

SOUTH AFRICA

FOLKLORE

1. Traditional Cultural practices an important foundation for Community Identity and Social Cohesion.
2. This has implications for our constitution, particularly as it pertains to Customary Law, customary marriages are recognized by the constitution, but the Western notions seem to take precedence.
3. This is a complex matter, one way or the other, our inputs should take into account the position taken by Traditional Leaders on some of these issues. We need to be cautious about the implications of ratifying such a convention, as it opens up a seriously suppressed issue of the position of traditional leadership in the politics of this country.
4. The angle of human rights (-) this is critical, only traditional Cultural practices that are in line with human rights should be protected.
5. Individuals are an important element of protecting and promoting Traditional Cultural Expressions, there should be institutional incentives that encourage people to impart this knowledge to other members of the community.
6. Most Traditional Cultural Expressions transcended national boundaries, its protection should therefore be located both at community, National and Regional levels. This means that National policies and legislations should be aligned.

7. Traditional Cultural Expressions were basis of contemporary Cultural or art forms, where possible this needs to be highlighted. We need to guard against ghetonizing Traditional Cultural Expression.