

政府總部
民政事務局

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11 May 2009

Legislative Council Secretariat
Council Business Division 2
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms. Betty Fong)

Dear Ms. Fong,

**Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs (HA)
Meeting on 20 March 2009
Territory-wide Survey on
Intangible Cultural Heritage in Hong Kong**

We refer to the discussion of the HA Panel Meeting on 20 March 2009 regarding the "Territory-wide Survey on Intangible Cultural Heritage in Hong Kong". To follow up Members' request, we set out below the updated information on the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage for Members' reference -

- The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (the Convention) was adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2003 and came into force in 2006.
- As a precursor to the Convention, UNESCO had launched the "Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" project and proclaimed 90 items as Masterpieces from 2001 to 2005, including four items from Mainland China. In November 2008, these 90 items were formally incorporated into the "Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" as specified in the Convention.

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- No further proclamation of “Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity” would be made after the entry into force of the Convention in 2006 and there was no limit on the number of elements proposed for inscription on the “Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity”.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Cissy Ho)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

c.c.

HAB

Administrative Assistant to Secretary for Home Affairs
Assistant Secretary (3)2

LCSD

Assistant Director (Heritage & Museums)