agreed to broaden its scope by involving Pacific representatives at their meetings. Amongst other IFAP issues, it was agreed to consider the establishment of the Pacific *Memory of the World* (MOW) as a focus activity for the programme. The lack of Pacific documents on the world register was noted as also the need for “rigour around the criteria used” as “countries could spend a lot of time writing an application for a document only to have that document rejected for not being unique”. It was agreed to consider a MOW project on Pacific founding documents.

Unesco Pacific Office (CI) contracted the New Zealand Electronic Text Centre (NZETC) based at the Victoria University of Wellington to create a list of the founding documents of each Pacific nation, and to gather information on the location and physical state of the original manuscripts or printed texts. The idea was to identify them, locate them, prioritise them, digitize them, and eventually have them on a website, and to submit them to MOW for registration.

NZETC produced a comprehensive report and listing within the 7 week time frame given to them. The countries covered were Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshalls, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomons, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The focus was on Kiribati, Samoa, Solomons, and Vanuatu (Least Developed countries). As well as listing existing documents, the register created also lists documents that may list but cannot be found.

NZETC defined a “founding document” as any item of documentary heritage which are historically significant for their association with nation-building events, such as proclamations of law and government, constitutional documents, treaty agreements, and declarations of annexation and independence.

NZETC found difficulties in getting responses to queries sent around the archives and libraries of the Pacific. They did a lot of research into significant nation building events and identified documents

that way. Then they explored the holdings of the online catalogues of major libraries or archives in the region and internationally. They found that the British, Australian and NZ archives were particularly helpful and the PACLII (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute) at the Emalus Campus (Vanuatu) of the University of the South Pacific was invaluable as it has a rich collection of legal and constitutional materials that were already digitized and available online.

The project identified two large gaps: first, where were the original copies of the key heritage documents available on line through the Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute, and, secondly, whether the large number of documents referred to by secondary sources actually existed. NZETC said that filling in of the gaps and increasing knowledge about those items could be got only through **local involvement**. They also recommended that another possible was to pull together those documents that were already on line, but were not being maintained, and host them in a more sustainable way and also make them available on CD/DVD to enable wide distribution to those who did not have fast Internet access. Much work still needs to be done, and resources and funding was needed to keep up the momentum.

Meanwhile, the National Archives of Fiji with the assistance of Unesco Pacific Office (CI) e has identified two possible projects: the Pacific Slave Route and the Indian Indentured Labourers.

### **References:**

Minutes of the IFAP Pacific meetings held in Wellington NZ

Mapplebeck, Georginia. *Pacific Island "Memory of the World Project" : Report on Initial Research from NZETC*

# **Report on the Memory of the World National Committee of Sri Lanka**

- Dr. Saroja Wettasinghe -

## **1. Introduction**

Sri Lanka is an island in the Indian Ocean which was known as Ceylon. with a total land area of 65,525 sq. kilo meters. It has a population of about 19 million and a literacy rate 91%. Sri Lanka has an enriched cultural heritage. It has a history of a rich documentary heritage from the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C. It is conjectured that the earlier writings- other than those indicted on stone- were on Talipot and Palmyrah leaves. In 1737 1<sup>st</sup> book was printed by the Dutch in Sri Lanka. The 1<sup>st</sup> gazette was printed in 1802 and the 1<sup>st</sup> newspaper was printed in 1832 and the . 1<sup>st</sup> cine film was produced in 1948.

In addition to written documentary heritage, there are many customs, rituals and traditions of folk lore which we inherited from our great grand parents. Hence Sri Lanka is enriched with a massive collection of documentary heritage in different formats..

Documentary heritage of the country consists of records:. manuscripts(palm leaf and paper), books, documents, newspapers, maps, plans, prints, photographs, microfilms and other microforms, cine films, audio tapes and cassettes, video tapes and cassettes, and electronic records such as floppy disks, C-D Roms, DVDs and laser disks.

This heritage covers various forms as mentioned above and it is uncountable as it consists of the collections of many institutions such as the National Archives, the National Library, the National Museums, departmental record rooms and libraries, university libraries, municipal libraries, provincial libraries, school libraries, the National Science Foundation library, Industries and Technology Institute library, other semi government institution libraries, private libraries, religious institutions, Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation, Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation, Government Film Unit, Sri Lanka Film Corporation and other media centres.

There are two major national organizations responsible for preserving the documentary heritage in the island, namely, the Department of National Archives and the National Library and Documentation Centre.

Systematic record keeping in Sri Lanka had started about 1640, although there are descriptions in Hay Macdowell's book about officers in charge of the Royal Archives in the monarchial period. The post of the Government Archivist was created in 1901, and was under the Chief Secretary. In

1947, the Government Archives became a separate department. In 1973 National Archives Law No.48 came into operation and the department was renamed the Department of National Archives (DNA). DNA is indeed the memory of the nation.

The National Library and Documentation Services Board(NLDSB) established in 1970 is the apex organization in the library field of Sri Lanka. The National Library and Documentation Centre (NLDC) which functions under the NLDSB was established in 1990.

The Department of National Archives has around 17 linear kilo meters of records and the National Library and Documentation Centre has about 1000 linear meters of publications, the National Museum Library has approximately 1,40,000 books and other publications, and the university libraries in the country have approximately 20,00,000 of books and journals. In addition there are other libraries and government institutions having specialized collections such as documentation in the National Science Foundation, Industrial Technology Institute, Survey Department, and Forest Department.

#### *1.1. Department of National Archives;*

National Archives of Sri Lanka holds documents belong to the Dutch period (1640 - 1796): Head Tombo, Land Tombo, School Tombo and Dutch Political Council Minutes, British period (1796 - 1948): Crown Grants, Temple Land Records, Sessional Papers (from 1862), Blue Books (from 1821 to 1937), Government Gazettes (from 1802), Administration Reports (from 1867), Hansards from 1870, records from the ministries, government departments, and semi government institutions and of the post independent period (1947 - to date). In addition the department is in possession of practically every publication from 1885, and every newspaper from 1832 printed in the country. The department also accrues digital records along with printed material from government and semi government institutions, with the advancement of the technology.

The collection of Dutch records in the National Archives is also recognized and recorded in the MOW Register.

#### *1.2. National Library and Documentation Centre*

As the apex body in the Library field of Sri Lanka the National Library and Documentation Centre has rare book collections and printed material in addition to acquired digital resources and in-house digital resources

Printed materials are received from the Department of National Archives out of which they receive, as a legal requirement. The Science Citation Index, LISA and current contents in CD Rom format and e-journals are also available. The major bibliographic and documentation products of the

National Library, i.e. bibliographies, directories and indices are kept in both print and digital formats or only in digital format. Sri Lanka National Bibliography (English Section), Sri Lanka Postgraduate Thesis Index (1977 - 2001), Newspaper Article Index, Sri Lanka Conference Index and Government Publications Directory, Index on Devolution of Power and Ethnic Conflict(DEPEC) and National Conference Index are available in digital format.

The major bibliographic and documentation products of the National Library, i.e. bibliographies, directories and indices are kept in both print and digital formats or only in digital format. Sri Lanka National Bibliography (English Section), Sri Lanka Postgraduate Thesis Index (1977 - 2001), Newspaper Article Index, Sri Lanka Conference Index and Government Publications Directory, Index on Devolution of Power and Ethnic Conflict(DEPEC) and National Conference Index are deposited in digital format.

### 1.3. *National Museum Library*;

The Department of National Museums in Sri Lanka was established in 1877 and the Library was also started in the same year. The collection of the National Museum Library consists of unique palm leaf manuscripts, rare books collection and all the publications printed in Sri Lanka from 1885. The oldest existing palm leaf manuscript (13<sup>th</sup> century) in the country is available in this collection.

With the advancement of technology, many libraries, the National Archives and some government organizations have focused their attention towards digitization, as it is very convenient mode of storage and facilitate quick retrieval of information. Moreover, digitization helps in preserving collection, although it is not a tool for preservation such as microfilming. Fast retrieval of information will lead to expediting many transactions, assist in research and administration.

Preservation of documentary heritage, as the memory of the nation is a great responsibility of the country. To keep up the responsibility, to promote the awareness of preservation needs and to coordinate the related activities among the institutions responsible for preservation of documentary heritage under the umbrella of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme, National Committee of Sri Lanka was formed in 2006 and the inaugural meeting was held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2006.

## **2. Terms of References:**

- 2.1. Preservation of documentary heritage.
- 2.2. Acceptance of entries to the National Register & assessing the entries.
- 2.3. Maintenance of the National Register.
- 2.4. Make facilities for easy access of documentary heritage by technical means such as digitization

- 2.5. Increase the multilingual content and linguistic diversity on the internet through websites
- 2.6. Increase the production of quarterly audio visual content and enhance their international distribution.
- 2.7. Promotion and enhancement of creative content of knowledge, understanding and dialogue on a diversity among peoples of different cultural, religious or social backgrounds through the use of traditional and new media.

### **3. Membership:**

The committee of Sri Lanka consists of the following personnel.

- |                            |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Mr.R. Preethi Perra        | - | Chairman of the Committee, Secretary General of the UNESCO National Commission in Sri Lanka.  |
| Mr. Upali Amarasiri        | - | Member of the Committee, Director General of the National Library Services Board and Documentation services Board, an expert in the Library field.          |
| Dr. Saroja Wettasinghe     | - | Member of the Committee, Director National Archives, an expert on preservation & conservation of government records.  |
| Mr.Dambane Gunawardena     | - | Member of the Committee as a representative of an Indigenous community.   |
| Dr.Nanda Wickramasinghe    | - | Member of the Committee, Director National Museum, an expert in Museum field.   |
| Mr.G.L.W.Samarasinghe      | - | Member of the Committee, Secretary Ministry of Cultural Affairs & National Heritage, as a government officer in the Field of "National Heritage & Culture". |
| Prof. Senaka Bandaranayake | - | Member of the Committee, an expert on Preservation & Conservation. of National heritage   |
| Dr.K.D.Paranavithana       | - | Member of the Committee, President of The Royal Asiatic Society (Sri Lanka Branch), an expert on areas related  |

to the documentary heritage.

Mr.Piyadasa Ranasinghe - Member of the Committee, Head  
Department of Library& Information  
Science, Kelaniya University.

#### **4. Activities**

The Committee has been performing the following activities to achieve the terms of reference mentioned above.

- 4.1. Invited main holders of documentary heritage to submit proposals for the MOW Programme.
- 4.2. Decided to submit a proposal for the MOW register. That is the collection of Palm Leaf Manuscripts in the Department of National Museum.
- 4.3. Awareness programmes were carried out for people to realize the value of their documentary heritage and their preservation. Importance were highlighted by seminars & paper advertisements.
- 4.4. Special attention was focused to promote the preservation of intangible heritage, such as "*Kolam, Bali Thovi*" & rituals
- 4.5. Training Programme was carried out on preservation and conservation of documentary heritage with the assistance of the Korean UNESCO National Commission for personnel responsible for preservation & conservation of documentary collections in Sri Lanka.

#### **5. Funding Sources:**

At present the committee carry out the activities with the contributions of the institutions responsible for preservation of documentary heritage such as National Library, National Archives, and National Museum.

#### **6. Issues & Concerns:**

- 6.1. *Preservation and conservation of documentary heritage in the country.*

Being a tropical country, the collections are exposed to chemical & biological deterioration. In addition the documents undergo wear and tear due to heavy usage. In considering the present situation there could be unexpected disasters such as bomb threats due to the on going unrest in the country.

In order to minimize or arrest the above conditions, the holders of collections, mainly in government and semi government organizations provide the following facilities.

- a) Proper storage conditions by controlling the temperature, humidity, light and atmospheric conditions.
- b) Maintenance of suitable fire protection systems.
- c) Impose rules & regulations on handling & usage of documents.
- d) Smooth operations in conservation divisions in many institutions.
- e) Regular inspections on collections & applications of insecticides & fungicides on racks and floors.
- f) Regular fumigation using Phostoxine tablets and aqua fumigant consists of pyrethrin for insects.

#### 6.2. *Providing facilities for easy access of information.*

Major government institutions responsible for the documentary heritage have already commenced the copying information into another media. Microfilming of some collections were commenced many years back in the Department of National Archives i.e. in 1954 with the assistance of UNESCO. The department has a collection of microfilms consists of old newspapers, & some important archival collections. The Department of National Museum commenced microfilming of its heritage collection in 2002.

Digitization of documents is a popular technique in most of the institutions. Digitization of rare book collections was commenced by the National Library in 2006 and of land records & some commission records by the Department of National Archives in 2006.

#### 6.3. *Impossibility of pooling the information scattered throughout the island.*

The country is in possession of valuable palm-leaf manuscripts and some of them are deposited in religious institutions. There are many palm leaf manuscripts on indigenous medicine (*veda poth*) , charms, and religious texts. The owners of the collections do not like to part with their inherited collections, even some owners do not know the technical know how in preservation.

Department of National Archives and the Library Services Board carryout programmes in conserving collections in religious institutions, using their financial & human resources and try to obtain the lists of collections in those institutions.

Moreover the Department of National Archives commenced a survey on private manuscripts in

order to copy the information in manuscripts of religious institutions and private possessions. Since the response was not very attractive it was decided to focus the Survey in to one district closer to Colombo i.e. Kalutara. At present it is in the stage of collecting data on manuscripts exist in that district.

#### *6.4. Unavailability of National Film, Television and Sound Archives.*

According to the National Archives Law (NAL) No.48 of 1973 & National Archives (Amendment) Law, (NA[A]L) No.30, of 1981, all valuable audio visual records also to be deposited at the National Archives as in chapter 24 of NAL, i.e. under the definitions, record means,..... all media consists of information except granite..... .Even then there are no special chapters on audio visual records. Hence, the Department of National Archives hardly have accessions of government audio visual material.

There were discussions on establishing film archives by the Film corporation, but still it never came through. Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation, Sri Lanka Television Corporation & Independent Television Network have their own small archives. Department of National Archives is in the process of amending the Act in order to access at least government audio-visual material.

It is very essential to establish a National Archives of Film, Television and sound Archives.

#### *6.5. Training needs in preservation and conservation of documentary heritage.*

##### 6.5.1. Training for collection owners.

Department of National Archives, National Library Service Board conduct training workshops in the field of preservation and conservation of documents. National Archives train people in government institutions in this field. by conducting courses in book binding, restoration , fumigation and micro filming with the available expertise. National Library Services Board also conduct training workshops & seminars for Library personnel on bookbinding & preservation of documents with the existing facilities & technical knowledge.

The Department of National Archives also conducts workshops on preservation & conservation of palm-leaf manuscripts for Native Doctors with collaboration of the National Council of Native Doctors and for present. and for small priests.

University of Peradeniya is also engaged in training priests on preservation of the tradition of writing on palm leaves & their preservation with the assistance of UNESCO.

#### 6.5.2. Training for personnel engaged in preservation and conservation of documentary heritage.

Although there are certain trained personnel in preservation & conservation of paper records, it is necessary to obtain training in the fields of photographic conservation, cartographic conservation & audio-visual conservation. It is necessary to obtain training opportunities in the above motioned fields either abroad or in Sri Lanka.

As there are no experts on these fields, it is difficult to obtain training in Sri Lanka, unless training workshops will be arranged with the assistance of foreign aids.

Some officers in these organizations have exposed to foreign training, even then, still there are some more officers who need foreign exposure for their capacity building in all government & semi government institutions, responsible for preservation of documents.

### **7. Programme for 2008**

1. Collection of information on documentary heritage of the country.
2. Join with IFAP (Information for all programmes) Committee to obtain larger outreach for MOW Committee work
3. Enhance the present database of all items in the Register.
4. Promote the awareness programmes on preservation of documentary heritage and MOW Programme

### **8. Conclusion:**

Valuable documentary heritage which has a long history to be preserved for generations to come and UNESCO Memory of the World Programme is an asset in exchange of knowledge and promoting the awareness in diversified cultures among nations.