INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY
OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

Tenth Ordinary Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
12 - 15 December 2016

DECISIONS
**Item 1 of the Agenda**: Adoption of the Agenda

**Decision 10.IGC 1**

*The Committee,*

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/1REV;
2. Adopts the agenda of the session contained in the above-mentioned document.

**Item 2 of the Agenda**: Approval of the list of Observers

**Decision 10.IGC 2**

*The Committee,*

1. Having examined the list of Observers;
2. Approves the list of Observers.

**Item 3 of the Agenda**: Adoption of the detailed summary record of the ninth ordinary session of the Committee

**Decision 10.IGC 3**

*The Committee,*

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/3 and its Annex;
2. Adopts the detailed summary record of the ninth ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions included in the above-mentioned document, as amended.
Item 4 of the Agenda: Secretariat’s report on its activities in 2016

Decision 10.IGC 4

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/4 and its Annexes as well as Information Documents DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.3, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.4, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.6, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.7, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.8, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.9 and DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.10;

2. Takes note and underscores the quality of the Secretariat’s report on its activities for the period 2016 and congratulates it for its work;

3. Invites each Party to determine the most appropriate mechanisms to support the activities carried out by the Secretariat at Headquarters and in the Field Offices identified in the Programme 38 C/5 and the Resolutions of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties for the implementation of the Convention at the country level;

4. Encourages Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources for the Secretariat’s capacity-development programme and implementation of the Knowledge Management System, and to support the reinforcement of the Secretariat by the appointment of an Associate Expert or a secondee with experience in the implementation of the Convention;

5. Requests the Secretariat to present, at its eleventh ordinary session, a report on its activities for the 2016-2017 Biennium.

Item 5 of the Agenda: Secretariat’s report on the follow-up to the Recommendations of the External Auditor’s “Report on the governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes and entities”

Decision 10.IGC 5

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/5 and its Annex and Information Document DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.7;

2. Recalling Resolution 5.CP 14 paragraph 4 of the Conference of Parties, its Decisions 7.IGC 13 and 8.IGC 6, as well as Resolution 38 C/101 of the General Conference;

3. Also recalling the audit of the working methods of cultural conventions and the evaluation of UNESCO’s standard-setting work in the Culture Sector by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS);

4. Notes with satisfaction the work carried out to improve and streamline the working methods of the 2005 Convention’s governing bodies;

5. Takes note of the status report on the follow-up to the recommendations of the audit on the governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes and entities;

6. Requests the Secretariat to transmit Document DCE/16/10.IGC/5 and Decision 10.IGC 5 to the Chairperson of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies;

7. Suggests the Conference of Parties include in its agenda, in its sixth session in June 2017, an item on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies.
**Item 6 of the Agenda:** Report on the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention

**Decision 10.IGC 6**

The Committee,

1. **Having examined** Document DCE/16/10.IGC/6;

2. **Recalling** its Decisions 1.IGC 5C, 1.EXT.IGC 5, 5.IGC 4, 8.IGC 7a, 9.IGC 9 and Conference of Parties’ Resolutions 2.CP 7 and 4.CP 13;

3. **Invites** the Parties, the Secretariat and civil society organizations to continue developing and exchanging on mechanisms to strengthen the participation of civil society organizations in the implementation of the Convention, including the organization of a biennial forum preceding sessions of the Conference of Parties;

4. **Encourages** the Parties to support, financially or otherwise, the increased participation of civil society and their organizations in the meetings of the governing bodies;

5. **Requests** the Secretariat to continue its work with civil society representatives to develop and implement indicators to better measure the involvement and the range of civil society engagement in the implementation of the Convention and report back to the Committee;

6. **Also requests** the Secretariat to include an item on the agenda of its eleventh ordinary session concerning the role of civil society organizations in the implementation of the Convention, and **invites** civil society organizations to present a report (orally and/or written) on the activities carried out in 2017, and submit it to the Secretariat by 30 September 2017;

7. **Further requests** the Secretariat to organize a working session between civil society representatives and the Bureau prior to each of the sessions of the governing bodies.
Item 7 of the Agenda: Preliminary draft operational guidelines on the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment

Decision 10.IGC 7

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/7 and its Annex, as well as Information Document DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.4;

2. Recalling Resolutions 5.CP 12, paragraph 3, 5.CP 14, paragraph 4 and 4.CP 13, paragraph 6, of the Conference of Parties, as well as its Decisions 6.IGC 17, paragraph 5, 7.IGC 5, paragraph 7, 7.IGC 13, paragraphs 3 and 7, 8.IGC 12, paragraph 7, and 9.IGC 7;

3. Adopts the draft operational guidelines on the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment, annexed to this Decision;

4. Commends the Secretariat for the excellent work in elaborating the draft operational guidelines and facilitating debates between Parties and the civil society;

5. Requests the Secretariat to submit the draft operational guidelines on the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment to the Conference of Parties for approval at its sixth ordinary session in June 2017.

ANNEX TO DECISION 10.IGC 7

Draft operational guidelines on the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment

General considerations

1. These guidelines provide a strategic framework for understanding, interpreting and implementing the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in a digital environment where cultural goods and services are created, produced, distributed, disseminated, consumed and/or stored electronically. These goods and services transmit cultural expressions through, for example, a computer program, a network, a text, a video, an image or an audio recording and are distributed through constantly evolving digitally-encoded platforms.

2. The distinctive nature of cultural activities, goods and services as vehicles of identity, values and meaning does not change in the digital environment. Consequently, the recognition of the dual nature of cultural goods and services (cultural and economic) is also applicable to cultural expressions in the digital environment or those produced with digital tools.

3. Protecting and promoting human rights and the freedom of creation, expression, information and communication in the digital environment means supporting the principles of Internet universality that promote a Human Rights-based open Internet, which is accessible to all and characterized by multi-stakeholder participation.

4. There are significant differences in the rate at which digital technologies are adopted and accessed around the world. The resulting digital divide exists between and within countries and between women and men as well as urban and rural areas, in both developed and developing countries. This has an impact on the way in which cultural goods and services are created, produced, distributed and accessed in the digital environment.
5. The accelerated expansion of social networks and user generated content (UGC), the explosion of data, the complexity of distribution models, and the proliferation of connected multimedia devices in the hands of the users have had a huge impact on the creative sector in all parts of the world. Technological changes have also led to the emergence of new players and new logics, and will continue to provide new challenges and opportunities to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and, in particular, to design relevant public policies.

6. Recalling that technological neutrality is affirmed as a principle in the Convention, these guidelines shall be interpreted and applied in relation to the Convention as a whole, thus promoting a transversal approach to the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment. They complement all relevant provisions of the Convention and existing guidelines that refer to digital issues and new information and communication technologies.

7. All stakeholders are encouraged to respect and promote the Convention and these guidelines, which are interlinked with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030) and the United Nations Guiding Principles on businesses and human rights, as well as international human rights instruments and principles. They primarily address public authorities. Non-governmental organizations, cultural and creative industries from the public and private sectors, including global digital platforms, Internet service providers (ISP) and other actors in the digital environment, are also encouraged to follow them.

Guiding Principles

8. Complementing the goals and principles set out in Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention, these guidelines aim to:

8.1 reaffirm the Convention’s principle of technological neutrality;

8.2 reaffirm the recognition of the dual nature (cultural and economic) of cultural goods and services, whatever the means and technologies used;

8.3 encourage the use of digital tools and provide for digital competencies through education programmes;

8.4 reaffirm the Parties’ sovereign right to formulate, to adopt and to implement policies and measures for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment;

8.5 safeguard, following the principle of Internet neutrality, equal and non-discriminatory treatment of data traffic in the provision of Internet access services and related end-users’ rights (in order to prevent data traffic management practices which block or slow down specific applications that could affect the circulation of local cultural goods and services);

8.6 promote equitable access and balance in the flow of cultural goods and services in the digital environment, in particular through the application of preferential treatment provisions for works created or produced by artists and cultural professionals, enterprises and independent organizations from developing countries;

8.7 recognize the complementarity of economic, educational, and cultural aspects of sustainable development in national digital strategies as well as within international assistance programmes that support digital programmes and projects;

8.8 promote international cooperation for development to enable greater and more affordable access to digital technologies, to develop related skills and competencies and to support mechanisms that are required for the emergence of dynamic cultural and creative industries in the digital environment;
8.9 promote respect for fundamental freedoms of expression, information and communication and for privacy and other human rights as pre-requisites for the creation, distribution and access to diverse cultural expressions. This includes promoting artistic freedom as a corollary to freedom of expression, the social and economic rights of authors and artists working in the digital environment and connectivity of all partners to partners with those of their choice;

8.10 promote respect for human rights in the digital environment, including gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through support for their participation in the cultural and creative industries as creators, producers and consumers of cultural expressions in the digital environment;

8.11 affirm that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, in particular freedom of expression, which is applicable regardless of frontiers and through any media of one’s choice, in accordance with Articles 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Parties strengthen systems of governance for culture in the digital environment

9. Pursuant to Articles 5, 6, and 7 of the Convention and to these guidelines, Parties shall aim to adopt or update existing policies and measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment paying due attention to the special circumstances and needs of women as well as various social groups.

10. These policies and measures shall aim to address all areas - creation, production, distribution, dissemination, as well as access and enjoyment - taking into account the profound changes to the value chain and the arrival of new actors.

11. Parties are invited to update their legislative and regulatory frameworks for public service, private and community media as well as independent media organizations to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and the diversity of media in the digital environment, taking into account the increasing convergence of operations across the value chain.

12. Parties are encouraged to strengthen the level of digital competencies of the cultural sector and the general public, and to promote know-how and skills needed to fully participate in the ongoing changes to the creation, production, distribution, dissemination and access to diverse cultural expressions in the digital environment.

13. Parties are encouraged to establish interministerial groups on digital issues that would bring together representatives of relevant Ministries and institutions (including those responsible for culture, research, trade, industry, telecommunications and education), and involve the Convention's contact point and civil society representatives in their work.

14. At the stage of creation, Parties shall aim to support new forms of creativity in the digital environment, including artistic practices that are interactive and occur in real-time. This may include national, regional or local policies and programmes and funding schemes that:

14.1 provide direct support to artists and other cultural professionals working with digital tools;

14.2 contribute to creation and to the fair remuneration of creators and performers;

14.3 establish new training programmes and education curricula for artists and other cultural professionals in the use of digital technologies to deepen their knowledge and skills for improved participation in a digital environment;

14.4 provide spaces dedicated to digital creativity and innovation that enable artistic experimentation and collaboration such as incubators and laboratories, artist residences and centres that promote international cooperation through networking activities;
14.5 promote cooperation among artists, educational and cultural professionals working in the cultural and creative industries, with actors in the digital environment, including designers, programmers, engineers and scientists;

14.6 recognize and value the work of creators in the digital environment, by promoting:

- equitable and fair remuneration for artists and cultural professionals;
- transparency in the distribution of income between digital distributors, Internet service providers (ISP) and rights holders as well as and among rights holders;
- access to necessary bandwidth;
- respect for and protection of intellectual property rights, allowing for collective management, if applicable, and for collective bargaining of digital rights; and
- electronic legal deposit systems to document and archive their works.

15. At the stage of **production**, Parties shall aim to support the modernization of the cultural and creative industries. Measures relating to the production of cultural expressions in the digital environment should aim to:

15.1 promote digitization and the incorporation of technological tools into the cultural and creative industries' production processes, in particular among micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and civil society organizations;

15.2 provide support to cultural entrepreneurs, civil society organizations, local production companies or incubators wishing to expand their activities in the digital environment;

15.3 promote new forms of financing for cultural and creative industries in the digital environment and encourage new types of partnerships between the public and private sectors in the digital environment;

15.4 recognize the role played by artists using digital technologies in research and development, which is a benefit to society and produces new and different communication tools.

16. At the stage of **distribution/dissemination**, Parties shall aim to support and provide opportunities for works to be distributed in the digital environment as well as promote and consolidate the development of emerging and local digital markets. Measures at this stage of the value chain should aim to:

16.1 encourage the diversity of digital media including the multiplicity of digital distributors of cultural goods and services and digital actors (online platforms, Internet service providers (ISP), search engines, social networks), while also ensuring visibility and discoverability of national and local cultural content;

16.2 promote dialogue between private operators and public authorities in order to encourage greater transparency in the collection and use of data that generates algorithms, and encourage the creation of algorithms that ensure a greater diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment and promote the presence and availability of local cultural works;

16.3 work toward the standardisation and interoperability of electronic communications networks and services, of formats, protocols, software, interfaces and metadata in order to achieve diverse digital environments for the distribution of cultural goods and services;

16.4 adapt and modernise online transaction mechanisms and processes in order to facilitate and secure e-commerce;
16.5 encourage a fair, transparent, sustainable and ethical trade in the exchange of cultural goods and services in the digital environment, in particular with developing countries;

16.6 develop the legal framework for online distribution of cultural goods and services such as ratification of relevant international copyright and related rights treaties, contractual arrangements and measures to protect and combat piracy and the illicit trafficking of cultural goods online;

16.7 promote cooperation between online platforms (video, audio and other aggregators) and the rights holders of these goods and services (including licensing agreements and deployment of technical tools) in order to improve the online distribution of cultural goods and services and to better find the content being disseminated.

17. At the stage of access, Parties shall aim to ensure the free and permanent access to diverse cultural expressions as well as to increase participation in cultural life in the digital environment. This includes measures which aim to ensure continuous access to digital technologies, know-how and diverse cultural goods and services and should aim to:

17.1 introduce greater transparency and readability of indexing and content referencing modes in order to ensure that the digital mechanisms (recommendation algorithms), determining the content available to the users, provide a wide range of diverse cultural expressions in the digital environment;

17.2 invest, develop and strengthen telecommunications infrastructures to improve access to diverse cultural expressions in the digital environment;

17.3 encourage the implementation of digital preservation measures and the development of infrastructure to ensure universal and continuous access to cultural content, despite the constant and rapid evolution of the digital environment;

17.4 support linguistic diversity and translation interfaces in the digital environment;

17.5 encourage public cultural institutions to provide online access to diverse cultural expressions;

17.6 supply the necessary digital equipment to public institutions such as schools, libraries and cultural centres;

17.7 set up programmes for digital literacy, public education and awareness on using the Internet and on mastering digital tools;

17.8 encourage legislative measures that allow for the fair remuneration of rights holders.

Rebalancing the flow of cultural goods and services

18. In the context of international solidarity and cooperation, Parties shall aim to introduce preferential treatment provisions to facilitate more balanced flows of cultural goods and services from developing countries in the digital environment, pursuant to Article 16 of the Convention. Parties may:

18.1 improve the distribution of cultural goods and services in the digital environment produced by artists and cultural professionals, enterprises and independent organizations from developing countries, including through artistic and cultural collaboration, co-production and co-distribution agreements;

18.2 take into account the provisions of international trade agreements they have concluded and will conclude, and their respective mechanisms with a view to offering preferential treatment in favour of cultural goods and services from developing countries in the digital environment.
19. Consistent with their obligation in Article 21 of the Convention to promote the objectives and principles of the Convention in other international fora, and in order to foster an integrated approach in the area of culture, trade and investment in the digital environment, Parties are encouraged to promote:

19.1 complementarity and coherency among the various legal instruments addressing the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment;

19.2 transparency in bilateral, regional or multilateral negotiations having an impact on cultural goods and services in the digital environment;

19.3 close coordination between national authorities responsible for culture and trade, as well as other relevant public authorities and bodies and civil society representatives;

19.4 the consideration of introducing cultural clauses in international bilateral, regional or multilateral agreements, namely provisions that take into account the dual nature of cultural goods and services, including preferential treatment clauses, with particular attention to the status of e-commerce that shall recognize the specificity of cultural goods and services;

19.5 the incorporation of explicit references to the Convention and these Guidelines on the digital environment in trade and investment agreements, as well as provisions that enable their implementation, including the preservation of the capacity to design new public policies when necessary.

Integration of culture in sustainable development frameworks

20. In the context of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and pursuant to Articles 13 and 14 of the Convention, Parties may elaborate national development policies and international assistance programmes that recognise the importance of cultural aspects and the complementarity of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in the digital environment.

21. Parties shall integrate culture into their information and communication technologies (ICTs) plans and digital strategies, by including references to the Convention and to its aims and principles.

22. Parties shall support at the national and international levels capacity-building activities, the transfer of know-how and sustainable technologies (hardware and software), as well as the development of infrastructure.

23. At the national level, measures should aim to:

23.1 raise awareness of and promote the consumption of local cultural content and, as a result, foster the development of viable cultural and creative industries in the digital environment at the local, regional and national levels;

23.2 assess specific technological needs in order to promote geographical equity in the distribution of cultural resources as well as equitable access to those resources for various individual and social groups, as foreseen in Article 7 of the Convention;

23.3 encourage inter-ministerial collaboration to integrate culture into the programmes of other ministries working on digital matters;

23.4 reinforce and improve development policies in the digital environment in other sectors such as education, public health, security, research and urban planning.
24. At the international level, measures should aim to support developing countries by:

24.1 updating cultural cooperation agreements so that they take into account the impact of digital technologies, particularly in the implementation of co-production and co-distribution agreements;

24.2 developing new forms of cooperation that facilitate the co-production and co-distribution of networked artistic works, regardless of distances between creators;

24.3 prioritizing bottom-up cultural cooperation initiatives involving local actors, over top-down initiatives which, for example, restrict them to simple donations in kind (of equipment, software, content and connectivity);

24.4 ensuring equitable access to resources and cultural content in the digital environment through educational and public awareness activities on the uses of the Internet and digital tools;

24.5 supporting projects linked to the application of the Convention in the digital environment, particularly through regular voluntary contributions to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD).

**Role of civil society**

25. Pursuant to Article 11 of the Convention and its Guidelines, partnership with civil society organizations is essential in the digital environment by contributing to monitoring the evolution of the digital world, and may take the form of:

25.1 initiatives to raise awareness of the potential of the digital environment through the use of digital technologies (such as social networks, mobile applications, online discussion platforms), the organization of events and the creation of communication tools (such as shared-work platforms, real-time interactive exchange platforms, blogs, electronic information bulletins);

25.2 efforts to consult actors in the cultural sector on digital matters, and to share the results with the Convention’s governing bodies through the submission of written documents (information documents) and oral contributions to the Conference of Parties and the Intergovernmental Committee;

25.3 active contribution to the preparation of the Parties’ quadrennial periodic reports, by providing relevant information on the opportunities and challenges for artists and other cultural professionals and practitioners arising from digital technologies;

25.4 collaboration between civil society representatives, including artists and cultural professionals, academics, researchers and experts, to provide input for reflection within other international organizations and to directly or indirectly focus on issues relating to the diversity of cultural expressions in a digital environment.

**Gathering and sharing of information and good practices**

26. When implementing Articles 9 and 19 of the Convention, Parties shall:

26.1 systematically include information in their quadrennial periodic reports on policies to address the opportunities and challenges linked to the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions within a digital environment;

26.2 encourage the collection of comparative statistics on the uses, practices and markets for cultural goods and services in the digital environment;

26.3 support discussions and share good practices in developing countries on the opportunities and challenges for the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment.
Role of the UNESCO Secretariat

27. Pursuant to Article 19 of the Convention, the Secretariat shall, in an intersectorial manner and in collaboration with the Parties, civil society and relevant international organizations:

27.1 gather, analyse and disseminate information and statistics on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment, including on related technological developments;

27.2 set up and maintain, through its Knowledge Management System, a list of good practices;

27.3 strengthen dialogue with the Parties and civil society in order to strengthen cooperation with other international actors concerned by digital technologies, particularly those responsible for trade, intellectual property and telecommunications, to raise their awareness of the Convention and to share information with all Convention stakeholders;

27.4 encourage discussions among Parties and report to the governing bodies on the opportunities and challenges for promoting the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment.
Decision 10.IGC 8

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/8 and its Annexes and the Information Document DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.5;

2. Takes note of the total amount available in the IFCD of US$ 986,462 on 30 June 2016 for the seventh funding cycle of the IFCD as set out in Annex V of this document;

3. Also takes note of the comments and recommendations of the Panel of Experts;

4. Decides that the projects presented in Annex II and annexed to this decision will receive financial support from the IFCD, including cost recovery for 2017;

5. Decides to issue a new call for funding requests in 2017;

6. Recognizes the progress of the overall implementation of the IOS recommendations, takes note of the financial implications of the implementation of IOS recommendations in 2017 on the RBM framework, encourages Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources to fully implement these recommendations and requests the Secretariat to report on the updated status of the implementation of the IOS recommendations at its eleventh ordinary session;

7. Takes note of the Terms of Reference for the 2017 evaluation mentioned in Annex IX, decides to allocate an amount of US$ 40,000, to be paid from unassigned funds, for this evaluation and requests the Secretariat to report on the IOS evaluation and to present its results at its eleventh ordinary session;

8. Requests the Secretariat to implement the fundraising and communication activities for 2017 outlined in Document DCE/16/10.IGC/8 corresponding to phase three of the IFCD fundraising strategy and to prepare and submit to its eleventh ordinary session a report on the implementation of the IFCD fundraising strategy and decides to allocate US$ 53,416 for the foreseen fundraising activities for 2017 from unassigned funds in the IFCD Special Account;

9. Takes note of the financial statements of the IFCD for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015 and from 1 January to 30 June 2016 as set out in Annex IV and adopts the budget for 2017 as set out in Annex V;

10. Decides to dedicate 70% of the funds available on 30 June 2017 for the provisional draft budget for 2018;

11. Requests the Secretariat to submit, at its eleventh ordinary session, a detailed report on the use of the IFCD financial resources;

12. Thanks all the contributors that have supported the IFCD since its last ordinary session and encourages Parties to provide a regular voluntary contribution on an annual basis equivalent to at least 1% of their total contribution to UNESCO;

13. Requests the Director-General to launch in 2017 a new call to all Parties to the Convention for contributions, quoting the amount of 1% contributed by each Member State to UNESCO’s Regular Budget.
## ANNEX TO DECISION 10.IGC 8

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<td>Directorate-General of Culture and Tourism – Municipality of Asunción</td>
<td>Voices of the ASU : emerging cultural expressions of the young people in Asunción</td>
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**Total amount:** 503,242
Item 9 of the Agenda: Quadrennial periodic reports: transmission of new reports

Decision 10.IGC 9

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/9 and its Annex;
2. Recalling Resolutions 4.CP 10, 5.CP 9a and 5.CP 9b of the Conference of Parties and its Decisions 8.IGC 7a, 8.IGC 7b and 9.IGC 10;
3. Takes note of the executive summaries of quadrennial periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention submitted by Parties in 2016 and as presented in the Annex to Document DCE/16/10.IGC/9;
4. Requests the Secretariat to forward to the Conference of Parties at its sixth ordinary session the quadrennial periodic reports together with the Committee’s comments, and the 2015 edition of the Global Report;
5. Invites the Parties whose reports are due in 2017 to submit them to the Secretariat in a timely manner, if possible in both working languages of the Committee as well as in other languages, and encourages the Parties that have not yet submitted their reports to do so at their earliest convenience;
6. Encourages the Parties to engage in multi-stakeholder consultations in the preparation of their reports, involving various government ministries, regional and local governments and, in particular, civil society organizations, and to share their experiences;
7. Further encourages the Parties to provide extra-budgetary resources to expand the Secretariat’s capacity-building programme on the preparation of the reports, and for the implementation of a global Knowledge Management System, and to support the third Global Report (2019) to monitor the implementation of the Convention;
8. Requests the Secretariat, following this session, to make available on the Convention website the quadrennial periodic reports to the public for information;
9. Proposes to the Conference of Parties to make publicly available on the Convention website the quadrennial periodic reports received before each session of the Committee and to amend the Operational Guidelines on Article 9 accordingly.
**Item 10 of the Agenda:** Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties

**Decision 10.IGC 10**

*The Committee,*

1. *Having examined* Document DCE/16/10.IGC/10REV and its Annex;
2. *Adopts the report on its activities and decisions taken since the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, as amended;*
3. *Submits the report to the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties.*

**Item 11 of the Agenda:** Date of the next session of the Committee

**Decision 10.IGC 11**

*The Committee,*

*Decides to convene its eleventh ordinary session at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 13 to 15 December 2017, and an exchange session with civil society to take place on 12 December 2017.*

**Item 12 of the Agenda:** Election of the members of the Bureau of the eleventh ordinary session of the Committee

**Decision 10.IGC 12**

*The Committee,*

1. *Decides to suspend the application of Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure in order to elect its Chairperson as well as one of its Vice-Chairpersons;*
2. *Elects Mr Mohammed Lotfi M'Rini (Morocco) as Chairperson of the Committee;*
3. *Elects Mr Aman Wirakartakusumah (Indonesia) as Rapporteur of the Committee;*
4. *Elects Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, France and Paraguay as Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee.*