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Diversity of
Cultural Expressions

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

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INFORMATION DOCUMENT

This document contains a status report on the actions undertaken by the Secretariat in order to implement the recommendations issued by IOS in the “Evaluation of UNESCO’s Standard-setting Work of the Culture Sector Part IV – 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions” report (IOS/EVS/PI/134 REV). The information provided in the follow-up to the recommendations is based on the decisions and resolutions adopted by the governing bodies as well as the programme activities carried out by the Secretariat.

Status report on the implementation of IOS recommendations (IOS/EVS/PI/134 REV)

| Recommendation | Status in 2016 |
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| <p>1. Facilitate and encourage Parties and all stakeholders of the Convention, including intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations, to share good practices in key areas (e.g. design and implementation of cultural policies and legislation; integration of culture in sustainable development strategies; strengthening of the cultural dimension in international development policies; international agreements in the field of trade), by systematising and disseminating information available in quadrennial periodic reports and from other sources. (Intergovernmental Committee / Secretariat)</p> | <p>A knowledge management system which will feature the good practices emerging from the activities undertaken by Parties to the Convention is currently being developed. It will provide access to a wide range of data and good practices drawn from information and data collected through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the first Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention entitled “Re Shaping Cultural Policies – A Decade Promoting the Diversity of Cultural Expressions for Development”, published in December 2015. A second report will be published in December 2017; - projects supported by the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD); - experience drawn from the implementation of technical assistance missions under the UNESCO/EU “Expert Facility to Strengthen Systems of Governance for Culture in Developing Countries” project; - experience drawn from the implementation of capacity-building missions under the “Enhancing Fundamental Freedoms through the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions” project; - the results of global surveys and research conducted on 1) the implementation of Articles 16 and 21 of the Convention and 2) the impact of digital issues; - the joint UNESCO-UNDP 2013 Creative Economy Report, special edition; - the global survey on the implementation of the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist. |
| <p>2. Continue discussions on the impact of Articles 16 (Preferential treatment for developing countries) and 21 (International consultation and coordination), particularly as regards the international trade agenda. (Intergovernmental Committee)</p> | <p>In conformity with Resolutions 3.CP 11, 4.CP 11 and 5.CP 11 and Decisions 7.IGC 12, 8.IGC 11 and 9.IGC 8, the Secretariat submits a report on the implementation of these articles, based on consultations with the Parties and civil society organisations, at every ordinary session of the Committee. Since 2015, a detailed analysis of this issue has been included in the Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention.</p> <p>In conformity with Decision 8.IGC 11, the Secretariat held an exchange session, prior to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, in June 2015, on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21 that included economists, trade experts and Parties, with the involvement of civil society.</p> |

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| | <p>In accordance with the Resolution of the 38th session of the General Conference in November 2015 and the Decision of the Executive Council at its 197th session, the Secretariat created a new Special Account for the UNESCO-Aschberg Programme for Artists and Cultural Professionals in February 2016 and a budget code in June 2016. The main objectives of this programme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to create new capacity-building training tools and materials for the implementation of Articles 16 and 21; - to develop analysis and research activities to monitor the issues covered by Articles 16 and 21: mobility of artists and cultural professionals, exchange of cultural goods and services, international agreements and treaties; - to provide technical assistance and training to build capacities in the fields covered by Articles 16 and 21. <p>An online platform has been created to disseminate the results collected by the Secretariat. It contains over 300 documents gathered through consultations as well as a general study and 51 case studies of bilateral trade agreements.</p> |
| <p>3. Encourage Parties to consider the implications of the 2005 Convention as regards cultural governance (coordination within national governments, relationships between different tiers of government, public-private dialogue, participation of civil society, etc.) in their respective areas of influence and to foster the exchange of good practices and the provision of technical assistance focusing on this area. (Intergovernmental Committee / Secretariat)</p> | <p>The UNESCO/EU “Expert Facility to Strengthen Systems of Governance for Culture in Developing Countries” project (2011-2015) illustrates the positive effects of the cultural sector’s participatory engagement in decision-making processes, thanks to better coordination with public authorities and decision-makers, in particular through the creation of national teams. The results of the project were presented at a high-level conference held in Brussels in June 2015, in the presence of the Director-General of UNESCO and the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development.</p> <p>The implementation of the UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators (CDIS) in 11 participating countries (2009-2014) focused on issues of cultural governance. Four of these indicators are centred on Governance and assess the current environment of cultural governance in terms of normative mechanisms, policies and programmes, the distribution of infrastructures, and the opportunities for civil society to participate in decision-making processes.</p> <p>In order to provide technical assistance to developing countries wishing to strengthen their capacities in the field of cultural governance, project proposals for new extra-budgetary funds were.</p> |

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| <p>4. Encourage Parties and all stakeholders of the Convention to reach out to sub-national governments and research bodies in Europe and North America in order to further consider the implications of the 2005 Convention in domestic cultural policies and in other public policies (e.g. education, citizen participation, gender, social inclusion, etc.) that play a role in the promotion of an enabling environment for the diversity of cultural expressions. (Intergovernmental Committee)</p> | <p>At its fifth ordinary session, the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to continue monitoring activities to assess the impact of the Convention by collecting and analysing data, information and good practices contained in the Parties' quadrennial reports and other sources, and to publish the results thereof. (Resolution 5.CP 14).</p> <p>The first Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention, published in December 2015, provides numerous examples of good practices and offers information for the Parties about innovative policies in order to encourage international cooperation. The Secretariat is also preparing a register of good practices within the framework of its Knowledge Management System.</p> <p>A new UNESCO Chair on the "diversity of cultural expressions" was created in 2015 at Laval University's Faculty of Law in Quebec, Canada, thus fostering international cooperation in the field of research.</p> |
| <p>5. UNESCO should continue its efforts towards the explicit inclusion of culture in the international post-2015 development agenda, both as a 'driver' and as an 'enabler'. (Secretariat / Culture Sector / Bureau of Strategic Planning)</p> | <p>On the international level, the Convention was an important point of reference in the discussions for the inclusion of culture in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. (Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly in 2013 (A/RES/68/223) and 2014 (A/RES/69/216)).</p> <p>In September 2015, 17 new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and associated targets were adopted by the United Nations. Although they do not mention the Convention explicitly, they fully reflect its objectives and guiding principles. This is apparent in Goals 4 (Target 4.4), 5 (5.c), 8 (8.3), 10 (10.a), 11 (11.3), 16 (16.7 and 16.10) and 17 (17.19). Target 8.3 (Goal 8) in particular states that development-oriented policies should support creativity and innovation, in addition to productive activities, the creation of decent jobs and entrepreneurship. Target 16.10 (Goal 16) underlines the importance of public access to information for the protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the objectives of the Convention.</p> <p>The Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention (December 2015) includes a chapter introducing a framework of specific indicators to assess and measure the actions taken by Parties to integrate culture into their national development programmes and into international development assistance programmes. This issue will continue to be systematically monitored in subsequent editions of the Global Report, thus contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.</p> |

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| <p>6. UNESCO should further explore the areas of convergence addressed by their respective conventions (world heritage, intangible heritage...), particularly in the perspective of sustainable development. (Secretariat / Culture Sector)</p> | <p>The Cultural Conventions Liaison Group (CCLG) is comprised of the Secretaries of the cultural conventions and meets on a regular basis to explore areas of convergence. The professionals working with the Secretariat have taken part in the following sub-groups in order to share working methods and experiences: capacity building, knowledge management, periodic reporting and international assistance.</p> <p>At its fifth ordinary session, the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to pursue synergies in the monitoring of activities of other relevant standard-setting instruments, in particular the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist. The Conference of Parties also encouraged the Secretariat to pursue its cooperation with the Communication Sector, especially on digital issues and freedom of expression. (Resolution 5.CP 14).</p> <p>In close cooperation with the Communication and Information Sector, the Secretariat organised several events on the occasion of the World Press Freedom Day held in Helsinki, Finland (2-3 May 2016):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a ministerial panel: “Re Shaping Cultural Policies for Development”; - a session: “Improving Artistic Freedom in a Digital Age”; - a workshop: “Is Artistic Freedom a New Development Challenge?”. |
| <p>7. Continue to explore the implications of changes brought about by digitisation for the effective implementation of the Convention and invite Parties to examine, design and exchange emerging policies and practices in this context. (Intergovernmental Committee / Secretariat)</p> | <p>In accordance with Resolution 5.CP 12 of the Conference of the Parties, the Committee will examine the preliminary draft operational guidelines on the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment at its tenth ordinary session (December 2016) and, if it so wishes, will adopt it and submit it for approval at the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (June 2017).</p> <p>At its ninth ordinary session (December 2015), the Committee examined an initial framework for discussion towards operational guidelines on digital issues, allowing for a constructive debate on the preparation of the preliminary draft.</p> <p>In accordance with Decision 8.IGC 12 of the Committee, an exchange session was held on 8 June 2015 at UNESCO Headquarters, in the presence of economists and high-level experts, The related documents are available on the Convention’s website.</p> <p>At its fifth ordinary session, the Conference of Parties, approved a revised version of the Operational Guidelines on quadrennial periodic reports, which introduced specific elements concerning digital issues and encouraged Parties to report on this topic. (Resolution 5.CP 9b).</p> |

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| | <p>It also requested the Secretariat to continue its work in this field by including an analysis of digital issues in the Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention, as well as to continue exchanging with UNESCO's Communication and Information Sector, international organisations and civil society. Digital issues will continue to be systematically monitored in subsequent editions of the Global Report using a variety of indicators of progress.</p> <p>An analysis of digital issues was submitted and examined at the Committee's eighth ordinary session (December 2014). At this session, at the joint request of Canada and France, an item concerning digital technologies was added to the agenda.</p> <p>The results of a survey conducted by the Secretariat in October 2013 were transmitted to the Committee at its seventh ordinary session (December 2013).</p> |
| <p>8. Encourage Parties to pay particular attention to the conditions of cultural industries and to the role of civil society actors in their countries, and consider the adoption of long-term strategies to address needs identified. (Intergovernmental Committee / Secretariat)</p> | <p>At its eighth ordinary session (December 2014), the Committee decided to introduce an item in the agenda of its ninth ordinary session, in order to assess the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention. It also asked for a prior assessment based mainly on information found in quadrennial periodic reports, as well as from the results of IFCD-funded projects (Decision 8.IGC 7a).</p> <p>In accordance with Decision 8.IGC 7a and Resolution 5.CP 14, an assessment of the role and participation of civil society was presented at the ninth session of the Committee (December 2015). It presents quantitative analyses of the correlation between the vitality of civil society in general and its involvement in the implementation of the Convention in particular. The recommendations are based on a future road map of activities designed to promote cooperation between the Convention's governing bodies and civil society organizations. Those recommendations that were already implemented include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an invitation for civil society to submit an activity report (in writing and/or orally) to the governing bodies (the first report is presented at the tenth session of the Committee (December 2016)); - the organization of a working session between civil society representatives and the Bureau prior to the meetings of the governing bodies, in order to address specific issues that are of importance to civil society and are on the agenda for each session (this session was held on 12 December 2016, prior to the tenth session of the Committee). |

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| <p>9. Continue current efforts to raise awareness of the Convention among countries that have not ratified it. These should include the design of specific activities (e.g. publications, videos) highlighting tangible results of the Convention in countries that have ratified it, targeting in particular the regions with a lower ratification rate. (Secretariat / Intergovernmental Committee)</p> | <p>A new toolkit providing essential information about the Convention and the benefits of ratifying it is currently being finalised. A video explaining the principles and objectives of the Convention, its functioning and its importance is included in this toolkit.</p> <p>Several videos about the Convention in general and the IFCD in particular are available on the Convention's website.</p> <p>The training module, prepared in the context of capacity-building activities devoted to "Understanding the Convention", is currently being finalised. It will be available in French, English and Spanish.</p> <p>The Third Meeting of Pacific Ministers for Culture, which was held in Guam (25 May 2016), enabled UNESCO to invite the countries of the region to reinforce their creative industries by ratifying the Convention. Samoa's ratification of the Convention in 2015 marked a major event, and making it the first Pacific island to take this step.</p> <p>The "Empowering People through Active Participation in Art and Cultural Activities" project (2015-2016) focuses on the benefits that Pakistan, which is not a Party to the Convention, could derive from this instrument in order to reinforce its creative industries and promote its sustainable development; it is financed by the Danish Centre for Culture and Development (CKU).</p> <p>Communication and training tools have been developed by the Secretariat to raise awareness of the Convention and highlight its impact, for instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing in Culture for Sustainable Development– Impact and achievements of the UNESCO/EU Expert Facility Project; - Methodological Guide for Technical Assistance Missions, in order to help promote a new approach to capacity development. |
| <p>10. Initiate work towards the development of an overall results framework for the Convention, including objectives, indicators and benchmarks. Some of the potential indicators are already implied in the questions included in the periodic reports by Parties, others will have to be newly identified and continuously updated over time in order to capture evolving trends and to respond to changing contexts. (Secretariat / Intergovernmental Committee)</p> | <p>In conformity with Resolution 5.CP 14, a results-based management framework was developed to monitor the Convention. It involves a range of indicators and means of verification, which structure the first Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention, published in December 2015. This framework supported the work and analyses of the experts who met in Vienna, Austria (21-23 September 2016) to prepare the second edition of the Global Report.</p> <p>A results-based management framework has been developed for the IFCD with short- and long-term objectives,</p> |

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| | <p>timetables and SMART indicators, in order to monitor and improve the IFCD's performances and show that it is achieving its objectives. This framework has already been integrated into the IFCD's management mechanisms. Furthermore, the Secretariat has proceeded to the initial development of a results-oriented baseline for the framework in order to collect uniform and comparable data, through the retrospective analysis and monitoring of all funded and completed projects.</p> |