

### REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

**Deadline: 15 February 2023  
for examination in 2023**

*File may be downloaded at:  
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>*

*Please provide only the information requested below.  
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

#### **A. Identification of the organization**

##### **A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report**

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

세계무술연맹

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

World Martial Arts Union

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90024

##### **A.2. Address of the organization**

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: World Martial Arts Union

Address: (27438) 2F, 73, Otgat-gil, Chungju-si, Chungcheonbuk-do, Rep. of Korea

Telephone number: +82 43) 852 7952

Email address: secretariat@womau.org

Website: www.womau.org

Other relevant information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

*Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.*

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

Family name: Minyeong

Given name: KIM

Institution/position: Program Specialist

Address: (27438) 2F, 73, Otgat-gil, Chungju-si, Chungcheonbuk-do, Rep. of Korea

Telephone number: +85 43) 852 7956

Email address: minyeong@womau.org

Other relevant information: yongtae@womau.org

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1. Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening institutional and human capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.**

*Not to exceed 250 words*

UNESCO Listed Martial Arts Promotion Committee, established in 2019 under WoMAU, consists of representative organizations inscribed martial arts in the UNESCO Representative List. This Committee is a regular international exchange committee that aims at promoting human and physical exchanges along with building the groundwork for the institutional policy of martial arts

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>



to be included in the school curriculums in each country. Currently, 12 members(organizations) in 11 countries are interacting, and cooperating with world martial artists and experts, strengthening capacity on the international exchange through Committee meetings and exchange events conducted in 2019 in Korea and 2022 in Iran. During COVID-19 pandemic(2020-2021), online surveys and video conferencing for the committee members were conducted to offer the opportunity to share their experiences for finding ways to overcome the pandemic, enhancing the ability to utilize the online tools in the field.

Furthermore, 'International Martial Arts Contest', the main content of the 'Chungju World Martial Arts Festival' that has proceeded to disseminate the cultural value and diversity of martial arts, was newly held on the online platform in 2021, escaping from the face-to-face event. The participating organizations and people were able to have the experience and ability to continue martial arts activities in a new environment.

**B.2.** *Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

'Youth Martial Arts Camp', held from 2011 to 2013 with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, and Chung-ju city, was held again in 2022. The 300 youth and their family members have been educated on Taekkyeon (ICH Representative List in 2011) and traditional archery (national intangible cultural heritage in 2020) and visited heritage sites.

Furthermore, WoMAU hosted a mutual training workshop in Uzbekistan Tashkent in 2022 between the traditional martial art of Korea and Uzbekistan (Taekkyeon, Uzbek Jang Sanati). The nationally designated certified trainee and instructor for successor training of Taekkyeon by the Cultural Heritage Administration were invited and has taught 100 Uzbek youth twice. During this event, WoMAU bridged two martial arts organization representatives and played a leading role in signing the Memorandum of Understanding on establishing a mutual branch office in their country for the transmission and education of traditional martial arts.

**B.3.** *Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

WoMAU has been inventorying and collecting 70 martial arts information of its member organizations in 47 countries during 2020-2021. As a following step, it has established the 'World Martial Arts Archive (martialarts-archive.org)', inventorying origin, history, photos, video, techniques, and related organizations. This online platform is in beta service and linked to ichLinks of ICHCAP.

Furthermore, new member organizations of WoMAU has been donated costumes, weapons, and documents of their unique martial art which has been displayed in the World Martial Arts Museum operated by the local government, Chungju. WoMAU has consistently provided information on donations such as practices, techniques, and culture to the World Martial Arts Museum.

**B.4.** *Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Individual and Group events of the 'Martial Arts Fitness Contest for Youth' which were developed for disseminating the intangible cultural heritage value of traditional martial arts and distribution of traditional martial arts games, are modeled on conventional games and martial arts of the Choseon Dynasty period in Korea. In particular, 'Notdari-throwing' of a group event created combining Notrari, local intangible cultural heritage as well as a game in which people bridge in a row while one person steps on people's back, and archery (national intangible cultural heritage



in 2020) in a modern type of games.

Additionally, 'Martial Arts Diary' which manages and certifies the participants' results on its own, has been copyrighted by the Korea Copyright Commission and is currently being developed as an application. Also, this new type of contest has applied for a patent to the Korean Intellectual Property Office, and the Ministry of authority applied to the Excellent Case of government innovation with WoMAU.

**B.5. Describe your organization's participation in promoting the *role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society*. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.**

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The Annual General Meeting, the highest decision body of the World Martial Arts Union which consists of 70 member organizations in 47 countries, is a martial arts platform where the representatives of organizations, experts, and officials are involved, and contribute to promoting the role of each country's martial arts as an intangible cultural heritage and safeguarding. It offers the opportunity to introduce less-known traditional martial arts and report on members' safeguarding and promoting activities at an international level.

Furthermore, WoMAU has supported nationwide martial arts festivals or contests to widely distribute traditional martial arts as an intangible cultural heritage for youth and to position them as daily sports activities. Except for the Covid-19 pandemic(2020-2021), it granted about 16,000 USD in 2019 to one contest and 24,000 USD in 2022 to two festivals.

**B.6. Describe your organization's participation in *raising awareness* about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.**

*Not to exceed 250 words*

It is raising awareness of martial arts as an intangible cultural heritage to martial arts, cultural, social organizations, companies, and martial artists through various projects such as General Meetings, World Martial Arts Festivals, International Martial Arts Contests, Camps, UNESCO Listed Martial Arts Promotion Committee, and Archive. In particular, it has been doing the activities to unspecified individuals through its webpage and social media (Facebook, YouTube, .etc) along with the publishing and distributing semi-annual Newsletters to governments, public institutions, martial arts organizations, schools, associate agencies related to intangible cultural heritage.

**B.7. Describe your organization's participation in *facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage*.**

*Not to exceed 250 words*

WoMAU accomplishes 'Local Culture for International Exchange with Korea / subtitle: Intangible Cultural Heritage Week in Tashkent' with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and Chungju (a local government). Through the collaborative performance (twice), workshops (twice), and photo exhibition (one week) based on Korea and Uzbekistan's traditional music and martial arts (intangible cultural heritage), made with martial artists and musicians of Korean and Uzbekistan's representative ICH organizations, it promoted uniqueness of both countries' ICH to the Uzbek citizens, Koryo people (Koreans), and overseas South Koreans. In particular, it allowed the 4th- and 5th generation of Koryo people (Koreans) to appreciate and experience Korean traditional martial arts and music that have to enjoy only in the mass media. The local government officials, related people, martial artists, and musicians who participated directly and indirectly in this event were able to recognize this as one of the safeguarding and promoting measures of intangible cultural heritage and its effectiveness.

In addition, this project was selected as an excellent international exchange with its sustainability by the Korean government and continued doing it in 2023.

**B.8.** Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

Not to exceed 250 words

Based on its member network, WoMAU organizes workshops or seminars under the theme of traditional martial arts in association with ICM, Category 2 Centre, which WoMAU initiated and prepared its foundation. The two agencies exchange information and cooperate on projects to improve work efficiency and synergy effects.

In addition, WoMAU established a consultative body together with UNESCO-accredited NGOs here in Korea and held meetings twice a year to share each culture protection activity and analyze the UNESCO ICH agenda. Even during Covid-19, this body hosted at least once a year using online meeting tools to share exemplary cases of safeguarding cultural heritages.

**B.9.** Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.

Not to exceed 250 words

WoMAU would gladly accept the role if given the opportunity, but we have not had it yet.

**B.10.** Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

Not to exceed 250 words

WoMAU has indirectly participated in the preparation of Representative List nominations of our members, like Bokator, inscribed in 2022. The representative community in Cambodia, Kun Bokator Federation, is one of the active member organizations of WoMAU that has promoted Bokator's value of cultural heritage worldwide through its various project platforms, participating in several international contests hosted by WoMAU, recording good results of awarding the Minister of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Korea in 2021 International Martial Arts Contest group game.

We plan to help the next candidate, such as Horseback Archery, to be inscribed on Representative List.

## C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- ☐ Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- ☒ Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- ☐ Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- ☒ Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- ☐ Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- ☐ Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- ☐ Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- ☐ Financial support from the Participation Programme
- ☐ Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

WoMAU has a partnership with UNESCO (Consultative Status) and is an Advisory NGO. It has been carrying out its own events as below under the auspices of UNESCO receiving the



authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO, which is to effectively safeguard and promote traditional martial arts. Due to this, our members from home and abroad are participating in the events with pride that they are keeping their traditions and a sense of duty as a cultural guard.

1. Chungju World Martial Arts Festival
2. International Martial Arts Contest
3. UNESCO Listed Martial Arts Promotion Committee meeting and exchange

Through signing the MOU with International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) last March, it established 'Martial Arts Archive' as a platform for the intangible cultural heritage of martial arts information with ichLinks of ICHCAP. This page officially opens this year and provides information on cultural diversity and elements of traditional martial arts.

#### **D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**

- D.1** *Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

WoMAU has attended in most of the sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee and the General Assembly of the State Parties since its accreditation in 2010. Through these participations, WoMAU could read the international trends raised by UNESCO, gaining valuable information through networking with other NGOs and related organizations and sharing it with its member organizations while interacting with them.

WoMAU indirectly contributes the Committee, as we have tried to increase the participation rate of teenagers and women in the businesses such as International Martial Arts Contest in response to the UNESCO ICH policy and shared best practices related to protecting and promoting ICH with its members.

- D.2** *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

*Not to exceed 100 words*

No, we has not served as a member of those Bodies.

- D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

According to the Operational Directives, it is obliged to provide advice at the request of the Intergovernmental Committee, WoMAU has only attended the meeting as an observer, and we have not had an opportunity to contribute in response to the request by the Committee

WoMAU has a worldwide network in the field of martial arts related to intangible cultural heritage and is in a position to conduct business on the ground, it is thought to be an opportunity to reduce the possible gap between each state's and UNESCO's policy. Thus, WoMAU could provide advisory services as follows :

- 1) Including NGO's participating in the Evaluation Body, NGO would participate in the review process as a related expert and some cases can communicate its opinions in the relevant

field.

- 2) NGO opinions on the relevant elements can be reflected in the preparation of periodic reporting to be submitted to UNESCO

## **E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):**

- E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

WoMAU has 70 member organizations from 47 countries including 12 associate member organizations around the world, which include organizations in France, Russia, the USA, and many in Asia. Most of them have networks of academic circles such as Universities and Research centres.

The secretariat of WoMAU, located in Chungju, Korea has four staff who are fluent in English or Russian, and the boards of directors consist mainly of scholars or related experts. Furthermore, WoMAU has four types of committees, including the Membership Screening Committee some of whom are experts with excellent language skills.

- E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

WoMAU has some experience in working across a couple of ICH domains. Traditional martial arts have diverse contents as the art of making traditional weapons and rituals with songs and dance and performing arts. Various cultural activities are being carried out at the Chungju World Martial Arts Festival. Guest country's culture day was operated by the designated member organization in cooperation with corresponding authorities of Tourism and Culture. The traditional cultural performance, cultural heritage sites, artworks, and local or regional products of the country are performed or displayed. The parade by world martial artists in traditional costumes, citizens, and spectators is a day of harmony showing the uniqueness of the traditional culture of each country of people. WoMAU has planned, coordinate, and operated these kinds of works on various ICH domains for several years with worldwide member organizations, related governments, and organizations.

- E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Every year we are reviewing membership applications from each country's representative traditional martial arts organizations around the world. Once the application is received, the WoMAU secretariat screens it first and then requests an evaluation to its Membership Screening Committee in the second round, consisting of experts appointed by the secretariat.

When doing it, the Committee reviews applications according to the WoMAU Statutes Article 7 (Types and Eligibilities of Membership) as follows: history and legitimacy of the martial arts, if the applied organization represents the native martial arts in the country, and whether the capacity of the organization for mutual cooperation with it. In addition, it cooperates with overseas Korean embassies, embassies of corresponding countries in Korea, and related government authorities for more in-depth investigation and analysis documents.



**E.4.** Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.

Not to exceed 250 words

WoMAU has the experience to have drafted a guidebook of Taekkyeon in Korean and English, which is inscribed on the UNESCO ICH Representative List. Furthermore, it has published semi-annual Newsletters (WoMAU News) containing various WoMAU activities, martial arts-related information, expert columns, and member organizations' activities in English and Korean.

While operating its own website in Korean and English, it has created content for social media such as card news, survey charts, and videos with two staff in charge of this.

**E.5.** Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.

Not to exceed 250 words

WoMAU is an international organization to promote human and physical exchanges through traditional martial arts as a part of ICH.

It holds the Annual General Meeting, Seminar, World Martial Arts Festival, and so on, inviting 70 member organizations from home and abroad. In 2018 and 2022, WoMAU members in Uzbekistan and Iran held martial arts festivals and international exchange events as international events, respectively, with the help of WoMAU.

## F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

☒ Yes

☐ No

## G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: Chung Wha-tae

Title: President

Date: February 14

Signature:

