

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

EIGHTH MEETING 29 May -1 June, 2018
Gwangju, Republic of Korea

1. Introduction

1.1 The 8th General Meeting of the UNESCO Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (hereafter, MOWCAP) was convened by the Asia Culture Centre and the UNESCO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and hosted in Gwangju, Republic of Korea in coordination with the Asia Culture Institute from 29 May to 1 June 2018.

1.2 The objectives of the meeting were:

- i) to review the activities of the International MoW Programme and develop the forward plan;
- ii) to present reports from the national MoW committees and UNESCO National Commissions;
- iii) to present register nominations and reviews from the Register Sub-Committee;
- iv) to announce the successful inscriptions added to the Regional Register;
- v) to have the Bureau election;

1.3 The meeting was attended by some 101 international delegates, including representatives from 26 countries from Asia and the Pacific. Please refer to Appendix A for the complete list of participants. (note: not available on website)

1.4 MOWCAP Bureau Members present were:

Chair:

Mr. Li Minghua (China)

Vice-Chair:

Mr. KIM Kwibae (Republic of Korea)

Ms. Dianne Macaskill (New Zealand)

Dr. VU THI Minh Huong (Vietnam)

Secretary-General:

Mr. Andrew Henderson (Australia)

Regional Advisor for Communication and Information:

Ms. Misako Ito (Japan)

Goodwill Patron:

Dr. Rujaya Abhakorn (Thailand)

Special Advisors:

Dr. Ray Edmondson (Australia)

Mr. Simon Fook - Keung Chu (Hong Kong, China)

Ms. Cheung – Ching Sarah Choy (Hong Kong, China)

Dr. Richard Engelhardt (Thailand)

Register Sub-Committee:

Chairperson:

Dr. Rujaya Abhakorn (Thailand)

Members:

Ms. Alla Aslitdinova (Tajikistan)

Mr. Kyung-ho Suh (Republic of Korea)

Ms. Hongmin Wang (China)

Ms. Helen Jarvis (Cambodia)

2. Opening ceremony

Welcome remarks were given by Dr. Lee Jinsik, President of the Asia Culture Centre, Ms. Misako Ito, UNESCO Regional Advisor and Mr. Li Minghua, Chairperson of MOWCAP

3. Adoption the meeting schedule and of agenda

3.1 Mr. Andrew Henderson, Secretary-General of MOWCAP, introduced an overview of the meeting schedule, and hospitality arrangements including tours and dinners.

3.2 Mr. Andrew Henderson was appointed as the meeting rapporteur.

3.3 The draft agenda (Appendix B) was adopted.

4. Establishment of voting status

4.1 Establishment of Voting Status

Mr. Andrew Henderson conducted the roll call for the meeting. He explained that each national “Memory of the World” committee was eligible to exercise one vote. Under the MOWCAP statutes, representatives of UNESCO National Commissions which had responsibility for MoW matters and operated consistently with the MoW General Guidelines fulfilled the function of a MOW national committee in their country. Andrew Henderson also explained that under the MOWCAP statutes (Article 4 (iii)) the right to vote at MOWCAP meetings is conditional on the timely submission of an annual report, which is an obligation of membership.

Accordingly, the following 17 delegates were confirmed as having voting rights:

Australia, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, Vietnam

4.2 A Tuvalu National MOW Committee had been recently established. The presence of observers from 10 countries was noted.

5. Review and adoption of minutes of the Seventh MOWCAP General Meeting (2016)

5.1 The Secretary-General reviewed the 7th General Meeting of MOWCAP hosted in Hue, Vietnam by the Monuments Conservation Centre and the Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO on 18 to 20 May 2016. There was discussion on the MoW Review and the draft revision of the MoW General Guidelines, Companion and Statutes. The meeting resulted in a total of 14 inscriptions on the MOWCAP Register.

5.2 The minutes of the Seventh MOWCAP General Meeting (2016) were adopted.

6. Bureau reports 2016-2018:

6.1 Mr. Li Minghua, Chair of the MOWCAP Bureau, presented a report on the activities of the MOWCAP Bureau 2016 – 2018 (Appendix C.)

6.2 Mr. Andrew Henderson, Secretary-General MOWCAP, presented an administrative and financial report for MOWCAP 2016 – 2018 (Appendix C.)

6.3 Dr. M.R.Rujaya Abhakorn, Goodwill Patron, presented a report on his activities for MOWCAP 2016 – 2018 (Appendix C.)

6.4 Ms. Misako Ito, Coordinator for MoW Asia-Pacific, presented a report on the activities of the MoW Asia-Pacific 2016-2018 (Appendix C.)

7.MOWCAP Operations 2016-2018

7.1 The Chair of the session, Ms. VU THI Minh Huong, presented the overview of the ACC-MOWCAP roles and responsibilities, activity plan and budget for 2018. She attributed the successful hosting of this meeting to the partnership with ACC, UNESCO and member countries. The Chair also welcomed ideas to support and encourage South Asia and Central Asia member countries to actively participate in MOWCAP activities including preparing submissions for the inscription of documentary heritage on a MOW Regional Register.

7.2 A MOWCAP Archive project aims to preserve the 20 years of MOWCAP activities by preserving the records of the current and former Bureau, RSC and Special advisor members.

7.3 The MOWCAP/ACC Grants will be announced in 2018 and eligible institutions can apply for a grant.

7.4 The Chair presented the activities of the MOWCAP Communications programme which aims to provide easy access to MOWCAP information and activities and to promote the MoW programme and the value of documentary heritage.

7.4 The MOWCAP publication 'Memory of the World – Documentary Heritage on the Asia-Pacific Register' has been developed in conjunction with the celebration of the 20 years' anniversary of UNESCO MOWCAP. It covers the 46 inscriptions on the Regional Asia-Pacific Register from 1998 to 2016.

8. Overview of the International MOW Programme

8.1 Dr. Fackson Banda, the Programme Specialist for Memory of the World which is part of the Communication and Information Sector of UNESCO gave an update on the UNESCO MoW Programme. First, he called for member state's active

engagement in the comprehensive review including the General Guidelines which now include the Companion, Code of Ethics and the Statutes. The International Advisory Committee (IAC) initiated a review of the MOW Programme in 2015. The three documents were submitted to UNESCO in July 2017 by the IAC. In Decision 202 EX/15 the Executive Board requested further consultation with Member States and the preparation of a work programme and a further report to be prepared for the Executive Board.

Second, he informed the meeting about an inter-regional meeting that will take place in Panama City. At the forum, countries from the UNESCO regions will be invited to share a range of issues including risk management especially in the Latin America and Caribbean regions and improvements to access.

Finally, Dr Banda also shared information about the 'GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE PRESERVATION OF DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE THROUGH DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT' initiative supported by the Japan-UNESCO Funds in Trust.

8.2 After Dr. Banda's presentation, there were comments and questions. Regarding the revision of the MOWCAP operational documents including the General Guidelines, Code of Ethics, and Statutes. A comment from the Korean delegate was made that the fundamental philosophy, value and the mission of UNESCO should be embedded in those documents thoroughly. The delegation from Iran raised questions of how to preserve the documentary heritage which is already registered and he asked how can documentary heritage be protected from war and terrorism.

8.3 The presentation on the MOWCAP Bureau position paper on the review was made by Dr. Ray Edmondson and Mr. Andrew Henderson. The MOWCAP Bureau proposed the establishment of a working group to undertake the following activities: 1) monitor the international review process and the decisions on the nomination process; 2) undertake consultation and dialogue with MOWCAP

members, 3); provide an interim report to the MOWCAP Bureau on its progress by March 2019, and; 4) to provide a draft operational Guidelines document. And the following timeline proposed by the MOWCAP Bureau was agreed: by May 2018, the working group is established, from June 1st to July 1st, 2018 the MOWCAP Bureau decides the composition of the group, from July 1st to March 2019 the working group develops the interim report and present the progress of their work to the MOWCAP bureau. Based on the interim report, by March 2019, MOWCAP bureau make decision on the schedule for the next nomination.

The Committee agreed that nominations would be called when there was certainty that the MOWCAP nomination process was as consistent as possible with the outcome of the comprehensive review.

9. Update on the establishment of the International Center for Documentary Heritage as a Category II Center under the auspices of UNESCO

9.1 Ms. Younghye Kim from the National Archive of Korea made a presentation on the progress of setting up the UNESCO Category II Center for Documentary Heritage. The center will be located in the city of Chungju, Republic of Korea and is aiming to undertake research and provide training in the area of documentary heritage with special consideration of the preservation of, and access, to documentary heritage including in digital form. The center is planned to be established and begin to operate in 2019. An expert consultation meeting was held in April with another planned for October 2018.

10. Reports from national MOW committees and UNESCO National Commissions

10.1 The Chair of the session invited 28 participating countries to present on the main activities of their Committees. Presentations were given in the following order: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar,

New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Island, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

10.2 Amongst participating countries, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Samoa, and Solomon Island are in the process of forming a National Committee. In 2017, Bhutan, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Vietnam had new inscriptions to the International Register.

10.3 The National Committees reports covered many activities including communication plans online and offline, training workshops on the preparation of nomination to the Registers, and seminars for sharing activities and experiences within the MoW programme.

11. Country Presentations of Register nominations

11.1 The Chairperson of the session introduced the process for inscribing documentary heritage.

11.2 Countries and territories nominating heritage to the Asia Pacific Regional Register for 2019 were invited to give 5 minutes presentations on their nominations. Presentations on 10 nominations were given.

12. Presentation of the Register Sub-Committee report

12.1 The Chair of the Register Subcommittee confirmed that 12 nominations had been submitted by the deadline of 31 August 2017 but two of them were withdrawn.

12.2 The Register Sub-Committee had prepared a report on ten dossiers. The report was presented to the Committee.

12.3 The chair of the session went through each nomination and opened the floor for comments and proceeded to the voting.

12.4 The delegation from the Japanese MoW Committee for UNESCO shared that they had taken the initiative to visit some collections proposed on the regional register, including *The Archives of NanYang Volunteer Drivers and Mechanics* collection. The Japanese delegation stated that they were not able to get access to the collection upon their visit. In response to this information, the delegates from the State Archives Administration of China shared that the records were publically accessible, and that access to the physical records was temporarily not possible at the time of the visit as the records were being digitised.

13. Asia Pacific register

13.1 Presentation and discussion of RSC report and recommendations

Dr. Rujaya Abhakorn, Chair of the Register Sub-Committee, presented the report of the Register Sub-Committee on the ten nominations and their recommendations of inscriptions to be added to the Regional Register.

13.2 Decision on inscriptions

MOWCAP member countries with a voting right considered and voted on each nomination. For each nomination, it was confirmed that the delegation from the nominating country had abstained from voting. A total of 10 nominations were added to the Regional Register:

No.	Inscription	Country
1	Agreements with Local Governments (1893-1916)	Tuvalu
2	Anandacandra Stone Inscription	Myanmar
3	The Archives of NanYang Volunteer Drivers and Mechanics	China
4	Culion Leprosy Archives	Philippines

5	The Envoy Ship Journeys to China	Vietnam
6	The Four Treatises of Tibetan Medicine	China
7	Maninso: Ten Thousand People's Petitions	Korea
8	The Emerald Jungle	Myanmar
9	Name Boards and Verse Plaques on Royal Architecture of the Joseon Dynasty	Korea
10	World War Two Records – British Solomon Islands Protectorate (BSIP)	Solomon Island

14. Discussion on Strengthening the National MOW Committee

14.1 Mr. Kwibae Kim, the Chair of the session, opened the floor for discussion on how to develop the National MOW Committees.

14.2 . Dr. Ray Edmondson explained that the process of establishing National Committees varies case by case. He shared his own experience of helping Jordan and Myanmar to establish National Committees. Also, he mentioned the important role of the MOWCAP Bureau to support the process of establishment of the National Committee.

14.3 To have a better understanding and knowledge on activities of the MOW programme as well as of member countries activities regarding the MOW programme, MOWCAP is requested to prepare and disseminate more information and publications in the future.

14.4 There was a request made for MOWCAP to provide more training workshops to member countries on how to develop the profile of the Memory of the World Programme and prepare submissions for nomination

15. Bureau Election

15.1 The Chair of the session, Ms. Misako Ito, introduced the rules and the process of the election. She announced that under MOWCAP statutes (Article 9), MOWCAP should elect one chairperson, one or more vice chairpersons and the Secretary-General to comprise its bureau.

15.2 Ms. Misako Ito introduced the candidates for each position and the result of the election is made as follows:

Secretary General (1 person)

Candidate: Mr. Andrew Henderson (Australia)

Elected: Mr. Andrew Henderson (Australia)

Chairperson (1 person)

Candidate: Mr. Kwibae Kim (Republic of Korea), Mr. Simon Chu (China)

Elected: Mr. Kwibae Kim (Republic of Korea)

Vice Chair (3 persons)

Candidate: Ms. Dianne Macaskill (New Zealand), Dr. VuThi Minh Huong (Vietnam), Dr. Mitsuru Haga (Japan)

Elected: Ms. Dianne Macaskill (New Zealand), Dr. VuThi Minh Huong (Vietnam), Dr. Mitsuru Haga (Japan)

15.3 Ms. Misako Ito informed that the MOWCAP Bureau would consider the appointment of Special advisors after the General Meeting

16. Other business

16.1 Mr. Kwibae Kim, the new chair of the MOWCAP Bureau opened discussion for other business to be discussed in the meeting

16.2 Mr Kim encouraged countries who are interested in establishing a national committee. He noted that a model Terms of Reference for the establishment of a national committee is available and is based on the Australian model. It gives a good example of how to establish TOR, functions, compositions, rules and procedures

17. Next meeting

India generously proposed to host next general meeting in New Delhi in 2020.

18. Seminars and site visits

Mr. JungDoe Jang from the Asia Cultural Institute informed the meeting that after the closing ceremony there would be a seminar on 'Implementing the 2015 Recommendation Considering the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage including in Digital form'. This was to be followed by a viewing of an exhibition to celebrate the 20th anniversary of MOWCAP and a dinner hosted by the Mayor of Gwangju. He also said that the following day there would be a visit to May 18th historical site and to the Temple Bugaksa.

18. Closing

18.1 The Secretary General invited Mr. Kwibae Kim and Mr. Li Minghua for the closing remarks. Mr. Kwibae Kim, elected Chair, expressed gratitude to all participants for their active participation and dedication on this general meeting. Also, he thanked for hard work and commitment of ACC and KNCU to organize the meeting. Special thanks for Mr. Li Minghua for his outstanding leadership in past years. Mr. Li Minghua thanked for every support to the MOWCAP and congratulated the new elected Bureau. He attributed all the success and the achievements that made in this region to the continuous support and active engagement of all member countries. He also thanked ACC for great hospitality and the arrangements for this meeting.

18.2 Certificates were presented for the successful nominations