



TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS MUSEUMS & INTANGIBLE 'NATURAL' HERITAGE

A Capacity Building Workshop

Hyderabad and Araku Valley, India

2-8 February, 2008

Introduction

ICOM is the international organization of museums and museum professionals that is committed to the conservation, continuity, and communication to society of the world's diverse natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible.

The collection aspects of museums are the tangible elements whereas the interpretation aspects are the intangible elements. These two aspects of museums are equally important for effective interpretation of the heritage available in museums.

Intangible cultural heritage is understood as “ peoples’ learned processes along with the knowledge, skills and creativity that inform and are developed by them, the products they create, and the resources, spaces and other aspects of social and natural context necessary to their sustainability; these processes provide living communities with a sense of continuity with previous generations and are important to cultural identity, as well as to the safeguarding of cultural diversity and creativity of humanity”.

Majority of discussions on heritage involves heritage as comprising of cultural aspects only. There is increasing demand from museologists and heritage experts in Asia that heritage must include both cultural and natural aspects. This workshop focuses on the intangible dimension of ‘natural’ heritage.

Aim of the Workshop

This capacity building workshop aims to promote museums as the hubs for documentation of Traditional Knowledge, Intangible Heritage and Natural History and Systems that are culturally perceived.

Objective

By the end of the workshop, participants will have identified concrete recommendations for future actions at national and regional levels in order to protect cultural and natural heritage in South Asia by:

- *Understanding that both the intangible and tangible elements of heritage are important for better interpretation of heritage collected, documented, conserved and exhibited in Museums.*
- *Recognising that documentation of traditional knowledge about the bio-resource is an invaluable intangible element of natural heritage*
- *Locating natural heritage as a basic component of heritage, along with cultural heritage*

Expected Results

- Publication of a leaflet with recommendations for measures for the region
- Publication of the proceedings of the Workshop
- Concrete recommendations for future actions
- Improved regional co-operation;
- Identification of follow-up activities
- 60 participants sensitised to the protection of cultural heritage in South Asia

Preparation

For the preparation, implementation and follow-up of this Workshop ICOM will work through the ICOM Cross Cultural Task Force and collaborate with the ICOM National Committee of India. The main coordination of the workshop is through the Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad.

Participants in Workshop

Museum and heritage professionals from the South Asian region, researchers, journalists, as well as representatives of international organisations involved in

heritage protection and some decision makers dealing with the theme of the Workshop.

Dates of the Workshop: 2– 8 February 2008

Venue: Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad, India. Field excursions include a two day visit to the tribal heartland of Araku Valley

Draft Programme:

Saturday–2nd February 2008: arrival of participants. All the international participants arrive on this day and they will be picked up from the airport and transferred to Taramati, courtesy Salar Jung Museum

**Sunday 3 February 2008
Opening Ceremony & Plenary Session**

8.00 am. Participants leave Taramati for the Salar Jung Museum

9.00 am. Arrival and registration at the Museum

9.30 am. Participants convene in the main theatre at the Museum

9.30-10.00 am. – Opening Ceremony and inauguration of the workshop by His Excellency the Governor of AP. Welcome messages. ICOM President India; Rep of ICOM President; Director, Salar Jung Museum and Workshop Director

10.00-10.30 am. – Opening Keynote Address by Dr Kapila Vatsyayan

10.30 – 11.00 am. – Keynote Address by Ralph Regenvanu

11.00-11.15 am. – Refreshments break

11.15 am – 1.00 pm. – Addresses by Professor Nguyen Van Huy; Professor Rick West Jr; Professor Amareswar Galla; Dr M.V.Nair

1.00 – 2.00 pm. – Lunch

2.00 – 3.30 pm – Country Position papers

3.30 – 3.45 pm – Refreshments break

3.45 – 5.00 pm – Specialist papers on documenting Intangible 'Natural' Heritage

6.00 pm – Official Dinner

On Boat with entertainment

9.30 pm – Return to Taramati

**Monday, 4 February 2008
Study Tours & Working groups**

8.00 – 10.00 am – Study tour – Ayurvedic Hospital & Traditional Knowledge Systems

10.30 am - 12.30 pm – Study Tour – Unani Hospital & Traditional Knowledge Systems

1.00 - 2.30 pm – Lunch at Taramati

2.30- 5.00 pm – Working Groups Sessions on documenting Intangible 'Natural' Heritage

5.15 pm – Departure for Golconda Fort

Tour, Sound and Light Show and Dinner

Tuesday, 5 February 2008.

Venue. Taramati

9.00 am – 12.30 pm – Continuation of Working Groups Sessions on documenting Intangible 'Natural' Heritage – Focus on Intellectual and Cultural property Rights

12.30- 1.30 pm Lunch break

1.30- 3.00 pm - Plenary session on documenting Intangible 'Natural' Heritage. A Draft Charter or Guiding Principles

3.00 pm - Departure for the Railway Station - evening departure by train to Araku Valley

Wednesday, 6 Feb. – Field trip to understand issues in the documentation of indigenous knowledge systems in Araku Valley with tribal and indigenous communities.

Thursday, 7 Feb. - Plenary + participants return overnight back to Hyderabad for departure to their respective home towns on 8 Feb.

Organising Committee:

Dr. A.K.V.S. Reddy, Director, Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad
Professor Dr. Amareswar Galla, Chairperson, ICOM Cross Cultural Task Force, Paris & Convener, Pacific Asia Observatory for Cultural Diversity in Human Development, Brisbane. Workshop Director.

Dr. A. Nagender Reddy, Joint Director, Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad

Ms. Jennifer Thévenot, Senior Programs Officer, ICOM Secretariat, Paris

Dr Kim Selling, Project Officer, ICOM Cross Cultural Task Force, Paris &

Convener, Pacific Asia Observatory for Cultural Diversity in Human Development, Brisbane

Mr Veerender Mallam, Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad

Ms. Zenovia Pappas, Research officer, Museum Studies program, The University of Queensland, Brisbane.

Ms H  l  ne Gipoulou, Assistant, Programme Activities Unit , ICOM Secretariat, Paris

