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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

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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 10 of the Provisional Agenda:** Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties

According to Rule 45.1 of the Committee's Provisional Rules of Procedure, this document presents in Annex the Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions which will be examined by the Conference of Parties at its second session (15-18 June 2009).

Decision required: paragraph 2

1. Rule 45.1 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Committee provides that the Committee shall submit a report of its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties. This document presents in Annex the report.
2. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

### **DRAFT DECISION 2.IGC 10**

The Committee,

1. Having examined document CE/08/2.IGC/10 and its Annex,
2. Adopts the report on its activities between the first and second ordinary sessions of the Conference of Parties as annexed to this Decision,
3. Submits the report to the second ordinary session of the Conference of Parties.

**Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and  
Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions on its activities and decisions  
to the Conference of Parties.**

**Composition of the Committee**

1. Article 23 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions provides for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Committee. According to this provision, the members of the Committee shall be elected for four years and their election shall be based on the principles of equitable geographical representation as well as rotation. In conformity with Rule 15.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties the election of the members of the Committee shall be conducted on the basis of the composition of the electoral groups of UNESCO, as determined by the UNESCO General Conference at its most recent session, it being understood that 'Group V' shall consist of two separate groups, for the African States and Arab States respectively.
  
2. At its First ordinary session, on 19 June 2007, the Conference of Parties elected 24 members of the Intergovernmental Committee. In accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties, the mandate of half of the members of the Committee is limited to two years; they have been designated by lot and respecting the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

3. The 24 States members of the Committee and term of their mandate:

<b>Group I</b>		<b>Group IV</b>	
Austria	2007 - 2009	China	2007 - 2009
Canada	2007 - 2009	India	2007 - 2011
Finland	2007 - 2009	<b>Group V(a)</b>	
France	2007 - 2009	Burkina Faso	2007 - 2009
Germany	2007 - 2011	Mali	2007 - 2009
Greece	2007 - 2011	Mauritius	2007 - 2011
Luxembourg	2007 - 2011	Senegal	2007 - 2011
<b>Group II</b>		South Africa	2007 - 2011
Albania	2007 - 2009	<b>Group V(b)</b>	
Croatia	2007 - 2011	Oman	2007 - 2011
Lithuania	2007 - 2011	Tunisia	2007 - 2009
Slovenia	2007 - 2009		
<b>Group III</b>			
Brazil	2007 - 2009		
Guatemala	2007 - 2009		
Mexico	2007 - 2011		
Saint Lucia	2007 - 2011		

**Meetings of the Committee since the first ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (18-20 June 2007)**

4. Since its establishment, the Committee met twice in ordinary session and once in an extraordinary Session. Those meetings were held as follows:

<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Dates</b>
First ordinary session, Ottawa, Canada (1.IGC), (at the invitation of the Canadian authorities)	10-13 December 2007
First extraordinary session , Paris, France (1.EXT.IGC)	24-27 June 2008
Second ordinary session, Paris, France (2.IGC)	8-12 December 2008

5. In conformity with Rule 12.1 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure adopted by the Committee at its First ordinary session, the Committee shall elect a Bureau at the end of each ordinary session whose mandate continues until the next ordinary session. On a transitory basis, the Members of the Bureau of the first session were elected in the beginning of the session and their term of office expired at the end of the second ordinary session of the Committee. During this session, the Committee elected a Bureau whose mandate will continue until the end of the next ordinary session.

Sessions	Members of the Bureau	Dates
First ordinary session, Ottawa (Canada)	Chairperson: Mr. Gilbert Laurin, (Canada) Rapporteur: Mr Antonio Otavio Sa Ricarte (Brazil) Vice-Chairpersons: South Africa, India, Lithuania, Tunisia	10-13 December 2007
First extraordinary session, Paris (France)	Chairperson: Mr Gilbert Laurin, (Canada) Rapporteur: Mr Antonio Otavio Sa Ricarte (Brazil) Vice-Chairpersons: South Africa, India, Lithuania, Tunisia	24-27 June 2008
Second ordinary session , Paris (France)	Chairperson: Mr Gilbert Laurin, (Canada) Rapporteur: Mr Antonio Otavio Sa Ricarte (Brazil) Vice-Chairpersons: South Africa, India, Lithuania, Tunisia	8-12 December 2008
Third ordinary session	Chairperson: To complete Rapporteur: To complete Vice-Chairpersons: To complete	To complete

### **Activities of the Committee since the First session of the Conference of Parties**

6. Since its establishment, the main activities and decisions of the Committee, in conformity with to Article 23(6)(b) of the Convention, refer to the preparation of:
  - draft operational guidelines for the implementation of the Convention, particularly articles 7, 8 and 11 to 17;
  - draft guidelines on the use of the resources of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (Article 18 of the Convention).

### **Provisional Rules of Procedure**

7. At its first ordinary session in Ottawa, on December 2007, the Committee adopted its Provisional Rules of Procedure (Decision 1.IGC.4) which will be submitted for approval to the second ordinary session of the Conference of Parties in June 2009, in accordance with Article 23(8) of the Convention.
8. The Committee has adopted two decisions relating to Rule 7.4 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure with regard to the participation of non-governmental organizations in the meetings of the Committee as observers. The first, adopted in December 2007, authorized the Chairperson, on a transitory basis and until the modalities under Rule 7.4 are determined by the Committee, to request the Director-General to invite the organizations referred to in this Rule, which have made a written request, to attend its next two sessions (Decision 1.IGC.7, paragraph 3). Then, in June 2008, the Committee adopted a draft set of criteria concerning the admission of civil society representatives to its sessions. Until amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Committee concerning the modalities of participation of civil society representatives in its sessions, the Committee has decided that the draft set of criteria will be applied with regard to the admission of civil society representatives to its sessions, after its second ordinary session (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.5, paragraph 4).
9. In addition, in June 2008, the Committee also decided to propose to the Conference of Parties to apply the draft set of Criteria with regard to the admission of civil society representatives to participate in the sessions of the Conference of Parties (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.5, paragraph 5).

### **Draft operational guidelines**

10. At its first ordinary session, further to the Resolution 1.CP 6 adopted by the Conference of Parties at its first ordinary session in June 2007, the Committee examined the draft Table of Contents of the Operational Guidelines and discussed working methods (Decision 1.IGC.5A) for the drafting of operational guidelines for the implementation of the Convention.

### **Measures to promote and protect cultural expressions – Articles 7, 8 et 17**

11. During its First extraordinary session, the Committee examined a preliminary draft of operational guidelines relating to measures intended to promote and protect cultural expressions (articles **7, 8 and 17** of the Convention). It adopted for approval to the Conference of Parties the draft operational guidelines concerning articles 8 and 17 of the Convention (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.3). However, the draft operational guidelines concerning article **7** of the Convention was adopted provisionally. Its final adoption by the Committee will occur at such time as draft operational guidelines are adopted for Article 6 (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.3).

### **Participation of Civil Society – Article 11**

12. After a first debate during its first ordinary session in December 2007, at its first extraordinary session, the Committee adopted draft operational guidelines on the role and participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention. The draft includes a definition of civil society in the context of the Convention and the modalities relating to the contribution of civil society to the implementation of the provisions of the Convention and to the work of its organs (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.5) The draft will be submitted to the Conference of Parties (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.5).

### **Promotion of International Cooperation – Article 12**

13. At its first ordinary session, The Committee had a preliminary debate on the provisions of the Convention concerning International Cooperation during (Decision 1.IGC.5B).

To complete after 2.IGC

### **Integration of Culture in Sustainable Development – Article 13**

14. At its First ordinary session in Ottawa, the Committee invited the Parties to the Convention to submit written proposals on the modalities of implementing article 13

To complete after 2.IGC

### **Cooperation for development – Article 14**

To complete after 2.IGC

### **Collaborative Arrangements – Article 15**

15. In June 2008, at its first extraordinary session, the Committee examined a preliminary draft of operational guidelines concerning partnerships. During this session, it adopted draft operational guidelines on the modalities for partnerships within the framework of the Convention which will be submitted for approval to the Conference of Parties (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.4).

### **Preferential Treatment for Developing Countries – Article 16**

16. At its first ordinary session, in Ottawa in 2007, the Committee invited the Secretariat to select, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, six qualified experts, representative of the different perspectives relating to preferential treatment and coming from countries in different stages of economic development. Each of the experts was tasked with preparing a factual document on this issue, enumerating definitions, regulations and existing practices (Decision 1.IGC.5B).
17. During its first extraordinary session, the Committee took note of the interim report of the Chairperson on the selection of experts and the terms of reference for the work requested. The Committee also requested the Secretariat to organize a working session at UNESCO headquarters between the experts and the coordinators before completion of the requested reports (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.7).
18. The experts' final reports were submitted to the Committee for examination at its second ordinary session in December 2008 (Decision 1.IGC.5B).

To complete after 2.IGC

### **International Fund for Cultural Diversity – Article 18**

19. The special account for the Fund was set up in accordance with the Financial Regulation of UNESCO.
20. During its first ordinary session, the Committee had a first debate on the use of the resources of the Fund and asked the Parties to submit to the Secretariat written contributions on that matter (Decision 1.IGC.6).
21. The discussion continued during the first extraordinary session, the Committee examined and discussed the interim report summarizing the written contributions of Parties concerning the use of the resources of the Fund.
22. In addition, the Committee requested the Secretariat, using extra-budgetary funding where available, to hold informal consultations with Parties, experts, enterprises and donors, with a view to identify potential sources of financing for the Fund. The Committee also appealed to the States and organizations with

expertise in the field of fundraising to provide the Secretariat with assistance in this regard. (Decision 1.EXT.IGC.6).

23. Draft guidelines on the use of the resources of the International Fund, based on the Parties' written contributions and the Committee's debates, were presented and discussed in December, 2008.

To complete after 2.IGC

### **Meetings**

24. In conformity with Decision 1.IGC 5C, a meeting entitled 'The role and participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention for the Protection and the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: An exchange between civil society and Parties to the Convention', was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 23 June 2008. It aimed to enable civil society and Parties to discuss the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and the relevant modalities. More than 200 participants have attended this exchange session, half of them were representatives of Parties and the other half members of the civil society.
25. In conformity with Decision 1.EXT.IGC.6, a session exchange entitled 'Fundraising: Challenges and Opportunities' will be held in ... 2009 at UNESCO Headquarters.

### **Communication**

26. The Section Diversity of Cultural Expressions of UNESCO regularly update a website relating to the Convention: [www.unesco.org/culture/en/diversity/convention](http://www.unesco.org/culture/en/diversity/convention). All working documents, Parties' written contributions, decisions taken and summaries of various sessions of the statutory organs are available online.