**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE
SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Meeting of the Bureau**

**UNESCO Headquarters, Room VIII**

**22 March 2023**

**10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Item 3 of the provisional agenda:**

**Examination of emergency requests**

**for International Assistance**

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| **Summary**Paragraph 47 of the Operational Directives provides that emergency requests for International Assistance can be submitted at any time and are examined by the Bureau of the Committee. This document includes three such requests which are presented for examination of the Bureau as a matter of priority in accordance with Article 22 of the Convention.**Decisions required:** paragraph 10 |

1. As provided in Article 22 of the Convention, requests for International Assistance in emergency situations shall be examined as a matter of priority. The Operational Directives provide for such emergency International Assistance requests to be submitted at any time regardless of the amount for examination by the Bureau of the Committee (paragraph 47). The Operational Directives further specify that ‘for the purpose of determining whether a request for International Assistance constitutes an emergency request eligible to receive priority consideration by the Bureau, an emergency shall be considered to exist when a State Party finds itself unable to overcome on its own any circumstance due to calamity, natural disaster, armed conflict, serious epidemic or any other natural or human event that has severe consequences for the intangible cultural heritage as well as communities, groups and, if applicable, individuals who are the bearers of that heritage’ (paragraph 50).
2. **Overview of the requests**
3. The Bureau is asked to examine and decide on the following three emergency requests:

| **Draft decision** | **Requesting State** | **Title** | **Amount requested** | **File no.** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Emergency requests for International Assistance** |
| [18.COM 1.BUR 3.1](#Decision1) | Ethiopia | Emergency response to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of Lalibela, World Heritage property, and the surrounding area endangered by conflict | US$150,000 | 02045 |
| [18.COM 1.BUR 3.](#Decision1)2 | Romania | Community-based teaching and learning of Ukraine’s living heritage in Romania | US$99,886 | 02074 |
| [18.COM 1.BUR 3.](#Decision2)316.COM 2.BUR 3.2 | Slovakia | To get together – Enhancement of the capacities of displaced communities from Ukraine living in Slovakia through living heritage | US$99,914 | 02051 |

1. In conformity with paragraph 48 of the Operational Directives, the Secretariat assessed the completeness of the requests. Given the urgency signalled by each of the three submitting States, the Secretariat administered the requests in an expedient manner. In particular, the submitting States received support through one-to-one communication for any missing or insufficient information to complete the requests. The International Assistance requests in question are available online for the Bureau’s consultation, in English and French, at <https://ich.unesco.org/en/bureau-18com-01289>.
2. The Secretariat hereby transmits each of these three emergency requests for International Assistance to the Bureau, along with a draft decision incorporating the Secretariat’s assessment of how each request responds to the eligibility and selection criteria set out in Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives, which also apply to emergency requests for International Assistance. In addition, the Bureau may wish to take into account some background information concerning the context under which each request was formulated.

Ethiopia

1. In November 2020, conflict broke out in Ethiopia’s Tigray region between the Federal and the regional Tigray People Liberation Front (TPLF) forces. The crisis has since spread to the neighbouring Amahara and Afar regions, leading to large numbers of internally displaced persons, severe food insecurity and a collapse of basic services. The city of Lalibela, where the World Heritage property of the Rock-Hewn Churches is located, was captured twice by the TPLF forces. The first capture occurred on 5 August 2021, prompting UNESCO to issue a statement on 6 August expressing serous concern about the protection of the World Heritage property, particularly the Rock-Hewn Churches. In addition to the damage to cultural properties and looting of cultural objects, the ongoing conflict situation, coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, is also affecting the enactment of the living heritage of communities in Lalibela.
2. UNESCO’s office in Addis Ababa has received appeals for heritage protection from Lalibela community representatives as well as an official letter dated September 2021 from the Minister of Culture and Tourism. Against this background, the Ethiopian national authorities submitted the emergency International Assistance request in September 2022, with the aim to enhance capacities to safeguard the living heritage of practitioners and the church communities in and around Lalibela. Following the Secretariat’s request for additional information, the Ethiopian national authorities submitted a revised request on 31 January 2023, which was considered complete.

Ukraine

1. The two emergency requests submitted by Romania and Slovakia were developed as part of UNESCO’s operational response in the field of culture to the ongoing war in Ukraine that broke out on 24 February 2022. The Secretariat initiated the community-based needs identification of living heritage safeguarding among displaced communities from Ukraine in April 2022. Applying the [Operational principles and modalities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in emergencies](https://ich.unesco.org/en/operational-principles-and-modalities-in-emergencies-01143), the aim of the project was to undertake a first rapid assessment of the needs related to living heritage safeguarding among displaced Ukrainian communities in five of the countries sharing borders with Ukraine – Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia –which were receiving the highest number of refugees in the first weeks of the war. All five country project teams were advised on the International Assistance mechanism and supported by the Secretariat during the project design process.
2. The exercise has affirmed that the ongoing war presents a serious threat to the safeguarding of Ukraine’s intangible cultural heritage as it affects practitioners and their places of practice, thereby hindering the everyday enactment of their intangible cultural heritage. The displaced Ukrainian communities who participated in the exercise identified several needs, including the need for more opportunities to make social contact and network with other living heritage bearers, as well as the importance of integrating living heritage into education. In line with the longer-term objective to identify and pilot a series of concrete activities to support safeguarding the living heritage of displaced Ukrainian communities in their territories, the national authorities of Slovakia and Romania each submitted an emergency request for International Assistance on 20 December 2022 and 16 February 2023, respectively.
3. For the information of the Bureau, UNESCO is also implementing a project ‘Supporting the resilience of Ukrainian school children through enhancing awareness of their living heritage’ (US$57,800, Heritage Emergency Fund). Under this project, UNESCO organized three webinars between November 2022 and January 2023 to train primary and secondary school teachers in Ukraine on teaching core subjects, such as mathematics, physics, language or literature, with living heritage from Ukraine. UNESCO is furthermore adapting the resource kit ‘Teaching and learning with living heritage’ to the Ukrainian context. Ten case studies based on living heritage from Ukraine, as well as a short film and other resources for teachers, will be developed and piloted in fifteen schools, including ASPnet schools across Ukraine.
4. **Draft decisions**
5. The Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee may wish to adopt the following decisions:

DRAFT DECISION 18.COM 1.BUR 3.1

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/23/18.COM 1.BUR/3 as well as International Assistance request no. 02045 submitted by Ethiopia,
3. Takes note that Ethiopia has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Emergency response to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of Lalibela World Heritage property and the surrounding area endangered by conflict**:

To be implemented by the Ethiopian Heritage Authority, in collaboration with the Association of St. Lalibela and Surrounding Heritage Conservation and Protection, this three-year project aims to contribute to the revival of the traditional church schools in Lalibela and the surrounding areas. These church schools, situated within the World Heritage property of the ‘Rock-Hewn Churches, Lalibela’, have been temporarily closed due to ongoing conflicts in northern Ethiopia and the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will provide technical and financial support to the church schools, as well as to civil society and government institutions. It will also facilitate trainings and other activities aimed at safeguarding living heritage. The project is expected to contribute to the sustainability of the church schools, which are vital for the survival of the religious practices and the conservation of the World Heritage property. The project is furthermore expected to have a broader impact within and beyond Lalibela through experience-sharing and training-of-trainers programmes, which will revitalize the traditional management system for safeguarding living heritage enacted by practitioners and church communities. Furthermore, this project reflects an integrated approach seeking a synergy between the 1972 Convention and 2003 Convention for the conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the provision of a grant, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Ethiopia has requested assistance in the amount of US$150,000 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02045, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1**:The primary beneficiaries of the project are the communities living in Lalibela town and its surrounding region. Representatives from eighty communities associated with Lalibela discussed and endorsed the project during a meeting with UNESCO and the Ethiopian Heritage Authority in June 2021. The request clearly demonstrates the involvement of communities in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the project. Community representatives will furthermore be part of the project’s Steering Committee.

**Criterion A.2**:In general, the budget is clearly presented, corresponds to the planned activities and is consistent with the timetable. Nevertheless, further clarification is required on the budgetary details for some activities, notably for the training activities related to different handicraft skills (Activity 2).

**Criterion A.3**: While some of the activities could benefit from more detail and the link between them could be further developed, the overall request is well structured. It consists of five activities that align with the objectives of the request. These include: a) awareness raising, b) conducting training workshops for youth on traditional manuscript writing and maintenance, as well as on painting and weaving; c) translating the Convention text into Amharic; d) providing the necessary equipment to the traditional church schools hosting training courses to ensure the transmission of traditional knowledge. The proposed timeframe of thirty-six months is realistic for achieving the expected results of the project given the challenging context related to the ongoing conflict in the region.

**Criterion A.4**: The training activities involving teachers, youth, community practitioners and church administrators have the potential to produce lasting results and contribute to the transmission and dissemination of knowledge and skills related to living heritage beyond the project’s implementation. Additionally, the implementation of restoration activities is expected to revive the interests of students and communities in traditional church schools and their programmes. The translation of the Convention’s text into Amharic will further raise awareness and knowledge about the Convention and the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage at the national level. Finally, the project exemplifies an integrated approach to heritage safeguarding where the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property benefits from the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage practiced by the communities concerned by that property.

**Criterion A.5**: Due to the ongoing emergency situation, the submitting State Party will not contribute financially to the project. However, the State Party is encouraged to report on any in-kind contributions that may be made during the project’s implementation.

**Criterion A.6**: The project is clearly aimed at developing the capacities of the communities concerned, with an emphasis on traditional custodians and youth. During the various training workshops, seventy students will be trained by practitioners on sharing and transmitting their traditional knowledge related to specific craft areas. Additionally, the project includes a capacity-building component that will benefit the church’s administrative staff, academics and cultural officers of the implementing agency. The project will therefore contribute to raising awareness of the importance of safeguarding living heritage and skills related to traditional crafts.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has previously benefited from International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the project entitled ‘Ongota: the Language of the Biraile’ (file no. 00176, December 2008 – April 2009, US$5,000). The work stipulated by the contract related to this assistance was carried out in accordance with UNESCO regulations.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The proposed activities are local in scope and imply cooperation with local and national implementing partners, such as the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church, the Ethiopian National Commission for UNESCO and the UNESCO Office in Addis Ababa. The project also foresees the active participation of academia, representatives of student associations, government officials and civil society organisations.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The request highlights that the project will benefit both the communities and the Ethiopian church at national level. In addition, the institutions involved in the project will benefit from the capacity-building activities. These trainings have the potential to enable teachers and students to create their own sources of income, thus contributing to improving their living conditions.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from **Ethiopia** for the project entitled **Emergency response to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of Lalibela World Heritage property and the surrounding area endangered by conflict** and grants the amount of US$150,000 to the State Party for this purpose;
2. Commends the State Party for submitting an International Assistance with an integrated approach to heritage safeguarding, which recognizes the interdependence between the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property and the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage practiced by the communities concerned at that property;
3. Encourages the State Party to share its experiences and the results with the international community upon completion of the project;
4. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

DRAFT DECISION 18.COM 1.BUR 3.2 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/23/18.COM 1.BUR/3 as well as International Assistance request no. 02074 submitted by Romania,
3. Takes note that Romania has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **Community-based teaching and learning of Ukraine’s living heritage in Romania:**

To be implemented by the Asociatia Serviciul Iezuitilor pentru Refugiati din Romania (JRS Romania), this fourteen-month project aims at safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage of Ukrainian communities temporarily displaced in Romania and seeks to raise awareness of the important role of living heritage in supporting the resilience of these communities and encouraging social cohesion. The project is based on the outcomes of the UNESCO project ‘Assessing the needs of living heritage safeguarding among displaced communities from Ukraine in five neighbouring countries: Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia’ implemented in 2022. The main activity involves the organization of a series of workshops on Ukrainian living heritage practices, such as traditional cuisine, handicrafts and performing folk arts, targeting displaced children and youth. The workshops will be facilitated by displaced Ukrainians with a cultural and/or educational background who will be recruited through the project and receive training from a team of intangible cultural heritage experts. In addition to the workshops, the project activities include raising awareness about the project’s scope and objectives, recruiting and training workshop facilitators, designing workshop curricula, and developing a related handbook and travelling exhibition to be hosted by several Romanian cultural institutions. Aligned with Ukraine’s National Recovery Plan, the project is expected to create job opportunities for workshop facilitators in the cultural sector in Romania or Ukraine. Moreover, it will generate discussions about Ukrainian intangible cultural heritage and encourage cooperation and the exchange of best practices among civil society organizations, cultural institutions, experts, and private and State services.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Romania has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,886 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02074, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1:** The needs assessment supported by UNESCO in Romania in 2022 ensured the active participation of the community during the project design phase, which involved multiple stakeholders. Furthermore, the project represents a community-based approach for transmitting Ukrainian intangible cultural heritage across generations. The project implementation will involve the Ukrainian communities, groups and individuals temporarily displaced in Romania at every stage. Moreover, the project will benefit from the participation of local branches of the Union of Ukrainians in Romania, an organization that implements various cultural projects to safeguard and promote Ukrainian culture, especially Ukrainian intangible cultural heritage.

**Criterion A.2**: The budget is presented in a structured manner, with a clear breakdown of the planned activities and related expenses. The requested amount of assistance may therefore be considered appropriate for the implementation of the proposed activities.

**Criterion A.3**: The project proposes a logical sequence of activities, including capacity building, designing the curricula for each workshop based on the Ukrainian folk calendar, assessing project progress with trainers and beneficiaries and conducting various awareness-raising actions. The proposed activities correspond to the objectives and expected results outlined in the request and appear to be feasible within the proposed project duration.

**Criterion A.4**: The involvement of various stakeholders, such as experts, representatives of local cultural institutions, representatives of refugee centres, educational institutions, and local and central government, is a crucial factor in ensuring the sustainability of the project’s results. During the project, the trained facilitators will receive both theoretical information and practical tools, making them well-equipped to become involved in safeguarding initiatives, either in Romania or in Ukraine. Furthermore, during the project design process, other international organizations announced their support for any Ukrainian-related initiative, further reinforcing the sustainability of the project’s outcomes.

**Criterion A.5**: The submitting State Party will contribute 5 percent of the total amount of the project budget (US$104,686). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 95 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: The project has a clear focus on building the capacities of communities and other stakeholders concerned. One of the most important activities is the recruitment of facilitators from the displaced Ukrainian communities to participate in the workshops, taking place over 8 months. In addition, a 5-day capacity-building workshop will be organized, where intangible cultural heritage experts and educational consultants will teach, further strengthening the recruited facilitators’ teaching and transmission skills. Moreover, through the training and other project activities, participants will have the opportunity to share their specific customs and cultural practices, exchange their local experiences with others.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is national in scope and its implementation involves national and local partners. However, to harmonize safeguarding efforts with Ukraine, the steering committee will seek constant feedback from Ukrainian intangible cultural heritage experts and facilitators based in Ukraine.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The promotion and dissemination of the project’s objectives and results, interlinked with other project activities, will ensure the multiplier effects of the project. The workshop facilitators will be able to apply and further enhance their newly acquired skills either in Romania or in Ukraine. In Romania, they can continue to showcase and teach issues related to intangible cultural heritage at specific events and interactive workshops, such as craft fairs, which are organized on a regular basis by various Romanian entities, including museums, county cultural centres, associations of craftspeople, among others. The project aims to publish the handbook in both Ukrainian and English, making it possible to adapt and implement similar curricula in other communities of displaced persons seeking to safeguard their intangible cultural heritage across generations.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from **Romania** for the project entitled **Community-based teaching and learning of Ukraine’s living heritage in Romania** and grants the amount of US$99,886 to the State Party for this purpose;
2. Commends the State Party for its initiative to submit an emergency request that benefits Ukrainian displaced communities in Romania;
3. Encourages the State Party to share its experiences and project outcomes with the international community upon the completion of the project;
4. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.

DRAFT DECISION 18.COM 1.BUR 3.3 

The Bureau,

1. Recalling Article 23 of the Convention as well as Chapter I.4 of the Operational Directives relating to the eligibility and criteria of International Assistance requests,
2. Having examined document LHE/23/18.COM 1.BUR/3 as well as International Assistance request no. 02051 submitted by Slovakia,
3. Takes note that Slovakia has requested International Assistance for the project entitled **To get together – Enhancement of the capacities of displaced communities from Ukraine living in Slovakia through living heritage:**

To be implemented by the Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, this twenty-month project aims to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of Ukrainian communities temporarily displaced in Slovakia and raise awareness of the important role of living heritage safeguarding for forcefully displaced communities. The project is based on the outcomes of the UNESCO project ‘Assessing the needs of living heritage safeguarding among displaced communities from Ukraine in five neighbouring countries: Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia’ implemented in 2022. The project focuses on safeguarding living heritage as a means of strengthening resilience, improving health and well-being, and providing a safe environment for networking among Ukrainian displaced communities. The proposed activities align with Ukraine’s National Recovery Plan and include capacity-building and awareness-raising workshops, social and festive events related to living heritage, mapping of safeguarding needs, and dissemination activities for larger audiences. In addition to safeguarding Ukrainian living heritage and ensuring access to culture for displaced populations, the project aims to build the capacities of organizations working with refugees and migrants in Slovakia. The project has the potential to contribute to promoting social cohesion between displaced and host communities and raising awareness of the important role of living heritage for displaced populations.

1. Further takes note that this assistance aims to support a project implemented at the national level, in accordance with Article 20 (c) of the Convention, and that it takes the form of the **provision of a grant**, pursuant to Article 21 (g) of the Convention;
2. Also takes note that Slovakia has requested assistance in the amount of US$99,914 from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the implementation of this project;
3. Decides that, from the information provided in file no. 02051, the request responds as follows to the criteria for granting International Assistance given in paragraphs 10 and 12 of the Operational Directives:

**Criterion A.1:** The Ukrainian communities displaced and temporarily based in Slovakia played a central role in elaborating the project and defining the proposed activities. More than fifty people were interviewed with a view to define practices that could improve their well-being, while contributing to the safeguarding of their living heritage. Furthermore, the Ukrainian communities will be represented through the Ukrainian non-governmental organization (NGO) ‘Sme spolu’, which will be the main implementing partner in the project. The request clearly describes how the main beneficiaries will actively participate in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

**Criterion A.2**:The detailed budget is well thought out and structured to support the different components of the project. It corresponds to the planned activities and is consistent with the proposed timeframe.

**Criterion A.3**: The objectives and results of the project are clearly defined and appear achievable. The proposed activities include awareness-raising workshops to promote Ukrainian living heritage, festive and social events aimed at strengthening social cohesion among communities, capacity-building workshops for community centres, mapping and documentation of the intangible cultural heritage of displaced populations, and the production of awareness-raising materials to promote good practices in using living heritage as a means of strengthening resilience and improving the health and well-being of temporarily displaced populations.

**Criterion A.4**: Capacity-building and awareness-raising activities involving displaced communities as well as local community centres could ensure the sustainability of the project and contribute to the continued transmission of intangible cultural heritage beyond the implementation of the project. The request also mentions that the project could contribute to improving the well-being and inclusion of the beneficiaries in their host country. It would provide a space for adults and children to share their culture and traditions and learn from each other. Beyond addressing the primary needs of displaced populations in times of conflict, the project aims to create a safe environment for communities to practice their living heritage. Furthermore, the materials developed and the lessons learnt from the project will be taken into consideration in future projects involving displaced communities.

**Criterion A.5**: The submitting State Party will contribute 7 percent and other partners will contribute a further 3 percent of the total amount of the project budget (US$110,899). Consequently, International Assistance is requested from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund for the remaining 90 per cent of the total amount of the project budget.

**Criterion A.6**: The project has a large capacity-building component for displaced communities, focusing on women, children, the elderly and vulnerable groups. More than thirty workshops will be organized to ensure the intergenerational transmission of the Ukrainian living heritage among communities. These will be combined with the celebration of festive events to strengthen social cohesion, intergenerational and intercultural dialogue. The project is expected to train more than 500 participants in safeguarding their intangible cultural heritage. In addition, the displaced communities and the local authorities involved in the project will be trained on the identification and documentation of intangible cultural heritage. These activities will increase awareness of the 2003 Convention in Slovakia and promote greater recognition of Ukrainian living heritage in their host country.

**Criterion A.7**: The State Party has not previously received any financial assistance from UNESCO under the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund of the 2003 Convention to implement similar or related activities in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**Paragraph 10(a)**: The project is of national scope, although most activities will be implemented in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, where the majority of Ukrainian refugees reside. The project will be implemented by three key partners: the Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, the Ukrainian community-based NGO ‘Sme spolu’, and the ‘Milan Šimečka Foundation’. The latter is an established NGO with extensive experience in the field of integration, multiculturalism, social cohesion and human rights.

**Paragraph 10(b)**: The project is expected to have a strong multiplier effect as the methodology, capacity-building modules and training materials developed and tested within this project can be used to train community centres and other organizations working with refugees and migrants in Slovakia. The good practices and lessons learnt from the project will also be shared with neighboring countries, including with Ukraine.

1. Approves the International Assistance request from **Slovakia** for the project entitled **To get together - Enhancement of the capacities of displaced communities from Ukraine living in Slovakia through living heritage** and grants the amount of US$99,914 to the State Party for this purpose;
2. Commends the State Party for its initiative to submit an emergency request benefitting Ukrainian displaced communities and its will to position the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage as part of its Recovery Plan, consequently contributing to the resilience of the displaced communities;
3. Encourages the State Party to share its experiences and project outcomes with the international community upon the completion of the project;
4. Requests that the Secretariat reach an agreement with the requesting State Party on the technical details of the assistance, paying particular attention to ensuring that the budget and work plan of the activities to be covered by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund are detailed and specific enough to provide sufficient justification of the expenditures;
5. Invites the State Party to use Form ICH-04-Report to report on the use of the assistance granted.