

**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**

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*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.*

Иттиҳодияи ҷамъиятии "Кӯҳҳои Помир"

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

Public Association «Kuhhoi Pomir» (Mountains of the Pamirs)

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

NGO-90403

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: Public Association «Kuhhoi Pomir»

Address: 736000, Khorog, 131/1, Shotemurov street, apt # 50 «A», Gorno
Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, Republic of Tajikistan

Telephone number: +992 93 500 45 96;

Email address: pamirmountainstj@gmail.com, akurbon@gmail.com

Website: NA

Other relevant information: Facebook page: PAMIR MOUNTAINS TJ

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.): Dr.

Family name: Alamshoev

Given name: Qurbonidin

Institution/position: Director of Public Association "Kuhhoi Pomir"

Address: 736000, Khorog, 19, Marodaseinov Aliyor street, apt # 23, Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, Republic of Tajikistan

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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)¹

Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework², 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

In order to strengthen the institutional and human potential for the preservation of intangible cultural heritage in Tajikistan, the Public association "Kuhhoi Pomir" (7GA-2018 NGO-90403) to clearly define its goals and objectives, choose the right strategy, began its activities with the

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>

study of the application of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) on the territory of the country. This was quite logical, since, firstly, the PA Kuhhoi Pomir is the first and only accredited non-governmental organization under UNESCO from the Republic of Tajikistan, and secondly, the Republic of Tajikistan became a member of the International Convention for the Protection of ICH only on August 17, 2010, after seven years of adoption of this Convention.

The government bodies of Tajikistan involved in the implementation of the Convention support the practice and transmission of ICH. The authorized state body in the field of culture - the Ministry of Culture of the Republic draws up the Register of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Immediate Protection. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan approved the "Program for the Protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Tajik People for 2013-2020" (dated May 31, 2012) and the "State Program for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Heritage for 2021-2025" (dated May 1, 2020), which support the strengthening human potential for protection. Culture and all issues related to it in Tajikistan are regulated by state laws "On Culture" (December 13, 1997), "On the Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Heritage Objects" (March 3, 2006), "On Handicrafts" (June 20, 2019) and other regulatory legal acts. At the moment, options are being developed in the republic for creating a structure that fully represents and implements the Convention in practice. So far, general supervision over the implementation of the requirements of the Convention is carried out by the National Commission of the Republic of Tajikistan for UNESCO. The Ministry of Culture of Tajikistan has a "Department for the Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Heritage", where issues of intangible cultural heritage are studied in conjunction with other issues of cultural heritage. Partially, this problem is occupied in the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan (NAST). In June 2003, it was decided to establish a UNESCO Chair on Cultural Dialogue in the Modern World at the Russian-Tajik Slavonic University. However, this department still needs to intensify its activities.

The Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography named after Ahmad Donish NAST has a "Department of Ethnology and Anthropology" and a small "Museum of Ethnography", which sometimes deal with the problems of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. The implementation of the Convention is also carried out in the Department of History, Archeology and Ethnography of the State Institute for the Humanities of the city of Khorog. The only place currently entirely devoted to ICH topics is a small center set up at the Institute of Culture and Information of the Tajik Ministry of Culture. This center already has some results in the implementation of the Convention. This center, as the competent authority for the protection of ICH, widely supports the continuous practice and transmission of ICH.

Communities, groups and individuals, institutions and organizations involved in documenting or supporting ICH-related initiatives are not at the level of interest. Programs are being carried out in cultural centers where elements of ICH are promoted. In museums, archives, libraries, there are no activities that contribute to the protection of ICH.

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

The first thing that was done in order to transfer the intangible cultural heritage and revitalize educational processes was the creation of a data bank that contains information about institutions, organizations, specialists, individuals, bearers and experts in traditional culture working in the field of intangible cultural heritage in the Republic of Tajikistan. During the reporting period, contact and cooperation of the PA "Kuhhoi Pomir" with organizations, specialized centers, research institutions, communities, groups, individual experts in Tajikistan that are involved in the creation, support and transfer of intangible cultural heritage was established. Cooperation agreements have been signed with many of them, memorandums of understanding and cooperation have been drawn up in order to disseminate traditional knowledge and educate young people.

Although from the end of 2019 to the end of 2021, due to restrictions on the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was very difficult to conduct any activity among the people, however, during the reporting period, the PA Kuhhoi Pomir took certain steps in the field of transferring

ICH and developing education on intangible cultural heritage.

PA "Kuhhoi Pomir" held two roundtables at Khorog State University for four years to clarify the 2003 Convention. Professors and researchers of this university offered to open short courses on the protection of ICH and its management at the Faculty of History. There are few initiatives on the part of state institutions, cultural centers, communities and other bodies to study, promote ICH and its management.

At the beginning of 2019, courses were organized in four villages of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO), where trainers from among the bearers of culture taught local youth to play the national stringed plucked musical instrument.

The courses were completed by 60 people from among the local youth. They basically learned ritual national melodies, performed only on the rubab and amenable to oblivion. During the annual wildlife festivals held by the NGO "Kuhhoi Pomir", for almost a month, informal trainings were held for high school students and youth from rural areas in 4 mountainous regions of GBAO (Rushan, Murgab, Roshtkala, Ishkashim). Cultural practitioners and bearers actively participated in the preparation and development of educational programs in the field of intangible cultural heritage and its transfer to a new generation.

Based on the experience of the educational activities of the PA Kuhhoi Pomir with communities, groups, individuals related to the ICH, its strengthening and transmission, videos and television programs were made, which were shown on the republican and local TV channels or inserted on the organization's YouTube channel.

On the basis of 4 schools in 4 districts of the Pamirs (Murghab, Roshtkala, Ishkashim, Rushan) the organization has created a club of "Defenders of local biodiversity and bioculture", which are equipped with a computer, digital camera and other accessories. On the basis of these clubs, teachers hold regular round tables, discussions, meetings with experts and bearers of local nature, culture, and history with schoolchildren. Schoolchildren make films, take photographs, write essays on ICH topics.

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

In order to conduct an inventory and study of the ICH the PA Kuhhoi Pomir, starting from 2018, established a relationship with the Institute of Culture and Information of Ministry of Culture of Republic of Tajikistan, which, since 2013, has been compiling the "National inventory list of Intangible Cultural Heritage" in Tajikistan.

In 2018, the published List included 13 elements prepared by PA Kuhhoi Pomir from GBAO, from which cultural elements in this List had little reflection before.

In the published List in 2020, our organization prepared 7 inventories in the part "Oral traditions and forms of expression", 5 in the part "Performing arts", 9 in "Customs, rites, festivities", 17 in "Knowledge and customs related to nature and the universe", 8 in "Knowledge and skills related to traditional crafts", 5 in "Traditional food", 3 in "Traditional sports and children's games", 1 in "Cultural space". The contribution of PA Kuhhoi Pomir is even listed in the preface to the "National inventory list of Intangible Cultural Heritage" in Tajikistan, published in 2020. In order to make the results available to communities, groups, academia, politicians, the List was distributed by our organization to cultural, library, educational and government agencies in GBAO.

Inventories of ICH in Tajikistan increasingly reflect the diversity of ICH and contribute to its protection. If in 2013 the List included only 48 elements of ICH, then in 2020 their number has grown to 538. During the reporting period, the List in Tajikistan was finalized and published 2 times. At the end of 2022, the PA Kuhhoi Pomir in cooperation with the Institute of Humanities of the National Academy of Science, began work on compiling thematic lists of ICH in the Pamirs. At present, the customs, beliefs, rituals, traditions of the mountain Tajiks of the Pamirs associated with the birth of a child and the first years of his life are being researched and documented.

The results of studies and inventories in Tajikistan are used to develop policy in the cultural sector and to improve the protection of ICH.

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

Our organization closely cooperates with the Ministries of Culture and Education of Tajikistan and the departments of culture and education of GBAO, which are involved in the development of policies in the field of culture and education. Legal regulation and administrative measures in the field of intangible cultural heritage in Tajikistan are partly handled by the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On streamlining traditions, celebrations and rituals in the Republic of Tajikistan", which was adopted in 2017.

This law streamlines traditions, celebrations and rituals, taking into account the needs of the development of society and is aimed at protecting the true values of national culture and respect for folk customs in order to improve the social and economic standard of living of the population of Tajikistan.

The legal field of the law includes traditions as a set of material and moral values of the social and cultural heritage of a society or individual social groups passing from generation to generation, a rite as a set of symbolic actions expressing the attitude of individuals and social groups to important phenomena of the cultural life of society, and a celebration - celebration events or historical, cultural, social, professional and family dates.

In order to implement the Law, permanent commissions have been established under the local executive bodies of state power of regions, cities, districts, towns and villages of the country, which take the necessary measures to prevent violations, control the ordering of traditions, celebrations and rituals, develop recommendations and practical instructions for the economical holding of celebrations and rituals, draw up the necessary document and send it to the relevant authorities for the application of legal measures.

The law at the official level obliges individuals and legal entities to protect elements of national culture, including the state language and national clothes.

The "Program for the Protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Tajik People for 2013-2020" and the "State Program for the Protection of the Historical and Cultural Heritage for 2021-2025", adopted by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, unfortunately, are not sufficiently supported by real budget money and are implemented without any special effects for preservation of ICH in the country.

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

To enhance the role of intangible cultural heritage and its protection in the society, PA Kuhhoi Pomir, using its technical, human resources, as well as financial assistance from international organizations, mainly relied on holding live, interactive events, through which it was possible to collect and document many elements of ICH in the region. One such event is the Wildlife Festival, which is held annually in various remote mountainous places in GBAO, among mountain communities. The festival is traditionally held under the motto "Human, Culture, Nature". One of the main goals of each festival is to show and use the revived local dishes, handicrafts, symbols, the revival of folk songs and dances, folk games, remembering forgotten customs and folk traditions, various folk sports and gambling competitions. The transfer of these elements of the ICH took place in the form of performances and demonstrations of cultural practitioners, spiritual people, thematic shows, performances, presentations, master classes. The wide active involvement of many state, commercial and public organizations in the holding of festivals has increased the value and importance of each ICH.

Through festivals, an attempt was also made to draw the attention of communities living in remote places to the traditional and careful conservation of wildlife, natural sacred places and frequented ritual sites. More than 4,000 people participated in each festival, who could receive extensive information about the elements of the local ICH.

During 2018 - 2021, the organization collected and disseminated folk knowledge and good

hunting traditions of the Pamir peoples in order to revive humane relations with wild animals, revealing the cult and culture of traditional hunting.

Research work was carried out in six out of eight districts of GBAO and covered almost 80 percent of the territory of GBAO. To this end, scientists and researchers from the Scientific Institute for the Humanities were involved in the study.

Activities were carried out among the Shugnani, Vakhani, Ishkashimi, Rushani, Darvazi, Vanchi, Kyrgyz peoples on the territory of the GBAO. Each of these nationalities has a linguistic and cultural difference, a variety of biodiversity. At the moment, most of the collected material has been processed and a catalog and database of folk knowledge has been compiled. During the reporting period, 7 articles on the topic were published in the press, 3 scientific articles in specialized journals, 5 documentary short films were prepared, 3 books, 3 brochures were published.

We have collected material about holy places, sanctuaries that exist on the territory of the Pamirs. Many of them have been inventoried and submitted to the data bank of the Institute of Culture and Information of the capital. The experience and knowledge of making a unique Vakhani skullcap was collected, which consists of about 50 drawings, 35 symbols and almost 10 colors.

During the reporting period, we paid much attention to the revival and transmission of hunting song and dance folklore. In total, about 30 songs and dances, dances that existed among the Pamir peoples, but were given to oblivion, were collected, processed, revived in different parts of the Pamir. Also, 5 games related to the movement of a person in nature were revived. These games were shown to the audience during the festival by local schoolchildren.

As part of the events, the serving of “shirrugpan” was revived - butter in warm milk, with which the mountaineers had previously met a dear guest in the Pamirs. Participants were treated to a long-stocked dish called “humai”, which ancient hunters traditionally ate after their long journey home. The ritual of throwing flour on the right shoulder of the guests was also shown. This tradition wishes everyone grace, wealth, richness and happiness.

For example, in Bartang valley, at the beginning of the ceremony, traditional music was played, which is performed exclusively when meeting dear guests. Thanks to the project, it was possible to restore and revive the group “dance of the leopards” (palang raqqosi), unique folk dances “kish-kish”, “biporakbazai”, “pishpak” and “puqchi”, a female dance in the ancient traditional headscarf “fidoitcilak”. In this scarf, hunters were usually met from hunting. Local women were taught by the bearers of traditional culture how to make this scarf, how to make patterns on it from local dyes and how to offer it as a souvenir for tourists.

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

The experience of cooperation of our organization with UNESCO, ICHNGOForum and institutions and organizations of Tajikistan related to culture, protection of ICH suggests that in the Republic of Tajikistan, especially on the ground, for a wider implementation of the recommendations and rules of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) in life, much remains to be done. Raising awareness of the population and relevant structures about the goals and objectives of the Convention is especially important. In order to fulfill this task, the PA Kuhhoi Pomir, as an accredited organization, began its activities to familiarize cultural, educational, scientific organizations with the goals and general philosophy of the Convention. In cooperation with the regional authorities of GBAO, during the reporting period, 5 presentations were organized, in which the heads of districts, representatives of educational, cultural, and scientific institutions participated. The presentations, based on the materials received from the ICHNGOForum, explained the general purpose of the convention and invited everyone to cooperate. The administrative leadership of GBAO kindly provided us with an office in the building of the local administration, where we are working to promote the Convention, we accept interested parties to establish cooperation.

Together with experts from the Institute of Culture and Information of the city of Dushanbe, we held 3 seminars for employees of the Institute of Humanities, the Regional Library of the city of Khorog, Khorog State University and the regional museum. Our organization works closely with

local media to organize more materials for journalism about different types of intangible cultural heritage and problems with its preservation. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Pamir Ecological Cultural Tourism Association (PECTA), our organization works with local tourism companies to introduce local elements of ICH into the tourism business. PA Kuhhoi Pomir has prepared guidebooks for each region of the Pamirs for travel companies, which differ in ecosystems, climate, languages and local culture. The guide contains the brightest elements on oral traditions and forms of expression, the languages of Gorno-Badakhshan, folk performing arts, provides information about customs, rituals, traditional religious, folk, calendar holidays, stories and knowledge related to nature and the universe among the Pamir people, also examples related to traditional crafts are given.

In 2021, a new working staff was opened in each administration of cities and regions of the Republic of Tajikistan, which deals with the protection of the historical, cultural and natural heritage of this territory. Our organization has established business partnerships with these professionals to compile a list of ICH elements in each district and to engage these entities in raising awareness of ICH.

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

In order to collect information about elements of ICH, members of our organization often make expeditions to remote regions where such elements have survived more or unscathed. To make this knowledge available to a wide range of interested parties during the reporting period, the results of our research and analysis are the following books:

1. Dr. Qurbonidin Alamshoev. Ethical code of national hunting (Based on collected field information). The book was published at the Institute for the Humanities of the National Academy of Sciences, Khorog, Pomir Publishing House, 2018. - 52 p.
2. Dr. Qurbonidin Alamshoev (Tajikistan). Pamir: Mountains Giving Food and Energy. Symposium "Intangible Cultural Heritage NGO's Strategy in Achieving Sustainable Development: Goal 2. Zero Hunger", Safeguarding activities series. Publication International Information and Networking Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO. Jeonju, Republic of Korea © 2022. pages 70-97.
3. Dr. Qurbonidin Alamshoev. Culture of respect for nature in the Pamirs. Scientific Research Institute of Culture and Information of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, Irfon Publishing House, 2021, 320 pages.
4. Dr. Qurbonidin Alamshoev. (Co-authored with Niyozbekov D.) Guidebook for eco-cultural tourists in the Pamir villages. Dushanbe, Offset Media Publishing House, 66 pages. Full color, FA4.
5. Guidelines for the study and conservation of the snow leopard at the community level. 58 pages. Color size 4. Dushanbe, 2022.

During the reporting period, 6 scientific articles were published in scientific journals in Tajikistan and abroad on various issues of ICH in Tajikistan, about 13 articles on the Internet, about 40 posts were made on social networks, about 10 articles were published in the local press, 4 documentaries were prepared, which shown on local TV channels and pasted on YouTube.

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

1. 2018. Collaboration with Jeonju International Awards for Promoting Intangible Cultural Heritage to promote folk healer of zanktok local fauna for the treatment of serious diseases in the Pamirs and Mr. Davlatmamadov Shirinbek, Head of Public Organization "Gulu Giyoh" (Flowers and Plants);
2. August 16-17, 2019 Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Republican conference "UNESCO Geoparks: Potential regions of Tajikistan as possible nominations". Organizers: National Commission of the Republic of Tajikistan for UNESCO and UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty;

3. 2019. Participation in the ICHCAP initiative to identify the role of ICH NGOs in the Asia-Pacific region in achieving SDG 2;
4. November 18-19, 2020. Participation in the webinar: "Life, Environment and ICH on the Silk Road". Organizers: IICAS and ICHCAP;
5. 05.10.2021. Participation in the drafting of the petition by accredited NGOs under the Committee of the UNESCO Convention on the Establishment of an Official Working Group to raise awareness and build the capacity of accredited NGOs in underrepresented countries, reflecting and discussing the role of these NGOs in different countries, societies and regions;
6. 24.04. 2020. Organization of an article on the ICHNGOForum announcement on the prevention of COVID-19 with the help of the medicinal herb "Khazorispand" - common harmala (*Peganum harmala* L.) in the Pamirs;
7. 04/12/2021. Providing advisory and technical assistance to young researchers of Khorog State University in the preparation and provision of a project within the framework of the Silk Roads Youth Research Grant through the initiative "The Silk Roads Dialogue, Diversity and Development" of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty;
8. 09. 2021 Filming and preparation of the video "Silk Road in the Pamirs". In cooperation with the UNESCO Almaty Office through the project "Silk Road Heritage Corridors in Afghanistan, Central Asia and Iran – the international dimension of the European Year of Cultural Heritage";
9. November 22-26, 2021 Republic of Uzbekistan, Samarkand. Seminar-training in the framework of the EU / UNESCO project (Alma-Ata office of UNESCO): "The corridors of the heritage of the Silk Road in Afghanistan, Central Asia and Iran - the international dimension of the European Year of Cultural Heritage".
10. Collaboration with the magazine "The UNESCO messenger Tajikistan" publications about ICH from the Gorno-Badakhshan oblast of Tajikistan;
11. June 27-29, 2022 Malaysia, Kuching. Participation in the 3rd meeting of the Executive Committee of ichLinks with the participation of the Government of Sarawak and artists and cultural figures of Malaysia. Association (MACPA), ICHCAP.
12. Italy, Turin, September 22-26, 2022, Participation in the exhibition of traditional food Terra Madre Salone del Gusto, Slow Food International. Presentations and mini-lectures about the traditional dishes of the mountain peoples of Tajikistan, made on the basis of plants and herbs;
13. 2018 -2020. Cooperation with the Institute of Culture and Information of Tajikistan for the preparation and publication of the "National inventory list of Intangible Cultural Heritage";

During the reporting period, PA Kuhhoi Pomir was a member of the working group on the ethics of the ICH NGO Forum, actively participated in the elections, wrote comments on the draft Charter and Code of the ICH NGO Forum at UNESCO, filled in the sent questionnaires and questionnaires, promptly responded to all business letters coming from ICH NGO Forum and UNESCO.

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

PA "Kuhhoi Pomir" has close business cooperation with the National Commission of the Republic of Tajikistan for UNESCO. Cooperation with the Commission is ongoing and ongoing through physical meetings, contacts by e-mail and social networks. Our organization always responds promptly to all requests from the Commission to complete any data and information on the state of the ICH in the mountainous regions of Tajikistan, on the implementation of the requirements of the Convention on the ground. Experts of PA Kuhhoi Pomir participated 3 times in conferences and seminars organized by the National Commission.

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

In order to promote, preserve and popularize the non-material culture of the Tajik people and to attract more tourists to Tajikistan, as well as within the framework of the implementation of state policy in the field of culture, Kuhkhoi Pomir PA attaches great importance to cooperation with

UNESCO and supports the implementation of those projects that contribute to the development of educational and the scientific sector, the protection of the intangible cultural heritage of the country. During the reporting period, the PA Kuhhoi Pomir, in cooperation with the Institute of Culture and Information of the Ministry of Culture of Tajikistan, which is the main driving force behind the nominations in UNESCO, provided advisory assistance and participated in the completion of the questionnaires for the elements provided to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Specifically, our organization gave its resolutions in the preparation and nomination of the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage as: "Chakan - the art of embroidery in the Republic of Tajikistan", "Falak" and "Atlas and adras", "Sericulture and traditional production of silk for weaving", "Mehrgon Holiday", "Traditional Embroidery in Central Asia", "The Art of Making and Playing the Rubab", and "Joke-Telling Traditions of Khoja Nasriddin Afandi" and others, which are currently being worked on.

From the Pamir region of Tajikistan, PA Kuhhoi Pomir is preparing for the inscription of the Pamir traditional house as a cultural space on the ICH Representative List. Currently, this element is included in the "National inventory list of Intangible Cultural Heritage", our organization organized expeditions to remote mountainous places for in-depth study of this topic.

PA Kuhhoi Pomir prepared an official warning about the state of petroglyphs in Langar village, Ishkashim district of Gorno-Badakhshan. Our NGO urged everyone to protect 5878 rarest and unique petroglyphs dating back to the Stone Age and later, located at an altitude of more than 5 hectares and 3000 meters above sea level.

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

NGO Kuhhoi Pomir has been a member of UNESCO clubs since 2015, in 2018 it was accredited by UNESCO.

Although there is no direct cooperation with the UNESCO Headquarters (Paris), the Headquarters does not exist, but Kuhhoi Pomir PA maintains contact with the UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty, the National Commission in the Republic of Tajikistan for UNESCO, International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (CRIHAP) –China, Regional Research Centre for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in West and Central Asia -Islamic Republic of Iran, International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) - Japan, International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) - Republic of Korea. Our NGO has not yet hosted an event where we requested permission to use the 2003 UNESCO/Convention logo. If necessary, we take the necessary literature for facilitation from their virtual library. In Tajikistan, the UNESCO chair is currently open only at the Russian-Tajik Slavonic University, whose work needs to be improved. Our organization has not yet submitted a project for financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Foundation.

However, three trips of one expert from our organization to participate in the sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee were funded by UNESCO.

NGO Kuhhoi Pomir is widely involved in the promotion of UNESCO activities in Tajikistan in the social networks and media of Tajikistan.

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

1. France, Paris, 4-6 June 2018, 7th session of the UNESCO General Assembly for the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

2. Republic of Mauritius, Port Louis, November 26-December 1, 2018, 13th session of the Intergovernmental Commission for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

3. Republic of Colombia, Bogotá, December 9-14, 2019 14th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

4. Rabat, Morocco, November 27 - December 3, 2022. Seventeenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

As a member of the IV (Asia and the Pacific) group, ethics and research working groups, and as a participant in the above Sessions, I attended all ICH NGO FORUM symposiums and working sessions, presentations of accredited NGO projects, meetings and meetings of the Executive Board with working groups and regional groups. He took part in discussions of regional breakout groups to discuss and solve regional problems, in debates about the prospects and strategies of ICH NGOs, participated in the election of new members of the Executive Board of ICH NGOs and, as a journalist and ethnographer, took part in #HeritageAlive editorial board meetings.

During the reporting period, PA Kuhhoi Pomir also participated in many online courses, seminars and meetings on living heritage and sustainable development, constantly got acquainted with the Reports on the activities of the ICH NGO Forum, and expressed their opinion.

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, our organization was not a member of the Evaluation Body.

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

During the reporting period, our organization did not directly provide advisory services to the Committee. Our consultations, as required, were provided to experts from the Institute of Culture and Information of Tajikistan, who are engaged in the promotion of nominations from the republic and the National Commission for UNESCO in Tajikistan.

Based on our experience of working with UNESCO, the ICH NGO Forum, one can come to the conclusion that at the moment there has not yet been established a permanent and effective contact between the Committee and NGOs that operate in different parts of the world. In my opinion, the capacity of accredited NGOs should be expanded further so that they are more involved in research and the development of research methodologies together with communities and groups. Strengthening the legal, technical, administrative and financial capacities of NGOs, especially in countries that are at the development stage, requires special attention. The ultimate goal should be such that communities, groups and individuals, in the process of transmitting and protecting their intangible cultural heritage, can benefit from the revitalization, protection, preservation of ICH for sustainable livelihoods and sustainable practices.

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

Employees (7 people) and members and volunteers (25 people) of our organization mostly speak English. All of them have constant contact with the sites: <https://ich.unesco.org/en> and <https://www.ichngoforum.org/ngo-forum> and will get acquainted with the updates of these sites.

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

Not to exceed 250 words

NGO Kuhhoi Pomir has carried out several projects, where ICH research is the main part of them. The results of these projects are mainly reflected in the published books of our organization, indicated above, in published articles. Copies of lyrics and music recorded on video have been donated to folklore groups and local radio.

Our organization has experience in collecting and inventorying items on oral traditions and forms of expression, customs and rituals, languages of Gorno-Badakhshan, folk performing arts, holidays and traditional knowledge, folk medicine, folk architecture, handicrafts.

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

Not to exceed 250 words

Our organization, together with the Institute of Culture and Information, participated in the finalization of the application from Tajikistan for the cultural element "Falak", which was included in the Representative List of the ICH. Currently, PA Kuhhoi Pomir is working on preparations for the nomination in the "Cultural space" section of the traditional Pamir house, which has almost no analogue in the world.

Our organization has sufficient experience in drafting projects with donors.

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

Our organization has little experience in writing synthetic texts in English and French.

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

Our experience in conducting Wildlife Festivals in the context of "Human, Culture, Nature" is worth spreading around the world. Every year, through them, we only draw the attention of the population to respect for nature, but at the same time we revive dozens of customs, knowledge, folklore, forgotten dishes from organic products, traditional medicine, knowledge about nature and the universe, and the like. Many of the elements that we have revived are already successfully operating in restaurants of national cafes, folklore groups, serve the development of ecotourism and bring income to people and help in sustainable development.

PA "Kuhhoi Pomir" wishes to continue cooperation with UNESCO as an accredited organization. Our operations from 2018 to 2022 were adversely affected by the onset of COVID-19. During this period, we could not realize all our ideas and intentions that were planned. We hope that in the future we will be more active and clear, based on the experience and knowledge gained.

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: Qurbonidin Alamshoev

Title: Director of the Public Association «Kuhhoi Pomir» (Mountains of the Pamirs)

Date: February 3, 2023

Signature: