



MOWCAP (Memory of the World Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific) **Update for PARBICA November 2023**

The following are some of the activities that are relevant to the Pacific that MOWCAP has undertaken since the last PARBICA meeting in 2021.

1 9th MOWCAP General Meeting 24-26 November 2022

This was the first MOWCAP General Meeting since 2018 and was hosted by the Korean Studies Institute in Andong, Republic of Korea. The pandemic meant that a face to face meeting was not possible for four years.

Julian Chonigolo from the Solomon Islands was present at the meet and Roslyn Russell from Australia and Jane Wild from New Zealand attended sessions online. Julian was able to describe to the wider MOWCAP membership what some of the challenges were for small island states when preparing register nominations.

The next MOWCAP General Meeting is scheduled to be held in May 2024. This proposed date returns these meetings to their normal schedule of being held around May every two years.

2 Revision of Memory of the World Asia Pacific Regional Register Guidelines

At the 211th Session of the UNESCO Executive Board held in April 2021 revised General Guidelines and Statutes were approved for the international Memory of the World Programme. A working group from MOWCAP consisting of Dianne Macaskill (Bureau, Vice-Chairperson), Helen Jarvis (Chair, Register Sub-Committee) and Andrew Henderson (Secretary-General) then developed draft Regional Register Guidelines for the MOWCAP Bureau to present to the 9th General Meeting. The intention was to revise the MOWCAP Guidelines so they were consistent with the approved international process but took account of regional needs.

The “International MoW Register” which is section 8 of the [General Guidelines of the Memory of the World \(MoW\) Programme](#) was the only component of the Memory of the World International General Guidelines that was revised for use by MOWCAP. All the other sections were considered to be relevant for MOWCAP.

There are some key changes to the MOWCAP register nomination process including the need to have approval from the relevant National Commission/s to submit a nomination. In addition, any specific aspects of a nomination that relate to gender equality need to be described.

3 Inscriptions to the MOWCAP Register 2022

Nine Inscriptions from five countries were added to the MOWCAP Register at the 9th MOWCAP General Meeting. The countries to have documentary heritage added to the MOWCAP register were Singapore, Republic of Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia and China.

4 Call for Nominations to the MOWCAP Register 2023

A new call for nominations to the register was made in February 2023, with the last date to receive submissions being 15 September 2024. Successful nominations will be announced at the General Meeting in 2024.

The [MOWCAP register](#) is available on the [MOWCAP website](#) and nomination forms are included for the more recent inscriptions.

5 Changes to MOWCAP Register Sub-Committee and Bureau

The Register Subcommittee oversees the assessment of nominations for the Asia/Pacific Memory of the World Register and provides recommendations for their inscription or rejection at each MOWCAP meeting.

MOWCAP was pleased to welcome well known Pacific archivist, Opeta Alefaio, as a member of the MOWCAP Register Sub-Committee. Opeta brings his extensive knowledge of archival research and Pacific history to the deliberations of the Bureau.

In August 2022 Andrew Henderson resigned as MOWCAP Secretary-General and was replaced by Linh-Anh Moreau who is based in Bangkok. Andrew made a huge contribution to MOWCAP, and we are very grateful for his contribution.

6 MOWCAP-Asia Culture Centre Grants Programme

The Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC) based in Australia received a grant for the Digitisation of Reel-to-Reel/Cassette Recordings of Songs, Dances and Stories of Yap State.

PARADISEC is a digital archive of records of some of the many small cultures and languages of the world. The PARADISEC research group has developed models to ensure that the archive can provide access to interested communities and conforms with emerging international standards for digital archiving. The PARADESIC digital archive was inscribed on the Australian Memory of the World Register in 2013.

7 Communications

MOWCAP has a website, a Facebook page and an Instagram page where information on MOWCAP activities can be found. If you would like to receive a copy of the MOWCAP newsletter please send a request to mowcapinfo@gmail.com and we will add you to the contact list.

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