



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Europe, Africa, Middle East and Northern Asia

Founded 1950

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To all IARU Region 1 Members Societies

Subject: "To safeguard Morse Code as an Intangible Heritage"

Following recommendation SC11–C3–16, adopted at our Sun City Conference, DARC worked on a proposal to UNESCO to recognize Morse Code as an Intangible Cultural Heritage. To make the follow-up work as easy as possible DARC prepared the following four documents:

1. a list of countries, who have signed the UNESCO convention for the safeguarding of "Intangible cultural heritage". Only those countries are allowed to make proposals to the UNESCO. These countries are called "states parties" within the convention.
2. the filled out proposal form (nomination from ICH-02) for entry of an "Intangible Cultural Heritage" in "Representative List" of UNESCO. All texts representing answers within this nomination form as well as the enclosed 10 photographs according to section 6.a. should be understood as proposals.
3. a document "Guidelines for the completion of nomination forms ICH-02 and ICH-07 by IARU member societies.
4. The filled out UNESCO form ICH-07 providing the details for the required 10 photographs.

Neither IARU nor a member society can make a direct proposal to UNESCO. Member societies from countries mentioned in document 1 are advised to contact the UNESCO commission in their country. It is expected that a completed proposal form (ICH-02), will be easily accepted.

Member Societies in UAI counties (Attachment 1) are asked to send an application to their UNESCO commission. Please also give feedback to me, when you have done so. If you need further help on the documents, please contact me.

The other member Societies may also get in touch with their UNESCO commission and ask for support the application.

Our proposal, asking for entry into the "Representative list" only would probably also qualify for a "multi-national nomination" (see section A., E., 7. of ICH-02 and point 26 of the "instructions for completing form ICH-02"). Member Societies can consider to make such a multi-national nomination in cooperation with neighboring countries.

The amateur service will expose itself to the public in a positive way. It will be extremely helpful that as many member societies as possible approach their national UNESCO commission.

I will ask IARU and IARU Regions 2 and 3 to follow our example.

Vy 73,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'HP Blondeel' followed by a stylized, geometric symbol that resembles a square with a diagonal line from the top-left to the bottom-right.

Hans P. Blondeel Timmerman
President IARU Region 1

4 appendices