



PRESS RELEASE

Installation of the Commission on the Safeguards of the National Heritage Declaration of Artisanal Fishing Sailing Vessels of Cabo Blanco and El Ñuro (Peru)

Through the Vice-Ministerial Resolution No. 117-2018-VMPCIC-MC of July 31, 2018, the Ministry of Culture declared the traditions of artisanal sailing vessels of Cabo Blanco and El Ñuro as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Peru. To ensure that this heritage is preserved over time, the Regional Government of Piura issued Regional Ordinance 438-2018 / GRP-CR of December 20, 2018, which approves the creation of the Technical Commission for the implementation of the Safeguards Plan of "The Traditional Knowledge and Practices associated with Sailing and Fishing in Artisanal Sailing Boats in the Cabo Blanco and El Ñuro fishing villages".

On April 30, 2019, the installation ceremony of the safeguard committee established by the Regional Ordinance was held in the auditorium of the Regional Government of Piura.

This ceremony was attended by the Director of the regional Office of Culture of Piura, representatives of the Regional Government of Piura (Social & Development and Economic Committees), representatives of the Regional Directorate of Tourism, the Maritime Authority (Peruvian Navy Coastguard), the Peruvian Fisheries Institute (Imarpe), as well as representatives of the artisanal fishing Unions of el Ñuro and Cabo Blanco, the NGOs that have worked together with fishermen to promote this Declaration of National Heritage and representatives of different public and private institutions of Piura.



The representative of the Ministry of Culture mentioned that expressions of Intangible Cultural Heritage play a very important role in society because they give the communities that practice those traditions a sense of identity and continuity. These expressions are part of our everyday culture that not only characterizes the essence of a community but are also vulnerable to changes that occur in the social, economic and cultural context, which is why they must be preserved over time.

In this context, the Ministry of Culture is responsible in declaring these cultural expressions that become the material and intangible cultural heritage of the nation and to promote the arduous task of maintaining these expressions from generation to generation.

During the installation ceremony of the Commission, the presidents of the fishermen's Unions addressed the audience.

Mr. Carlos Chapilliquen of the Cabo Blanco Union began his speech by thanking God for that moment, mentioning the importance of working for a sustainable fishery. He said that the sail regattas they did every year in Cabo Blanco became a tradition on the celebration of the religious day of St Peter the patron of fishermen (June 29th). This activity marked something very important and today they have realized the potential to promote this traditional sailing contest. He thanked the work done by H2Oceanos and other friends in Lima such as Stefano Camaiora, Inka Terra, former deputy minister Hector Soldi, Nina Pardo and others who supported their traditional artisanal fishery, which has been passed down from generation to generation. They are now committed to preserve this declared National Heritage but highlighted the very important role that the state must play accompanying them in this task.

He also highlighted the recent history of Cabo Blanco that attracted personalities from around the world who came to this town for the big marlins and Bluefin tuna sports fishery and the tourist potential of this historic fishing village. He mentioned that the Safeguard Plan will open many paths, highlighting that the Peruvian northern seascape has been declared a place of hope worldwide (Hope Spot) so "we must all work together to preserve this beautiful sea that God has given us, the richest sea in the world, and we must take care of it".

Next, Mr. Bernardino Panta, President of artisanal fishermen Union of el Ñuro, also thanked God for always having something to contribute to their communities. He stressed the importance of the Commission that has been installed on this date, so that it continues to support not only Cabo Blanco and the Ñuro, but also the community of its brothers from Talara, which also has sailboats, always aiming at sustainable fishing. He mentioned the importance of promoting a tourist circuit uniting these communities through traditions such as sailing and fishing during the traditional sail regattas that are held year after year.

After these words, the Safeguard Commission was installed:

The Presidency and the Technical Secretariat of the Commission were put to the vote. The Chair of the commission fell to the Decentralized Directorate of Culture of Piura, and the Technical Secretary to the non-governmental organization H2Oceanos, in recognition of their efforts in supporting these communities in the Heritage Declaration and in the annual regattas that preserve this tradition.

The Presidency and the Technical Secretariat will promote a future meeting of the Commission to prepare and approve the Work Plan.