



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

Urgent Safeguarding List

Original: English

CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Fifth session
Kenya
November 2010

REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION OF NOMINATION FILES NO. 00321 FOR INSCRIPTION ON THE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN NEED OF URGENT SAFEGUARDING IN 2010

Name of the examiner: Goa Heritage Action Group
Name of the expert (if different): Rahul Goswami
Date of the examination: (revised on) 12 July 2010
Nomination file No. 00321 State Party: China Name of element: The watertight-bulkhead technology of Chinese junks
<p><i>Note: Information in italics in boxes is provided for the examiner's reference; it includes excerpts from the Operational Directives or from the explanations given to submitting States Parties in the nomination form. The examiner shall rely upon the information provided within the nomination file, including any photos, video or additional information that is made available as part of the nomination. The examiner shall bring to bear his/her personal and professional knowledge in assessing the credibility and completeness of the information provided within the nomination, but his/her report shall primarily address whether or not the submitting State, within the nomination, has adequately demonstrated that the criteria for inscription are satisfied. The examiner shall neither be a national of the State(s) Party(ies) submitting the nomination nor have any conflict of interest that could influence unduly the results of the examination.</i></p>

Excerpts from the Operational Directives

Examination of nominations:

5. *With a view to their evaluation by the Committee, nominations shall be examined by preferably more than one advisory organization accredited in conformity with Article 9.1 of the Convention. In conformity with Article 8.4, the Committee may invite public or private bodies and/or private persons with recognized competence in the field of intangible cultural heritage, in order to consult them on specific matters. No nomination will be examined by (a) national(s) of the State(s) Party(ies) submitting the nomination.*
6. *Examinations shall include assessment of the nomination's conformity with the inscription criteria.*
7. *Each examination shall include assessment of the viability of the element and of the feasibility and sufficiency of the safeguarding plan. It shall also include assessment of the risk of its disappearing, due, inter alia, to the lack of means for safeguarding and protecting it, or to processes of globalization and social or environmental transformation.*
8. *The reports of these examinations shall include a recommendation to the Committee to inscribe, or not to inscribe, the nominated element.*

Brief textual description of the nominated element

The examiner should provide a brief description of the nominated element, suitable for publication. This may draw upon item D of the Cover Sheet, but should also draw upon the nomination as a whole to provide a summary overview of the essential features of the element. The description should be prepared based on the information provided within the nomination file.

(175 to 225 words)

In accounts of the maritime history of East Asia, it is in the second half of the 13th century that we find the first mention of what are blandly called 'compartmentalised' ships. These would have made their appearance at some time during the latter half of about three centuries of Song dynasty rule. The 'compartments', which for a historian merit a mere footnote to describe a curiosity, in fact represent the imperative of trade forcing the hand of technological innovation. Traders of the period, we are told, found their land routes to what is today the region we know as the Middle East becoming more hazardous thanks to aggressive border tribes. The answer was to turn to the sea, and to find new routes upon which larger and more reliable vessels could sail. That mercantile need, married to a tradition of seafaring, delivered the truly revolutionary innovation described by this nominated element as 'The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks'. It is an engineering insight that can only have come from a very rich maritime tradition, and in its simplicity lies its universal value, for the 'compartments' have sustained humble fishing vessels and a grand admiral's ocean-spanning fleet. In south China's Fujian province, vessels are made mainly using timber of camphor, pine and fir. Assembly is simple, needing no more than a traditional carpenters' tools, planks are rabbit-jointed, and the seams between planks are caulked using 'ramie', lime and 'tung' oil - materials common to any coastal fishing harbour.

Criterion U.1 The element constitutes intangible cultural heritage as defined in Article 2 of the Convention.

Excerpts from the nomination form

Description of the element (Not to exceed 1,000 words)

A clear and complete description is essential to demonstrate to the Committee that the nominated element meets the Convention's definition of intangible heritage. The

description should provide the Committee with sufficient information to determine:

- *that the element is among the ‘practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith’;*
- *that ‘communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize [it] as part of their cultural heritage’;*
- *that it is being ‘transmitted from generation to generation, [and] is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history’;*
- *that it provides communities and groups involved ‘with a sense of identity and continuity’; and*
- *that it is not incompatible ‘with existing international human rights instruments as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and of sustainable development’.*

The description should refer to all the significant features of the element as it exists at present, and should include discussion of its social and cultural functions at present, the characteristics of the bearers and practitioners, any special roles or categories of persons with specific responsibilities towards the element, among others. Nomination files need not address in detail the history of the element, or its origin or antiquity.

Nomination demonstrates that the element satisfies Criterion U.1:

Yes

No

Examiner’s comments regarding the element’s conformity with the definition of intangible cultural heritage in the Convention

The examiner should address whether the submitting State has adequately demonstrated that the element satisfies the Convention’s definition of intangible cultural heritage.

(250 to 500 words)

For this element, the ICH lies in the knowledge pertaining to the design of watertight-bulkhead technology of Chinese junks, and to the selection, treatment and employment of the various materials required. This traditional technology has progressed through a long cycle of refinement, adaptation, export and decline to reach a point when, perhaps no more than two decades ago, it was in danger of being extinguished. Until that point, the body of knowledge and accumulated experience (a vast store, much of which is very likely still undocumented) did indeed serve as a set of practices, representations, expressions and skills. These were embodied in communities and groups (in this case in Fujian province) in whose social structures were the individuals who had received the technology and had practiced its application. They - the communities, families, clans, individuals - do consider the skill, knowledge and its expression as being a part of their cultural heritage. Until the point when the technology was recognised as being in danger of extinction, it certainly represented an unbroken system of maritime engineering that had survived (and flourished) only because of careful, ceremonial transmission. The nomination allows us to infer that the use and selection of materials required an understanding of natural resources; that the need for such a technology in the first place demonstrated a response to an environmental constraint (lengthy ocean voyages); and that the development and propagation of the technology can be traced as a strand of its own wider socio-economic history.

The sub-criterion concerning the element providing communities and groups involved ‘with a sense of identity and continuity’ is rather less cut and dried. As the entry under 3.b. (threat and risk assessment) makes clear, a combination of factors (economic, new marine technology, material availability, job spectrum) worked together in fact to greatly diminish the sense of identity the skill imparted, while its continuity will, put bluntly, come to a halt if the conservation

measures contained in this nomination are not carried out. This sub-criterion therefore can only be judged as being valid or not several years hence. Finally, there is nothing contained in the nomination and conservation plans contrary to the intent of international human rights instruments or the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals. There is a gender dimension that needs further work, as while the role of women in the development of this technology is unknown, there can have been no maritime history without a substantial contribution by women from tasks such as sail making to preparing oils to simply sustaining the members who possessed the direct skills. The nomination, from the first submission through the second and the final, has not addressed this dimension, and this is a gap that the 2011-2015 conservation plan must remedy. Similarly, the 'sustainable development' aspect of the conservation and propagation of the element is not convincingly dealt with. This is an important input that requires elaboration, given the wood-intensive nature of the core skill, and since the adjunct skill of caulking and sealing depends on natural ingredients.

Criterion U.2 The element is in urgent need of safeguarding because its viability is at risk despite the efforts of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals and State(s) Party(ies) concerned.

Excerpts from the nomination form

Viability assessment (Not to exceed 500 words)

Describe the current level of viability of the element, particularly the frequency and extent of its practice, the strength of traditional modes of transmission, the demographics of practitioners and audiences and its sustainability.

Threat and risk assessment (Not to exceed 500 words)

This section should identify and describe the threats to the element's continued transmission and enactment and describe the severity and immediacy of those threats.

Nomination demonstrates that the element satisfies Criterion U.2:

Yes

No

Examiner's comments regarding whether the nomination demonstrates that the element is in urgent need of safeguarding

The examiner should address whether the submitting State has adequately demonstrated that the element's viability is at risk, that the community, group or, if applicable, individuals and State(s) Party(ies) concerned have made efforts to ensure its viability, and that it is consequently in urgent need of safeguarding.

(250 to 500 words)

There is a diorama of contemporary history against which the circumstances surrounding this element ought to be viewed. China's economic growth from the 1980s onwards has significantly shaped both the Asian region and world trade. We also have globalisation as a factor at work in the cultural sphere, which UNESCO's body of work has often identified as having a powerful negative impact on traditional expressions and customs. This is the combination that has been at work on the Chinese junk. A reading of various accounts indicates that even until the mid-1970s it was still commonplace to see junks on the river Huangpu in Shanghai or on the Yangzi river at Nanjing.

Contrast that memoir with the grim viability assessment contained in section 3.a. of the nomination: 'A 2006-07 survey revealed that The Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks is preserved merely in some communities along the coastal areas and on the islands of

Fujian Province... a few surviving traditional shipbuilding villages linger on, but in steadily worsening condition. The technology is less and less applied and its potential has narrowed.' The state party has convincingly outlined the risk to the continued viability of the element, a risk that has almost entirely to do with the direction and pace of economic development in China (although the state party refrains from saying so explicitly). The economic imperatives at the individual and community level are clear enough: 'because labour cost is increasing, the cost of building Fujianese junks has skyrocketed'; 'fewer people are benefiting from the craftsmanship'; and 'wooden ships are still used by individual coastal fishermen, the economic return is unsatisfactory and the prospect looks bleak'.

There is an alarmingly small human pool of talent available to take remedial action with. The state party informs us that there are only three 'master craftsmen' left in Fujian who know the core technology completely and that their average age is over 50. These master craftsmen and their apprentices (the implications of the labour shortage for the craft are that all inheritors must have other jobs) face a continuing struggle to support themselves and their families. Finally, the craft has a shrinking raw material channel to draw from: watertight-bulkhead Fujianese junks are built with specially chosen timber which is at least 30 years old, a specification that is increasingly difficult to match even if there are orders.

Community and state party response began in an organised manner in 2005, when regulations to safeguard ICH in the province became operational. During the next two years the shipbuilding communities in Fujian - including those in Jinjiang and Ningde cities - assembled documentation and organised the available memorabilia. In 2008 three master craftsmen were named transmitters of the knowledge and their livelihoods were supported, and thereafter museums dedicated to the craft have been set up, as has a learning centre and an effort to include the craft in educational textbooks. These efforts apart, the universal character of the craft, its antiquity and its knowledge system place it in urgent need of safeguarding.

Examiner's assessment of the viability of the element

The examiner should address whether the submitting State's assessment of the element's viability is accurate, realistic and complete.

(150 to 300 words)

We count two strong positives present in the state party's nomination, concerning the viability of the element. These are: (1) about 60 people other than the three master craftsmen have participated in the preparation of documentation for the nomination, and for these 60 people wooden shipbuilding is their primary livelihood; and (2) provincial and city administrations in Fujian together with the community that holds the knowledge have 4-5 years of conservation measures behind them to provide a foundation for the future.

That said however, the risks are not to be underestimated. 'Only some of the craftsmen with outstanding skills manage to support themselves by making models of ocean-going vessels,' states the sub-section (3.a.) and one possible solution - 'Woodworking would be another job option provided they complete some specialized training' - already indicates that additional budgets and programmes are required to take livelihoods support further, a direction that does not automatically endear itself to any administration because of its financial implications. The viability assessment therefore is useful as a listing of the livelihood problems faced by the inheritors of the craft, and the current exceedingly precarious condition of the craft itself. However it does not make a medium-term forecast concerning both livelihoods and craft life by drawing from the details presented in 4.a. and 4.b. which deal with safeguarding measures. This section will benefit from a fuller outlook that brings together craft conditions (human skill, environmental constraints, technology having been substituted) with the opportunities that can open up through museums, shipbuilding for niche uses, and developing the caulking knowledge as a cottage industry for eco-friendly applications.

Examiner's assessment of the risk of the element's disappearing, due, inter alia, to the lack of means for safeguarding and protecting it, or to processes of globalization and social or environmental transformation

The examiner should address whether the submitting State's assessment of the risk of the element's disappearing is accurate, realistic and complete.

(150 to 300 words)

The summary for this criterion is that the state party's assessment of this risk is realistic. In subsection E. (a brief statement of the viability) the assertion that 'Popular recognition of this element of Fujian's cultural identity has also fallen sharply' is the clearest indicator of this risk. Why has recognition declined to such an extent? This is partly answered by the statements in 3.b. which explain the replacement of the old, timber raw material-based shipbuilding techniques with modern metal hulls. The accuracy of this risk assessment has much to do with two activities undertaken in recent years: the survey conducted among relevant communities in Fujian province concerning transmission of the technology, in 2006-07; and the carrying out of thematic surveys in 2009 by field teams formed from experts, scholars and transmitters, the results of which are intended to guide the safeguarding measures. Here the level of detail provided is inadequate. In the 18 March 2010 letter to the relevant authorities of Jinjiang city, the ICH secretariat had asked for more details pertaining to these surveys (among other requests for more substantial information). Providing a summary of those details would have helped gauge the sensitivity of the state party's response to this risk. Finally, we are left little option but to accept as empirical the state party's description of the condition of both inheritors and the condition of the craft at this point in time. The linked assessments - viability, risk and safeguarding - would have been substantially enriched by a study and summary of the conditions of the craft and its practitioners from the early 1980s onwards, a point which we may infer was the beginning of the precipitous decline of the craft. That point lies some 25 years behind the first legal protection given to ICH in Fujian, and a study of this gap is imperative if the safeguarding measures are to succeed in a fair and representative manner.

Criterion U.3 Safeguarding measures are elaborated that may enable the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned to continue the practice and transmission of the element.

Excerpts from the nomination form

Safeguarding measures

Items 4.a. to 4.c. request the elaboration of a coherent set of safeguarding measures as called for in Criterion U.3. The safeguarding measures, if effectively implemented, should be expected to contribute substantially to the safeguarding of the element within a time-frame of approximately four years. They should include measures aimed at ensuring the viability of the element by enabling the community to continue its practice and transmission.

4.a. Current and recent efforts to safeguard the element (not to exceed 500 words)

Describe the current and recent efforts of the concerned community, group or, if applicable individuals to ensure the viability of the element. Describe efforts of the concerned State(s) Party(ies) to safeguard the element, taking note of external or internal constraints such as limited resources.

4.b. Safeguarding measures proposed (not to exceed 2,000 words)

This section should identify and describe a coherent set of safeguarding measures that, within a time-frame of approximately four years, could substantially enhance the viability of the element, if implemented, and provide detailed information as follows:

- a) *What primary objective(s) will be addressed and what concrete results will be*

expected?

- b) What are the key activities to be carried out in order to achieve these expected results? Please describe the activities in detail and in their best sequence, addressing their feasibility.
- c) Management and implementation: describe the mechanisms for the full participation of communities, groups or, if appropriate, individuals in the proposed safeguarding measures. Describe the implementing organization or body (name, background, etc.) and the human resources available for implementing the project.
- d) Timetable and budget: provide a timetable for the proposed activities and estimate the funds required for their implementation, identifying any available resources (governmental sources, in-kind community inputs, etc.).

4.c. Commitments of States and of communities, groups or individuals concerned
(not to exceed 500 words)

The feasibility of safeguarding depends in large part on the aspirations and commitment of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and the support and cooperation of the State Party concerned. This section should demonstrate that the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned have the will and commitment to safeguard the element if conditions are favourable and that the State Party concerned has the commitment to support the safeguarding effort by creating favourable conditions for its implementation.

Nomination demonstrates that the element satisfies Criterion U.3:

Yes

No

Examiner's assessment of the feasibility and sufficiency of the safeguarding plan

The examiner should address whether the submitting State has elaborated a coherent set of safeguarding measures that can reasonably be expected to strengthen the viability of the element within the coming four years, and assess whether they reflect the priorities and aspirations of the communities concerned, whether the measures are feasible, and whether the communities and States are adequately committed to their implementation.

(250 to 500 words)

The state party for this nomination has had to balance a challenging range of subjects. The historicity of this element is fabled - the Chinese junk has served China admirably through almost two thousand years of domestic and growing inter-regional trade. The junk has been passenger transport, participated in voyages of tribute, of exploration, been used as platform for warfare and scientific research, and above all as a cargo vessel, its principal role until within a generation of our time. The decline into near-extinction of the ability to form and seal watertight bulkheads - the unique engineering advantage of the junk and a signal contribution to the world's shipbuilding knowledge - is a modern circumstance that has brought the history of the junk perilously close to a premature conclusion. The state party (and its partners) have undertaken to safeguard the livelihoods component of the inheritors/transmitters, for when they are secure so too is the revival of the junk secure.

That is not all. The junk, and its remarkable compartments, has been employed through the dynasties of the Song, Yuan and until the Ming maritime prohibition, and again from the late 16th century onwards to pursue trade development and political objectives in the East Asia sphere. The seven voyages of admiral Zheng He therefore (they would have impossible without the watertight bulkheads) may be seen as an apogee of China's maritime diplomacy in which the junk played a role. The history of the junk is bound intimately with the seafaring histories of the South China Sea, the economic fortunes of the states around the Gulf of Siam, the movement of labour to and from the Malay archipelago - these are patterns that persisted well into the 20th century. For this nomination to begin to be historically representative, its variety of safeguarding

measures would ideally need to build in such depth of recognition. This unfortunately is still missing, although it is an operating perspective not difficult to include.

Understandably, one of the items high on the safeguarding agenda is to help secure the livelihoods of the master craftsmen and the cohort of about 60 shipbuilders. To that end, whether through commissioning for full replicas or models or as primary resource people for allied activities, the transmitters and the apprentices will deserve a reasonable annual income, estimated at 2009 levels to be in the region of (per capita) RMB 24,000. In the indicative budget for safeguarding measures, described year-wise for 2011 to 2015, there is explicit mention of such provision in 2011 and 2013. In other years construction is planned which will also provide incomes. While welcome, this provision is still an aspect of the whole. To strive for a genuine inclusion in the restoration and revival of the Chinese junk technology, the state party and its partners may be advised to cast their net across the regions once so dependent on the junk. Such an effort, East and South-East Asian in scale and scope rather than coastal Chinese, is much more likely to yield long-term solutions for sustaining the knowledge system needed to conserve the junk.

Criterion U.4 The element has been nominated following the widest possible participation of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned and with their free, prior and informed consent.

Excerpts from the nomination form

a. *Participation of communities, groups and individuals*

Describe how the community, group and, if applicable, individuals concerned have participated in the nomination process at all stages, as required by Criterion R.4. States Parties are further encouraged to prepare nominations with the participation of a wide variety of other concerned parties, including where appropriate local and regional governments, neighbouring communities, NGOs, research institutes, centres of expertise and other interested parties.

b. *Free, prior and informed consent*

The free, prior and informed consent of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned may be demonstrated through written or recorded concurrence, or through other means, according to the legal regimens of the State Party and the infinite variety of communities and groups concerned. The Committee will welcome a broad range of demonstrations or attestations of community consent rather than specifying any single standard.

c. *Respect for customary practices governing access*

Demonstrate that inscription and implementation of the safeguarding measures fully respects customary practices governing access to specific aspects of such heritage, if such practices exist (cf. Article 13). Describe any specific measures that might need to be taken to ensure such respect.

Nomination demonstrates that the element satisfies Criterion U.4:

Yes

No

Examiner’s assessment of the participation of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned

The examiner should assess whether the community, group or individuals concerned have participated fully in the nomination process at all stages and whether the nomination reflects their participation.

(150 to 300 words)

For a craft whose practice has waned to the point of extinction, the state party has mustered for this nomination a most encouraging set of partners. Institutes and administrations involved with one or another aspect of the safeguarding programme are: Quanzhou Ancient Ship Museum, Shenhu Boat Museum, China Sailing Vessel Development Center (in Fulong, Fujian Province), Jinjiang Municipal People’s Government, Fujian Provincial Department of Culture, Jinjiang Municipal Cultural and Sports Bureau, Jiaocheng District Cultural and Sports Bureau, Chinese Ministry of Culture, Chinese Academy of Arts, Protection Center of Intangible Cultural Heritage of China, China Central Television, Quanzhou City Overseas Communication History Museum and Jinjiang City Museum. They will be (and till date have been) guided by master craftsmen Fangcai Chen (Jinjiang), Xixiu Liu (Jiaocheng, Ningde) and Zhaowei Liu (Jiaocheng, Ningde) and key assistants Liangdun Yang, Rongliang Chen, Zhichun Chen (who have worked on the replica vessel, ‘Taiping Princess’). For this nomination we rely on the documentation provided, which describes the partnership between inheritor communities and state party. This accompanying documentation, the video presentation, and the entries for the three sub-criteria under main criterion U.4. illustrate how the participation of the host communities and the inheritors/transmitters has taken place. The state party will be challenged to maintain a balance of objectives between the five-year safeguarding programme and the aspirations of the community from the revival of the craft. There are two surveys referred to - carried out in 2006-07 and in 2009 - which no doubt are critical to the 2011-2015 programme as they can lend valuable insights into the perceptions of the host communities and their views on viability and the safeguarding measures. Our advice to the state party is to make these survey results available to a wider interested audience.

Examiner’s comments on their free, prior and informed consent

The examiner should assess whether the submitting State has provided satisfactory evidence of the free, prior and informed consent of the community, group or individuals concerned.

(150 to 300 words)

The consent document is a brief statement signed by the three master craftsmen - Chen Fangcai, Liu Xixiu and Liu Chaowei - who are ‘representing the inheritors of Chinese manufacturing technique for watertight division’. The submitting party has stated that the master craftsmen have also participated in preparing the application to nominate the element to the Urgent Safeguarding List; that together with other inheritors of the craft they have taken part in surveys conducted by the fieldwork team; and that they have provided information on the craftsmanship’s transmission lineage, visual material and traditional shipbuilding tools. Furthermore, we are assured that ‘communities and groups taking part in the nominating process included shipbuilding craftsmen from Shenhu Town in Jinjiang City and Zhangwan Town in Ningde City’, both urban centres being important for the history and planned revival of the craft. Given the institutional and community linkages mentioned in several criteria, we may conclude that the signed consent of the three master craftsmen which accompanies the nomination serves as free and informed consent of the safeguarding programme’s objectives and methods. However, the historicity of the element indicates that the inheritance of the craft, its methods and its recording are widespread in southern coastal China and the maritime dominions of what is today the South China Sea. The first survey on the matter began four years ago, and the state party (with its partners) is suitably placed to widen the circle of inheritors, and in so doing deepen our shared understanding of the many social and ceremonial aspects of this craft. We note therefore that the five-year safeguarding agenda will benefit from clearer evidence that as many inheritor communities as possible are participating with a sense of

ownership of the craft and its future.	
Examiner's comments on respect for customary practices governing access to the element, if applicable	
The examiner should comment on whether the submitting State has adequately addressed the question of any customary practices that might govern access to the element.	
<i>(not to exceed 300 words)</i>	
<p>The state party has not provided material for this criterion. However, from the contents of other criteria in the nomination form, and from the video clip it becomes clear that the craft is held to be 'an integral part of their local cultural heritage' as explained in E. (brief statement of the viability of the element). The available material does not categorically mention conditional access to the knowledge body of the craft or to the raw materials required. There are potential usages and events during which customary practices may be invoked - such as to initiate use of the tools of traditional Chinese carpenters (listed in 2., description of the element). We are given further clues about the possible presence of customary practices (not necessarily relating to access) elsewhere in the same criterion: 'This technique is largely transmitted through oral direction from masters to apprentices and among family members'; 'The craftsman presiding over watertight-bulkhead Fujianese-junk construction is addressed respectfully as Master Craftsman'; and 'Over the centuries, local communities established the custom of holding solemn memorial ceremonies to pray for peace and safety before beginning construction of Fujianese junks, as well as upon their completion before launch and maiden voyage'. We also find in criterion 3.b. that master craftsmen stored 'their experience and working methods in their mind' and taught apprentices through oral direction, which may indicate a formal transfer marked with a symbolic giving and acceptance. This is already alluded to in 4.b. by 'Ceremonies will be held when transmitters take on apprentices', while major events such as the beginning and completion of construction merited ceremonies. We conclude therefore that a rich seam of lore (as with other ancient seafaring traditions) surrounds the element, and that ceremonial transmission methods were used. The state party may be advised to document these thoroughly.</p>	
Criterion U.5	The element is included in an inventory of the intangible cultural heritage present in the territory(ies) of the submitting State(s) Party(ies) as defined in Articles 11 and 12.
<i>Excerpts from the nomination form</i>	
<p><i>The submitting State should identify the inventory in which the element has been included and the office, agency, organization or body responsible for maintaining that inventory. The description also should demonstrate that the inventory has been drawn up in conformity with Articles 11 and 12, in particular Article 11(b) that stipulates that intangible cultural heritage shall be identified and defined 'with the participation of communities, groups, and relevant non-governmental organizations' and Article 12 requiring that inventories be regularly updated.</i></p> <p><i>The nominated element's inclusion in an inventory should not in any way imply or require that the inventory(ies) should have been completed prior to nomination. Rather, a submitting State Party may be in the process of completing or updating one or more inventories, but has already duly included the nominated element on an inventory-in-progress.</i></p>	
Nomination demonstrates that the element satisfies Criterion U.5:	<p style="text-align: right;">Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Examiner's comments on the nomination's conformity with Criterion U.5

The examiner should comment on whether the submitting State has adequately demonstrated that the element is included within an inventory, and has shown that the inventory was drawn up in conformity with the Convention, especially Article 11(b) requiring the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations.

(100 to 200 words)

China has established a safeguarding mechanism for cultural elements which are applied through four level ranging from the local to national. As this nomination explains, fieldwork is carried out relating to the safeguarding of an element of intangible cultural heritage. In the course of this fieldwork, a wide range of oral information and local documents are collected, direct interviews are also held with inheritors and transmitters of knowledge and craft and with representatives of relevant organisations. The materials so collected are studied and used to draw up an 'objective description of a craftsmanship's current transmission situation', which is then furnished as a report to be acted upon using the four-level mechanism. The 'Watertight-Bulkhead Technology of Chinese Junks' element was included as heritage entitled to protection and is present in the second batch of elements listed as National-level Intangible Cultural Heritage. This inclusion was done by the State Council in June 2008. The authority in charge of the list is the Intangible Cultural Heritage Department of the Chinese Ministry of Culture. The conformity with Article 11 (b) is fulfilled by the response to criterion U.4.

OVERALL RECOMMENDATION

The examination report shall include 'a recommendation to the Committee to inscribe, or not to inscribe, the nominated element'.

Recommend to inscribe:

Recommend not to inscribe:

Examiner's comments on the overall recommendation

To be inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List, an element must satisfy all of the criteria. If the examiner concludes that any criterion is not satisfied, the overall recommendation cannot be to inscribe the element. The examiner may wish to offer further explanation of any such negative conclusions, or may wish to suggest to the Committee certain conditions it might consider attaching to a favourable decision to inscribe the element.

(150 to 300 words)

The quasi-technical aspect of this element, watertight bulkhead technology for use in a wooden sailing vessel, conceals the gripping life and times of an extraordinary tool of trade and of statecraft, the Chinese junk. That the junk continued to be built and extensively used during the nearly 200 years of the Ming maritime prohibition is testimony of its importance to China's coastal economies and communities. It is this aspect, the mingling of maritime history and a programme to revive the applications of a landmark innovation, which the state party can integrate into its 2011-2015 programme to safeguard this element.

Doing so will provide new avenues of public-private partnership to the provincial and city administrations in Fujian whose final responsibility it now is to safeguard the element. To that end, the budget presented very loosely through a description of the safeguarding programme will in my view require review. The first question relates to the aggregate funds estimated for the activities planned, that of RMB 3,930,000 (about EUR 471,700). The activities, classified as 'interim measures', span a wide range: construction of two operating replicas, engaging with schools, holding exhibitions and seminars, publishing, setting up a training centre and a foundation and - of much importance - aiding the livelihood needs of the craftspeople upon whom so much depends. Will the funds suffice? The draft plan makes allowances for additional funding through other routes, including private. The state party may be advised to make such budgeting and financing as transparent as possible in the interest of attracting the potentially wide supra-regional (and indeed global) participation that a programme related to the Chinese

junk will undoubtedly attract.

In following a strategy of more inclusion, it is paramount that leadership of the programme be shared with, among others, the inheritors of the craft and their communities, with whom ultimate ownership of this tradition must continue to rest.