

# UNESCO CONVENTIONS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE

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### AGENDA

Opening seminar of MedLiHer project  
*25 - 26 May 2009. Paris, France*

Fourth meeting of the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict  
*27 - 29 May 2009. Paris, France*

National Conference “UNESCO Conventions in the Field of Protection of Cultural Heritage and the National Legislation of the Republic of Moldova” and Capacity-Building Training Workshop “Protection on the Immovable Cultural Heritage”  
*9 - 10 June 2009. Chisinau, Republic of Moldova*

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## NEWS

# UNESCO teams up with “Dive Olly Dive!” for underwater heritage educational campaign



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**The popular preschool animated series “Dive Olly Dive!” has been selected by UNESCO as part of its new educational campaign to teach children about the importance and beauty of the world’s rich underwater cultural heritage.**

The new cooperation project with “Dive Olly Dive!” will help raise awareness of this heritage, within the framework of UNESCO’s Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. The Convention was adopted in 2001 to improve the safeguarding of such heritage, which includes ancient shipwrecks, submerged ruins and underwater caves containing archaeological vestiges.

“Dive Olly Dive!” follows the fun-filled underwater escapades of two young research submarines-in-training, who live in a deep-sea research centre. Created using the latest high-definition 3D computer generated animation, the series

features a vivid underwater environment. Its stories educate children on the delicate nature of the ecosystems and submerged archaeological sites beneath the oceans.

Following an agreement with the production company, Mike Young Productions, UNESCO will use characters from the show to reach children through its website and with printed materials distributed to classrooms worldwide. In addition, UNESCO is serving as a consultant to the show, as the series begins production on its second season.

“Dive Olly Dive!” has done a wonderful job introducing children to the importance of caring for the environment and submerged archaeological sites and we look forward to working with them on stories about shipwrecks and the ancient ruins that make up our underwater cultural heritage,” said Ulrike Guérin, from the UNESCO Secretariat for the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. “The characters are friendly and engaging, and they will be a great aid in our efforts to reach children in an entertaining and easily understood way in every corner of the globe.”

“We are honoured that UNESCO has chosen the characters to be an integral part of their educational mission,” said Cynthia Money, President, Worldwide Consumer Products and Marketing for Mike Young Productions/MoonScoop Group. “Through our meetings, everyone involved in producing the series has learned much more about underwater archaeological sites. UNESCO has presented incredible story ideas based on actual underwater discoveries, and we look forward to translating them into exciting storylines in season two.”

The show, which airs on PBS Sprout in the US, Disney Channel and France 5 in France, KI.KA in Germany, TVE in Spain and dozens more channels worldwide, has won the 2008 Parents’ Choice Award and Hugo Television Award (Certificate of Merit), in addition to being nominated for an Emmy Award, the Prix Jeunesse and as Best Animated Series at the 2008 Annecy International Festival of Animated Film.

## New Web Site: Underwater Cultural Heritage

Underwater Cultural Heritage encompasses all traces of human existence that lie or were lying under water and have a cultural or historical character. Recognizing the urgent need to preserve and protect such heritage, UNESCO elaborated in 2001 the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.

## Intangible Cultural Heritage on the Fast Track

One hundred and eleven nomination files were examined in May 2009 by a subsidiary body of the Committee for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and recommendations were made for inscriptions on the Representative List. Flanders (Belgium) and the European Union have joined the ranks of the donors which support the Convention's implementation worldwide. UNESCO's Interactive Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger, with close connections to intangible heritage, was made possible through the support of the Norwegian Government.

## Ratification by Uganda of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Paris, 17 October 2003)



On 13 May 2009, Uganda deposited with the Director-General its instrument of ratification of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. In accordance with the terms of its Article 34, the aforementioned Convention will enter into force with respect to Uganda three months after the date of the deposit of this instrument, that is to say on 13 August 2009.

## AGENDA

### Opening seminar of MedLiHer project

25 - 26 May 2009. Paris, France

Organizers: UNESCO

Contact: [ich@unesco.org](mailto:ich@unesco.org)

More info: <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=EN&pg=00232>

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### Fourth meeting of the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict

27 - 29 May 2009. Paris, France

Organizers: UNESCO Section of Museums and Cultural Objects

Contact: [j.hladik@unesco.org](mailto:j.hladik@unesco.org)

More info: <http://events.unesco.org/>

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### National Conference "UNESCO Conventions in the Field of Protection of Cultural Heritage and the National Legislation of the Republic of Moldova" and Capacity-Building Training Workshop "Protection on the Immovable Cultural Heritage"

9 - 10 June 2009. Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Organizers: UNESCO and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova

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