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Diversity of Cultural Expressions

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CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

**Third ordinary session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room II
14-17 June 2011**

Item 11 of the provisional agenda: Future activities of the Committee

This document presents the current state of implementation of and follow-up to the Convention as well as future activities of the Committee.

Decision required: paragraph 11

1. At its last ordinary session (June 2009), the Conference of Parties adopted Resolution 2.CP 7 by which the future activities of the Committee for the period 2009-2011 were determined. In this connection, it requested the Committee to continue its work and to submit to it for approval at its next session draft operational guidelines concerning Articles 9, 10 and 19 of the Convention, together with draft operational guidelines on the measures to increase the visibility and promotion of the Convention. The Conference of Parties also invited the Committee to examine the pertinence and the feasibility of the nomination of one or several public personalities charged with the promotion of the Convention, taking into account the objectives, the mandate, the modalities and the costs of such a setup and reporting on that matter to the next Conference of Parties (see document CE/11/3.CP/209/8). It also mandated the Committee to devise a fundraising strategy for the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) and in this framework to continue its reflection on the elaboration and utilization of innovative financial mechanisms and to report to it on the outcome of its work at its next session (see document CE/11/3.CP/209/9).

2. In accordance with Resolution 2.CP 7, at its last two sessions (December 2009 and December 2010) the Committee adopted several draft operational guidelines, one concerning the visibility and promotion of the Convention (Decision 3.IGC 6) and three others concerning Articles 9, 10 and 19 of the Convention (Decisions 4.IGC 7, 4.IGC 9 and 4.IGC 8). The Committee decided to submit these four draft operational guidelines for approval at the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (Decision 4.IGC 11) (see document CE/11/3.CP/209/7).

3. At its fourth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the current state of implementation of and follow-up to the Convention and decided to bring it to the attention of the Conference of Parties at its third ordinary session (Decision 4.IGC 13). To that end it requested the Secretariat to prepare an information document taking account of its observations for the Conference of Parties (Decision 4.IGC 13). The information document entitled "Implementation and follow-up of the Convention: progress report" includes the Committee's observations on this matter (CE/11/3.CP/209/INF6). The document brings together (1) the articles of the Convention in respect of which the Conference of Parties decided that operational guidelines were required (guidelines approved, draft guidelines in the process of approval and articles not requiring guidelines), and (2) the articles in respect of which the Conference of Parties made no decision as to the requirement for operational guidelines.

4. Furthermore, implementation of the Convention involves the Committee supporting actions in favour of the visibility and promotion of the Convention, including the creation of an emblem symbolizing the Convention. At its last session (December 2010), the Committee recognized the importance of having an emblem symbolizing the Convention to ensure its visibility and promotion and decided to include this item in the agenda of its fifth ordinary session in December 2011 (Decision 4.IGC 5).

5. With regard to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD), the Committee at its last session (December 2010) adopted a decision concerning the implementation of the second call for projects to take into account the number of requests for funding, financial capacity and methods of examination and in order to facilitate its discussions (Decision 4.IGC 10A). The Conference of Parties is reminded that the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the Fund, adopted at its second session (June 2009), will apply during a pilot phase lasting 36 months from the date of their approval. The Guidelines indicate that "an evaluation of these mechanisms, their results and the effectiveness of the management of the Fund will be carried out six months before the end of the pilot phase. The findings of this evaluation will be submitted to the Committee with a view to a possible revision of the guidelines" (paragraph 5 of the Guidelines). The Committee, at its sixth ordinary session (December 2012), will examine the findings of the evaluation and will revise the Guidelines if necessary. It will take into account the lessons learned from the first call for projects. At its next two sessions, it will also select the projects for which requests for funding from the Fund were submitted in 2011 and 2012.

6. The Committee might also continue its reflection and its work on the utilization of innovative financial mechanisms for the IFCD. This issue is the subject of item 9 of the provisional agenda of the session and, in accordance with the resolution which will be adopted by the Conference of Parties, the Committee may, if necessary, examine the early stages of the implementation of the fundraising strategy.

7. As regards the submission and dissemination of quadrennial periodic reports of the Parties to the Convention, the Committee will be called upon to examine the first reports at its sixth session (December 2012) in accordance with the resolution that will be adopted by the Conference of Parties concerning the draft operational guidelines on information sharing and transparency. The Committee may also examine the issue of sharing best practices, which will be addressed in these reports. This could be achieved by organizing an information session on best practices before its sixth session so that the Parties may present and share their experiences in the matter.

8. On the issue of the ratification strategy (2009-2013), the Committee will continue its implementation. To that end, it requested the Secretariat to submit to it at its sixth session in December 2012 a document reporting on the progress of ratifications of the Convention as well as on steps taken and actions carried out in 2011-2012 (Decision 4.IGC4).

9. The Committee must also identify the means to ensure effective implementation of the Convention and the operational guidelines, notably through capacity building, as is the case for the technical assistance programme financed by the European Union. In this context, a debate on the optimal conditions for implementing the Convention on an operational level seems necessary, since the International Fund for Cultural Diversity alone cannot accomplish this.

10. At this session, the Conference of Parties is invited to examine the current state of implementation of and follow-up to the Convention and to determine, if it so decides, whether other articles of the Convention require operational guidelines. A summary of the current state of implementation is provided in a table in the information document mentioned in paragraph 3. Furthermore, it may invite the Committee to pursue its work with regard to the promotion and visibility of the Convention, in particular the emblem, the fundraising strategy, the results of the evaluation of the pilot phase and implementation of the IFCD, quadrennial periodic reports of Parties, best practices, and the implementation of the ratification strategy.

11. The Conference of Parties may wish to adopt the following resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 3.CP 11

The Conference of Parties,

1. *Having examined document CE/11/3.CP/209/11;*
2. *Takes note of information document CE/11/3.CP/209/INF.6;*
3. *Also takes note of Decision 4.IGC 10A of the Committee;*
4. *Requests the Committee to continue its work and to submit to it for approval at its next session the draft operational guidelines concerning Articles XXX of the Convention;*
5. *Decides that the articles of the Convention for which it has not requested the Committee to develop draft operational guidelines do not require them and are sufficient as such;*
6. *Invites the Committee to continue its work on:*

- *the promotion and visibility of the Convention and in particular the emblem,*
 - *the fundraising strategy, the examination of the results of the evaluation of the pilot phase and the implementation of the IFCD,*
 - *the quadrennial periodic reports of Parties and best practices,*
 - *the ratification strategy,*
 - *a debate on the means required to implement the Convention on the operational level.*
7. Requests the Secretariat to take the necessary steps for the evaluation of the IFCD pilot phase and to transmit its findings to the Committee with a view to a possible revision of the guidelines at its sixth session (December 2012) and, invites the Committee to submit to it at its next session the results of its work on this matter.