12th Meeting of the International Advisory Committee of
The Memory of the World Programme
4-6 October 2015, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Final Report

I. Orientation for new IAC Members

An orientation meeting was held on the morning of 4th October 2015. Following the introductory remarks by Mr Boyan Radoykov, Ms Iskra Panevska welcomed the new members of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting and provided them with an overview of the
Memory of the World Programme (MoW). She explained the vision, the mission, the operation of the MOW Programme as well as the role and tasks of the IAC and its relationship with the Sub-Committees, the Bureau and the National and Regional MOW Committees in achieving the objectives of the Programme. She noted that the General Guidelines to the Programme are updated periodically and that a Register Companion to provide guidance on completing the nomination form for submitting a documentary heritage item for inscription on the register is available on UNESCO website in several languages.

Dr Ray Edmondson, current member of the MOW Register Sub-committee, completed the orientation session by introducing the Memory of the World selection criteria and how they are used in assessing the nominations. He also provided some practical examples of good and bad practices from the past.

![Opening of the IAC meeting. Copyright: UNESCO](image)

II. Welcoming remarks

The representative of the Director-General of UNESCO, Dr. Boyan Radoykov, welcomed the participants and emphasized the high importance UNESCO attaches to protecting and preserving the heritage of humanity. To this end, UNESCO has developed a comprehensive set of international instruments to protect cultural heritage. Most recently, in July 2015 UNESCO has finalized with the active participation and contribution of its Member States a new normative draft document - the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to
Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form. The draft Recommendation acknowledges the importance for Member States and relevant stakeholders of preserving the world's recorded knowledge, and preventing the risks of losing important sources of information, as well as mapping out effective protection through enhanced national legislation, policies and strategies in combined implementation framework. Dr Radoykov stressed that whenever and wherever cultural and documentary heritage is threatened, the Director-General of UNESCO alerts parties and stakeholders about the urgent need to spare cultural and archaeological sites, museums, libraries and archives from the devastation of warfare. In addition to its operational action, he pointed out that UNESCO acts as an international platform for continuous reflection on the protection of cultural heritage at risk, which is at the core of the Memory of the World Programme.

III. Election

The following members were unanimously elected to form the new IAC Bureau for period 2015 to 2017.

Chairperson:

Dr. Abdulla El Reyes, Director-General, National Archives of the United Arab Emirates

Vice Presidents:

Mr. David Fricker, Director-General, National Archives of Australia

Mr. Lothar Jordan, Current Chair of the Sub-Committee on Education and Research, Germany

Mr. Papa Momar Diop, Deputy President of the African Regional MoW Committee, Senegal

Rapporteur: Mrs Victoria O’Flaherty, Director, National Archive of St Kitts-Nevis

Dr. Abdulla El Reyes took the chair and thanked UNESCO and those present for their support and for the opportunity to serve on the IAC. He then expressed his appreciation to Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan as the out-going IAC Chair for her personal commitment, hard work and numerous achievements. He also thanked other members of the committee with whom he has worked in the past. He noted that the MoW Programme has similar objectives to those of the National Archives of the UAE, namely to support and protect endangered heritage as well as to make it widely accessible. He expressed confidence in achieving all that is on the agenda and invited the participants to be innovative and creative as well as to find time to enjoy what the UAE has to offer.
IV. Reports of the IAC Sub-committees, UNESCO Secretariat and MOW Regional Committees

The outgoing IAC Chair, Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan, expressed satisfaction about her years with the MoW Programme and advised the IAC to take more time for research and reflection to ensure that their decisions will continue to generate respect. She also regretted the lack of opportunity for more meetings of the Bureau.

Reports from the 4 subcommittees were read by their respective Chairs, and these were followed by the reports of the 3 regional MOW committees which were circulated; short summaries are included in the current Report.

Dr Joachim-Felix Leonhard, Germany, informed the IAC that Europe is making some progress towards forming a European regional committee of its own. The IAC recorded its encouragement of this development and urged the European members to continue making strides towards the creation of a Regional register.

Commenting on the frequent complaint voiced in the reports, that funds for projects were not forthcoming, Boyan Radoykov, who represented the Director-General of UNESCO, pointed out that the funding for UNESCO was drastically reduced after 2011 and yet the organization still functions and delivers the programmes. He insisted on the need to strengthen
cooperation with strategic partners, be they countries, organizations or the private sector. He also indicated that the Arab region is underrepresented on the MOW Register and that steps are being taken to correct this situation.

1. **Register Sub-Committee Report (RSC) - May 2013 - September 2015**

In the reporting period the RSC consisted of the following members:

Mr Jan Bos (Netherlands), chair, representing IFLA  
Mr Rujaya Abhakorn (Thailand); Mrs Frédérique Bazzoni (France), representing ICA; Mrs Lourdes Bianco (Venezuela); Mr Ray Edmondson (Australia), representing CCAAA; Mr Joachim Gierlichs (Qatar); Mr Elyor Karimov (Uzbekistan); Mrs Joie Springer (Barbados); Mrs Roslyn Russell (Australia), rapporteur

The main task of the RSC is the assessment of submitted nominations, resulting in recommendations to the IAC. In this term, after a formal check by the Secretariat, the RSC received 88 nominations for assessments. The nominations were distributed among the RSC members. The members assessed the nominations individually, often using comments from other experts, and expressed their evaluations. From 1 to 3 December 2014 the full RSC gathered in Paris for a three day meeting to discuss the evaluations and to come to interim RSC recommendations. (One member was unable to attend the meeting in person, but gave input by telephone.) The Secretariat communicated the interim recommendations to the nominators, which in most cases resulted in additional information or adapted nominations. On 20 April 2015 a three-hour RSC telephone meeting was held to consider the revisions and comments from the nominators and to come to the RSC’s final recommendations to be presented and discussed at the IAC meeting in Abu Dhabi.

At its Paris meeting the RSC addressed several other issues:

- During the assessment process there has been strong pressure exercised on the UNESCO Director General, on UNESCO staff and on RSC members in favor and against some of the submitted nominations. This pressure came from UNESCO ambassadors and other insiders as well as from external groups and media. The IAC Chair and the RSC members had been duly informed about this. Within the RSC it had been stressed that the assessment process is strictly confidential and impartial, and that it is the task of the RSC to evaluate whether a nomination meets the selection criteria - and nothing more nor less. At the meeting the RSC expressed its concern about the growing pressure and observed that it could potentially harm the integrity of the MoW Programme.

- The RSC observed that some nominations were not written in a neutral, objective way. It should be clear to nominators that offensive or aggressive language should be avoided as well as unprovable claims. It should also be clear that the inscription of documents to a register does not necessarily imply that UNESCO endorses the content of these documents. It would be useful to have explicit statements about this in the Companion.

- The RSC discussed the procedures for adding documents to an existing inscription and supported the proposal drafted by Ray Edmondson.
- It had been brought to the attention of the RSC that the condition in the General Guidelines that a nominated item should be closed and finite is an obstacle for nominating digital born materials (e.g. websites), which are changeable by nature, and this changeability often adds to their value. The RSC established a working group to investigate this issue.

- The RSC discussed the desirability of monitoring and reporting on inscribed nominations and proposed to put this issue on the agenda of the IAC.

- The RSC discussed the question as to whether coins and other numismatic materials could be regarded as documents and came to a positive conclusion.

- The RSC (again) expressed its concerns about the limited resources for the MoW programme. After the RSC meeting in Paris a delegation of the RSC had a fruitful meeting with a delegation of the Sub-Committee for Education and Research to investigate ways and areas of cooperation.

In the reporting period members of the RSC conducted MoW workshops and gave presentations in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean. They participated in experts' meetings on the MoW Recommendation, on the establishment of a Regional commission for Europe, on the PERSIST project and on other MoW matters. Both the chair and individual members of the RSC were regularly consulted by UNESCO staff on issues.

2. Sub-Committee on Education and Research (SCEaR)

Members: Lothar Jordan (Germany), chair; Roslyn Russell (Australia), rapporteur; Helena Asamoah-Hassan (Ghana), Martin Porter (UK), John Van Oudenaren (USA).

Mr Lothar Jordan, chair of the the SCEaR which was created in 2013, gave its first Work Report. He informed about the growing Network of Cooperating Institutions (now 21) and Corresponding Members (now 25) of this sub-committee that help to strengthen the expertise connected to the MoW programme and to promote it on different levels of education, in different forms of memory institutions and in various disciplines of academic research related to documentary heritage. Thanks to the Secretariat both groups are visible on the MoW part of the UNESCO website. The Report highlighted the ICLA (International Comparative Literature Association) as a Cooperating Institution, the first purely academic international association that is a partner of the MoW programme, and gave examples of the outcomes of its cooperation with its partners, like an MoW Touch-Table for items of the International Register, a set of MoW museums coffers for school children and young visitors of museums, and new university courses on MoW and MoW Studies in Macau and Mexico.

Concerning education and training programmes for digitization and preservation practices, the SCEaR proposed to use “Digital Records Pathways”, a set of eight education modules that are posted in the ICA SAE (http://ica-sae.org/) as academic curricula.

The Report gave examples of different new approaches to work on MoW in schools, carried out mainly by ScEaR member Dr Martin Porter and informed about meetings between members of
the ScEaR with members of the ScoT and the RSC that should strengthen the interconnectedness of the MoW sub-committees.

After highlighting that the first steps have been taken to create a MoW Knowledge Centre at UNESCO HQ, the Report closed with some proposals for new initiatives that the SCEaR had developed to reach its goals.

3. Sub-committee on Technology (SCoT) Report

Members: ScoT Chair: Jonas Palm (Sweden); George Boston (UK); Dietrich Schüller (Austria); Fernando Osorio (Mexico); Kevin Bradley (Australia); Lai Tee Phang (Singapore)

SCoT has produced a document about the fundamentals of digitization of documentary heritage to inform about the basics for successful digitization projects and for long term preservation, and to point the inquirers in the right direction for further information.

SCoT is active in the Technology Task Force within PERSIST: Platform to Enhance the Sustainability of the Information Society Trans-globally. This project was started under the aegis of the Memory of the World Programme, UNESCO, IFLA, ICA and other organizations in response to the Vancouver Declaration in 2012. The aim is to establish a permanent dialogue amongst the major stakeholders to boost digital preservation solutions. The initiative aims to create a repository which will equip memory institutions with the software tools to interact with culturally significant digital content that is in danger of becoming inaccessible due to technical obsolescence:
The Heritage Software Platform.

The SCoT Chair met with the SCEAR Chair Lothar Jordan, in September 2015 to discuss possible areas for collaboration. This will be discussed further.

SCoT drew the attention of IAC to the following Issues of concern:

The Preservation issue within the MoW Programme:

According to the Memory of the World Register Companion the MoW Programme “…aims to ensure the preservation and dissemination of valuable…” and “…to facilitate preservation, by the most appropriate techniques….” These ambitions are not necessarily reflected in nominations for the register. Nor is it probably possible to remove items which do no longer meet the MOW criteria from the registry. This issue ought to be discussed further within the IAC.

The lack of funding restricts the possibilities for SCoT to work as was initially intended, which caused, for example, the delay of the "Magnetic Tape Alert" project.

4. Marketing Sub-Committee (MSC)

Belina Capul, Chair of the Sub-Committee on Marketing (MSC), in her report gave an overview of the activities undertaken under her chairmanship, the current initiatives, the challenges encountered and recommendations for consideration of UNESCO, the IAC and the incoming members of the MSC.

She informed the IAC that the development of the MOW Companion Website, which was proposed to the 11th IAC Meeting in South Korea, to complement UNESCO’s web portal section of MOW and to provide comprehensive information on the Programme on three levels has since been completed and ready for deployment. Options for the technical site were provided but the Secretariat at that time could not act on the options in the absence of UNESCO’s web administrator.

Ms. Capul, on behalf of the CCAAA and as the current coordinator for the celebration, invited the Meeting to participate in the celebration of the World Day for AV Heritage on October 27 which marks its 10th anniversary this year. Its theme is Archive at Risk: Protecting the World's Identities. The MOW Programme is featured in the WDAVH website. The new AV documentary heritage that will be inscribed on the Register will be featured.

In terms of projects, the MSC recommends giving priority to those activities that create an enabling environment to support the work of the national committees in marketing their own activities and helping them raise funds to finance their own projects such as the deployment of the companion website, manuals containing guidelines on marketing and advocacy, training and provision of basic presentation materials on the Programme.
5. The Asia Pacific Regional Committee (MOWCAP)

The Asia Pacific Regional Committee embraces the national MOW committees and equivalent bodies within UNESCO’s Asia Pacific region of 43 countries. Since the 2013 IAC meeting, the following are the major points of progress:

· The 6th MOWCAP General Meeting was held in Guangzhou, China, in May 2014. A new Bureau was elected for a 4 year term, with Mr Li Minghua (China) as incoming chair replacing the retiring chair, Dr Ray Edmondson.
· There were 16 new inscriptions on the Asia Pacific MOW Register, bringing the total number of inscriptions to 32.
· The coffee table book “Memory”, financially supported by State Archives Administration of China and the Australian National MOW Committee, reached final proof stage.
· A new MOWCAP website was developed, due to go live in October 2015, and the MOWCAP Facebook page remained active.
· Several issues of the MOWCAP newsletter were distributed. A MOWCAP brochure was prepared and distributed. A version in the Tetum language was distributed in Timor Leste.
· Workshops, seminars or presentations were held in Shanghai, Taipei, Suzhou, Beijing (China), Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), Singapore, Dili (Timor Leste), Phnom Penh (Cambodia), Hanoi (Vietnam), Gwangju (Rep of Korea), Pyongyang (DPRK)
· The MOWCAP Bureau met in Bagan, Myanmar in May 2015.
· As of October 2015, new national MOW committees are in process of establishment in Myanmar and Timor Leste, with the formalization of the Cambodian National MOW Committee also imminent.
· Bureau members and others within the MOWCAP network participated in meetings and drafting work leading to the MOW “Recommendation” due to go to the UNESCO General Conference in November 2015.
· With the generous support of the UNESCO National Commission of the Republic of Korea, a staffed MOWCAP Centre will be opened in the Asia Culture Centre in Gwangju, projected for early 2016. Costs will be fully met by the Korean hosts. The Centre will be able to absorb administrative loads currently distributed among Bureau members and will support the more efficient functioning of MOWCAP.
· The next MOWCAP General meeting will be held in Hue, Vietnam, in May 2016.

MOWCAP is administratively linked to the UNESCO Regional Office in Bangkok, where it has a budget line that covers some travel and other expenses, but its wider activities have been financially supported by the State Archives Administration of China, The Korean National
Commission for UNESCO, the UNESCO Regional Office in Jakarta, and private supporters and sponsors.


The Interim Africa Regional Committee was established during the 8th IAC meeting which was held in South Africa in 2007. The African Regional Committee (ARCMOW) was endorsed in 2008 and committee members appointed. This committee served for 4 years and under the terms of the constitution was re-elected for a further term of 4 years.

The strategic objectives of ARCMOW are to:

- Identify documentary heritage in Africa
- Raise awareness of Africa’s documentary heritage and the importance of preserving this heritage as currently there are only 8 National Committees in Sub Saharan Africa
- Promote access to this heritage
- Encourage participation by membership countries

There are, so far, eight National Committees in Africa. Eight countries have one nomination each. These are Angola, Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Senegal. The United Republic of Tanzania has two and South Africa has five.

The South African Government has agreed to host a combined Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Branch of the ICA [ESARBICA] and the ARCMOW conference in South Africa in 2017.

7. **Latin America and Caribbean Regional Committee (MOWLAC) Report 2014-2015**

The 15th Annual Meeting of the MOWLAC Regional Committee took place in October 15-17, 2014, in Puebla, Mexico. The meeting was attended by specialists from different countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Their task was to analyze a total of 23 proposals and discuss which of them would be incorporated on the regional register.

Twelve were accepted, seven were considered with recommendations that once resolved by the nominators can be resubmitted in a subsequent call; four were not incorporated into the register as the nominations were considered to be of local and national importance.

It is noteworthy that the themes of the 23 nominations submitted cover diverse themes i.e. linguistic, social, cultural, religious, anthropological, literary and human rights. The media on which they were originally developed ranging from manuscripts, printed, cartographic, photographic, and audio. They were created in the period ranging from the fifteenth century to the present day.
The MOWLAC committee suggested that the following general comments be considered in the final proposal: Invite the UNESCO Members States to support the efforts of universities, libraries, archives and other information organizations, both public and private to:

1. Identify the documentary heritage by creation of financing projects aimed at this purpose,
2. Intensify the promotion of the Memory of the World Programme, to recognize the importance of preservation and access to the documentary heritage of humanity.
3. Review existing legislation on copyright and legal deposit, to ensure compliance,
4. Safeguard, and where necessary support financially, the documentary collections or sets of documents that are already part of the Memory of the World Program to guarantee the preservation of these and promote access, especially in cases where the custodian does not have resources or physical and technological infrastructure.
5. Promote the digitization of these Memory of the World documentary collections or sets of documents and put them all in open access available to the humanity.
6. Promote the creation of an “Open Access Repository of Memory of the World Program”, to guarantee access to documentary heritage in the digital age.

The Mexican Committee Memory of the World developed the project *Youth and the Mexican Documentary Heritage: Dissemination of the Memory of the World Programme, UNESCO, in Mexico*, which aims to promote the program among young people both high school and undergraduate students, to make them aware of the importance of knowing, valuing, protecting and disseminating the documentary heritage of their town, state and country.

### 8. UNESCO Secretariat Report

Iskra Panevska reported on the work of the UNESCO Secretariat. She paid tribute to the work of other colleagues, especially Joie Springer, whom she succeeded. This report was also circulated for information to the IAC members and a summary will be available in the final detailed report to be published on the UNESCO Memory of the World website.

Within the framework of the Memory of the World Programme, UNESCO supported a series of capacity-building activities, which are crucial for increasing the number of successful nominations, and for creating a network of new contacts to widen relationships and to share experiences among memory institutions. One of the most important aspects of the Programme is the MOW Register which has been a powerful tool for increasing global awareness of the existence of documentary heritage. In particular, the MOW International Register has come to be regarded as one of the most prestigious forms for recognition for documentary heritage with outstanding value and global significance.

In this context, since 2009, the Government of the Republic of Korea, UNESCO and the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, organized a series of training workshops in a number of Member States in Asia, the Pacific and Africa, to encourage their relevant institutions that are poorly, or not at all, presented on the MOW Register to submit their nominations and to be assisted in the nomination process. These workshops provided rare opportunities for participants to receive direct technical assistance from members of the MOW IAC, allowing them to
significantly increase the number of nominations from these countries. The workshops included a series of presentations by international mentors, explaining the MOW Programme and the nomination criteria. In particular, these hands-on workshops asked participants to bring to the workshop draft nominations for items of documentary heritage from their own country. The nominations were then developed and revised in group and plenary sessions, and in discussions with mentors who have long experience in preparing and assessing nominations.

The last two training workshops, funded by the Republic of Korea, took place in November 2013, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic in September 2015.

Similar capacity building activities have been organized in the Arab World and Africa to identify and safeguard their rich heritage, which represents an enormous capacity to inspire the development of the regions’ countries. However, many of the unique heritage collections, manuscripts and historically significant records which have survived neglect and disasters are scattered across different institutions and remain at risk of loss, decay, inappropriate storage, pollution and political instability.

It was within this context that UNESCO organized in December 2014 jointly with the Oman National Commission for UNESCO, the first regional training workshop for the Arab region in Muscat, Oman. This major activity aimed to promote preservation of, and access to the world’s archival holdings and library collections in the region. The workshop brought participants from 12 Arab countries, as well as 19 national participants from Oman. In April 2015, UNESCO organized a second regional workshop, jointly with the National Commission of Lebanon for UNESCO for French-speaking Arab countries, which was hosted by the UNESCO Office in Beirut. The workshop aimed to promote preservation and access to the region’s unique archival holdings and library collections as well as to encourage and support local efforts to identify, develop and submit new proposals for consideration and inscription on the Memory of the World Register.

As a follow up to the Vancouver Declaration, UNESCO, IFLA, ICA, Koninklijke Bibliotheek and DEN Foundation initiated a follow up meeting to prepare an action plan that took place in The Hague, the Netherlands, on 5 and 6 December 2013. UNESCO National Commissions from Canada, Korea and the Netherlands in cooperation with UNESCO organized this meeting, with the participation of international experts who emphasized the urgency for closer cooperation between industry, government and heritage institutions, including users. As a result of this meeting the PERSIST project was born (detailed information on the project is available at the end of this report).

Impelled by its responsibility to raise awareness about the need to safeguard the world’s documentary heritage, UNESCO recognizes that urgent action is required to ensure that world’s collective memory is protected and preserved for future generations. At its 191st session, the Executive Board of UNESCO recommended that the 37th session of the General Conference decide that the issue of preservation and access to documentary heritage, including audiovisual heritage, be regulated at the international level by means of a normative instrument.

More than 115 experts from some 46 Member States, met for a two-day Intergovernmental Special Committee meeting on 1 and 2 July 2015, at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, to discuss and finalize a draft text of a UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to
Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form. The meeting marked a decisive step towards the elaboration of a new international standard-setting instrument on documentary heritage, taking into consideration the diverse challenges of its preservation and access in Member States. This Recommendation, which will be submitted to the General Conference later this year for possible adoption, will thus become a cornerstone of public and international documentary heritage preservation policies for the decades to come. If adopted, its main focus is to promote the establishment of principles and norms for regulation at national and international levels of the specific selection, preservation, accessibility and policy issues that are not covered by the already existing normative instruments.

The new standard-setting instrument is expected to be an essential tool in the harmonization of practice in this particular field and will also serve to enhance international cooperation for facilitating access to documentary heritage and the exchange of advanced preservation techniques. Finally, it would contribute to raising public awareness about the significance of documentary heritage and would meet the requirements of Member States by setting out standards and guidelines for all those responsible for the preservation of and access to the valuable memory of humanity.

V. Assessment of nominations for the MOW International Register

The IAC reviewed the nominations for the MOW International Register. Eighty-seven were submitted of which 47 were accepted, 33 were not accepted and 6 were recommended to receive provisional listing. It was also recommended that one submission should be revised and resubmitted while in another case it was recommended that because the issues raised in the nomination apply more widely to other countries, and because they merit full attention, the particular nomination will be deferred for the next nomination cycle 2016/2017. In the meantime, the IAC will exercise its discretion under Article 4.3.3 of the Guidelines to encourage additional nominations on the subject.

VI. Future of MoW

Vitor Marques de Fonseca, former IAC Vice-Chair expressed some concerns that came out of his tenure as one of the Vice Presidents of the Bureau. He noted that the role of the Vice-Chairs needs to be more clearly defined, that the UNESCO Secretariat is very small, and that information was slow in coming and often did not arrive in time. He recommended that more use be made of the networking with regional and national committees on all levels.

It was noted that the MOW Programme is growing with increasing interest on behalf of Member States but there were concerns over limited staffing. It was felt that the Programme needed more full time staff than the two officers who are currently working so hard to keep it going.

Dr. Abdulla El Reyes put forward the idea for the UAE to support for a one or two-year period a staff member to work for MOW Programme in Paris and then come back to Abu Dhabi and work at the regional level. This would ease the workload and pressures. He stressed the need for strategic
planning with an effective plans for research, education, marketing and better communication with all involved. He also said that he would like a summit to take place in Abu Dhabi in December 2016 to involve the Regional MOW Committees and most of the National MOW Committees.

He pointed out that the National Archives has won several awards for the quality work it delivers and he expressed confidence that it will be reflected in the leadership of the MOW Programme.

The IAC members agreed that these are good ideas and suggested that more regional workshops would be lobbying useful in improving the quality and quantity of nominations. Vitor Fonseca noted that MoW has done some workshops in Caribbean, but it would be very important to do the same on the Latin American region, as a strategy to make MoW more known and present to people and governments and also to help everyone who wants to do proposals to the international register. The suggestion was accepted by all the members.

Belinda Capul, chair of the Marketing Sub Committee, informed the IAC that the Companion website was ready and that she would like to turn it over to the Secretariat and the Bureau as her tenure as chair of this sub-committee was coming to an end. She is confident that this project will
raise the public profile of the MOW Programme and will help national committees that do not have resources to create their own and facilitate communication.
Dr. El Reyes agreed with the importance of this. He said that at the moment his IT Department is developing a mobile app to promote the National Archives and that he had three advisers in his office who would assist the Programme: Dr. Ian E. Wilson, Dr. Robert Buckley and Dr. Gregory Iverson. The Programme needs to be studied from all angles and priorities identified. He noted that we had to engage other areas of UNESCO, especially the other heritage-related programmes. He emphasized that raising further visibility of the Programme at all levels is a priority, as well as improving the quality of the submitted nominations and launching new projects.

Other members expressed optimism about the Programme, pointing out the importance of capacity building and the need to give consideration to preservation issues. A suggestion was made that summer schools on archival topics would be useful. There was disappointment over the fact that the UNESCO Archive portal no longer functioned and it was felt that it should be revived. Other ways of publicizing the Programmes were mentioned. These included a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Programme in 2018, the use of Wikipedia to upload articles and images, and the need to expose younger students through class room activities that raise awareness in young minds.

Papa Momar Diop made an appeal for more capacity building to be done in Africa, which consists of 54 countries which currently have only 10 nominations on the International register. It was pointed out that there already is a Marketing Action Plan on the UNESCO web site that could be a starting point in the development of activities.

Lothar Jordan, Chair of the Education sub-committee suggested the following: the encouragement of educational involvement of universities, a newsletter, a handbook featuring the history of the Programme, the development of the register and matters dealing with the work of the various subcommittees, the fostering of curricular pathways and cooperation with such organizations as ICA IFLA and the International Comparative Literature Association.

Helena Asamoa-Hassan suggested that we need to continuously document what is being said about the Programme. Jan Bos felt that we should add another question to the form: How do you see the nominated heritage being used in education?

The question of rules that can limit our activities in areas like fundraising, marketing, web sites and publications were discussed. And while MoW has sub-committees to deal with these matters can MoW access the expertise in UNESCO? It was pointed out that there were rules regarding fundraising in UNESCO. UNESCO establishes special account funds and member states can contribute on a voluntary basis to them or support specific projects on their choice through a funds-in-trust cooperation framework whereby member states donate funds to UNESCO for specific purposes.

Ray Edmondson suggested the following changes to the MOW companion which answers questions on the programme, and help people work better on the nomination. Under why we have registers add "it is not UNESCO's role to interpret documents." Add that nominations must
be based on fact and use neutral language. Nominations that do not follow this rule will be rejected and nominations must speak for themselves and not through lobbying. With reference to the conflicts mentioned in the RSC Report (cf. IV. 1) as witnessed by all IAC members, Dietrich Schüller recommended adaptations of the rules to prevent or minimize such conflicts in the future and that such adaptations should be made before the end of 2015 in order that they would become effective in the upcoming round of nominations.
Revision of the Rules of procedure

A discussion followed on the revision of the rules and procedures of the IAC and the guidelines of the MOW Programme. While some desire was expressed to have the procedures revised before the upcoming round of submissions which opens in October 2015 and closes in March 2016, it was pointed out that such a revision would take time and it was agreed that the revision should be started with the Bureau collecting information from all IAC members to produce terms of reference for the revision. Ray Edmondson, who had worked on the current Guidelines (2002) was asked to put together and chair a group to work on their revision in light of developments within the Programme. Proposals were to be compiled and distributed with the aim of the revisions taking effect for the 2018 round of submissions.

A visit to the National Archive of UAE. Copyright: National Archives of UAE
VII. Procedure for adding documents to an existing inscription

At the 2103 meeting of the IAC, a task was assigned to Ray Edmondson to follow through on its decision to add exemplars to the current inscription of the film METROPOLIS on the International MOW Register.

In view of the growing number of additions to nominations, Ray Edmondson explained the procedure adopted for inscribing additional copies of the film METROPOLIS on the MOW Register. To date nominating agencies have been required to fill the same form as the original nomination. Different versions of the film have been found and nominating agencies have been offered the option of completing a shortened version of the form. Because the criteria are established in the original nomination, these are to be left out in any documents to be added to the nomination. The Freidrich Wilhem Murnau Foundation also asked to withdraw their original nomination and replace it with an earlier generation version and of the film which is also an acceptable move.

Proposed deletion of 2001 inscription

The film was originally inscribed on the International MoW Register in 2001 on the proposal of the Murnau Stiftung, and the exemplar nominated was not an original source copy but a restored and reconstructed version of the film which the nominator itself had prepared. The inscription was approved before the current (2002) General Guidelines came into force: under current guidelines such a reconstruction would actually have been ineligible for inscription. (This gave us one of the “sleeping” problems from the early years of the Register).

In email correspondence, the Murnau Stifung has proposed that this reconstructed version be deleted from the Register, and that instead the two early exemplars in its custody be inscribed.

Issues for the RSC

The RSC needs to recommend a course of action to the IAC. The following proposals were put forward and discussed by IAC:

1. That the methodology adopted in this case study be confirmed as the methodology to be followed in future for adding exemplars to existing inscriptions, and the proforma used be appropriately designed and supported with explanation for general use.

2. That the existing copy of METROPOLIS inscribed in 2001 be deleted from the Register.

3. That the additional exemplars proposed by the Murnau Stiftung and the BFI National Archive be recommended for inscription.
That properly completed proposals from other institutions included in this case study, received prior to the 2015 IAC meeting, and after scrutiny by the RSC, be recommended for inscription also.

This report was adopted by the IAC.

VIII. Periodic reporting and monitoring mechanism for register inscriptions

Joie Springer reported on the monitoring of the Register inscriptions. She noted that due to lack of appropriate finances at the disposal of the Programme, actual physical monitoring is often limited. Monitoring often depends on members of the IAC visiting a country and/or institutions that hold listed items. She also pointed out that some years ago a survey was initiated to determine conditions of preservation of inscribed documents but response was rather poor. A decision needs to be made regarding the form to be used for a more formal survey and what should happen when responses are not forth coming. She proposed starting with the earlier listings. MOWLAC had attempted a similar exercise and responses were scarce. Many phone calls had to be made to compile a more complete picture of the conditions of listings on that register. It was noted that the issue has been in the background far too long and that UNESCO was to adopt a recommendation on documentary heritage in the coming months. Upon the adoption of a new standard-setting instrument National Commissions will very likely be asked to monitor the situation of listed heritage in their jurisdiction and perhaps it will create more favorable conditions for monitoring and reporting.

IX. Other business

UNESCO PERSIST Project (Platform to Enhance the Sustainability of the Information Society Trans-globally) was introduced to the IAC by David Fricker and Vincent Wintermans. It is a collaborative project of UNESCO, IFLA, ICA and other partners to address globally pressing questions on the preservation of digital documents in the public domain related to strategies, technology, selection issues, and roles and responsibilities. It works under the assumption that on these issues a high-level global policy discussion is needed amongst heritage institutions, IT-industry and government, and that UNESCO’s Memory of the World Programme is a unique platform to conduct that discussion.

The idea for PERSIST was born at the Conference The Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation in Vancouver (September 2012). The Declaration adopted by its participants states that:

“there is a pressing need to establish a roadmap proposing solutions, agreements and policies, that ensure long term access and trustworthy preservation. This roadmap should address issues like open government, open data, open access and electronic government. It should dovetail with national and international priorities and be in full agreement with human rights.”
PERSIST was launched as a project at the Conference *A Digital Roadmap for Long-Term Access to Digital Heritage* in The Hague in December 2013. In its initial stage the project is coordinated by the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO and financed by the Netherlands Ministry for Education, Culture and Science.

Through PERSIST the MoW Programme aims to create a debate between the heritage community and the ICT industry in the wake of the 2012 Vancouver MoW Conference on *Documentary Heritage in the Digital Age*. Libraries and Archives want to be taken into account at the time of creation of digital heritage collections. The work of PERSIST falls under 3 task forces. The Content task force is writing selection guidelines that will aim to encompass the whole heritage sector. The Technology task force aims to create a software platform for legacy software to further the cause of virtual computing and interoperability testing. The Policy task force is focusing on the role of national strategies for digital sustainability showcasing good practice from the UK, the Netherlands, India and the UAE. PERSIST’s steering Committee is being led by UNESCO. IFLA ICA and the DEN foundation in the Netherlands It is intended that the Steering Committee will be broadened to include the audio visual sector and governmental institutions. The project is currently being financed by the Netherlands’s Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. Microsoft contributes to the Technology task force and more partners are being sought.
X. IFLA’s Risk Register

Victoria Okojbe explained IFLA’s Risk Register for Documentary Cultural Heritage. This is an IFLA key initiative documenting collections and information resources in areas at risk from natural disasters or conflict with the aim of helping ensure their safety. It gathers information from institutions, individuals, and communities that hold such heritage. The information is not made public but to ensure swift response, IFLA will make it available to Blue Shield and UNESCO. An online form is available for those wanting to register a collection. This in turn is submitted to an independent committee that will assess its authenticity and add it to the Risk Register.

One of IFLA’s goals is to pinpoint unique, irreplaceable documentary heritage collections of value to a region, but also to the world so that in the event of a man-made or natural disaster; such information will help secure their safety. Similar registers exist already for museums (provided by ICOM) and monuments (provided by ICOMOS).

The IFLA Risk Register will gather information from institutions, individuals and communities holding documentary heritage. The information will not be made publicly available and will be treated as strictly confidential. IFLA will make it accessible to the Blue Shield partners and UNESCO in order for them to guarantee swift response if needed.

**Date of the next meeting:** The IAC will next meet in 2017 at a location and dates to be announced later.

**Adoption of the Report:** The Rapporteur gave an oral summary of the discussions and the deliberations of the IAC Meeting and the IAC members endorsed the report. The Chair then thanked everyone for their participation, giving special thanks to the UNESCO Secretariat. He declared the meeting closed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dr. Abdulla El Reyes,
Chairman,
UNESCO Memory of the World
International Advisory Committee
Director General,
National Archives of the United Arab Emirates
Abu Dhabi

Victoria O’Flaherty
Rapporteur,
UNESCO Memory of the World
International Advisory Committee
Director,
National Archives, St. Kitts

14 October, 2015
A group photo of the IAC Committee and observers – End of the Report. Copyright: National Archives of UAE
12th Meeting of the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme
4 to 6 October, 2015
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Al Khaznah meeting rooms, 1st floor. St. Regis Hotel, Corniche

AGENDA

Sunday, 4 October

09:00-10:30  Orientation for new IAC Members
10:30-11:00  Coffee Break
11:00-1:00  Session 1 (open to observers)
            1. Welcoming remarks
            2. Adoption of Agenda
            3. Opening of the Session
               By the Representative of the Director-General of UNESCO
            4. Election of the Bureau of the Committee: - a Chairperson,
               three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur
            5. Reports of the Outgoing Chairperson, Chairpersons of Sub-Committees
               and Regional Committees. (10 minutes each)
1:00-2:00    Light Lunch
2:00-2:30    Session 2 (open to observers)
            6. UNESCO Report to the International Advisory Committee
2:30-3:30    Session 3 (Closed, members and UNESCO secretariat only)
            7. Consideration of nominations for the Register
3:30-4:00    Coffee Break
4:00-5:30  Session 4 (Closed, members and UNESCO secretariat only)
7. Consideration of nominations for the Register (continued)

7:00  Pick up from St Regis main lobby to go to dinner
Monday, 5 October

9:00-10:30  Session 5 (Closed, members and UNESCO secretariat only)
            7. Consideration of nominations for the Register (continued)

10:30-11:00  Coffee Break

11:00-12:30  Session 6 (Closed, members and UNESCO secretariat only)
            7. Consideration of nominations for the Register (continued)

12:30-1:30  Light Lunch

1:30-3:00  Session 7 (Closed, members and UNESCO secretariat only)
            7. Consideration of nominations for the Register (continued)

3:00-3:30  Coffee Break

3:30-5:00  Session 8 (open to observers)
            8. Procedure for adding documents to an existing inscription:
                Register Sub-committee report on inscribing the four additional
                exemplars of METROPOLIS
            9. Periodic reporting and monitoring mechanism for register inscriptions

7:00  Pick up at St Regis to go to dinner
Tuesday, 6 October.

9:00-10:30  Session 9  (open to observers)
10. Promotion and development of the Programme
   (i) Future of MoW
   (ii) Sub-Committees initiatives (Marketing and Education SC)
   (iii) MOW Companion modification/update (para 4.3 & 4.5)

10:30-11:00  Coffee Break

11:00-12:30  Session 10  (open to observers)
11. Other business:
   (i) PERSIST project
   (ii) IFLA Initiative on Cultural Heritage Disaster Prevention
   (iii) any other matters

12:30-1:15  Session 11  (open to observers)
12. Adoption of the report
13. Closure of the meeting

1:15-2:30  Light Lunch

2:30  Bus from St Regis Hotel to National Archives

3:00-4:00  Tour of National Archives

4:00  Bus from National Archives to Grand Mosque 4:30-5:30  Special Tour of Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque 5:30  Bus to St Regis Hotel

7:00  Bus from St Regis Hotel to go to dinner.

Wednesday, 7 October

9:00-4:00  Bus tour of Dubai for those still available
International Advisory Committee Members

Dr. Jussi Nuorteva
Director General, National Archivist
The National Archives of Finland

Dr. Dietrich Schüller
Chair, Information Preservation Working Group, IFAP, Austria

Prof. Dr. Lothar Jordan
Chair, Sub-Committee on Education and Research (SCEaR)
Technical University of Dresden (Germany)

Mr. Adolf Knoll
Secretary for Science, Research, and International Cooperation,
National Library of the Czech Republic

Prof. Boryana Hristova
Director, St. St. Cyril and Methodius National Library, Bulgaria

Dr. Vitor Manoel Marques de Fonseca
Chair, MOW Regional Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (MOWLAC),
National Archives of Brazil

Ms. Victoria O’Flaherty
Director, National Archives, St. Kitts

Dr. Helen Jarvis
Advisor, Royal Government of Cambodia

Mr. David Fricker
Director General,
National Archives of Australia

Ms. Dianne Macaskill
Independent Consultant, Information Management Strategy,
New Zealand

Prof. Papa Mamacare Diop
Professeur d’archivistique à l’Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar,
Ancien Directeur des Archives de Sénégal

Dr. Victoria Okojie
Registrar/CEO, Librarians’ Registration Council of Nigeria

Dr. Abdulla El Reyes
Director General
National Archives of UAE

Dr. Hédi Jallab
Directeur Général des Archives Nationales de Tunisie

International Advisory Committee Affiliates

Dr. Helena R. Asamoah-Hassan
Outgoing Chair, International Advisory Committee,
Executive Director, African Library and Information Associations & Institutions, Ghana

Mr. Jan Bos
Chair, Register Subcommittee of the MOW Programme
Head of the Collections Department, National Library of the Netherlands
Ms. Belina Capul
Chair, Marketing Subcommittee of the MOW Programme
Philippine Information Agency

Mr. Jonas Palm
Chair, Technology Subcommittee of the MOW Programme
Director, Head of Preservation, National Archives of Sweden

Mr. Minghua Li
Chair, MOW Regional Committee for Asia/Pacific (MOWCAP)
Director General, State Archives Administration of China

Dr. Ray Edmondson
Former Chair, MOW Regional Committee for Asia/Pacific, Author of MOW Guidelines
Museums and Institutions Consultant, Australia

UNESCO Staff

Ms. Iskra Panevska
Senior Programme Specialist, Memory of the World Programme, UNESCO

Dr. Boyan Radoykov
Chief of Section, Universal Access and Preservation Section, Knowledge Societies Division, UNESCO

Observers

Prof. Dr. Joachim-Felix Leonhard
Former IAC member, Chair, MOW National Committee, Germany

Ms. Hongmin Wang
Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation,
State Archives Administration of China

Mrs. Ramza Jaber Saad
Secrétaire général adjoint à la Commission nationale libanaise, Lebanon

Dr. Helen Ieong Hoi Keng
Director, Macau Documentation and Information Society and University of Macau, China

Mr. Abdullah Al-Ghafrí
Chair, Oman National Team for the Memory of the World

Ms. Joie Springer
Member, Register Subcommittee of the MOW Programme

Ms. Yizhe Zhang
State Archives Administration of China

Dr. Joachim Gierlichs
Member, Register Subcommittee of the MOW Programme,
Qatar National Library

Dr. Elyor Karimov
Member, Register Subcommittee of the MOW Programme
Uzbek Academy of Sciences

Dr. Władysław Stepiński, General-Director, Polish State Archives

Mr. Dong-seok Min
Secretary General, Korean National Commission for UNESCO

Mr. Kwi-bae Kim
Director, Division of Culture & Communication, Korean National Commission for UNESCO

Mr. No-Jig Lim
Chief, Woodblock Research Center, Advanced Center for Korean Studies

Ms. Sun Kyong Moon
Officer, International Cooperation Division, Cultural Heritage Administration of Korea

Ms. Hyesung Park
Translator (non-observer)

Mr. Jun Shinmi, Director-General for Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Dr. Shiro Takahashi, Professor, Meisei University, Japan

Dr. Nobu Iwata, Senior Fellow of the Center for Military History, the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIOS), Ministry of Defense, Japan

Mr. Toru Kajiwara, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO

Mr. Hiroki Sugiyama, Official, Multilateral Cultural Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Mr. Vincent Wintermans
Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO