

List of UNESCO Conferences, Meetings and Programmes from 2019 to 2022 that Singapore Participated in and/or Organised

Date	Event
Activities in 2022	
January & June	<p>Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore chaired two UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Preservation Sub-Committee meetings in January and June.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee is responsible for providing advice to the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of UNESCO MoW programme on matters relating to the selection, preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage in all its forms and its supporting technologies. Its principal task is to develop, regularly revise and promulgate information guides on the preservation of documentary heritage, and to offer advice on technical and preservation matters in response to specific enquiries from institutions or individuals. It plays an active role in supporting the global <u>Magnetic Tape Alert project</u>.</p>
23 February	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director (Heritage Research & Assessment)/National Heritage Board (NHB), attended the first UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Evaluation Body Meeting of 2022, which was held virtually.
17 March	NHB attended the virtual, working-level meeting on ichLinks' Archive Package Distribution.
25 March	NHB signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHCAP) to formalise our participation in ICHCAP's ichLinks data sharing platform for ICH. Under the MOU, NHB will contribute and share information on Singapore's diverse ICH to ichLinks' repository of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region.
25 – 26 April	NHB attended the virtual "Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group in the Framework of the Global Reflection on the Listing Mechanisms of the 2003 Convention (Part III)" held virtually.
31 May – 3 June	Emeritus Professor Lee Eng Hin, Singapore Bioethics Advisory Committee (BAC) Chair and Vice-Chairperson of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) (2022-2023) attended the UNESCO IBC Working Group Meeting in Paris, France, to discuss two new IBC reports on the "Lessons Learnt from the COVID-19 Pandemic" and the "Principle of Solidarity and Cooperation" and develop a preliminary draft to share with Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) member states and The World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), in preparation for the 29th Ordinary Session of the UNESCO IBC and Joint Session of the IBC and IGBC in September 2022.
June	The UNESCO MoW Preservation Sub-Committee, chaired by Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of

	Singapore, conducted a technical evaluation of 55 nominations from 41 countries for the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize 2022.
20 – 25 June	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director (Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the second UNESCO ICH Evaluation Body Meeting of 2022 held in Paris, France.
27 – 29 June	NHB attended the 3 rd ichLinks Executive Committee Meeting in Kuching, Malaysia, which was organised by ICHCAP in partnership with the Malaysia Arts & Cultural Practitioners Association.
1 July	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director (Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the fifth extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the ICH, held virtually, as rapporteur of the Evaluation Body.
5 – 7 July	Representatives from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and NHB attended the 9 th UNESCO ICH General Assembly held in Paris, France.
12 – 16 July	<p>Singapore hosted the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)'s Sea Level 2022 Conference. The WCRP is co-sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, the World Meteorological Organisation and the International Science Council.</p> <p>The 5-day conference was opened by Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Sustainability and the Environment, who also announced the launch of a new S\$23.5M Climate Impact Science Research Programme to be overseen by the Centre for Climate Research Singapore.</p>
July – November	MCCY was invited by UNESCO to join their Anti-Doping Convention Task Force on the Revision of the Regional Split of Governments' Funding of World Anti-Doping Agency in July 2022. MCCY subsequently participated in their Task Force meetings that were held in September and November 2022.
14 – 16 September	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director (Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the third UNESCO ICH Evaluation Body Meeting of 2022 held in Paris, France.
19 – 23 September	Emeritus Professor Lee Eng Hin, BAC Chair and Vice-Chairperson of the IBC (2022-2023); Mr Charles Lim, BAC member and Vice-Chairperson of the IGBC (2021-2023) and Ministry of Health (MOH) representatives attended the 29th Ordinary Session of the UNESCO IBC and Joint Session of the IBC and the IGBC held in Paris, France. The Joint Session provided an update on the UNESCO Bioethics and Ethics of Science Programme and the launch of IBC reports on "Ethical Issues of Neurotechnologies" and "Principle of Protecting Future Generations". IGBC also discussed preliminary draft reports of the IBC on the "Lessons Learnt from the COVID-19 Pandemic" and the "Principle of Solidarity and Cooperation".

1 – 3 November	MCCY and NHB officers, along with representatives from the <i>kebaya</i> community in Singapore, participated in a joint workshop hosted by Malaysia's Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and Department of National Heritage (<i>Jabatan Warisan Negara</i>), in Port Dickson, Malaysia. The <i>Kebaya</i> community and government representatives from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand discussed the cultural significance of <i>kebaya</i> and the information that would be included in the multinational nomination file.
11 November	Ms Chang Hwee Nee, Chief Executive/NHB, participated in ICHCAP's 2022 Governing Board meeting, which was held virtually. Ms Chang also accepted ICHCAP's invitation to serve a consecutive term on its Governing Board from January 2023 to December 2024.
28 November	NLB's Historical Asian Children's Literature collection was inscribed in the UNESCO Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)'s Regional Register.
28 November – 3 December	Representatives from MCCY, MFA and NHB attended the 17 th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the ICH of Humanity, held in Rabat, Morocco. Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director (Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the session as rapporteur of the ICH Evaluation Body for the 2022 cycle.
Activities in 2021	
9 January	Mr Jervais Choo, Deputy Director(Organisational Design and Innovation)/NHB, participated in the 2020 TechCul Online Ideathon as a jury member. Organised by the UNESCO Bangkok office and FOSSASIA, a non-profit organisation focusing on open-source software and hardware, the programme saw participants from 34 countries developing digital solutions to challenges in the culture and creative sector.
20 January	Ministry of Education (MOE) submitted Singapore's response to UNESCO's Survey "COVID-19: Reopening and reimagining Universities".
19 February	Four representatives from Early Childhood Development Agency attended UNESCO's International Mother Tongue Day webinar.
4 – 5 March	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director(Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the first UNESCO ICH Evaluation Body Meeting of 2021 (held virtually). As Singapore's first-ever representative on the 12-member Evaluation Body, Mr Yeo was involved in regular meetings with international counterparts on matters relating to the assessment and safeguarding of ICH elements under the purview of UNESCO.
8 March	Mr Mark Wee, Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council, participated in the award ceremony of the Human City Design Award (HCDA), organised by Seoul UNESCO Creative City

	of Design, as a member of the HCDA Steering Committee. Singapore architecture practice, LOOK Architects, was announced as one of ten shortlisted finalists.
16 March	Mr Lim Tit Meng, CE/Science Centre Board, attended the regional online meeting to discuss the future of Science and Technology Policy Asian Network (STEPAN), and presented Singapore's country report on monitoring and nurturing STEM talents in Singapore.
17 March	NHB responded to the follow-up questionnaire from UNESCO on its report titled "Museums around the world in the face of COVID-19", which was first published in May 2020.
22 March	SNC endorsed National University of Singapore (NUS) Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine's nomination of Research Associate Professor Alfredo Franco-Obregón for the UNESCO-Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences, for his project, Magnetic Mitohormesis Therapy for Sarcopenia, Osteopenia and Metabolic Imbalance in the Elderly.
25 March	NHB signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding with International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region, which covers professional exchanges and attachments, joint research and publications efforts, and joint organisation of conferences and other programmes on ICH.
30 March	MOE submitted Singapore's response to Phase III of the Survey on National Education Responses to COVID-19 School Closures, jointly conducted by UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank.
31 March	Mr Mark Wee, Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council gave an opening presentation on Singapore's best practices as a City of Design at a webinar titled "The UNESCO Creative Cities Network Channeling the Potential of South Asian Cities", at the invitation of UNESCO New Delhi Office.
April – June	Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) and Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) represented Singapore at the Intergovernmental Consultations on the draft Recommendation on the Ethics of AI. The delegation was headed by Assistant Chief Executive of IMDA Mr Yeong Zee Kin. The first set of meetings took place virtually from 26-30 April, while the second set of formal meetings took place from 21 – 25 June 2021. Given the length of the text and the slow pace of discussions at the first meeting, intersessional meetings were held between 1-11 June, as well as 16-18 June 2021.
29 April	SNC nominated the following projects for the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD): a) Core Undergraduate Course on "Sustainability: Seeking Through the Haze" by the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Singapore; b) Earth Observatory of Singapore ESD Programme by NTU; and c) Youth Environmental Envoy Programme by the Institute of Technical Education (ITE).

30 April	ITE and NTU submitted one and two entries respectively for the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development.
6 – 7 May	Mr Mark Wee, Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council presented DesignSingapore Council's "Good Design Research" initiative in the session titled "Creative Cities' responses to COVID-19 : leveraging the power of culture and creativity" of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) Online Meeting, which was held on 6 July, at the invitation of the UCCN Secretariat. Three other officers from DesignSingapore Council attended the two-day meeting titled "UNESCO Creative Cities: Build back better from COVID-19" which was held in place of the annual UCCN Meeting. The two-day event brought together 175 Creative Cities from 62 countries.
6 – 7, 10 – 12 May	National Research Foundation (NRF) nominated Prof Andrew Wee, Immediate Past President/Singapore National Academy of Science, and Mr Aaron Ng, Senior Legal Counsel/Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), to represent Singapore at Intergovernmental Special Committee Meeting of Experts related to the draft UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science. They supported the drafting and negotiations of the draft Recommendation which will be tabled for adoption at the 41 st UNESCO General Conference.
7 May	NHB representatives attended the virtual "UNESCO Online Meeting of Experts in the Framework of the Global Reflection on the Listing Mechanisms of the 2003 Convention (Part I)" where ICH experts discussed ways to improve the operationalisation of the 2003 Convention.
8 May	The Cities of Design held its first sub-network meeting for 2021 which saw 55 participants from 30 cities. Cities were invited to share projects that they felt had valuable lessons for others or projects that called for participation from other cities. Singapore shared our Call for Knowledge Partners for the "Good Design Research" initiative.
7 – 12 June	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director(Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the second UNESCO ICH Evaluation Body Meeting of 2021 (held virtually).
15 June	At the invitation of Arsip Nasional Republik Indonesia, Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore and Chair of UNESCO MoW Preservation Sub-Committee, presented at a webinar on "Audiovisual Archiving: From Analogue to Digital" to Indonesian archivists, librarians, public officers and academics. The webinar had over 500 online attendees and 12 thousand views. The webinar highlighted the urgency in digitising at-risk audiovisual heritage recorded on magnetic tape medium.
21 June	NHB participated in ichLinks, an online, integrated platform for sharing information on ICH at the invitation of ICHCAP. As a partner organisation for ichLinks, NHB will upload information and audio-visual material about Singapore's ICH elements and programmes on an ad-hoc basis.

8 July	NHB submitted the Periodic Report for the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting (2018 – 2024) on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention at the national and site level. The report was completed in collaboration with NParks, the site manager of Singapore Botanic Gardens. Periodic Reporting is one of the core conservation monitoring mechanisms of the World Heritage Convention. Implemented through six-year cycles, the process provides an assessment of the application of the convention in the management of World Heritage Sites.
8 – 9 July	NHB attended the virtual “Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group in the Framework of the Global Reflection on the Listing Mechanisms of the 2003 Convention (Part I)”. Representatives from States Parties discussed the recommendations and suggestions for improving the operationalisation of the 2003 Convention proposed by ICH experts.
9 July	MOE provided feedback on the summary report of the Asia and Pacific Regional Technical Consultation on Regional Benchmarks for SDG4 by UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS).
16 – 31 July	NHB attended the virtual Extended 44 th Session of the World Heritage Committee. The 44 th session was originally slated to be held in Fuzhou, China in 2020, but postponed to July 2021 and organised as an extended virtual session. Consul-General in Xiamen Nelson Ng represented Singapore at the opening ceremony for the 44 th session in Fuzhou on 16 July.
26 – 29 July	NHB and Dr Jack Lee, President/Singapore Heritage Society, participated in a virtual workshop on “Multi-National Nominations on ICH” for Southeast Asian countries. Organised by UNESCO and the International Training Centre for ICH in the Asia Pacific Region, the online workshop aimed to provide participants with a better understanding of multi-national ICH nominations and their requirements, and to facilitate networking between participants.
5 August	NRF Singapore submitted a report on Singapore’s efforts in implementing the Recommendation of Science and Scientific Researchers to UNESCO, as part of the first four-yearly reporting mechanism. The report highlighted the importance of science, research and innovation as critical enablers for Singapore’s development, the strong emphasis we placed on science, as well as the range of support provided to scientific researchers in their careers so that they could make a positive impact on the society and the world.
26 August	Science Centre Singapore attended the virtual seminar on Digitalisation of Museums around the world in the face of the pandemic – Asia and the Pacific experience through UNESCO Network, and delivered a talk on the digitalisation of science museums in the face of COVID-19.

30 – 31 August	NHB and ICHCAP co-organised a virtual symposium titled “The Role of Youths in Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage”. The symposium comprises (a) an open, public webinar session involving ICH experts, academics and practitioners; and (b) a closed-door, working-level discussion session between ICHCAP, government officials and stakeholders on regional ICH issues.
August	<p>Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore chaired UNESCO MoW Preservation Sub-Committee meeting.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee is responsible for providing advice to the IAC of UNESCO MoW programme on matters relating to the selection, preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage in all its forms and its supporting technologies. Its principal task is to develop, regularly revise and promulgate information guides on the preservation of documentary heritage, and to offer advice on technical and preservation matters in response to specific enquiries from institutions or individuals. It plays an active role in supporting the global <u>Magnetic Tape Alert project</u>.</p>
5 September	The outcomes of the UNESCO Policy Dialogue “Documentary Heritage at Risk: Policy gaps in digital preservation” held on 27 Oct 2020 are documented in a <u>report</u> issued on 5 September 2021 by the UNESCO MoW Preservation Sub-Committee, chaired by Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore.
14 – 17 September	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director (Heritage Research & Assessment)/NHB, attended the third UNESCO ICH Evaluation Body Meeting of 2021 (held virtually).
21 – 22 September	Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore presented virtually on “New Challenges in the Preservation of Documentary Heritage” at UNESCO 2 nd Memory of the World Global Policy Forum: Disaster Risk Reduction in Digital Preservation, 21-22 September 2021. The forum was attended by representatives of Member States.
21 October	The UNESCO MoW Preservation Sub-Committee, chaired by Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore, organised a <u>Panel on Digital Documentary Heritage: Securing Reliable and Sustainable Access</u> at the International Conference on Digital Preservation (iPRES2021). The panel discussed issues relating to the challenges in preservation and provision of long-term access to digital documentary heritage.
5 November	Ms Chang Hwee Nee, Chief Executive/NHB, participated in ICHCAP’s 2021 Governing Board meeting, which was held virtually.
8 – 14 November	Representatives from MCCY, MFA and NHB attended the 41 st UNESCO General Conference, held in Paris, France.
30 November	Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore presented on “New Challenges in the Preservation of Documentary Heritage” at the international conference on “Software

	Heritage, an Archive to Enable our Digital Future” organised by UNESCO MoW Programme and National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology, France. The conference brought together some 80 speakers and representatives from over 30 organisations, including private sector companies such as Microsoft, in the expanded network that supported the Software Heritage project. The project collects, preserves and makes available readily the source codes of all software ever written; and builds an essential infrastructure to support the digital preservation of cultural heritage, as well as to serve science, industry and society as a whole.
13 – 18 December	NHB attended the 16 th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which was held virtually.
Activities in 2020	
January – March	As part of Singapore’s commitment as a UNESCO Creative City for Design, DesignSingapore Council supported and contributed to the research efforts of Mr Hyon-il Mun, an officer from the Seoul Metropolitan Government, who was posted to Singapore for a period of several months to conduct research into design policy, the operations of the National Design Centre, and the procurement of design services in Singapore; as well as explore opportunities for collaboration between DesignSingapore Council and Seoul Design Foundation.
30 January	Ga Eun Ku, a designer based in Singapore, was awarded a Merit Award by the Shenzhen Design Award for Young Talents, for her project on public services for women. Shenzhen is a fellow UNESCO City of Design.
March	In March 2020, the IBC and COMEST worked together through email correspondences to develop the UNESCO IBC-COMEST guidelines on COVID-19. Prof Lee Eng Hin, as a member of the IBC for the 2020-2023 term, submitted his views on the protection of the vulnerable in the COVID-19 situation, and highlighted that research should not be carried out purely for financial gain, especially in vaccine development. These views were incorporated into the final statement issued by IBC-COMEST in April 2020.
24 April	A representative from MOE’s Planning Division attended UNESCO’s COVID-19 Educational Response Webinar “Back to school: Preparing and managing reopening of schools”.
7 May	MOE submitted Singapore’s response to Phase I of the Survey on National Education Responses to COVID-19 School Closures, jointly conducted by UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank.
12 May	Establishment of the UNESCO Chair on Architectural Heritage Conservation and Management in Asia within NUS. Professor Ho Puay Peng, Head of the Department of Architecture at NUS School of Design and Environment, was appointed as the Chairholder.

14 May	MOE provided links to “Nurture Early Learners”, as well as primary to pre-university syllabuses on MOE’s website for the comparative study by the International Bureau of Education on how countries articulated their competence-based curricula.
14 May	<p>Two representatives from MOE’s Research and Management Information Division attended the virtual regional meeting (for Asia) coordinated by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics.</p> <p>This was part of the series of regional virtual meetings with national and regional stakeholders in education statistics to discuss and learn about the main education data challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
15 May	Ms Yeo Piah Choo, Director(International Relations and Corporate Services)/DesignSingapore Council, participated in a virtual programme launch by the Indonesian Creative Cities Network, and presented Singapore’s design efforts in response to COVID-19. The GOH was the Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Wishnutama Kusubandio. The audience of 220+ comprised policymakers and community leaders.
19 May	Dr Tit Meng Lim, Chief Executive/Science Centre Board, was invited to speak at the UNESCO Webinar: Science to Enable and Empower Asia Pacific for COVID 19 Response. He spoke on how Science Centre Singapore offered science education engagement and created transmedia programmes to enable learning science at home.
20 May	<p>NHB participated in UNESCO’s survey on its draft medium-term strategy for 2022–2029 and the draft programme and budget for 2022–2025, with reference to the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Culture Heritage.</p> <p>The survey sought the strategic views and programmatic orientations that States Parties would like to propose for the implementation of the 2003 Convention during the 2022–2029 period.</p>
19 – 22 May	Prof Lee Eng Hin participated in virtual meetings of the IBC Working Groups to discuss the IBC’s Preliminary Draft Reports on “Principle of Protecting Future Generations” and “Ethical Issues of Neurotechnology”.
26 May	<p>NHB participated in UNESCO’s survey on “Living Heritage Experiences in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic”.</p> <p>The survey invited partners to contribute their experiences of living heritage in the context of the pandemic to UNESCO’s online platform, which could come in the form of write-ups, photographs and videos.</p> <p>NHB submitted write-ups and accompanying photographs of the Qing Ming Festival, Good Friday, Tamil New Year, Vesak Day and Ramadan.</p>

18 June	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director(Heritage and Research Assessment)/NHB, presented how communities in Singapore were able to adapt to the COVID-19 situation and continue with their ICH practices, and the role of ICH in contributing to social resilience at a webinar titled "Safeguarding of Intangible Culture Heritage and the COVID-19 in the Asia-Pacific Region". The webinar was co-organised by ICHCAP and the UNESCO Office in Bangkok.
13 – 15 July	DesignSingapore Council, represented by Ms Yeo Piah Choo and Ms Flora Toh, attended the Cities of Design Sub-network Virtual Convening. Singapore contributed to the Education and Policy Working groups by sharing Singapore's efforts in facing the pandemic in the areas of education and policy. STUCK Design, a local design agency, also presented their X-Hood innovation, which was a response to COVID-19, at a virtual panel discussion on "The Power of Design in Responding to Global Crisis & Affecting Change" that attracted over 1,700 viewers.
23 July	At the invitation of Cebu City of Design and the Philippines Department of Trade and Industry, Jacks Yeo, Deputy Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council, presented Singapore's efforts to help SMEs during COVID-19 at a webinar held as part of the Philippines' National MSME Week. Attendees included high-level UN and government officials, as well as SMEs in the Philippines.
23 – 24 July	Mr Yeong Zee Kin, Assistant Chief Executive (Data Innovation and Protection)/Personal Data and Protection Commission, participated in the Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on the Recommendation of Ethics of Artificial Intelligence.
30 July	MOE submitted Singapore's response to Phase II of the Survey on National Education Responses to COVID-19 School Closures, jointly conducted by UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank.
6 August	MOE provided inputs to UNESCO's write-ups on Singapore's profile on inclusive education for the online platform maintained by the Global Education Monitoring Report team.
26 August	A representative from MOE's Curriculum Planning and Development Division attended the 8th Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment for Asia and the Pacific.
2 September	Ms Chang Hwee Nee, Chief Executive/NHB, accepted ICHCAP's invitation to join their Governing Board for the term January 2021 to December 2022.
14 – 17 September	Prof Lee Eng Hin participated in virtual meetings of the IBC Working Groups to discuss the IBC's Preliminary Draft Reports on "Principle of Protecting Future Generations" and "Ethical Issues of Neurotechnology".
16 September	MOE contributed to the case study on Singapore in relation to safe school reopening and resurgence planning for UNESCO's COVID-19 Response Toolkit, available on UNESCO's website.

	Ms Amelia Tang, Divisional Director(HR Strategy and Leadership) and Ms Theodora Tan, Zonal Director (Schools), West, were the experts who shared MOE's COVID-19 management measures with UNESCO.
18 September	During the 3rd UNESCO Creative Cities Beijing Summit, Assistant-Director General for Culture of UNESCO, Mr Ernesto Ottone R., launched an e-publication titled 'UNESCO Creative Cities' Response to COVID-19'. The publication showcased good urban practices and innovative actions undertaken by Creative Cities around the world. Singapore, as a UNESCO City of Design, contributed to the publication via UNESCO's call in March 2020 to submit culture-led initiatives in response to COVID-19.
23 September	The Membership Monitoring Report submitted in December 2019 for Singapore's UNESCO Creative City of Design designation was evaluated by peer cities and the Network secretariat to be of a high standard, with an additional note that Singapore had delivered a high calibre body of work over its first four years as a member, and is a leader within the Cities of Design.
23 September	Singapore was awarded the UNESCO NetExplo Smart Cities Award 2020 for 'Zero Carbon Objective' in recognition of our achievements in smart cities, innovation and sustainable development. Singapore's Chief Negotiator for Climate Change Mr Joseph Teo contributed a video message for the NetExplo Smart Cities Forum to share Singapore's initiatives in climate change, sustainable development, and smart city.
30 September	At the invitation of DesignSingapore Council, Helsinki Chief Design Officer Hanna Harris participated in a webinar on designing for loveability. The webinar was organised as part of the National Design Centre's digital programming and DesignSingapore Council's Loveable Singapore research project.
5 – 7 October	DesignSingapore Council, represented by Ms Yeo Piah Choo and Ms Flora Toh, attended the Cities of Design Sub-network Virtual Convening organised by the cities of Graz and Saint-Etienne. Singapore contributed to the Business, Education and Policy Working groups by participating in knowledge exchange and joint initiatives. Tong Yee, Executive Director of Common Ground, participated in a virtual event on Social Design. Four DesignSingapore Council scholars based in the UK and US also participated in virtual networking dinners themed on the topics of Smart Cities, Social Design and Sustainable Cities.
12 October	Mr Cheah Horn Mun, Professor and Dean, College of Lifelong and Experiential Learning, Singapore University of Social Sciences, was one of the speakers in the breakout session on "National Distance Learning Strategies: Best Practices" at the online conference organised under the Mobile Learning Week.
September 2020 – April 2021	Ms Jean Wee, Director(Preservation of Sites and Monuments)/NHB, participated in the (bi-)weekly online training sessions for the periodic reporting exercise in Asia and the Pacific organised by the World Heritage Centre. The training sessions prepared National Focal

	Points in the region of Asia and the Pacific for the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting (2018 to 2024), and covered topics such as best practices in responding to the online questionnaire for periodic reporting.
22 October	<p>Three representatives from MOE's Planning Division and Research and Management Information Division attended the Asia-Pacific Consultation Meeting on SDG4 benchmarks.</p> <p>Senior Minister and Co-Chair of the Global Education Forum, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, participated in the High-Level Segment of the Global Education Meeting and expressed support for the 2020 Global Education Meeting Declaration.</p>
27 October	In partnership with the UNESCO Information for All Information Preservation Working Group, the Preservation Sub-Committee of the UNESCO MoW International Advisory Council chaired by Dr Phang Lai Tee, Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore, hosted the inaugural <u>UNESCO Virtual Policy Dialogue on Documentary Heritage At Risk: Policy Gaps in Digital Preservation</u> on 27 Oct 2020, UNESCO World Day for Audiovisual Heritage. More than 800 participants from around the world attended the two-session virtual event.
28 October	Mr Jacks Yeo, Deputy Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council, spoke at The Great ReCREATE Design Summit' on DesignSingapore Council's Good Design Research initiative. The event was on the theme, "Rethinking Tomorrow- Emerging Futures", and was part of Cebu Design Week, organised by a fellow UNESCO City of Design, Cebu.
30 October	Five entries were submitted by National Institute of Education, Singapore University of Technology and Design and Temasek Polytechnic for the Wenhui Award under the theme "Educational Innovation in Response to Pandemic and Other Emergencies".
17 November	A representative from the Higher Education Planning Office attended the virtual launch of the Portal for the Asia-Pacific Network of National Information Centres.
19 November	The Institute for Adult Learning completed the survey for the fifth Global Report on Adult Learning and Education.
19 – 20 November	Ms Jean Wee, Director(Preservation of Sites and Monuments)/NHB, made a presentation on the impact of COVID-19 on Singapore's work in managing sites and monuments at the 2020 HeritAP webinar. Organised by WHITRAP (World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO), the theme of the webinar was "Impact of COVID-19 on World Cultural Heritage Sites and Moving Forward".
8 – 9 December	Two representatives from MOE's Research and Management Information Division attended the Regional Training Webinar on UIS' Survey on Formal Education.

14 – 19 December	<p>Representatives from MCCY, MFA and NHB attended 15th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which was held virtually.</p> <p>Hawker Culture in Singapore was successfully inscribed as Singapore’s first element on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity.</p> <p>Mr Yeo Kirk Siang, Director(Heritage Research and Assessment)/ NHB was elected to the Evaluation Body (2021-2024) by UNESCO’s 15th Intergovernmental Committee (IGC) for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.</p>
15 December	<p>Representatives from MCCY attended the Virtual Regional Consultations dedicated to the draft Operational Guidelines and the Framework of Consequences for non-compliance with the UNESCO International Convention Against Doping in Sport.</p>
Activities in 2019	
31 January – 1 February	<p>Chief District Judge (Ret.) Richard Magnus, Chairman of Singapore’s BAC, participated in an IBC Working Group meeting in Rome, Italy, to draft the IBC report on “The Principle of Individual Responsibility as Related to Health”.</p>
7 – 11 February	<p>Science Centre Singapore celebrated International Day of Women and Girls in Science by running DiscovHER, an educational trail.</p> <p>This was part of a global effort to support and promote women and girls in their participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).</p>
18 – 19 February	<p>Chief District Judge (Ret.) Richard Magnus, Chairman of Singapore’s BAC, participated in an IBC Working Group meeting in Paris, France, to draft the IBC report on “Parenthood and ART”.</p>
19 February – 14 April	<p>To prototype design solutions for Detroit neighbourhoods that address safety and walkability, the Detroit Core District organised the inaugural edition of the Detroit City of Design Competition which was open to all designers from the UNESCO Creative Cities of Design. Dr Erwin Viray, Head of Pillar for Architecture and Sustainable Design at the Singapore University of Technology and Design, represented Singapore as a juror in selecting the three winners from the 26 submissions. These were unveiled in downtown Detroit during the city’s month of design in September before being moved to their respective neighbourhoods in April 2020.</p>
4 – 17 March	<p>DesignSingapore Council invited the other 30 Creative Cities of Design (CODs) for a Visit Programme and to participate in the Creative Cities of Design Public Forum in Singapore. In total, DesignSingapore Council hosted 33 delegates from 15 CODs. DesignSingapore Council also presented the UNESCO Creative Cities of Design Showcase at the International Furniture Fair Singapore (IFFS) 2019, which showcased various CODs efforts in developing systems for Urban Living.</p>

	<p>Following the event, DesignSingapore Council produced a publication and post-event video to document the Visit Programme and Public Forum to raise awareness of Singapore as a UNESCO Creative City of Design, promote fellow member Cities of Design and showcase the visit programme as a platform hosted by Singapore for the delegates to network with design and design-related organisations and talents. The publication and video were shared with other cities in June at the Annual Meeting in Fabriano, as well as local stakeholders.</p>
25 – 28 March 2019	<p>NHB attended the International Conference on Management and Protection of World Cultural and National Heritage towards Sustainable Development, organised by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning in Bangkok and Ayutthaya, Thailand.</p>
27 March	<p>Singapore officially submitted its nomination to inscribe Hawker Culture in Singapore on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The nomination documents were jointly submitted by the three organisations co-driving the UNESCO nomination bid, namely NHB, National Environment Agency, and The Federation of Merchants' Associations, Singapore.</p>
2 – 3 May	<p>Ms Emily Ong, Deputy Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council, was one of 11 speakers from around the world to share her experience in managing creative hubs and design eco-systems at the Connecti:City Conference — International Conference on Creative Economy, organised by Bandung Creative City Forum. She was part of a three-member Singapore delegation led by Mr Mark Wee, Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council. The conference was an opportunity to meet with key industry stakeholders in Bandung and West Java, including design associations, creative hubs, and design festival organisers to get a better understanding of the Indonesian design eco-system.</p>
11 May – 9 June	<p>As part of the Design Month Graz, Singapore design label Supermama showcased its One Singapore 2019 ceramic blue plate alongside some 120 products from seven UNESCO Creative Cities of Design at the World Wide Things Collection exhibition. This was the second edition of a project developed by Cities of Design Montréal and Graz which facilitated the exchange of ideas, designs and best practices within the UNESCO Creative Cities Network.</p>
16 – 18 May	<p>An MOE delegation led by Mr Aaron Loh, Divisional Director(Educational Technology), attended the UNESCO International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Beijing.</p>
18 May	<p>Temasek Polytechnic accepted as a member of the UNEVOC (UNESCO and VOCational education) Network</p> <p>The UNEVOC Centre aims to contribute to the improvement in the standards and quality of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in their respective countries. Together with national TVET institutions from other countries, and with support from the UNEVOC Network, the UNEVOC Centre provides a platform for</p>

	exchange of best practices among TVET officials, teachers, and stakeholders in the country.
6 – 7 June	<p>Mr Charles Lim (BAC member and Rapporteur to the IGBC for 2018-2019) led a delegation to attend the 11th Session of the IGBC in Paris, France.</p> <p>The main agenda item of the session was to examine the IBC's draft reports on "The Principle of Individual Responsibility as Related to Health" and "Assisted Reproductive Technologies and Parenthood", and to update the IGBC on COMEST's Preliminary Study on the "Ethics of Artificial Intelligence".</p> <p>The session also discussed the Preliminary Work Programme of the IBC for 2020-2021 and follow-ups to the Recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO as related to the IGBC.</p>
9 – 13 June	<p>DesignSingapore Council, represented by Emily Ong (Deputy Executive Director), Jenny Chua (Deputy Director) and Joanne the (Senior Assistant Director), attended the 13th Annual Meeting of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network hosted by Fabriano (Italy), a Creative City of Crafts and Folk Arts.</p> <p>During the Annual Meeting, Fabriano organised cultural events, discussions, seminars, meetings as well as opportunities to share opinions and ideas inside the Pavilions of Creativity, which were set up in the heart of the city centre, and in the main cities of the Marche region. International representatives exchanged knowledge, experiences and visions, highlighting the important role design plays as a catalyst in the transformation of cities towards creative and sustainable living spaces for their citizens.</p>
20 – 28 June	<p>MOE sent two representatives from the Curriculum Planning and Development Division to attend the 19th Asia-Pacific Training Workshop on Education for International Understanding (EIU) in Seoul and Inje, Republic of Korea.</p> <p>The workshop's overarching goal was to strengthen understanding of the concrete concepts and issues of EIU and Global Citizenship Education (GCED), with the purpose of enhancing the participants' training expertise.</p>
20 – 21 June	<p>Prof Lee Wing On, Executive Director/Institute of Adult Learning under the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) gave a lecture on "From 21st Century Competences to Global Citizenship and Global Competences" at the invitation of the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding in the Republic of Korea.</p> <p>Prof Lee also had two consultation meetings with the Centre and did two video interviews on the topics related to concepts of global citizenship and its pedagogies.</p>
1 – 2 July	The Institute of Adult Learning Singapore (IAL) co-organised the symposium and the International Expert Roundtable on Lifelong

	<p>Learning with the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) at the Lifelong Learning Institute, Singapore.</p> <p>Prof Lee Wing On, Executive Director/IAL, delivered the opening address and was a panel speaker at the symposium, while Principal Researcher of IAL, Mr Sheng Yee Zher, was a speaker at the roundtable session on “Current Initiatives to Evaluate and Monitor Lifelong Learning”.</p>
2 – 3 July	<p>Prof Lee Wing On, Executive Director/Institute for Adult Learning Singapore, participated in the UNESCO 2019 Forum on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship as an Expert Evaluator/Reviewer. The Forum was held at the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam, Hanoi.</p>
2 – 7 July	<p>Chief District Judge (Ret.) Richard Magnus, Chairman of Singapore’s BAC, participated as a member and Vice-Chair of the IBC in the 26th session of the IBC held in Bangkok, Thailand.</p> <p>The session was held in conjunction with a Conference on the Ethics of Science & Technology and Sustainable Development organised by Thailand’s Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation.</p> <p>The session discussed the IBC’s draft reports on “The Principle of Individual Responsibility as Related to Health” and “Parenthood and ART”, and also deliberated on the future work programme of the IBC for 2020-2021.</p>
4 July	<p>Prof Lee Wing On, Executive Director/Institute for Adult Learning Singapore gave a speech on “Educational Strategic Development” at the International Conference on Strategic Planning in Education Development, organised by UNESCO in association with Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO, Hanoi.</p>
8 July – 6 August	<p>Mark Wee, Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council represented Singapore in the steering committee for the inaugural Human City Design Award at the invitation of the Seoul Design Foundation. The award recognised projects that contribute to a more harmonious and sustainable relationship between people and people, people and society, and people and the environment. He shared DesignSingapore Council’s experience with giving awards and also learnt about sustainability and impact in design.</p> <p>The winner was announced in September 2019 during the Seoul Design Week. Amongst the 10 finalists for the award was also a project from Singapore, Wellness Kampung, an initiative by the Alexandra Health Systems to address healthcare issues by creating a network of three wellness and care centres where residents inspire one another to adopt healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>As a member of the steering committee, Mr Wee made a presentation during the award ceremony on Singapore’s vision of a loveable city by design.</p>

22 July	Huamin Primary School participated in UNESCO's survey on intangible cultural heritage.
23 – 26 July	Mr Sheng Yee Zher, Principal Researcher/Institute for Adult Learning Singapore, participated at the International Consultative Meeting on Lifelong Learning Policies in Chengdu, China.
August	Dr Phang Lai Tee, Deputy Director/National Archives of Singapore assumed leadership as Chair of UNESCO MoW Preservation Sub-Committee of the International Advisory Committee. The Sub-Committee consists of members from Europe, North America, Central America, Australia and Asia.
31 August – 30 September	Singapore submitted six projects for the Detroit Design 139 Exhibition, in response to Detroit's call for submissions from the UNESCO Cities of Design. The exhibition, which was presented in downtown Detroit as well as several satellite locations in suburban areas, explored the design of inclusive neighbourhoods, housing, public spaces, economy and city systems. Three projects from Singapore were selected for the exhibition by a jury — Kampung Admiralty by WOHA Architects, Who Cares? Transforming the Caregiving Experience in Singapore by The Care Lab and the National Council for Social Services and The Caterpillar's Cove Child Development and Study Centre by Lekker Architects.
17 – 20 September	<p>Ms Yeo Piah Choo, Director (International Relations & Corporate Relations) and Ms Flora Toh, Assistant Manager (International Relations) represented DesignSingapore Council at the UNESCO Creative Cities of Design Sub-Network meeting in Detroit, which was organised alongside Detroit's Month of Design.</p> <p>As part of a panel at the Detroit Homecoming event on 20 September, Ms Yeo shared with an audience of returning Detroit expats on how Singapore benefited from its membership of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network – in particular how Singapore's relationship with other cities created opportunities for Singapore designers to profile and showcase their work, and also for Singapore to learn from the experiences of fellow cities invested in design. Detroit Homecoming is an event that reconnected Detroit expats with their hometown by providing news, events, and opportunities to live, work, or invest in Detroit.</p>
19 – 20 September	MOE's representative from the Higher Education Policy Division attended the 2 nd Tokyo Convention Committee Meeting and Regional Workshop on Launching the Asia-Pacific in Bangkok.
1 – 3 October	Prof Lee Wing On, Executive Director/ Institute for Adult Learning Singapore, gave a plenary speech on "Monitoring Mechanism of Lifelong Learning in Singapore" at the 4 th International Conference on Learning Cities at Medellin Columbia.
9 – 10 October	Jeremy Sun, design director of design and innovation consultancy firm Orcadesign represented Singapore at an International Forum as part of Torino Design of the City 2019. He shared how Singapore's involvement in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network gave local designers an opportunity to be part of a global network. As a

	<p>participant of DesignSingapore Council's Business of Design programme, which helped designers grow their brand internationally, Jeremy also met with businesses and the Chamber of Commerce in Torino.</p>
9 – 11 October	<p>Mr Neelesh J. Bhatia, Centre Director of the Entrepreneurship Centre from Singapore Polytechnic attended the 8th UNESCO International Conference on Entrepreneurship Education, held in Hangzhou, China.</p>
21 October	<p>UNESCO gave approval for NUS to set up a UNESCO Chair for Architectural Heritage Conservation and Management in Asia</p>
21 – 23 October	<p>MOE sent two representatives from the Character Citizenship and Education Branch and Humanities Branch to participate in the Regional Workshop on Global Citizenship Education in Southeast Asia, organised by the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) Secretariat in collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding under the Auspices of UNESCO in Bangkok, Thailand.</p>
23 – 26 October	<p>The Adelaide Festival Centre brought together delegates and speakers representing Australia, the Asia-Pacific, and the UNESCO Creative Cities Network to discuss how to strengthen the exchange of best practices, deepen collaboration and highlight the cultural leadership of the region across the creative cities.</p> <p>Presenting as part of the opening panel, Executive Director/DesignSingapore Council, Mark Wee exchanged insights with fellow panellists on promoting cultural and creative sector development, employment, trade and investment within the region. He also co-chaired a networking session with Good Design Australia to discuss how to measure the value of design and explore the possibility of a standardised design measurement index. The session was attended by representatives from fellow Cities of Design – Beijing, Seoul, Shenzhen, Bandung and Geelong, as well as representatives from other Creative Cities in the Asia Pacific.</p>
29 – 31 October	<p>A representative from Anti-Doping Singapore attended the 7th Conference of Parties for the UNESCO International Convention Against Doping in Sport, which was held in Paris.</p>
30 – 31 October	<p>NHB organised its second Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) symposium "ICH in Cities: Multiculturalism, Social Cohesion and Sustainability" at the Asian Civilisations Museum in Singapore.</p> <p>The two-day symposium brought together International ICH experts, NGOs, ICH associations and practitioners, heritage groups and enthusiasts, academics, researchers and students. The objectives of the ICH symposium were to promote the sharing of international best practices in safeguarding and promoting ICH in cities, facilitate networking and relationship building among ICH experts from different parts of the world, and contribute to capacity building in the field of ICH in Singapore and the wider region.</p>

1 November	Two nominations from the National Institute of Education were submitted for the 2019 UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize on the theme “The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to innovate education, learning and teaching”.
12 – 27 November	40 th UNESCO General Conference, Paris, France
6 December	Mr Raul Valdes-Cotera, Programme Coordinator from the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning was the keynote speaker for IAL’s Lifelong Learning Conference 2019, held at SUSS Campus.
8 – 14 December	Representatives from MCCY, NHB, and MFA attended the 14 th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, Bogota, Colombia