Background

On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day 2018 (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 1-3 May 2019), UNESCO is organizing a two-day workshop on 1st and 2nd May for civil society and government officials on policies and measures to protect, promote and monitor artistic freedom.

Organized within the framework of UNESCO’s Aschberg programme for artists and cultural professionals, it seeks to facilitate a better understanding of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and its overall goal to promote human rights and artistic freedom. Under this notion, UNESCO understands a bundle of rights that relate to freedom of creation, freedom of expression, freedom of movement, social and economic rights.

This two-day multi-stakeholder workshop will examine existing laws, policies and measures that promote and protect artistic expression, and challenges that countries face in designing and implementing them. It will discuss, through presentations, case studies and group exercises, what works or not and what could be improved to support artistic freedom.

It will also debate obligations that governments (in close cooperation with civil society) have in terms of reporting to UNESCO on policies and measures taken to promote artistic freedom, in particular though the "Quadrennial Periodic Reports" that countries submit every four years on progress achieved in implementing the 2005 Convention. In accordance with the Convention’s monitoring framework, artistic freedom has become a reporting requirement for Parties as from 2019.


The first day of the workshop will introduce participants to the Convention, the concept of artistic freedom and social and economic rights of artists and cultural professionals. It will help to engage a discussion on global challenges to artistic freedom, the international legal frameworks regulating artistic freedom and data collection mechanisms.

The second day will focus on how to report on artistic freedom worldwide and in Ethiopia. Through group works, the participants will qualify how Ethiopia may report on artistic freedom as part of the forthcoming quadrennial periodic report submission to UNESCO on the implementation of the 2005 Convention.

The workshop will be facilitated by Ole Reitov, founder and former Executive Director of Freemuse, an international organization advocating and defending artistic freedom. He served as expert consultant to the UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights for the 2013 report *The right to freedom of artistic expression and creativity*. 
Programme

Wednesday 1 May 2019

08:30-08:45 am  Welcoming remarks
Yisma TSIGE, Director, Directorate of Cultural Industries Development and Cooperation, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
Danielle CLICHE, Chief, Diversity of Cultural Expressions Entity, UNESCO

08:45-09:15 am  Workshop and participants introduction
Presentation of the learning objectives of the workshop, its purpose as part of the capacity-development programme of the 2005 Convention, the workshop programme and the pedagogical approach, as well as a self-presentation by each participant.

09:15-10:00 am  Introduction to the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
What is the international normative framework within which the issue of artistic freedom will be addressed? What is the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and why is it considered a milestone in international cultural policy? How does the Convention relate to the international development agenda and Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s)?

10:00-10:30 am  Coffee break

10:30-11:30 am  Reflections on Artistic Freedom
Screening of the UNESCO film ‘What is artistic freedom for you?’ followed by a brief discussion. Introduction of the concept of artistic freedom and its definition by the 2005 Convention. What are artistic and cultural rights? What has led to an increase in interest for artistic freedom and why it is included in the 2005 Convention’s monitoring framework? Where does artistic freedom sit among the international human rights conventions and what national measures have been taken by States to protect and promote artistic freedom?

11:30 am – 12:30 pm  Challenges to Artistic Freedom
Which are the main agents threatening artistic freedom at the global level? What are their main motivations and arguments for challenging artistic freedom? Which are the main challenges in Ethiopia and why?

12:30-2:00 pm  Lunch buffet

2:00-2:15 pm  Summing up on morning sessions
2:15-3:30 pm  
**Legal rights and limitations**  
*Which are the legal instruments relating to freedom of expression and to artistic freedom? What laws are most often used to curtail these freedoms?*

3:30-4:00 pm  
**Coffee break**

4:00-5:15 pm  
**Social and economic rights**  
*How are social and economic rights addressed in the 2005 Convention and other normative instruments relating to artists and cultural professionals? What is the status of these rights in Ethiopia and how do they relate to artistic freedom?*

5:15-5:30 pm  
**Wrap up session**

---

**Thursday 2 May 2019**

08:30-08:45  
**Reflections from yesterday**

08:45-09:15 am  
**Introduction to reporting on the implementation of the 2005 Convention**  
*This session briefly presents the reporting requirements under the 2005 Convention, its monitoring framework and core indicators for artistic freedom.*

09:15-10:00 pm  
**Collecting Data**  
*How do you define documentation and verification? This session aims at providing information on some existing global data and sources and introduce existing tools to collect and collate relevant information and data on violations on artistic freedom.*

10:00-10:30 am  
**Coffee break**

10:30-11:30 am  
**Monitoring artistic freedom: general considerations**  
*Which data are relevant for the monitoring of artistic freedom? How can these data be used as a model for local collation? In this session, participants will identify available data relevant for Ethiopia’s forthcoming quadrennial periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention under the monitoring area of artistic freedom. Inputs may be qualified in two parallel working groups.*

11:30 am – 12:30 pm  
**Reporting on social and economic rights of artists and cultural professionals: review of Ethiopia’s submitted periodic report**  
*Participants will look at Ethiopia’s 2017 quadrennial periodic report (QPR) on policies and measures the country has taken to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions and identify areas relating*
to artistic freedom. How did Ethiopia’s latest QPR social and economic rights?

12:30-2:00 pm  Lunch buffet

2:00-3:30 pm   Reporting on artistic freedom: preparing for Ethiopia next quadrennial periodic report

   Participants will be guided into QPR reporting and identify challenges in developing Ethiopia’s forthcoming report. Inputs may be qualified in two parallel working groups, each group identifying the main issues relevant to the future report.

3:30-4:00 pm  Coffee break

4:00-5:00 pm   Reporting on artistic freedom: merging findings and way forward

   The session will bring participants to a final, jointly developed periodic report as well as to the identification of issues that need further analysis. In determining the way forward for the preparation of Ethiopia’s next QPR, participants will discuss how can the State and civil society collaborate on future reporting, which areas of collaboration need to be developed and how they can merge information and perspectives.

5:00-5:30 pm  Conclusions and workshop evaluation

   Has the workshop improved the reporting and understanding of the QPR process? What were the most essential learnings from the workshop? What was missing and how can future workshops be improved? How can the process continue after the training workshop?