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Diversity of Cultural Expressions

2.IGC

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

**Second Ordinary Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
8–12 December 2008**

Item 4 of the provisional agenda: Draft operational guidelines on the promotion of international cooperation (Article 12 of the Convention)

In Decision 1.IGC 5B adopted at its first ordinary session, the Committee decided to discuss at its second ordinary session issues relating, *inter alia*, to promotion of international cooperation (Article 12 of the Convention). The Annex to this document contains the preliminary draft operational guidelines concerning Article 12 which the Committee may wish to use as a basis for its discussions on this item.

Decision required: paragraph 8.

1. The Conference of Parties, in Resolution 1.CP 6 adopted at its first ordinary session, requested the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) to draft the operational guidelines referred to in subparagraph (c) of Article 22.4 and subparagraph (b) of Article 23.6 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), giving particular attention to, *inter alia*, the provisions of articles 7, 8 and 11 to 17 of the Convention, and to submit the results of its work to the second ordinary session of the Conference of Parties for consideration and approval.
2. The central place and fundamental role of international cooperation in achieving the Convention’s objectives are illustrated by the weight, both in number and substance, of the provisions on the subject. Firstly, the preamble emphasizes the need to incorporate culture as a strategic element into international development cooperation. Secondly, international cooperation and solidarity are both included under the main objectives (Article 1 subparagraph (i)) and under the guiding principles governing the Convention (Article 2.4). Thirdly, the pressing need to strengthen international cooperation is set out in seven articles (articles 12 to 18) in Part IV, in which international cooperation is addressed not only generally in terms of objectives, but also specifically as rights and obligations of Parties or is translated into operational arrangements.
3. It should also be noted that Article I of the UNESCO Constitution encourages cooperation among nations in all branches of intellectual activity, including the international exchange of persons active in the field of education, science and culture.
4. Article 12 invites the Parties to strengthen their bilateral, regional and international cooperation. It contains a non-exhaustive list of modalities.
5. This article concerns international cooperation in general and applies to all Parties. The operational guidelines for Article 12 should, however, be consistent with the other chapters of operational guidelines on international cooperation in general, developing countries in particular and matters that do not directly concern, but are closely linked to, international cooperation. This is reflected in the preliminary draft operational guidelines for Article 12.
6. Pursuant to Decision 1.IGC.5B adopted at the Committee’s first ordinary session, the Annex to this document contains the preliminary draft operational guidelines for Article 12 of the Convention which the Committee may wish to discuss with a view to the preparation of draft guidelines for submission to the Conference of Parties at its second ordinary session in June 2009.
7. The preliminary draft operational guidelines are preceded by a chapter on the principles of international cooperation applicable to all provisions in this field. Its purpose is to avoid duplication.
8. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 2.IGC.4

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document CE/08/2.IGC/4 and its Annex,*
2. *Recalling Resolution 1.CP 6 of the Conference of Parties and Decision 1.IGC 5B of the Committee,*
3. *Submits to the Conference of Parties for approval the draft operational guidelines on the promotion of international cooperation (Article 12 of the Convention), as annexed to this Decision.*

PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Chapter XXX: International Cooperation

Principles

1. Culture and development should be closely linked. Policies and measures developed by Parties to support cooperation for sustainable development and poverty reduction should:
 - 1.1 Be part of an integrated approach that recognizes and affirms the cultural dimension of development;
 - 1.2 Correspond to the needs of developing countries;
 - 1.3 Avoid an 'all-encompassing' development agenda, affording due consideration to the cultural specificities of each developing country/group of developing countries;
 - 1.4 Guarantee developing countries' effective participation in their formulation, implementation and assessment;
 - 1.5 Foster the full participation and engagement of all members of society contributing to the diversity of cultural expressions, including persons belonging to minorities, indigenous peoples and women;
 - 1.6 Aim more specifically at the emergence of a dynamic cultural sector through the promotion of an environment conducive to the strengthening of developing countries' cultural and creative resources.
2. Beyond the principles that Parties should endeavour to apply and the measures they are encouraged to implement, Parties are invited to share information and expertise on the policies, measures and initiatives that have achieved the best results in the field of culture and cooperation for development.

Article 12 - Promotion of international cooperation

1. International cooperation is one of the Parties' primary means for promoting in a joint and coordinated manner the creation of conditions conducive to the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions and for achieving the Convention's objectives.
2. International cooperation takes various forms: bilateral, regional and multilateral as well as North-South, North-North and South-South.
3. Whatever its form, international cooperation should:
 - 3.1 establish a constructive dialogue with a view to the introduction of cultural policies;
 - 3.2 take the interests of all the stakeholders into account;

- 3.3 be based on a needs analysis conducted beforehand in consultation with stakeholders from the relevant cultural industries and sectors and with civil society;
 - 3.4 contribute to the coordinated development of local infrastructure and human resources.
4. In strengthening and implementing international cooperation, Parties should respect the spirit of the Convention and look for synergies between the operational guidelines relating to all of the general provisions on international cooperation. Parties should also take into consideration operational guidelines relating to provisions that do not directly concern, but are closely connected to and have an impact on, international cooperation, in particular Article 9 (Information sharing and transparency), Article 19 (Exchange, analysis and dissemination of information) and Article 21 (International consultation and coordination).
 5. In addition to these operational guidelines, Parties should take account of operational guidelines on specific provisions concerning international cooperation with developing countries, in particular Article 14 (Cooperation for development) and Article 16 (Preferential treatment for developing countries).