



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage

# Preparatory Assistance Nomination to the Urgent Safeguarding List

Reçu CLT / CIH / ITH

ICH-05 – Form

Le 12 JAN. 2012

N° 0034

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## REQUEST FOR PREPARATORY ASSISTANCE FOR ELABORATING A NOMINATION FOR INSCRIPTION ON THE URGENT SAFEGUARDING LIST

**DEADLINE 31 MARCH 2011**

*Instructions for completing the request form is available at:  
<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/forms>*

### 1. State(s) Party(ies)

For multi-national requests, States Parties should be listed in the order on which they have mutually agreed.

Syrian Arab Republic

### 2. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning the request. If an e-mail address cannot be provided, the information should include a fax number.

For multi-national requests provide complete contact information for the person designated by the submitting States Parties as the main contact person for all correspondence with the Secretariat of the Convention relating to the request as well as one person in each State Party concerned.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr.

Family name: Aboufakher

Given name: Imad

Institution/position: Ministry of Culture- Director of Popular Heritage

Address: George Haddad Street, Rawda, Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Telephone number: +963-11-4450370, +963 955 158979

Fax number: +963 11 4450370

E-mail address: im.aboufakher@gmail.com

Other relevant  
information:

### 3. Name of element to be nominated for inscription

This is the official name of the element in English or French that will appear in documents concerning the requested assistance.

Not to exceed 200 characters

Karakoz wa Ewaz Shadow Theatre in Syria

### 4. Amount of assistance requested

Preparatory assistance will normally be in the range of US\$5,000 to US\$10,000; requests submitted jointly by at least two States Parties and involving greater costs may reach the top of this range.

Amount requested from the Fund: US\$10,670

State Party contribution: US\$3,275

### 5. Identification of the community, group or, if applicable, individuals concerned

Identify clearly one or several communities, groups or, if applicable, individuals concerned by the element to be nominated.

The information provided should be mutually coherent with the information in other sections below.

Not to exceed 200 words

Karakoz wa Ewaz Shadow Theatre is practiced for the purpose of entertainment by young men at public spaces, and in front of an audience of men or a mixed audience. Every show is presented by a single leading performer who moves the characters and tells the story.

This tradition is part of how Syrians across age, gender, ethnic and religious groups define their cultural heritage today. So if you ask a Syrian who is over eighteen or sometimes even a child about a Syrian tradition that is of theatrical nature, the Karakoz wa Ewaz Shadow Theatre would naturally come up as an answer.

There are two performers who still present the shows, but also several people who own puppets of Syrian characters, and many others who know the details of the tradition, including a researcher who has registered about 40 of the traditional stories used for this art and published them in a book.

### 6. Geographic location and range of the element to be nominated

Provide information on the range of distribution of the element, indicating if possible the locations in which it is centred. If related elements are practised in neighbouring areas, please so indicate.

Not to exceed 100 words

This performing art is practiced in public spaces, like on the streets and in cafes, since it doesn't need complicated equipment or a proper stage. The performer brings his materials with him. It is mostly presented today in festivals organized by the Governorates of Damascus and Aleppo in historic quarters like Souq Sarouja, but also recently at Syria's opera house.

This element constitutes part of Syrian's definition of their culture today in each of Damascus,

Aleppo, Homs and Hama.

## 7. Domain(s) represented by the element to be nominated

Tick one or more boxes to identify the domain(s) of intangible cultural heritage manifested by the element, which might include one or more of the domains identified in Article 2.2 of the Convention. If you tick 'others', specify the domain(s) in brackets.

- oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage
- performing arts
- social practices, rituals and festive events
- knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- traditional craftsmanship
- others ( )

## 8. Implementing agency (contracting party, if assistance is provided)

### 8.a. Name and contact information

Provide the name, address and other contact information of the implementing agency that would be contracted by UNESCO to prepare the nomination for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List.

Name of the agency: Ministry of Culture- Directorate of Popular Heritage

Name and title of the contact person: Mr. Imad Aboufakher, Director of Popular Heritage

Address: George Haddad Street, Rawda, Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Telephone number: +963 11 4450370, +963 11 955 158979

Fax number: +963 11 4450370

E-mail address: im.aboufakher@gmail.com

Other relevant information:

### 8.b. Default on any previous contract with UNESCO

Is the implementing agency in default of any previous contract with UNESCO, because it has not settled amounts due or has otherwise failed to carry out its obligations there under? If so, provide below detailed information about the contract (contract number, contract period, UNESCO Division or Office concerned, etc.).

- No
- Yes (if so, please provide details below:)

### 8.c. On-going contract with UNESCO

Is the implementing agency now under contract with UNESCO for any purpose? If so, provide below detailed information about the contract(s) (contract number, contract period, UNESCO Division or Office concerned, etc.).

No

Yes (if so, please provide details below:)

### 9. Process of elaborating the nomination

Describe the process that will be used to elaborate the nomination. Indicate whether the communities, groups, or if applicable, individuals concerned by this nomination have already given their prior consent to the submission of the nomination for inscription on the Urgent Safeguarding List. Explain the mechanisms planned for fully involving them in the preparation of the nomination.

Describe the body with primary responsibility for preparing the nomination (implementing agency identified under item 8) as well as the human resources available to this body. Identify additional expertise that may be needed or other bodies that may assist.

Not to exceed 250 words

In order to elaborate the nomination, interviews will be made with current performers and families of late ones, since they still hold information about the tradition and some of them still own Syrian puppets. A focus group will be held with them and decision makers at the Ministry of Culture in order to analyze problems and brainstorm best measures to safeguard this element while it remains part of the public culture in Syria.

Furthermore, a lecture directed to the public on whether this element should be saved will be held, in order to measure public interest in it, especially from the side of intellectuals, researchers, journalists and workers in the cultural field.

Practitioners have already given their consent to registering Karakoz wa Ewaz Shadow Theatre on the urgent safeguarding list, and the Ministry assesses a valid public interest in saving this tradition.

The Ministry of Culture, Department of Popular Heritage will be responsible for the preparation of the nomination file, collaborating with researcher Muneer Kayal who is a prominent researcher of Syria's heritage and who has worked on the topic before.

We will also work with photographer Hany Hawasly and filmmaker Zaki Cordello. No one could be more competent to do the task of writing the storyboard for the film (in collaboration with the researcher and the Ministry) then directing it than Mr. Cordello, who is a filmmaker and teacher of theatrical arts, and who practices this performing art today.

## 10. Preparatory measures to be supported financially by this request

Within the nomination elaboration process described in section 9 above, what are the specific activities necessary for the preparation of the nomination that cannot be carried out using the resources of the submitting State Party? Please indicate the nature and sequence of such activities.

Preparatory assistance may be used to pay, for instance, for a film or photos necessary for the submission of a nomination, the organization of consultations with communities, expert services for the preparation of a nomination, translation services, etc. Please note that the Secretariat may not provide technical assistance regarding a specific nomination; therefore funds should not be requested for travel or other expenses of UNESCO personnel.

Provide information concerning only the specific measures that are to be funded by this preparatory assistance request.

Not to exceed 250 words

While the Ministry of Culture, Department of Popular Heritage can support a researcher to elaborate the nomination file, it needs UNESCO's financial support to create the 10 minute film, prepare professional photographs, arrange for the researcher to travel to Aleppo, Hama and Homs to find out if there are any left owners of Karakoz wa Ewaz puppets or stories, or even living practitioners that the Ministry is not aware of, and organize the focus group and public consultation through a lecture with relevant and interested communities as mentioned in point no. 9.

Two public events of Karakoz wa Ewaz Shadow Theatre will be organized in order to ensure the existence of opportunities to shoot for the creation of the film and photographs, since such availability could not be left to luck.

## 11. Timetable of the project

Provide a month-by-month timetable for the proposed activities keeping in mind that the deadline for submission of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List is 31 March 2012 for possible inscription in 2013. Please also note that the activities can only begin approximately three months after the approval of the request, at the earliest. A sample timetable is available in Annex 1 of the instructions.

November, December 2011: Research, including interviews, travel and holding the focus group will be done and will provide background for preparing the film's storyboard

January, February 2012: Two public events will be organized, where photography and shooting for the film will be completed. The deadline of finalizing the photos and the film (including subtitles) is 29 February 2012.

March 2012: The public lecture and discussion will be held in Damascus, including a screening of the film and sharing of the draft nomination file. Deadline of finalizing the nomination by the researcher is 15 March 2012.

## 12. Budget

The budget should reflect only the activities and expenses for which preparatory assistance is requested, including the State contribution, if any. Clearly distinguish the amount requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund from the amount to be contributed by the State Party.

Provide a detailed budget breakdown in US dollars of the amount requested, by type of cost (e.g. personnel, travel, fees, etc.) with enough specificity and detail so as to provide sufficient justification and to allow actual expenses to be matched directly against the projections. Sample budgets are available in Annex 2 of the instructions.

The budget breakdown in this section should be in conformity with the detailed narrative description provided under section 10 (Preparatory measures to be supported financially by this request).

Amount requested from ICH Fund	10,670
Details:	
Travel of researcher (7days @110 USD/day including lodging and transport)	770
Coordinator of events (1person @30% *3 months @ 1000 USD/month)	900
Refreshments for lecture and focus group (2 events *1day @75 USD/day)	150
Stationary for researcher and consultations (3 months @ 50 USD/month)	150
Translation of prepared nomination file (8 pages @ 15 USD/page)	120
Film's storyboard (1 person @100% *1 month @ 665 USD/month)	665
Film director (1 person @100% *10 days @ 150 USD/day)	1,500
Film director's assistant (1 person @100% *5 days @ 65 USD/day)	325
Photographer (1 person @100% *5 days @ 110 USD/day)	550
Spaces to hold 2 shows and 1 public lecture (5 days @100 USD/day)	500
Performers for shows (2 persons @100% *4 days @ 335 USD/show)	1,340
Advertising of public events (3 posters, design: 80 USD/poster, printing of 500 copies: 190 USD/poster)	810
Rental of equipment (camera, sound, lighting *5 days @ 225 USD/day)	1,125
Cameraman for film (1 person @100% *5 days @ 110 USD/day)	550
Light and sound technician for film (1 person @100% *5 days @ 45 USD/day)	245
Film Editing (10 min. film of about 6 hr. or footage)	440
Music rights for the film (two tracks)	350
Subtitling (10 min.)	180
Amount contributed by the Syrian State (Ministry of Culture)	3,275
Details:	
Researcher (1 person @30% *3 months @1000 USD/month)	900
Coordination of preparing nomination (1 person %30 *5 months @ 1000 USD/month)	1,500
Accountant (1 person @10% *5 months @1000 USD/month)	500
Telecommunications and office supplies (5 months @75 USD/month)	375

### 13. Previous financial assistance from UNESCO for similar or related activities

Has the State Party ever received any financial assistance from UNESCO or any of its offices or programmes to implement an activity similar to or related to the project that you are currently proposing? If so, provide below detailed information on the project(s) (title, period, contract number, funding source, etc.).

No

Yes (if so, please provide details below:)

MEDLIHER project Mediterranean Living Heritage. Period 12 months till March 2010.  
Contract No. 3250037134

Funding source: European Commission, UNESCO

### 14. Signature on behalf of the State Party

The request should conclude with the original signature of the official empowered to sign it on behalf of the State Party, together with his or her name, title and the date of submission.

In the case of multi-national requests, the document should contain the name, title and signature of an official of each State Party submitting the request.

Name: Dr. Riad Ismat

Title: Minister of Culture

Date: 23 August 2011

Signature: 