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Survey Summary Report: Malaysia

Hanafi Bin HUSSIN*

I. Introduction

For research on the literature of safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) programs or projects in Malaysia, I have selected the articles as safeguarding articles which met the criteria given in the UNESCO’s definition of safeguarding. Therefore, criteria to select articles was based on the characteristics and elements given in the definition of intangible heritage provided by UNESCO, i.e., (1) the criteria for the 1. Preservation (2) Documentation (3) Promotion (4) Protection (5) Performing Arts (6) Oral traditions (7) Social practices.

UNESCO’s definition of safeguarding is as follows:

“Safeguarding” means measures aimed at ensuring the viability of the intangible cultural heritage, including the identification, documentation, research, preservation, protection, promotion, enhancement, transmission, particularly through formal and non-formal education, as well as the revitalization of the various aspects of such heritage” (UNESCO’s Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, Article 2 (3))’.

This report presents the literature that according to the ICH UNESCO Convention on safeguarding has been before 2005 and implemented in 2016. Therefore, awareness of the Safeguarding of ICH started earlier, and awareness of it enhanced after UNESCO’s convention on the ICH ratified by Malaysia in 2013.

1-1. Background: Malaysia and the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH

The National Heritage Act (2005) (Act of 645) of Malaysia was a response to the UNESCO’s Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (CSICH); however, Malaysia ratified the CSICH in 2013. The NHA provides for the protection, conservation and preservation of national heritage, natural heritage, cultural heritage, tangible and intangible heritage, underwater cultural heritage and treasures, to include other matters pertinent thereof. The NHA repealed the

* Associate Professor, Department of South East Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, Malaysia