

JAMAICA DECLARATION

2009 ICCN International Workshop of Local Government Administrators

(Kingston, Jamaica, 15–17 September 2009)

Representing Local Government Organizations from over 40 Countries, we, the delegates to this 4th Session of the Inter-City Intangible Cultural Cooperation Network (ICCN) International Workshop of Local Government Administrators, convening in Kingston, Jamaica, this 15–17 September 2009; reaffirm the decision of the international Round Table of Mayors Conference in Cairo, Egypt, 2008, agreeing that the Intangible Cultural Heritage of our nations must be safeguarded and preserved.

We define ourselves as true believers in Local Government. We vow to be in the vanguard of the struggle to preserve and safeguard those social, cultural and legal structures that will enrich our heritage.

The workshop included -the creation of a greater interest in preserving intangible cultural heritage; the educating of persons about the protection of their natural spaces; and the creating of public awareness of the threats to a nation' s cultural heritage - among its objectives. In this respect, we affirm the pivotal role that Local Government has to perform as we contemplate a future steeped in the noblest traditions of our individual intangible cultural heritage.

We all adopt the present Declaration and agree;

1. to facilitate the exchange of experiences between cities in the preservation of intangible Cultural Heritage;
2. to protect a city' s right to its Intangible Cultural Heritage;
3. to provide for the Curricula of Schools -at the primary and secondary levels- to embrace the indigenous culture of a nation;

4. to support the capacity building activities in the communities and to catalyze sustaining mechanisms for these endeavors;
5. to create and convene a Board of Directors in the Round Table of Mayors to be held in Czech Republic in 2010;
6. to run ICCN Thematic Workshops, for the purpose of capacity building, and practical training for local government administrators who are in charge of cultural programs ;
7. to convene the 3rd Round Table of the Mayors in Vlcnov, Czech Republic on 8-12 September, 2010, the 5th thematic workshop in Gannat, France in 2011, and the 4th Round Table of Mayor and the Joint Festival in Gangneung, Korea in 2012, in accordance with the rotation principle among ICCN members as agreed and adopted in the 2006 meeting;
8. to cooperate with COPPEM and the city of Naples for the ICCN Joint Festival to be held in Gangneung, Korea in 2012, and the Universal Forum on Cultures to be held in Naples, Italy in 2013;

We solemnly declare that all those, who share the credo and principles enunciated in the present 'Jamaica Declaration' , are most welcome to join our movement.

16 September 2009, Kingston, Jamaica