Established in June 2004, China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture (CAPDTC) is a non-governmental organization of Chinese and foreigners who care about the protection and development of Tibetan culture. Its purpose is to unite related Chinese and international organizations and individuals to protect and develop Tibetan culture, safeguard human rights, and promote the unity, harmony and mutual prosperity among all ethnic groups in Tibet. Its major tasks include:

- study the history, current situation and development of Tibet, thereby proposing related suggestions to the government as well as economic and social organizations;
- hold exhibitions and symposiums on Tibetan culture in China and elsewhere;
- attend the UN Commission on Human Rights, and conferences and meetings held by the UN;
- organize overseas trips for Tibetologists and Tibetan art troupes, and invite foreign friends to Tibet;
- assist, organize and promote Chinese and foreign organizations and enterprises to invest in or train talents for Tibetan cultural protection projects;
- raise funds legally from both home and abroad for Tibetan cultural protection projects;
- provide consulting services on Tibetan culture.

In July 2007, the Association was granted the special consultative status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).