



Department for  
Digital, Culture,  
Media & Sport

Nigel Huddleston MP  
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Ms Clara Arokiasamy  
President, ICOMOS-UK

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Dear Ms Arokiasamy,

Thank you for your correspondence of 19 January to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, the Rt Hon Nadine Dorries MP, on behalf of ICOMOS-UK, regarding the UNESCO Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (the Convention). I am replying as the minister responsible for tourism and heritage.

I am grateful to organisations such as ICOMOS-UK that play an important role in supporting and promoting cultural heritage in the UK. I am also thankful for your leadership in bringing attention to the area of intangible cultural heritage in the UK and the work of your organisation to bring together interested parties at the recent roundtable to further the discussion around ratification of the Convention.

As you are aware, my officials are exploring how the UK might ratify the Convention and the model of implementation that could be followed. I fully agree that a unique approach will be needed for this to be successfully implemented in the UK, and that the creation of a national inventory of intangible cultural heritage in the UK will be a cornerstone of this approach.

The UK has a great richness of intangible cultural heritage and this is an excellent opportunity to recognise and support it. Many of the points you raise in your letter will be helpful to consider. I would be grateful for your continued support and engagement with my officials to further explore these and other points regarding the ratification of the Convention.

Thank you again for your letter.

Nigel Huddleston MP  
Minister for Sport, Tourism, Heritage and Civil Society

