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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**

Seventh Ordinary Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
10 - 13 December 2013

This document contains the detailed draft summary record of the seventh ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, 10 - 13 December 2013). Participants may submit comments by email to convention2005@unesco.org before 20 September 2014.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The seventh ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 10 to 13 December 2013.
2. It was attended by 256 participants, including 47 participants from the 24 States Members of the Committee, 153 participants from 70 Parties non-members of the Committee (69 States Parties and the European Union (EU)), 20 participants from 9 States not Parties to the Convention, 8 participants from 4 intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and 28 participants from 12 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with observer status.
3. In opening the session, Ms Arev Samuelyan, **Chairperson** of the 7IGC welcomed all participants. She announced that the Rapporteur who was elected at the sixth ordinary session, Mr Nicolas Mathieu (Switzerland), could not attend the seventh ordinary session and therefore could not complete his term of office as Rapporteur. Rule 15.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee stipulates that in such situations, the function of the Rapporteur shall be replaced by a Vice-Chairperson. Under these circumstances, the Swedish Delegation, as Vice-Chairperson, agreed to have one of its representatives, Mr Mikael Schultz who is in charge of coordination of international affairs at the Ministry of Culture, exercise the functions of the Rapporteur. Prior to the seventh ordinary session, the Secretary of the Convention submitted this proposal for replacement of the Rapporteur to the members of the Bureau via electronic consultation, which received support from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Kuwait.
4. With the support of the Bureau, the **Chairperson** put forth to the Committee the proposal. The Committee unanimously agreed and Mr Schultz was invited to the podium to assume the function of Rapporteur.
5. The Chairperson then gave the floor to the **representative of the Director-General of UNESCO**, Mr Kishore Rao. Before making the opening address, he requested a minute of silence in memory of Nelson Mandela and in concordance with the memorial ceremony taking place in South Africa the same day. The representative of the UNESCO Director-General stressed the increasing tangible results, both political and operational, of implementing the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as “the Convention”). These results are clearly manifested in the detailed analysis of the periodic reports, the projects supported through the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (hereafter referred to as the “IFCD”), the technical assistance provided by the UNESCO Expert Facility (funded by the EU) as well as in the activities of the Culture for Development Indicator Suite (hereafter referred to as the “CDIS”). The results show that countries are making remarkable progress in strengthening creative capacities, which contributes to advocating for the integration of culture in the United Nations post 2015 development agenda. The representative of the Director-General also emphasized the importance of implementing a comprehensive capacity building programme for the Convention, adapted to country needs and priorities. He drew the Committee’s attention to the future work plan of the Convention (2014-2015) as well as to the proposal to create a sub-fund for human resources in order to respond efficiently to the priorities set by the Committee. Lastly the Committee and all participants were invited to participate in a live webcast on the presentation of the UN Creative Economy Report taking place in New York at the end of the day’s session.
6. Following the speech of the representative of the - Director-General of UNESCO, the **Chairperson** invited the representatives of the press to leave the room to enable the Committee to begin its work. She then presented the salient items of the session’s agenda and the decisions to be taken by the Committee. She also informed the Committee that interpretation as well as all working documents were available in English and French.

Based on the environmental policy of UNESCO and cost reduction measures, USB keys containing the documents would be at the disposal of the Committee. No hardcopies of the documents were available in the room. She then introduced the members of the Bureau elected at the previous session (Vice-Chairs: Congo, Kuwait, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Viet Nam; Rapporteur: Mr Mikael Schultz) and announced the Bureau's meeting the following morning. Finally, the Chairperson reminded the Committee about the time constraints of the session and requested all speakers to keep their interventions short and to the point in order to avoid using the timer.

ITEM 1 – ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Document CE/13/7.IGC/1

7. The **Chairperson** announced that the quorum had been reached in accordance with Rule 16.1 and invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the item.
8. The **Secretary of the Convention**, Ms Danielle Cliche, observed that the working documents were made available online both in English and French on 12 November 2012, which was within the statutory deadline established by the Rules of Procedure, with the exception of the English version of Document 9 and the French version of Document 4 that were put online a week later due to a delay in translation. She proceeded to introduce the seven information documents and their contents as well as the documents provided by the Parties and civil society organizations to feed the Committee's debates on its future activities, in conformity with Resolution 4.CP13. She reminded the Committee that WIFI access as well as a number of laptops and USB sticks with all documents would be available as no paper copies of the working or information documents will be provided at the commis de salle. In addition, she announced that various brochures and reports including the 2013 edition of the Basic Texts of the Convention, newly published in English, French and Spanish, could be obtained from the commis de salle.
9. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention and invited questions from the members of the Committee.
10. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** requested a clarification on whether and how the Committee had made a decision to make the session completely paperless. It expressed several difficulties taking decisions without having paper copies of the working documents.
11. The **Secretary of the Convention** responded that there was no particular decision taken by the Committee on this matter, however, explained that it had been an ongoing practice for the last few Committee sessions. She indicated that the Secretariat would make paper copies available to all Committee members, should the Committee take that decision.
12. The delegations of **Argentina, Tunisia** and **Zimbabwe** equally supported the comments of the delegation of the United Kingdom and expressed difficulties in working without paper copies of the documents. The delegation of Zimbabwe added that the documents should be more accessible in addition to being available, as they are currently too voluminous.
13. The delegation of **Sweden** expressed its support to the Secretariat and to its new working methods. The delegation acknowledged that it had been a well-known practice to have the working documents electronically available.
14. The **Chairperson**, after consulting the Committee, decided to continue the session while waiting for the hard copies of the documents to be distributed to the Committee members. She then invited the Committee members to adopt the agenda.

15. The delegation of **Tunisia** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for her presentation of the working documents. On behalf of the French speaking group of UNESCO, the delegation proposed to change the agenda, so that item 4 on the Secretariat's report on its activities could be examined prior to item 13 on the Activities of the Committee (2013-2014) and information document CE/13/7.IGC/INF 4. The proposal was made in order to avoid making decisions before having reviewed past activities against those set out in 37 C/5 as well as their financial impact.
16. The **Chairperson** informed she was aware that several Committee members and the French speaking group of UNESCO wished to have items 4 and 13 considered at the same time. She then suggested postponing item 4 and having it examined before item 13.
17. The delegation of **Tunisia** clarified the ordering of the examination of item 4 so that it would follow after item 12 and before item 13.
18. The **Chairperson** presented the provisional timetable and proceeded to read out the specific items that would be examined each day. She then invited the Committee to inform her of any issues that should be raised under item 16 on "Other Business". She also reminded the Committee to submit in advance amendments to any draft decisions both in English and French.
19. There were no objections recorded.

Decision 7.IGC 1 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF OBSERVERS

20. The **Chairperson** requested the Secretary of the Convention to read out the list of observers: 45 Parties non-members of the Committee, 5 Member States not Parties to the Convention, 2 IGOs and 11 NGOs. The delegations of **Benin, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Grenada, Haiti, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Morocco, Portugal, Qatar, Serbia Tanzania** and the **International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (IFTC)** requested to be included in the list of observers.
21. The **Chairperson** requested the delegations and organizations who wished to be added to the list of observers to confirm their registration at the commis de salle.

Decision 7.IGC 2 was adopted.

ITEM 3 – ADOPTION OF THE DETAILED SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

Document CE/13/7.IGC/3

22. The **Chairperson** invited the Committee to consider the adoption of the detailed summary record of the sixth ordinary session of the Committee, held in 2012, and informed the Committee that no comments on the draft report had been received by the Secretariat. No objections were recorded.

Decision 7.IGC 3 was adopted.

ITEM 4 – SECRETARIAT’S REPORT ON ITS ACTIVITIES

Document CE/13/7.IGC/4; CE/13/7.IGC/INF.3 ; CE/13/7.IGC/INF.4 ; CE/13/7.IGC/INF.5

23. The **Chairperson**, after adopting Decision 7.IGC 12 and before examining item 13, came back to item 4, as proposed by Tunisia in the name of the French-speaking group and agreed by the Committee. She made a brief announcement, on behalf the South African Embassy and the Permanent Delegation of South Africa to UNESCO, that a memorial ceremony for former President Nelson Mandela will take place now at 3pm on 11 December in Room I for two hours and asked the Committee whether it would like to suspend the meeting to attend the event. It was decided that the Committee would continue working. The Chairperson reminded the Committee of the relevant information documents CE/13/7.IGC/INF.3, CE/13/7.IGC/INF.4 and CE/13/7.IGC/INF.5. She then asked the Secretary of the Convention to present the report.
24. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that, at the request of the Conference of Parties at its third session, the Secretariat had presented the first report on its activities to the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties covering the period of 2011-2013, which was preceded by two interim reports presented to the fifth and sixth session of the Committee. The current report provides an overview of the activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the biennium 2012-2013, which are described in line with the corresponding expected results 10-13 of 36 C/5 MLA 4 set out in the approved programme and budget for the biennium and the main priorities established by the governing bodies of the Convention. As presented in the annexed table monitoring the progress of the expected results, the first expected result 10, the effective implementation of the Convention, was successfully attained by providing full support to the governing bodies of the Convention through the organization of the sixth and seventh ordinary sessions of the Committee in 2012 and 2013 and the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties in June 2013 as well as three exchange sessions on special themes held prior to the statutory meetings. The Committee’s attention was drawn to information document 3, which reports on the results of the survey on the preparation and organization of the exchange sessions and the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties on how to improve the effectiveness of future meetings. Under expected result 10, the work on the IFCD exceeded the expected results presented in the 36 C/5 with 415 project applications processed in comparison to 150 expected and 37 projects successfully completed and evaluated in comparison to the 30 expected. Activities to implement the ratification strategy were also successful with the total number of Parties to the Convention raised to 133 with 28 new ratifications, just short of the target set by the governing bodies. The expected result 11 was marked with the launch of important pilot capacity building activities that included the preparation of core training materials and tool kits on developing policies to support the cultural and creative industries as well as establishing an expert facility to strengthen cultural governance in developing countries, delivering technical assistance and policy interventions through field or remote missions conducted under the joint UNESCO-EU funded project; the main results of this programme and an external evaluation are respectively presented in the brochure and information document 5. In relation to expected result 12 on the collection and dissemination of information and data to support policy making, three databases were developed to facilitate the analysis of periodic reports and the collection and dissemination of good practices. However the Committee was reminded that extrabudgetary resources were required to explore the full potential of the Convention’s knowledge management activities. In view of this need, the Secretary of the Convention also presented a global capacity-building strategy for the Convention, which the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session had identified as one of the priorities, in information document 4 with timelines and budgetary estimates for its implementation. In line with expected result 13 the Secretariat took action to formalize inter-institutional dialogue on culture and development and to inform cultural policy frameworks, which involved the successful application of the “Culture for Development Indicator Suite” piloted in 12 countries. The results show a positive impact on promoting

concrete policy development at the country level and a comprehensive approach to culture's integration in development strategies through adequate data and analysis. The Secretariat's coordination of the UN Creative Economy Report, special edition 2013, was also presented in this context with its ten key recommendations placing creativity and innovation at the heart of new development pathways and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. The Secretary of the Convention confirmed that special attention was given to UNESCO's two global priorities, Africa and gender equality in addition to youth, throughout its activities and presented the magazine produced in Spanish by young people describing the Convention and its activities. She assured the Committee that the Secretariat had made every effort to implement the decisions and resolutions of the governing bodies regardless of the decreasing regular programme funds and underlined the critical need to mobilize extrabudgetary support in the main priority areas identified by the governing bodies of capacity-building, developing the knowledge management system and supporting the IFCD.

25. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention and opened the floor for debate.
26. The delegation of **Austria** expressed its appreciation and highest considerations and congratulations for the Secretariat's continuous excellent work. It considered the working documents and information documents of very high quality, which allowed the Committee to proceed with the session in a constructive way. The delegation also acknowledged the successful results that have been attained exceeding the expected results as well as the numerous initiatives that go beyond the Secretariat core activities however correspond to the goals and objectives of the Convention and UNESCO's global priorities. Considering the importance to ensure the sustainability of the Convention, Austria addressed the financial situation. It reminded the Committee of the decision that was taken at the last General Conference and its preceding Executive Board to place the programmes of Creative Cities Network and Arts Education under one common expected result with the Convention, at the same time with the reassurance that the regular programme budget will only be attributed to the Convention and not to these programmes. In this regard, the delegation proposed to reiterate this decision and introduce it as an amendment to the draft decision.
27. The delegation of **Tunisia** congratulated the Secretariat for the high quality of the document and its excellent work as a whole, which achieved results that exceed the expected outcomes despite the difficulties and limitations in human and financial resources. It encouraged the Secretariat to continue working and advancing to maintain this dynamic movement. The delegation also praised the Secretariat for the conception and elaboration of the capacity-building programme, one of the strategic priorities of the Convention, which covers a wide range of actions and targets. Out of a various number of difficulties, Tunisia outlined the development of the knowledge management system, which aims to develop an accessible common platform adapted to the needs to collect policies, measures and good practices from the periodic reports and information on the impact of IFCD projects, and took note that the development of such a system would require support and commitment from Parties for further expertise and extrabudgetary funds.
28. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** thanked the Secretariat for its excellent work and the results that were achieved above expectations with a small team, with 80 percent less of regular programme resources and with a disadvantage of not having lists but projects. In spite of the lack of human and financial resources mentioned in the report, the delegation took notice of the initial activities undertaken to develop the knowledge management system and acknowledged the difficult task and need for extrabudgetary funds. It underlined the priority to establish the knowledge management system, which is expected to facilitate the work of the Parties and the Secretariat. The delegation informed that it had an amendment to present when it comes to the draft decision.

29. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** joined the previous speakers in congratulating the Secretariat for not only exceeding the targets but also reporting the results in a results-based management format. In connection with item 13 on the activities of the Committee, the delegation raised the question to the Committee on what approach it will take to set priorities to be implemented by the Secretariat. It questioned certain performance indicators that are proved to be over-performed, such as the total number of 415 applications that were processed for the IFCD in comparison to the expected 150 and suggested to have a more targeted, realistic and self-restrained approach to the Fund in order not to create unnecessary work for the Secretariat. The United Kingdom also raised an issue relating to the decision taken at the General Conference regarding the impact on some of the budgets and priorities within the adopted expenditure plan of US\$ 507 million. It explained the special situation that some programmes considered low priority activities, such as the Creative Cities Programme, have been located within the Expected Result 7 along with the Convention. The United Kingdom therefore, based on the reassurances received throughout the General Conference, suggested taking a decision to guarantee that regular programme funds allocated to the Convention will not be spent on implementing other activities.
30. The delegation of **Madagascar** supported by Armenia and Sweden, echoed the previous speakers in congratulating the Secretariat for its work and encouraged the Secretariat, which deserves the support in terms of human and financial resources, to continue moving forward despite the various problems encountered.
31. The delegations of **Congo** and **Honduras** congratulated the Secretariat for its excellent work and wished to highlight the issue of reinforcement of capacities.
32. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** congratulated the Secretariat for demonstrating what a motivated team can accomplish despite the financial crisis. The delegation, supported by Switzerland, agreed to the proposal to have the verbal assurances given during the Executive Board and the General Conference in writing in the draft decision to make sure that neither the budget of the Convention nor the staff of the Convention will be allocated to other activities. It also agreed with the United Kingdom on the need to set priorities and suggested that it be done while the Committee examines item 13 based on the clear and transparent work plan that the Secretariat provided with a list of activities and budget estimates
33. The **Chairperson** invited observers to make comments. She reminded them that interventions from observers are to follow the order of Parties non-members of the Committee, Member States not Parties to the Convention, associate members and permanent observer mission to UNESCO, IGOs and NGOs.
34. The representative of **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD)** questioned the gap that exists between the limited resources and capacity of UNESCO and the expectations and international ambitions for the Convention. He commented that, although the Secretariat continues to impress everyone with the rich contents and the initiatives taken, it is critical to agree on a certain number of feasible and realistic priorities.
35. The **representative of the Director-General of UNESCO** expressed his gratitude for all the congratulatory messages and compliments that were extended to the Secretariat. He also reiterated the assurance, on behalf of the Secretariat, that the resources for the Convention will be ring-fenced so that neither the financial nor the staff resources will be used for implementing other programmes and welcomed the proposal to include it in the draft decision.
36. The **Secretary of the Convention** thanked the Committee for its words of appreciation. She thanked the Secretariat team for its commitment to achieving quality results and the colleagues in the Culture Sector for their support. She commented that all the results achieved were only possible through partnerships with Parties, national contact points, civil society

organizations and local stakeholders who work together to debate the priorities, implement the programmes and interpret what the Convention means on the ground in practice.

37. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to display the draft decision on the screen. She asked Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to present its amendments to be added to paragraph 2 as “Takes note of the Secretariat’s report on its activities for the period 2012-2013 and congratulates the Secretariat for the excellent work and the above-average expected results”.
38. The delegation of the **United Kingdom**, supported by Madagascar, proposed to delete “congratulates” as the wording is not a normal practice at UNESCO and replace it with “takes note with satisfaction” as a way of encompassing all of the warm appreciation and congratulations the Committee has conveyed to the Secretariat.
39. The **Chairperson** read a new paragraph proposed by the delegation of Austria, “Bearing in mind the resolution of the General Conference relating to the 37 C/5 and the Expenditure Plan, notes the explanation by the Director-General that the resources available for the Convention shall remain dedicated to its implementation and shall not be reduced as a result of the impact of any administrative mergers of reporting or budgeting”.
40. The delegations of **Honduras, Madagascar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom**, and **Uruguay** supported the amendment. Paragraphs 4 and 5 were adopted and no objections were recorded.

Decision 7.IGC 4 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 5 – QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORTING: NEW REPORTS AND ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

Documents CE/13/7.IGC/5 and CE/13/7.IGC/INF.6

41. The **Chairperson** opened the debate on quadrennial periodic reporting by informing the Committee that the Secretariat received 20 new reports since the sixth session of the Committee, held in December 2012. With the total of 65 periodic reports received, around half of the Parties have provided precious data and examples of good practices on how they have implemented the Convention. The Chairperson then gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to present the working document.
42. The **Secretary of the Convention** began by referring to the working document CE/12/7.IGC/5 that contains an updated analytical summary of the new reports received by the Secretariat since September 2013. She said that the reports had been made available to Parties on a password-protected website in November 2013, and would be made available to the public following the Committee’s session, in accordance with Resolution 3.CP 10. After calling out the names of the 20 States that submitted new reports to the Secretariat, she went on presenting some statistical information related to the periodic reports. The Secretary of the Convention explained that in preparing the analytical summary, the Secretariat had focused on the transversal themes highlighted in the Framework for Periodic Reports, as well as on the challenges to be addressed in the future implementation of the Convention. In addition, she further explained that the Secretariat had carried out a preliminary transversal review of the reports submitted in 2012 and 2013 with a thematic focus on the status of the artist, as requested in paragraph 7 of Resolution 4.CP 10. This review, presented in Annex IV of document CE/12/7.IGC/5 reported on several key issues affecting the status of artists, such as measures to improve the overall economic and social conditions of artists, different forms of direct funding and support, and tax relief and other fiscal measures to support the transnational mobility of artists.

43. The **Secretary of the Convention** continued presenting some of the main findings of the Secretariat's analysis of the periodic reports, outlining the following points:
- The Convention had clearly inspired the introduction of new cultural policies, many aimed at strengthening the human and institutional capacities and conditions to promote the creation, production, distribution of diverse cultural goods and services and to foster participation in cultural life.
 - In both developing and developed countries, culture is integrated into national development plans and thus its contribution to economic growth and to promoting social inclusion recognized. In addition, in the economically more advanced countries, international cooperation strategies have been introduced that place culture among the key objectives.
 - Parties prioritize legal and financial measures as tools to support artistic creation.
 - With regard to cultural participation, cultural and arts education programmes are considered to be an important means to promote individual well-being, social equity and human development as well as targeted measures addressed to specific individuals and groups.
 - The role of Public Service Broadcasting in ensuring equitable participation in cultural life was highlighted.
 - Developing countries are becoming increasingly active in promoting the international mobility of artists as part of their contribution to implement the preferential treatment measures, as it is considered as a strategic measure that could help domestic goods and services penetrate international markets.
 - In respect to the role of civil society, Parties acknowledged its fundamental role in formulating, monitoring, evaluating and amending cultural policies as well as sharing information and raising awareness about the Convention.
 - The main challenges to the implementation of the Convention included, primarily, the lack of resources, both human and financial, and the lack of awareness of the Convention and the policy issues around it.
44. In addition, the **Secretary of the Convention** highlighted some of the good practices from Burkina Faso, United Kingdom and Viet Nam out of the 15 innovative examples identified in the 2013 reports. With these new examples, a solid roster of 70 good practices, varied both geographically and thematically, will be published online to provide inspiration to all Convention stakeholders. After briefly drawing the Committee's attention to the list of Parties expected to submit their reports by 30 April 2014 and with the approval of the Chairperson, the Secretary of the Convention went on to explain the main points for discussion on possible revisions to the Operational Guidelines on Article 9 of the Convention and the Framework for Periodic Reports. She referred to Annex IV of working document CE/12/7.IGC/5, which provides a summary of a number of proposed revisions based on Governing Bodies' debates, the exchange sessions on periodic reporting as well as on the recommendations by the international experts. The draft revisions mainly concern the range and levels of engagement of the working groups compiling the reports, the Framework for Periodic reports, as well as the Sources and Statistics Annex of the Framework. In addition, she presented the Secretariat's proposal for a training programme on the preparation of periodic reports, which could be delivered through a series of six regional workshops in Africa, Arab States and Asia/Pacific. She mentioned the pilot national workshop conducted in Abidjan in March 2013 that raised positive ripple effects in

helping several countries prepare their first periodic reports. To conclude, the Secretary of the Convention highlighted a proposal, presented in Information Document CE/13/7.IGC/INF.6, to publish the analytical summary based on the Parties' periodic reports as a biennial report on the state of implementation of the Convention.

45. The **Chairperson** opened the floor for the debate. She asked the Committee to first focus its debate on the report and the present state of the implementation of the Convention as well as the improvement that could be made in terms of the information and good practice sharing mechanisms, followed by discussions regarding potential revisions of the Operational Guidelines under Article 9 and the capacity building programme at regional level.
46. The delegation of **Madagascar** commended the work of the Secretariat, while still noting the difficulties regarding the quadrennial periodic reports. The delegation mentioned that it had not submitted its report yet, however expressed its will and readiness to prepare and submit the report if the necessary support could be provided through training workshops that was mentioned in the Secretary's presentation.
47. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** commended the Secretariat's work and its approach to the report. The delegation considered it as one of the best reports on a UNESCO Convention and an example to follow. The report was drawn up in an analytical and forward looking manner and with a built-in sense of improvement and capacity building, informing Member States on what difference the Convention is making and analysing the progress in Member States. The delegation added that the information contained in the annexes would enable Member States to build capacity by looking at what other countries are doing.
48. The delegation of **Congo** joined the delegation of the United Kingdom in congratulating the Secretariat for its excellent work as well as for its preparation of the Committee meeting through the various documents that were sent using modern communication means. It also commended the Secretariat for organizing the training workshop in Abidjan, which helped the country prepare its periodic report. The delegation, on the other hand, pointed out the challenge that the Secretariat will have to face in raising awareness on the importance of the Convention. It requested the Secretariat to actively execute outreach operations and help Parties enhance the visibility and understanding of the Convention to all related cultural actors.
49. The delegation of **Sweden** began by thanking the Secretariat for its excellent work and presentation on the report. The delegation observed that some of the suggestions made to improve the report were very pertinent, in particular on sharpening the focus on artistic creativity and the issue of freedom of expression. It recommended the Secretariat to continue giving focus to this issue in its analytical reports.
50. The delegation of **Austria** joined the previous speakers in commending the Secretariat as well as the experts for the preparation of the high quality document. It observed that for a very first reporting exercise the analysis shows positive trends that the Convention and its core concepts such as the cultural value chains, culture and development, have impact on the governance and management of culture. The delegation expressed its satisfaction with information document 6, which followed the decision of the governing body to identify and analyse global trends and challenges, and also welcomed the Secretariat's proposal to publish a biennial analytical summary. It also stressed the importance of awareness-raising and explained how the preparation for the report itself was a very important tool for raising awareness, building capacities and also promoting cooperation between different stakeholders. Another aspect that the delegation wished to highlight was how to make the huge amount of information and knowledge more useful in practical terms, which led to the

need for a fully-fledged knowledge management system that could showcase innovative examples and their impact on particular issues such as the status of the artist. Furthermore, the delegation suggested that, with regard to examples on Article 21, the Committee could consider opening the database for contributions from international experts, networks, the Compendium of the Council of Europe and civil societies, which conduct intensive research on this issue and continuously monitor its implementation.

51. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** expressed its support to the comments made by the United Kingdom and commended the Secretariat for its excellent work. The delegation underlined the importance of the periodic reports to the Parties and requested the Secretariat to make them accessible on the website without a password so all Parties could benefit from this information. It took note of the regional workshops scheduled for the preparation of the periodic reports in Africa, Arab States and Asia/Pacific, mentioned in Annex IV of the document, however expressed its regret to see that Latin America and the Caribbean region were not included, despite the fact that none of the countries in this region have presented their periodic report due to the lack of capacity.
52. The **Chairperson** clarified that the reports will be published after the decision has been adopted.
53. The delegation of **Guinea** expressed its satisfaction with the exceptional quality of the report presented by the Secretary of the Convention. It emphasized the importance of awareness-raising with respect to the periodic reports and to the implementation of the Convention, recalling that various states have a problem regarding the lack of training and outreach on the Convention, which is not sufficiently understood among cultural actors. Therefore, the delegation requested UNESCO's support and expressed its wish to host a capacity-building workshop with all actors in the culture sector.
54. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** fully endorsed the comments of the United Kingdom concerning the excellent report and work done by the Secretariat. It also supported the comments of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines with regard to providing assistance to the GRULAC region for the preparation of the periodic reports. The delegation referred to the comments made by the experts during the last exchange session and requested that they be taken into consideration in the revised framework. It also recommended that the reports include a section on the implementation of Article 21 and on the impact of the implementation of Article 16 on preferential treatment. It expressed its intention to reflect these ideas in the draft decision.
55. The delegation of **Switzerland** thanked the Secretariat for its hard work. It considered the periodic reports as excellent tools for sharing experience and knowledge and exploring the potential challenges and results. It reiterated its thanks to the Secretariat for organizing the exchange session between Parties and the experts involved in the analysis of the periodic reports that took place on 10 June 2013 in the framework of the Conference of Parties. The delegation expressed its appreciation for these debates that showed what the real challenges were in terms of analysing the reports.
56. The delegation of **Tunisia** congratulated the Secretariat for the excellent quality of its report, which gives more visibility and insight into the content, the needs of Parties and the core critical issues. It expressed its support for the training workshops, which was considered to be essential in helping Parties draft their report. The delegation also stressed the importance of having further focus on Article 16 on preferential treatment in the reports, which is at the core of concerns of developing countries. It assured the Secretariat that the analysis of the reports was going in the right direction and agreed to have the reports examined every two years during the Conference of Parties. The

delegation also suggested having the framework of the reports reviewed so that they aim at targeted reporting and briefly mentioned the online knowledge management platform, which will be discussed on a later point of the agenda.

57. The **Chairperson** opened up the floor to observers.

[Observers]

58. The delegation of **Denmark** expressed its warm appreciation to the Secretariat for its hard work and high quality of documents, especially considering the very difficult resource situation. Denmark considers periodic reporting as a key pillar in the implementation of the Convention, providing the Parties with an opportunity to better understand global trends and challenges in the state of the implementation. It urged the Committee to exploit the potential of the periodic reports so that they are oriented towards future action and that the findings are communicated to all relevant actors in a strategic and an easy accessible way. The delegation agreed with the Secretariat's proposal in information document 5 to introduce a global report every second year and considered it to be the right strategic approach. Furthermore it welcomed the idea to provide more detailed analysis on some particular issues, duly identified by the governing bodies, such as the conditions of artists and to sharpen the focus on artistic creativity by adding more targeted questions in the framework of periodic reports. In this regard, the delegation highlighted some relevant questions on the main challenges to improve the conditions of artists and to promote the freedom of artistic expression as well as on good practices and possible sources of inspiration for other Parties. It stated that UNESCO's recommendation concerning the status of artists could be a key reference to inspire the Parties to promote open spaces and democratic platforms while strengthening the capacities and opportunities of artists and their organizations.
59. The delegation of **Canada** congratulated the Secretariat for the excellent quality of the document. The delegation wished to focus on the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital age. It explained the challenges and new perspectives digital technology offers regarding central issues promoted and advocated by the Convention, which includes the cultural value chain and the adaptation of cultural policies and practices in the digital era. It also emphasized the impact of digital technology for the purposes of education and awareness-raising on culture for sustainable development and international cooperation, which could lead to encouraging Parties to reinforce innovation, creation, and capacity building in the area of cultural expressions. Considering the difficult budgetary situation of UNESCO, the delegation proposed to include a separate section in the report on the impact of digital technologies on the Convention. It stated that such practice would enable Parties to advance with their reflections on the development of cultural policies and measures in relation to digital technology and further encourage them to foster exchange and international cooperation related to digital technology and its impact on the diversity of cultural expressions.
60. The delegation of **France** joined the previous speakers in congratulating the Chairperson and the Secretary of the Convention as well as her team for the outstanding quality of their work. Like Canada, France underscored the importance of the development of digital technology, which brings about revolutionary changes to the creative economy. It provides unprecedented and new opportunities for the cultural value chain, and at the same time certain risks when advocating cultural diversity. In that context, the delegation stated that appropriate cultural policies must be implemented so as to guide the digital revolution towards the general public. The delegation considers the Convention to be the conceptual tool needed to strengthen international cooperation in taking up these challenges. Therefore it supported the proposal of Canada to add a separate section on the impact of digital technology in the framework for the quadrennial periodic reports.

61. The **Chairperson** proposed to move to the examination of the draft decision 7.IGC 5 and the delegation of **Tunisia** announced that it had an amendment to present on behalf of the French speaking group and proceeded to present the following amendments.
The first one was to follow paragraph 8 of the draft decision: “Proposes to the Secretariat that a separate section be added to the periodic reports on the impact of digital technologies on the implementation of the Convention, and specifically on the policies and measures implemented by the Parties at all the stages of the cultural value chain (creation, production, distribution, broadcasting, access)”.
The second proposal, “Requests the Parties who must submit the periodic reports in April 2014 and in April 2015 and all those who have already submitted their periodic reports to report on the cultural policies and measures as referred to paragraph 10 (the one that was just cited)”.
A new paragraph was presented by the delegation, “Proposes to the Secretariat that a separate presentation be made in the analytical summary of the periodic reports with the answers provided by the Parties on digital technologies and the diversity of cultural expressions for discussion at the eighth ordinary session”.
The last paragraph to be added, “Requests the Conference of Parties at its fifth ordinary session to pursue the next stages of its work related to digital technologies and diversity of cultural expressions”.
62. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** asked how the Committee will proceed with adopting the draft decision.
63. The **Chairperson** proposed to adopt it paragraph by paragraph.
64. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** didn’t agree with examining the draft decision point by point and suggested to rather consider all the amendments proposed by the French speaking group together as a package.
65. The **Chairperson**, suggested that the Committee examines the amendments and asked the Secretariat to display on the screen the first amendment. She started reading the first three paragraphs of the draft decision with its amendments.
66. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** suggested replacing the amendment “takes note of information documents of the Parties and civil societies for this seventh ordinary session of the Committee” as paragraph 4 after the paragraph “takes note of the information collected...” as the main documents are more important than the information documents.
67. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** commented that it did not understand the purpose of the amendments. It considered that most of the amendments were already covered in the final paragraph 9 of the original draft decision, which says “based on the discussions held at the session”. In addition, the delegation did not agree with the amendment proposal to have a separate section on digital technologies in the reports. Furthermore, the delegation proposed paragraph 3 to be amended with further clarifications and to delete all of the other paragraphs while somehow having them considered in the final paragraph of the original draft decision.
68. The delegation of **Austria**, although agreeing to the importance of digital technology and its impact on the whole value chain, requested the French-speaking group for clarifications on whether all 65 Parties that already submitted a report will have to submit an addition to the existing reports related to digital technology. It also pointed out that this would imply changes to the operational guidelines for the reporting framework, which will only be

discussed and reviewed during the next session of the Committee so that it may eventually forward a proposal to the Conference of Parties.

69. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** suggested to focus on the reporting exercise as it is without adding new elements such as separate sections and new deadlines as it considered them neither to be feasible nor practical for Parties, particularly in the context of Africa in need of capacity building workshops.
70. The delegation of **Sweden** expressed its full support to the previous intervention of the delegation of UK and did not consider it necessary to add items on the draft decision for every issue.
71. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** pointed out that the format of the reports cannot be changed without a formal validation and adoption process
72. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** echoed the comments of the delegations of UK and Saint Lucia, mentioning that a new draft for the framework of the quadrennial reports will be presented at the next session. It added that separate reports on the implementation of Articles 16 and 21 would be desirable.
73. The delegation of **Argentina** agreed with the previous speakers that the amendments were confusing.
74. The **Chairperson** suggested to the members of the Committee that they provide the Secretariat with the amendments in writing beforehand in order to avoid confusion. Then she gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention.
75. The **Secretary** of the Convention assured the Committee that the Secretariat will be taking good note of its first debate on the possible revisions to the framework for the periodic reports and would take into account all the issues that were raised in the proposal to be reviewed by the Committee at its eighth session. She also clarified that no amendments to the guidelines on Article 9 that deal with periodic reporting will be made until the Conference of Parties in June 2015 and that the periodic reporting framework will remain the same until that time.
76. The **Chairperson** asked the delegation of Saint Lucia to explain the changes made to the draft decision.
77. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** explained that, it was agreed that there will be only two paragraphs that replace the other paragraphs that were proposed earlier. One is the preambular paragraph, which starts with “further takes note of the importance of pursuing the reflection on the challenges and opportunities brought by digital technologies...” and the second paragraph quoted as “also invites the Parties who are to submit their periodic reports in April 2014 and April 2015 to pay special attention, on a voluntary basis, to the impact of digital technologies on the implementation of the Convention...”.
78. Taking note of the two paragraphs added to the draft decision, the **Chairperson** read the draft decision with the amendments of paragraphs 4 and 7 and adopted them one by one.
79. There were no further objections to the draft decision from the floor.

Decision 7.IGC 5 was adopted as amended

ITEM 6 – SECRETARIAT’S REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY (IFCD)

Documents CE/13/7.IGC/6 and CE/13/7.IGC/INF.7

80. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to introduce the documents concerning the IFCD.
81. The **Secretary of the Convention** briefly presented the four separate documents on the IFCD that were submitted for the Committee’s review in the following order: i) Document CE/13/7.IGC/6, the Secretariat’s report on the implementation of the IFCD, which presents the status of three previous cycles of the IFCD projects as well as recommendations for 10 new projects and a new composition of the Panel of Experts for the Committee’s approval; ii) Document CE/13/7.IGC/7 on the implementation of the IFCD fundraising strategy; iii) Document CE/13/7.IGC/8, the IFCD action plan on the implementation of the recommendations made by UNESCO’s Internal Oversight Service (IOS); and iv) Document CE/13/7.IGC/9 on the use of financial resources of the IFCD, which includes income and expenditures for 2012 and until 30 June 2013 as well as the provisional draft budget for 2014.
82. The **Chairperson** explained that the documents related to the IFCD will be examined one by one and asked the members of the Committee to be succinct in their comments. She then gave back the floor to the Secretary of the Convention so that item 6 could be introduced.
83. The **Secretary of the Convention** informed that 25 of the 31 IFCD projects approved by the Committee in 2010 had been completed and that the IOS evaluation found these projects relevant to the work of the Convention, demonstrating promising results. She recalled that in 2011, the Committee approved 17 projects for funding and a budget for 2012. The majority of these 17 projects are now being completed having attained their expected results. She mentioned that information document 7 reports on the impact of these projects on the ground as well as their contribution to the culture and development agenda. She also recalled that in 2012, the Committee approved 13 additional projects for funding and a budget for 2013 and stated that these are all advancing steadily in their implementation and can be monitored via the Convention website. In addition, outcomes of these projects have been communicated by the Secretariat through monthly e-updates and web documentary films made available on the Convention website.

She reminded the Committee that it had decided to issue a fourth call for applications in 2013 giving special attention to projects aiming at capacity building for cultural policies, as per decision 6.IGC 7, and to dedicate 70 percent of the funds available on 30 June 2013 for funding projects. Given the total amount available at the time, US\$ 812,385 became available to fund IFCD projects that the Committee would review at this session.

Taking note of feedback from the Committee and the Panel of Experts, the Secretariat prepared for the fourth call for projects a revised annotated guide to the application form and a revised Panel of Expert’s evaluation form. Special attention was given to the importance of ensuring the sustainability of results. An information package for National Commissions was duly published and distributed for the call in March 2013. In addition, a teleconference and several online exchanges were organized with the Panel of Experts to actively involve them in the preparation of the fourth call.

For this call, the Secretariat received 196 applications from 68 countries, and from 28 international NGOs. A significant number of applications concerned cultural entrepreneurship and business development, governance of culture and public policy; and social inclusion and the empowerment of individuals and communities. In terms of the

priorities of UNESCO, eligible funding requests focused on youth and gender equality saw an increase of 7 percent in comparison to 2012. A high number of the applications were received from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean with an increase in number of requests from South East European countries.

Of the 196 requests for funding received in 2013, 23 percent passed the technical evaluation on their eligibility, which was conducted by the Secretariat. Those that did not pass received a letter indicating the reasons why, and those that did pass were forwarded to the Panel of Experts. Two members of the Panel undertook both a quantitative and qualitative evaluation of each project and the results were entered directly into the database for each project evaluated. A validation was made by the coordinator of the Panel of Experts prior to submitting the final list of recommended projects to the Committee within the limits of the funds available.

In conformity with Decision 5.IGC 7, all the project files related to the evaluation were made available online on the Convention's platform in order to provide the Committee with a transparent integral space for decision-making. Annex II of document CE/12/7.IGC/5 presents the final list of 10 projects recommended by the Panel of Experts. Annex III of document CE/12/7.IGC/5, contains individual evaluation sheets on each project recommended, including a summary of the Panel of Experts' assessment. All 10 projects were noted to have a focus on capacity building for cultural policies and three of the 10 projects came from Parties that have not yet received IFCD funding: Haiti; Nigeria; and Paraguay.

84. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for the excellent work on the fourth call for funding requests. In accordance with Article 18 of the revised Operational Guidelines on the Use of the Resources of the IFCD, which were approved at the 4th session of the Conference of Parties, Mr Ferdinand Richard, Coordinator of the Panel of Experts, was invited to the podium to give a summary of the projects recommended.
85. **Mr Ferdinand Richard** thanked the Committee for giving him the opportunity to present the 10 projects. He gave a brief description of each project. On behalf of the Panel of Experts, he thanked the Secretary of the Convention and the Secretariat for their high level of professionalism and for the flexibility and excellence of the online working tool for the evaluation. He commented on how the application form and process have improved with much clarity. In addition, he made the following observations with regards to the outcomes of the fourth call:
- The priority given to build capacities for cultural policies was not necessarily understood by all. If specific themes are to be continuously applied to the call, then efforts should be made to increase the number of applications that focus on the relevant themes.
 - A large number of applications came from public authorities and institutions. In general, the professional quality of these applications requires improvement. The importance of public institutions assuming their role as project leader should also be underlined.
 - There are a number of challenges linked to geographical diversity with an absence of applications from the Arab States and countries from the Asia and the Pacific region. Measures should be taken to encourage under-represented regions to submit applications.
 - In order to improve funding levels and to avoid fragmented funding, co-funding could be considered mandatory.

- It is necessary for UNESCO to provide a definition in the application form for the “cultural industries”.
 - The IFCD has opened the door to a new generation of projects that go beyond simply funding projects.
86. The **Chairperson** thanked Mr Richard for his presentation as well as the Panel of Experts for their work and commitment, and noted that his comments will contribute to the continuous improvement of the IFCD. She then opened the floor for questions.
87. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** had questions about the draft decision, the management of the Fund and the projects that were selected for approval. Its first question was why the draft decision talked only about the expenditure of the Fund and nothing about raising funds. Secondly, it questioned the merit of continuing the Fund without a cost recovery policy, when it was clear that there were insufficient resources to manage the Fund according to the Secretariat’s report on its activities of item 4. Lastly the delegation raised an issue of balance to why there were so many middle-income countries among the selected projects and an issue of impact on the performance indicator of the Brazilian project training only 16 indigenous people to create e-books.
88. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** equally raised a question on the cost recovery policy and requested information from the Secretariat on whether support costs were taken from the Fund and, if so, where does it go. The delegation also inquired about a specific project from Grenada that was not recommended to the Committee. It questioned the disagreement between the two experts in the evaluation of the project and required detailed information on what basis the final decision was taken as well as clarifications on the issue of beneficiaries.
89. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to answer the questions that were raised.
90. In response to the delegation of the United Kingdom, the **Secretary of the Convention** clarified that the Committee had adopted a five-year fundraising strategy, which will be the next item to be discussed along with the report on the activities of the Secretariat to raise funds. With regard to cost recovery, she reminded the Committee that it had been the decision of the Committee and the Conference of Parties not to apply the cost recovery policy to the Fund. She responded to the inquiry from the delegation of Saint Lucia that 10 percent of support costs from the entire IFCD budget go to the overall organization.
91. With regard to the Brazilian project, **Mr Richard** explained that measuring the potential impact of the projects should not be simply calculated in terms of the number of direct beneficiaries and that the overall impact of the project should be understood beyond the first circle of immediate beneficiaries. Concerning the Grenada project, he clarified that there were three points that gave a negative impact to the score: i) no sustainable effect; ii) 80 percent of the funding was allocated for salaries; and iii) no accounting officers involved in the project.
92. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** pointed out that the different opinions between the two experts was exactly on the matter of whether there was a designated account officer for the project and regretted that this could have given a negative impact on the score. In terms of the support costs, the delegation considered them as overhead costs and stated that these costs should come back to the sector and the staff working on the Fund and not to central services.
93. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to the representative of the Director-General, Mr Kishore Rao, to provide further explanation on support costs.

94. The **representative of the Director-General** explained that, according to the policy of extrabudgetary funding, support costs are charged for the services that are rendered by central services. He added that the cost recovery policy could also be applied to the Fund, which will be discussed under agenda item 9. He further reminded Committee members of the recent approval of this policy for the 1972 and 2003 Conventions. He ensured that the BFM representative will be present to provide further detailed information on the support costs policy.
95. The delegation of **Switzerland** thanked the Secretariat for the report on the Fund. It considered that the Fund was working in the right direction and stressed the importance of continuing its efforts, given the many challenges ahead such as the increasing number of eligible funding requests as well as the challenge of effective monitoring. The delegation expressed its support to the recommendations from the Panel of Experts, referring to paragraph 34 of Document 6, with the exception of the one that recommended not pursuing targeted IFCD calls in the future. It expressed the need to maintain strategic guidance for the IFCD, so as to ensure the proper knowledge management and monitoring of projects, and to establish a link between the impact of the Convention on the development of relevant policies and the use of the IFCD.
96. The delegation of **Armenia** thanked the Secretariat for its informative document and the explanation on the selection of the projects. It took special note of the revised Operational Guidelines as well as the recommendations of the Panel of Experts, which were considered to be useful for future projects as the country had only presented projects for the first time this year.
97. The delegation of **Sweden** thanked the Secretariat for its good work with the Fund. It asked whether it could be possible to sharpen the guidelines and instructions for applicants in order to reduce the workload for the Secretariat and to increase the percentage of applications that go to the experts for evaluation.
98. The delegation of **Austria** expressed its satisfaction with the selection of the projects as well as with the impact of the projects that were illustrated in the new brochure, which was considered to be a good basis for future funding. The delegation brought up the issue raised by Switzerland on the recommendation of the experts not to limit the calls. It also referred to the implementation of the IOS recommendations of item 8, which recommends aligning the Fund to strategic objectives as was the case with the last call and its focus on capacity-building. The delegation therefore proposed to the Committee to discuss whether a strategic objective should be applied to the next call, in relation to the draft decision.
99. The delegation of **Madagascar** thanked the Panel of Experts for its transparent decision-making. It agreed with the arguments of the experts and stated that the country would strive to improve future projects submitted to the Fund.
100. In response to the question from the delegation of Sweden on why only 23 percent of the applications passed the technical evaluation, the **Secretary of the Convention** explained that one of main reasons was due to the fact that many of the applications fell outside the scope and the area of interventions of the IFCD. With regard to the efficiency of the application procedure, she clarified that the Secretariat had produced an annotated guide with specific instructions on how to formulate a project. She also stressed the importance of having these tools communicated through hands-on workshops; using these tools are as essential as producing them. This meant working together with National Commissions to hold workshops for potential project beneficiaries. Nevertheless, she took note of Sweden's comments and ensured that the Secretariat will review the application forms and guidelines with the Panel of experts and make them more pertinent. Concerning the question from the delegation of Austria on the strategic objective of the next call, the Secretary of the Convention recalled that the year 2013 was a transitional period between

the old and new Operational Guidelines. She further explained that the Committee had decided to carry on with the fourth call based on the old guidelines and with a special focus on capacity building, which would be in line with the IOS recommendations until the new guidelines were adopted by the Conference of Parties.

101. The delegation of **Congo** expressed its support to what was said by the Secretary of the Convention on the need to have capacity-building workshops. It suggested that these workshops cover the preparation of the periodic reports and the IFCD projects at the same time.
102. The **Chairperson** invited the observers to speak in the following order: Parties non-members of the Committee, Member States not Parties to the Convention, permanent observer mission to UNESCO, IGOs and NGOs.

[Observers]

103. The delegation of **France** endorsed the statement made by Switzerland. It also agreed with the views expressed by Saint Lucia and questioned whether the 10 percent of support cost (PSC), should go to the Secretariat rather than to central services.
104. The **Chairperson** clarified that this issue will be discussed during point 9 of the agenda. As there were no other comments, the Chairperson proceeded with the approval of the 10 IFCD projects. Each recommended project was presented one by one by the Secretary of the Convention and then adopted. There was agreement on all 10 projects. The Chairperson thanked the Panel of Experts and congratulated the countries with the selected projects. She then suggested the Committee considers renewal of the Panel of Experts.
105. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** thanked the Secretariat for the proposal for a composition of the expert panel, however pointed out that it is in favour of having better geographical representation in the composition between the Panel of Experts and the alternate experts.
106. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretary of the Convention to provide the Committee with more information about the experts and introduce them one by one.
107. The **Secretary of the Convention**, in conformity with decision 6.IGC 5, presented a new composition for the Panel of Experts. She began with presenting three of the current members of the Panel of Experts that were proposed to be renewed for a two-year tenure in order to ensure a smooth continuation of the work of the panel. They were the coordinator Mr Ferdinand Richard (France), Ms Baiba Tjarve (Latvia), and Mr Ricardo Nudelman (Mexico). She pointed out that Mr Nudelman was a member of the alternate expert group who was called in last year due to the fact that the expert from the Latin America and Caribbean region had to withdraw for personal reasons. She then introduced the three new members proposed to the Committee for an appointment of four years, which were selected from an extended community of experts working in the fields of cultural policies, cultural and creative industries, culture and development. They include Mr Yudhishthir Raj Isar (India), Ms Yarri Kamara (Sierra Leone / Burkina Faso) and Ms Ouafa Belgacem (Tunisia). The Secretary of the Convention additionally mentioned the proposal for an alternate Panel of Experts presented as back-up to the current members of the Panel of Experts within their appointed period, should they not be able to fulfil their mandate. She further explained, in response to the comment of the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, that in the event that the expert from Group III will not be able to fulfil its role, an expert from another part of that region or any other region would be considered to ensure geographical diversity.

108. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** commended the Secretariat for its report and its efforts to ensure the quality work produced by the Panel of Experts as well as for its foresight in balancing continuity and change. It also expressed its expectation for continuous outcomes.
109. The **Chairperson** read the draft decision and adopted it paragraph by paragraph.
110. After adopting the first six paragraphs without discussions, the delegation of **Kuwait** suggested sending certificates or letters of gratitude to the experts as an appreciation for their effort.
111. The **Chairperson** continued reading paragraph 7 of the draft decision regarding a new call for funding requests in 2014.
112. The delegation of **Austria** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for her clarifications on the decision for the last call and its focus on capacity building. The delegation referred to the document on item 8 and its Annex II on the IOS recommendations, in particular recommendation 6 on the strategic focus for projects, and inquired whether a strategic priority would be applied to the fifth call.
113. The **Secretary of the Convention** reminded the Committee that the IOS recommendations, including its recommendation for focus on capacity building, were mostly taken into account with the new Operational Guidelines that will be in operation for the first time for the fifth call. She also pointed out that, if the Committee decides to adopt a different strategic focus, then it may be discussed.
114. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** suggested that the new Operational Guidelines be applied as they have been amended in a very strategic and focused manner in line with the IOS recommendations.
115. With regard to paragraph 7 of the draft decision, the delegation of **Madagascar** asked why only 70 percent of the funds are made available.
116. In response to Madagascar, the **Secretary of the Convention** explained that the calculation of 70 percent is in accordance with the regulations of the Fund when it was set up, as a safety valve so that not all of the funds would be depleted within one funding cycle and that a certain buffer of funds would be left to continue for the next year.
117. The delegation of **Austria**, coming back to the matter of the strategic focus for the next call, agreed with the suggestion of the delegation of Saint Lucia that the new Operational Guidelines, entering into force for the first time, should be fully applied without further prioritizing.
118. The **Chairperson** continued reading the draft decision from paragraph 7. There were no objections to the following paragraphs.

Decision 7.IGC 6 was adopted.

ITEM 7 – REPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IFCD FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

Document CE/13/7.IGC/7

119. The **Chairperson** suggested looking at the French version of IFCD corporate film before giving the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to introduce item 7 on the report on the IFCD fundraising strategy. She clarified that the film is available in French and English on the Convention website.

120. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** acknowledged the film as an excellent medium, however pointed out that the Convention's new identity, the emblem, is missing and requested whether it could be possible to include it.
121. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that the films were produced before the emblem was adopted and ensured that it would be included.
122. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to introduce document CE/13/7.IGC/7.
123. The **Secretary of the Convention** stated that the IFCD has been making great progress in helping developing countries invest in their creative sectors. She gave two specific examples to demonstrate the impact of the Fund: a project in Togo that developed cultural policies and action plans, which could revitalize the creative sector and which led to triggering further investment from the Government, and another project in La Plata, Argentina that focused on supporting the creative capacities of young artists and entrepreneurs to start their own businesses, which the Secretary had the occasion to witness herself. She recalled that the main goal of phase 1 of the fundraising strategy was to rebrand the Fund through a series of promotional tools building on the message "Investing in creativity. Transforming societies." To this end, the Secretariat has been working with Small World Stories to develop a variety of tools through different media to communicate the results. The films reach out to a broader audience and have been featured at international art festivals.

In addition, the online newsletters and brochures were produced to further communicate results, including the newly published second edition of the brochure showcasing the projects funded during the second funding cycle. The Secretariat has also explored the potential of social media and will be launching a new website in 2014. The Secretary of the Convention pointed out these results would never have been attained without the contributions made by the Parties and without the "Your 1% counts for creativity" campaign, which enabled the Fund to collect US\$ 600,000 from 12 countries since its launch in June 2013.

She reminded the Committee that Phase 1 activities of the fundraising strategy will be completed by 30 June 2014 with an expected amount of US\$ 1.5 million to be raised and that Phase 2 activities will begin on 1 July 2014 for a period of 24 months ending 30 June 2016. To complete Phase 1 activities during the first half of 2014, the difference between the foreseen total budget of US\$ 174,000 for Phase 1 and the funds of US \$143,000 allocated to the Secretariat, that is US\$ 31,500, is needed. For the implementation of the fundraising activities of Phase 2 during the second half of 2014, 25% of the foreseen total budget of US\$ 95,000 for Phase 2, that is US\$ 23,000, is required for promotional activities, including the production of e-updates, multimedia stories, brochure, and research and outreach activities to secure partnerships with the private sector.

The Secretary of the Convention concluded on the budget that the total amount required by the Secretariat to carry out activities in 2014, foreseen in the fundraising strategy adopted by the Committee, is US\$ 55,281. She then proposed to show a short web film presenting the project in Argentina. She added that there are two other films available on the Convention website concerning projects carried out in Croatia on the publishing industry and in Dakar on digital arts. She also invited the Parties to provide feedback on promotional activities undertaken in the countries for the Fund.

(The web film on the IFCD project in Argentina is screened)

124. The **Chairperson** expressed her appreciation for the film and then opened the floor for debate to Committee members.

125. The delegation of **Switzerland** congratulated the Secretariat for its efforts to communicate the positive results obtained so far in the framework of the fundraising campaign through online newsletters, a structured website and the creative economy report. The delegation expressed its support to continuing these efforts on the implementation of the fundraising strategy and agreed to the proposed sum estimated to complete the first phase and initiate the second. Nevertheless it asked the Secretariat for information on the remaining activities of Phase 1 that would be implemented with US\$ 31,500. In terms of Phase 2, the delegation praised the Secretariat on working on the list of potential partners from the private sector and commented on the importance of keeping Parties informed of the work within their countries so that they could provide support and advice. It also shared its views on the principle of the fundraising strategy and mentioned that fundraising should not be the end objective per se but a tool that creates catalyst effects for projects and essentially serves the implementation of the Convention.
126. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** appreciated the film on the project in Argentina commenting that it is a lively example of the project's impact on the ground on how it transforms societies. It thanked and congratulated the Secretariat as well as Small World Stories for the fundraising campaign and the results of the collected funds. In connection with the comments from Switzerland, the delegation asked the Secretariat whether US\$ 600,000 were raised during the period from June to November 2013. It also expressed its support to continuing the fundraising activities and inquired whether the amount of US\$ 55,281 requested by the Secretariat was already secured or whether it had to be added in the draft decision, in which case the delegation had an amendment to propose.
127. In response to the delegation of Switzerland, the **Secretary of the Convention** explained that the activities of Phase 1 in 2014 would basically focus on continuing and consolidating the work that had been done in the framework of the fundraising strategy to rebrand the Fund and give it more visibility. This would include ongoing activities to generate communication tools, produce films, e-updates and the brochure that presents the projects in an impact and result oriented manner. She gave the example of how the IFCD is showcased in the creative economy report with projects that lead to structural impact and transformative change, which could equally be discussed at the level of the MDG-F projects. The diversity of scale and size of investments in the IFCD projects has also been communicated, bringing a certain level of donor confidence. With regard to the inquiry from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Secretary of the Convention clarified that US\$ 55,281 was estimated based on the work plan contained within the fundraising strategy. Furthermore she suggested that the Committee could consider enabling the Secretariat to use funds that had been allocated to the Secretariat for the implementation of the strategy from the unassigned funds within the IFCD budget.
128. The **Chairperson** opened the floor to observers.

[Observers]

129. The representative of the **Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie** (APF), Mr Henri-François Gautrin, announced that a resolution was adopted at its last assembly in Abidjan in July, which called on governments that are Parties to the Convention to pay their annual contribution, equivalent to 1 percent of their UNESCO budget, to the IFCD. He asked the Secretariat to be in touch with the Parliamentary of the Assembly in order to follow up on which countries had met their requirements and commitment out of its 78 members who are Parties to the Convention.
130. The **Secretary of the Convention** responded that a list of countries that contributed to the Fund is provided in the brochure as well as on the website.

131. The delegation of **Canada**, referring to the question raised by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, asked whether the amount of US \$55,281 requested for activities in 2014 could be taken from the pool of US\$200,000 that was allocated by the Committee for the fundraising strategy.
132. The delegation of **France** pointed out that it had contributed to the Fund. It expressed its appreciation for the Secretariat's communication strategy and the fundraising campaign that gave a greater visibility to the Convention through the production of videos and multimedia material. The delegation also gave its support to implementing the second phase of the strategy and continuing the engagement with existing professional partners.
133. The delegation of **Brazil** endorsed the comments made by France and congratulated the professional partners on the quality of the work done for the strategy and the video. The delegation suggested that the video be showcased at the World Forum for Art and Culture in Santiago, Chile on 13-16 January 2014 and offered its help to the Secretariat to attend this forum, which was considered as an ideal opportunity to present the Convention and the IFCD.
134. The **Chairperson** thanked Brazil for its suggestion and France for its ongoing support to the Convention. She then gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to reply to the question raised by Canada.
135. The **Secretary of the Convention** clarified that the amount of US\$ 200,000 that was approved by the Committee at the beginning of the fundraising exercise was indeed used for the fundraising strategy and its activities undertaken this year. She explained that the Secretariat was requesting an additional amount of money to complete the activities beyond the original amount and not asking for more than what was already foreseen in the adopted fundraising strategy.
136. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to display the draft decision on the screen.
137. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** raised the question of the US\$ 55,281 requested by the Secretariat and indicated that it had an amendment to be added in the draft decision to enable the Secretariat to use the unassigned funds within the Fund.
138. The **Chairperson** asked Saint Vincent and the Grenadines whether it had forwarded the amendment in writing to the Secretariat (the response was negative). She then proposed to read the draft decision paragraph by paragraph.
139. After adopting the first paragraph of the draft decision, the delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** suggested to take out "examines" in the second paragraph so that it reads simply as "decides to implement specific activities...".
140. The **Chairperson** reread the amended paragraph two and it was adopted.
141. The delegation of the **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** read the following amendment proposed to be added in the draft decision as new paragraph 4: "Decides to allocate US\$ 55,281 for the Secretariat to carry out the foreseen fundraising activities for 2014 from unassigned funds in the IFCD special account". She additionally pointed out that the amount of US\$ 55,281 will be taken out from US\$ 485,000 of unassigned funds.
142. The **Chairperson** reread the new paragraph 4 and paragraph 5 and adopted them together.

Decision 7.IGC 7 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 8 – IFCD ACTION PLAN ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IOS'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Document CE/13/7.IGC/8

143. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the document CE/13/7.IGC/8 on the implementation of the IOS recommendations.
144. The **Secretary of the Convention** informed that, following the adoption of the IOS recommendations by the Committee at its sixth session, overall progress was made on its implementation. The status of implementation is presented with the key results achieved and list of actions to undertake to fully deliver the recommendations in Annex I of the document. She also informed about a plan of activities and a priority list of recommendations that are to be implemented in 2014, presented in Annex II of the document, which illustrates the specific activities, timeframe, estimated costs and benchmarks to measure the progress of implementation. The Secretary of the Convention gave specific examples on the implementation of some key recommendations. For example, with regard to Recommendation 7 on the development of a results based management framework with SMART indicators, she reported that the Secretariat was working closely with IOS and a highly-experienced monitoring expert to develop the framework that could enhance the operational and organizational performance of the Fund. Consultation meetings with major stakeholders had been initiated, however she noted that this recommendation has financial implications for the Secretariat and drew the attention of the Committee to the extrabudgetary resources required, as indicated in Annex II. The implementation of Recommendations 15 and 16 on the development of a knowledge management system, also set out as priority, implies the extensive development of tools and content for the web, online newsletters and multimedia stories in order to effectively communicate the results and impact of the projects. The Secretary of Convention informed that many other recommendations, mainly related to the fundraising strategy, project monitoring activities and calls for projects, would be continuously pursued in 2014. Lastly, she highlighted as major challenges for the implementation of the recommendations, the sustainability of the projects as well as the reinforcement of the Secretariat's human capacities that needs to be addressed with the full engagement of the Parties to the Convention.
145. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention and opened the floor for debate. She reminded the Committee that its role is to give clear indications and propose solutions to the Secretariat on how key recommendations could be further implemented.
146. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** thanked the Secretariat for the excellent document, which gives a clear explanation on the status and progress of the implementation of the IOS recommendations. The delegation wished to particularly address Recommendation 14 on including the promotion of gender equality as criteria in the assessment forms used by the Panel of Experts as well as in the IFCD Operational Guidelines. It requested the Secretariat to properly explain to the Panel of Experts the concept of gender equality, as defined and applied at UNESCO, so that the understanding is not just limited to women issues and takes into account particularities of certain countries and regions. The delegation gave the example of the Caribbean region where gender issues mainly concern men and not women. It addressed the issue of the Grenada project and considered it to have been penalized on the basis of a misunderstanding of gender issues in the regional context.
147. The **Chairperson** agreed with Saint Lucia's opinion that gender equality is not just a question of women. As there were no more comments from the floor, neither from the members of the Committee nor from observers, she informed the Committee that no

amendments had been received. She then read the draft decision CE/13/7.IGC/8 and adopted it paragraph by paragraph.

148. After reading and adopting all the paragraphs of the draft decision, the delegation of **Zimbabwe** stated that there is a missing component within the draft decision, which could outline the difficulties and challenges the Secretariat is facing in implementing some of the recommendations. The delegation then proposed adding a new paragraph: "Takes note of the number of challenges that the Secretariat is facing in implementing a number of the recommendations/some recommendations, in particular involving UNESCO field offices".
149. The **Chairperson** suggested that this new paragraph be placed before paragraph 3, becoming the new paragraph 3, or that the two paragraphs be merged.
150. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** did not agree with specifying particular recommendations. Given that all the recommendations requiring extrabudgetary resources were already indicated in Annex II of the document, it suggested the following wording "noting that the Secretariat is facing a number of challenges in implementing some recommendations identified in Annex II".
151. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** agreed to Saint Vincent and Grenadine's proposal.
152. The **Chairperson** read the paragraph as the following "takes note that the Secretariat is facing a number of challenges in implementing some of the IOS recommendations listed in Annex II to document CE/13/7.IGC/8". There were no objections and no further comments to the new paragraph 3 and it was adopted.

Decision 7.IGC 8 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 9 – USE OF THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY (IFCD)

Document CE/13/7.IGC/9

153. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to introduce item 9.
154. The **Secretary of the Convention** provided the Committee with a view of the financial transactions of the Fund, namely income and expenditures for the period 2007 until 30 June 2013. She reported updated figures such as US\$ 6.5 million of cumulative incomes credited to the Fund, as of 30 November 2013, and a total income of US\$ 730,000 received in 2013, which represents a US\$ 200,000 increase compared to 2012 undoubtedly owing to the launch of the fundraising campaign. She invited the Committee to examine the use of resources of the Fund, the statements of income and expenditure and the draft provisional budget for 2014 and consider it for adoption. She explained that the draft provisional budget, presented in Annex II of Document 9, is composed of two main sections, fixed costs and funding requests. The fixed costs cover the operations of the Fund, the evaluation of funding requests as well as the organization of a meeting of the Panel of experts in accordance with the revised Operational Guidelines and the cost of participation in statutory meetings of Committee members from LCD countries. The funding requests section includes funding for projects, preparatory assistance and the reserve; the percentage breakdown between operations and funding request costs remains the same according to the Operational Guidelines. The Secretary of the Convention reminded the Committee that, further to decision CE/13/7.IGC/7 that was just taken, US\$ 55,281 will be allocated from the currently available US\$ 436,497 of unassigned funds to continue fundraising activities in 2014. She also drew the Committee's attention to consider the results of the IOS audit of the working methods of cultural

conventions and its recommendation 1(e) for the culture convention Secretariats to formulate proposals to the governing bodies of the Conventions to implement the Organization's cost recovery policy on the resources of the Fund and to modify the financial rules and regulations if necessary.

155. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for her clear and concise presentation and took note of the contributions to the Fund. After informing the Committee that the administrative officer of the Culture Sector and a representative from the financial administration are present, she opened the floor for debate.
156. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** thanked the Secretariat for a well-presented document. It asked the Secretariat how many staff members work on the Fund, dedicating how much time, and how much time Central Services spend on monitoring the Fund. It also requested the reason to why the 10 percent support costs are kept in Central Services.
157. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** wished to add to the question raised by Saint Lucia. It asked for information on whether the support costs covered only the time spent on the work done or whether it includes other activities done by the Secretariat. In response to the information on the cost recovery policy provided by the representative of the Director-General earlier in the meeting, the delegation commented that the cost recovery policy of the Convention that is based on voluntary contributions should be different from that of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which receives compulsory contributions.
158. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to the representative of the Chief Financial Officer, Ms Ana Terror.
159. The **representative of the Chief Financial Officer** gave a general explanation of UNESCO's cost recovery policy. She explained that all required resources for a project must be budgeted whether it be direct costs, which include regular programme resources such as costs relating to staff time used directly in a project, or indirect variable costs, that is programme support costs (PSC) covering Central Service costs. She further explained that indirect variable costs include the preparation of proposals to donors, negotiation of the agreements, preparation and monitoring of the budgets, support for procurement, financial reporting, support to external and internal audits, etc. She also informed the Committee of the current unsustainable situation of the UN organization's funding schemes, due to the increase of extrabudgetary resources and the decline of core regular programme resources, and stressed the importance of recovering the regular programme resources as in reality the 10 percent support costs only covers a proportion of the overall costs working in the project.
160. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** expressed its appreciation for the clear explanation of the policy, however pointed out that all the actions of the Central Services covered by the indirect costs do not apply to the Fund. The delegation argued that the workload for Central Services cannot be up to 10 percent and be considered as the same as the Secretariat of the Convention. It underlined that the Fund should be dealt in a different way from the other extrabudgetary funds.
161. The **representative of the Chief Financial Officer** said the point was taken.
162. The delegation of **Tunisia** thanked the representative of the Secretariat for her clarification. It commented that the explanation on the difference between direct and indirect costs was clear, however the situation remains complex with the question of feasibility. The percentage of the workload of the Central Services is not clear and not convincing enough. The delegation agreed with Saint Lucia's comments that, given the particularities of the Fund, it is difficult to compare it on an equal footing with the other extrabudgetary projects and difficult to accept that it is being penalized by having the 10 percent support costs applied.

163. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** stated the need to have a more sensible and properly balanced cost recovery policy that only pays for the needed services and supports an increased size in the Secretariat with a focus on the actual professional staff supporting the implementation of the Fund. In order to illustrate that the support costs are out of proportion with the actual services the Fund is receiving, the delegation made a calculation on the average cost, around US\$ 2,000, charged for Central services per donor, based on the list of donors in 2013 in Annex I of the document, which proved that accepting donations from the smallest donors was completely uneconomic. It therefore asked for the costs incurred by the Central services to be itemized to see whether the Fund is overpaying and, if that is the case, have the remaining resources re-allocated to the Sector.
164. The **Chairperson** thanked the delegation of the United Kingdom for its comments, which the Secretariat will take into consideration.
165. The delegation of **Tunisia** asked whether the representative of the Chief Financial Officer would like to add other elements that could help respond to the questions.
166. The **representative of the Chief Financial Officer** assured the Committee that all its comments were noted and that they will be reported to the Chief Financial Officer and the Director General with a proposal.
167. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** reminded the Secretariat that decisions with financial implications have to pass through the Executive Board and that the Conventions cannot decide on regular programme resources without the approval of the Executive Board.
168. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** informed that, after consultation, the Committee had prepared some paragraphs to present concerning the draft decision 7.IGC 9. However, before moving on to the draft decision, the delegation wished to have some answers to why the Fund for the 2003 Convention does not pay programme support costs and why the programme support cost policy is not applied in a coherent and systematic way to all conventions.
169. The **representative of the Director-General**, Mr Kishore Rao, assured the Committee that the Secretariat will provide more clarity on the issue. He provided information on the World Heritage Fund and explained that the programme support cost is not applied to the World Heritage Fund, which is made up of assessed contributions, whereas the 10 percent is clearly taken from the sub-fund of the World Heritage Fund, which receives voluntary contribution.
170. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** made distinctions between the sub-funds of the 1972 and 2003 Conventions and the IFCD. The delegation raised the IFCD as a special case and stated that the contributions to the IFCD should be considered as assessed contributions and not as extrabudgetary contributions, even if they are voluntary. It added that it would be acceptable to pay programme support cost on any additional extrabudgetary contributions to the Fund.
171. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** proposed to postpone the decision until the Bureau of Financial Management could provide more clarity and consistent information across the different Funds related to the culture conventions and explain the difference between overhead costs and programme support costs and the exact rationale to why the programme support cost is not applied in the same way. The delegation expressed its concern that UNESCO's normal policy is not being applied in the case of the IFCD and that the Fund is paying for services where work is not being incurred.
172. The delegations of **Congo** and **Tunisia** supported the proposal presented by the United Kingdom and suggested postponing the discussion until having all relevant information.
173. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to observers.

174. The delegation of **Brazil** supported the United Kingdom's proposal and stressed the need for some clarity on the rules that are being applied across the different Funds related to the conventions and for some eventual actions to be taken at the Executive Board.
175. The **Chairperson** proposed to postpone examination of the draft decision so that the representative of the Bureau of Financial Management could be present. She also requested the presence of a representative from the 2003 Convention, if possible.

(Resumption of discussions)

176. The **representative of the Bureau of Financial Management (BFM)**, Mr Ebrima Sarr, gave an explanation on the programme support costs charged on special accounts. He explained that, based on a new cost-charging policy introduced in 2009, a standard rate of programme support cost is generally charged on all special accounts with the exception of the two funds of the intangible cultural heritage and the world heritage, which is composed of mandatory contributions that are considered to be assessed contributions. He pointed out, however, that any contribution received on a voluntary basis in these accounts on earmarked activities would be charged with programme support costs, aside from the voluntary contributions made to the Emergency Fund; this exception was approved by the Executive Board.
177. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** thanked the representative of BFM for his clarifications. It asked for further clarity on the following points, first on the different terms of cost recovery policy, direct and indirect cost, and second on what support services the Convention gets in return for the 10 percent programme support cost. The delegation questioned the cost incurred through programme support cost, which is being paid for service that is not needed or received in the Convention, and requested to account for how the programme support cost taken from the IFCD is spent. It stated its support for the cost recovery policy, should it be applied to support the cost of the staff who actually do the substantial work
178. The **representative of BFM** provided clarifications on the cost recovery policy by explaining the three types of costs, direct costs and indirect costs, which is divided into indirect variable costs and indirect fixed costs. The direct costs concern the costs of personnel, contracting works that are spent on delivering a particular project, which costs are supposed to be charged and recovered if a regular programme staff cost is spent in delivering that project. The indirect costs, also known as overhead costs, are classified into two categories, the fixed overhead costs such as the salary of the Director-General and of the senior management team that cannot be charged to a project, and the variable indirect costs. The variable indirect costs are programme support costs incurred in programme implementation, which cannot be directly traced to the projects, such as financial reporting, payments, external relations and cooperation, etc. These costs can be recovered through two mechanisms, either by applying a standard rate of a fixed percentage or by identifying directly the services and costs and charging them to the project. The representative of BFM informed that a cost management study had been presented to the Executive Board (182 EX 42) on applying the standard flat rate and showed that the percentage of 13 percent was globally suitable to meet all UNESCO's indirect costs of supporting programme implementation. He acknowledged that, if the cost drivers are identified on an individual project basis, some projects would be charged more and others less, varying case by case. However, he explained the special situation of UNESCO where most of the programme implementation is done through extrabudgetary resources and the regular programme only accounts for 45 percent of the Organization's revenue as of December 2012. He also shared updated information that the cost balance of the current 70 special accounts as of 31 December 2012 was around US\$ 188 million, which is just enough to generally cover all the administrative costs. Lastly, he clarified that the Convention was provided with a P-3 personnel paid from the recovered programme support cost.

179. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** asked the representative of BFM under which heading of the costs, which was just explained, should the staff necessary to deliver the expected work for the IFCD be paid from. It referred to the performance indicators related to the IFCD and explained there is a workload of managing all the applications, which exceeds the expected number.
180. The **representative of BFM** confirmed that it should be charged from the 10 percent overhead cost recovery.
181. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** questioned whether it is not paying twice if, according to the proposal, the 10 percent programme support cost and the cost recovery policy are both applied to the Fund.
182. The **representative of BFM** explained the major issue of the Secretariat working full time on the Conventions, which are direct costs paid mostly from UNESCO's regular budget and therefore should be charged to the project.
183. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** expressed its wish to have a person working specifically on the management of the Fund so that all the expected tasks are delivered and considered it paying double if the 10 percent programme support cost and cost recovery policy are simultaneously applied.
184. The **representative of BFM** stressed that additional resources, for example a person working full time directly on the project, should be budgeted and charged and recovered as a direct cost from the project, which complies with the cost recovery policy.
185. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** clarified that there are staff members working for the Convention and not necessarily for the Fund and that it is normal they are paid by the regular programme budget voted by the General Conference. The delegation raised an issue on why the voluntary contribution under the Convention is treated in a different way from the voluntary contribution under the 1972 Convention, by having the 10 percent programme support costs applied to the former. It specifically referred to the voluntary contribution that is requested to be paid to Parties of the 1972 Convention at the moment of ratification and stipulated within the provisions of the 1972 Convention.
186. The **representative of BFM** explained the two types of contribution managed as core funds of the 1972 Convention, the compulsory assessed contributions and the voluntary ones. He indicated that the voluntary assessed contribution is not charged on the 1972 Convention, however that any additional voluntary contributions will be charged programme support costs. He added that all contributions, which are defined as assessed whether compulsory or voluntary, are not charged with the programme support cost, whereas contributions for earmarked activities in addition to the assessed contributions, which are defined and decided as voluntary by the Member States, have programme support costs applied.
187. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** stated that the main problem is that the Fund is considered as a normal extrabudgetary fund or a Funds-In-Trust and not as a multilateral Fund that falls under a Convention. The delegation did not agree with the distinction being made to the different Funds under the conventions as there was no difference in the nature of their work and could not accept that the Fund is treated in a different way from the other Funds. It strongly suggested to having the exact same conditions applied to the IFCD as for the Funds of the 2003 and 1972 Conventions and that no additional costs be applied to the IFCD.
188. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** requested clarifications on what the real argument is to distinguish the Fund from the others.

189. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** clarified that Saint Lucia was proposing to fully apply the cost recovery policy and pay zero support costs. In addition, the delegation asked what would be the implications to apply the cost recovery policy and zero programme support costs, and whether this was consistent with the other conventions.
190. The delegation of **Tunisia** supported the comments of Saint Lucia. It commented that it was not convinced by the arguments provided by the Secretariat and requested the Secretariat to react on the proposal made by Saint Lucia.
191. At the request of the Chairperson to respond to the questions raised by Saint Lucia and the United Arab Emirates, the **representative of BFM** explained that Article 5 of the specific financial regulations of the Fund clearly stipulates that programme support costs should be recovered. He pointed out that, if the Committee wishes not to apply the programme support costs, the current financial regulations should be amended. With regard to the mechanism of the cost recovery policy, it is governed by the guidelines decided by the Director-General.
192. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** pointed out that the terms used for these costs, such as administrative cost, programme support costs, were not the same when the financial regulations were adopted and therefore considered it incomparable.
193. The **representative of the UNESCO Director-General**, Mr Francesco Bandarin, agreed that the conventions should be treated in an equal manner within equal principles but explained that the specific history of each convention should also be taken into consideration. He talked about how the 1972 and 2003 Conventions even showed a difference in applying the cost recovery policy. The 1972 Convention recently established the cost recovery policy only for a special fund and not the general fund, whereas the Parties to the 2003 Convention decided to apply the cost recovery policy to the general fund. He proposed to issue a recommendation that requests the Director-General to equalize or treat the conventions according to the same principles.
194. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to Canada, observer.
195. The delegation of **Canada** agreed that the Director-General needs to harmonize treatment among conventions so that there is no major inequity among the different conventions.
196. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** expressed its support to the proposal made by the representative of the Director-General.
197. The **Chairperson** read the draft decision 7.IGC 9 and adopted the draft decision paragraph by paragraph. After adoption of the first four paragraphs, she read paragraph 5 and informed that there is an amendment making a reference to the US\$ 55,281 budgeted for fundraising, which reads as "Adopts the budget for 2014 as set out in Annex II and allocates US\$ 55,281 from the unassigned funds". There were no further comments and the paragraph was adopted.
198. In relation to paragraph 6, the delegation of the **United Kingdom** suggested that the representative of the Director-General reads the newly proposed paragraph that would replace paragraphs 6 and 7, based on the discussions as well as his previous intervention.
199. The **representative of the Director-General** read the newly proposed paragraph 6, which reads as "Requests the Director-General to propose to the Committee at its eighth ordinary session a cost-recovery policy that is based on the same principles as the other culture conventions". He ensured the Committee that he would propose to the Director-General to introduce harmonization across all the conventions and then go back to each committee with a proposal.

200. The **Chairperson** continued reading the following paragraphs 8 and 9 in the draft decision. No objections were recorded and they were both adopted.
201. The delegation of **Armenia** proposed to amend the financial regulations, which hold more legal power, and include the cost recovery policy within these regulations so that, once the cost recovery policy is in compliance with the financial regulations, there would be no need for separate amendments and proposals.
202. Taking into consideration the comments of Armenia, the **representative of the Director-General** suggested adding “cost recovery and new/updated financial regulations”.
203. The **Chairperson** suggested consulting the Legal Adviser on this matter.
204. The **Legal Adviser** confirmed that the proposed text for paragraph 6 does achieve the aims that have been discussed. It clarified that an amendment to the financial regulations of the Convention would not be necessary in this case, as the regulations do not give a specific percentage or amount on the programme support costs and therefore an adjustment or adaptation could be feasible. In addition, he pointed out that the financial regulations would have to be amended by the body that adopted them, which is the Conference of Parties. He also informed that the financial regulations of the special account could be amended by the Director-General herself.
205. The **representative of BFM** confirmed that the programme support cost is covered within the guidelines set by the Director-General.
206. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** agreed to the comments of Armenia. Pending the decision that will be adopted on this matter, the delegation stated the need to look into the possibility of updating and amending the financial regulations, including those of the special account if necessary.
207. The **Chairperson** reread the newly proposed paragraph 6. There were no further comments and it was adopted.

Decision 7.IGC 9 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 10 – RESULTS OF THE COMMITTEE’S STRATEGY OF RATIFICATION (2010-2013)

Document CE/13/7.IGC/10

208. The **Chairperson** asked the Committee to examine the document CE/13/7.IGC/10, presenting the results of the Committee’s strategy of ratification implemented during the period 2010-2013. She then gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to present the document.
209. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the adoption of the strategy of ratification in 2009, and the action plan for 2010-2013. This action plan encourages Parties, the Secretariat and civil society to intensify their efforts and improve their cooperation so that the strategy may be implemented in a coordinated and consistent manner. To recall, the objectives of the strategy and its action plan are to improve the geographical balance of Parties by addressing under-represented regions or sub regions and raise visibility of the Convention through its promotion in international and other forum.

According to the action plan, 35 to 40 additional ratifications were expected during the period 2010-2013; this is the benchmark that the Committee had set at that time. At its fourth and sixth sessions, the Committee noted the progress of ratifications in 2009-2010 and 2011-2012

and requested the Secretariat to report to it at its seventh session on the achieved outcomes. At its third and fourth ordinary sessions, the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to continue its work on regional and sub-regional levels.

The cumulative number of ratifications achieved since the start of the implementation of the strategy is 28, with the count starting from the 105 Parties that ratified as of early 2010 up to the 133 (132 States and 1 regional economic integration organization) Parties that ratified as of December 2013. It was noted that 68 percent of UNESCO's 195 Member States have currently ratified the Convention.

The Secretary of the Convention presented the breakdown of ratifications according to UNESCO's electoral groups, which showed that Group V(b) had surpassed the 50 percent threshold and that Group IV still remained underrepresented. In order to achieve the goal set by the action plan of the strategy – namely at least 35 new ratifications by 2013 – 7 new ratifications need to be obtained by the end of 2013. For concrete activities and actions in implementing the strategy, the Secretary of the Convention made reference to two initiatives that took place in regions that are the main targets of the strategy. They were the international conference “CONNEXIONS: Cultural life, diversity of cultural expressions, human development – perspectives and actions” organized by the German National Commission in Hammamet, Tunisia in early September 2012, bringing together experts in the Arab region to promote ratification, and the Ministerial Forum on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions organized by the Bangladesh national authorities, which gathered 30 State representatives from Asia and the Pacific as well as the Director-General and resulted in the “Dhaka Declaration” calling on non-Parties of the region to ratify the Convention.

210. The **Chairperson** opened the floor for debate. She invited the Committee to consider the concrete measures taken to implement the Convention as one of the best ways to promote and encourage the ratification, which implies the development of the knowledge management system. She also reminded the Committee that the increase of number of ratifications relies on the capacity of the Parties, the Secretariat and civil society to establish contacts with various stakeholders and to deliver the key message on the importance and benefits of ratification. And, therefore, it is significant to demonstrate how and why ratification makes a real difference for the international community, national governments, civil society and the general public.
211. The delegation of **Tunisia** thanked the Secretariat for the quality of the document and all the actions it undertook. It commended the progress in the Arab States in terms of ratification and underlined the actions in favour of this progress including the international conference CONNEXIONS organized by the German National Commission, which gathered experts in the region to promote the Convention and enable civil society to pursue its actions. The delegation mentioned other fruitful actions, leading to the promotion of the Convention, such as the letter sent by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) to all Ministers of Culture in the Arab region to encourage ratification and the contribution of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to translate the Information Kit into Arabic.
212. The delegation of **Congo** congratulated the Secretariat for its dynamic actions, which has made it possible for the Convention family to grow every year. The delegation expressed its wish to see the Convention strengthened within Parties through the awareness-raising campaign and the capacity-building workshops, which should focus on the preparation of the periodic reports and the IFCD projects. It strongly encouraged the Secretariat to hold and maintain these activities so that the Parties can master the Convention and take ownership of it, making it truly visible.
213. The delegation of **Guinea** stressed that what is more important than ratifying is implementing the Convention. The delegation echoed the comments of Congo and highly

encouraged the Secretariat to organize workshops within its region to strengthen the capacities of those who are in charge of the implementation of the Convention as well as all stakeholders.

214. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** thanked the Secretariat for the document and for all its efforts to accelerate the ratification for the Convention. The delegation assured the Committee that ratification would accelerate even more once the Convention starts examining the impact and the implementation of core issues such as Article 16 preferential treatment and Article 21 international consultation and coordination.
215. The delegation of **Armenia** thanked the Secretariat for its tremendous work for the ratification and considered the ratification process to be the right platform for intercultural dialogue and building peace.
216. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to observers

[Observers]

217. The delegation of **Germany** thanked the Secretariat for the instructive document. It shared its experience on promoting ratification in the Arab region, specifically in Tunisia and in Morocco, through combined efforts with concerned Parties and with professionals working at different levels including UNESCO's Expert Facility on cultural governance. The delegation stressed the importance of joining forces and pursuing the ratification strategy through long-term capacity building activities. After thanking the Secretariat and the UNESCO offices in Cairo and Rabat for its ongoing guidance, it briefly presented information on a training workshop, organized in Bangladesh, in cooperation with the network of national commissions, as a good model for transforming ratification activities into knowledge building and action.
218. The delegation of **Brazil** addressed the issue of ratification beyond regional groups and in the context of cultural groups, geographic realities or around certain concerns. It gave the example of the eight countries in the Portuguese speaking group with only four countries ratified. It informed the Committee of joint efforts being made to help the other four countries ratify and pointed out how there could be a problem of resources or obligations related to the ratification for these countries. The delegation also suggested that ratification in Central Asia could be addressed according to such different approaches.
219. The **Chairperson** confirmed that there is much to do in Asia and the Pacific, considering the state of ratification of Group IV.
220. The delegation of **Palestine** thanked the Secretariat for its implementation of the ratification strategy. It reminded the Committee that the Convention is fairly young and that the progress made in terms of ratification and the visibility of the Convention is very encouraging, especially in the Arab States. The delegation highlighted the efforts made in the Arab region, in particular the call made by the Arab Group ALESCO to the Ministries of Culture in different countries as well as ISESCO's translation of the Convention kit into Arabic, which both resulted in four new ratifications. Palestine expressed its expectations for the Convention to soon reach the level of ratification of the 1972 Convention.
221. The representative of the **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** (IFCCD), Mr Charles Vallerand, highlighted the fact that the efforts in terms of ratification are important for civil society, which plays an active role as ambassador to promote the Convention. In connection with ratification, he stressed the importance of follow-up to ratification, giving support to Parties to take action to implement the Convention. He underlined the concrete and tangible projects and examples from the Convention and explained how these could help Parties advance in addressing real issues and concerns

through the Convention. He also raised the question on how civil society could collaborate with intergovernmental organizations such as the European Union, the Commonwealth, or Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie to foster ratification.

222. The **Secretary of the Convention** took the opportunity to thank, on behalf of the Secretariat, all the Parties and the civil society organizations for their cooperation and partnership during the implementation of the ratification strategy. She particularly acknowledged the mobilization of local actors and activities that were organized at the local level to raise awareness of the Convention.
223. The **Chairperson** informed the Committee that no amendments had been received and then proceeded with examining the draft decision paragraph by paragraph. No objections were recorded.

Decision 7.IGC 10 was adopted.

ITEM 11 – REPORT ON THE USE OF THE EMBLEM OF THE CONVENTION

Document CE/13/7.IGC/11

224. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the document that reports on progress made in the operational implementation of the emblem.
225. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the purpose of creating an emblem is to have a visual identity for the Convention in order to raise awareness for the Convention, the IFCD and its fundraising campaign. She explained the different modalities of the use of the emblem and its respective authorization process. The authorization of the stand-alone emblem is the prerogative of the Conference of Parties and the Committee, which have delegated this authority to the Secretariat, whereas the authorization of the linked emblem, used together with the UNESCO logo in connection with patronage and contractual arrangements, lies with the Director-General. In both cases the request for authorization is to be examined by the national commissions or duly designated national authorities. She highly encouraged the Parties to submit the name of the organization that would be designated that responsibility. The Committee was also invited to provide feedback on the application forms that were developed by the Secretariat, following the operational guidelines on the use of the emblem approved by the Conference of Parties in June 2013, to facilitate a smooth and consistent authorization process and to ensure that all relevant information related to the request would be standardized and clearly indicated. These forms included the request form to be submitted to the designated national authority presented in Annex II of the document, the endorsement form in Annex III that the designated national authority is to complete and send either to the Secretariat or the Director-General depending on the type of request, and the reporting form, provided in Annex IV, to be completed by the organizers who have used the emblem in order for the Secretariat to keep track of the use of the emblem. The Secretary of the Convention equally informed the Committee of a brand tool kit that is being produced in English and French and will be published on the Convention website in order to provide information on the principles of the Convention and its branding value as well as technical information to help users better integrate the emblem into their information materials. Furthermore she reported to the Committee actions taken by the Secretariat to communicate the emblem to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) so that it could transmit the communication to the State Parties to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property who could afford protection to the emblem, according to Article 6 ter of the Paris Convention to prohibit the registration and use of trademarks that are identical to or present similarity with various emblems or official signs. She assured the Committee that the Secretariat is working closely with WIPO to finalize the process. Lastly, she informed the Committee of the development of

webpages on the Convention website devoted to the emblem, which would be launched once the Secretariat receives confirmation from WIPO, providing an easy access point to various references and tools including the emblems, the operational guidelines, the relevant forms, the list of designated national authorities responsible for the implementation of the emblem and the brand tool kits.

226. The **Chairperson** opened the floor for debate.
227. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** asked whether the Secretariat should wait much longer for the positive reply from WIPO as the launch of the webpages devoted to the emblem are pending the reply.
228. The **Secretary of the Convention** replied that, according to the experience of other Conventions, it usually takes six months to have a positive response from WIPO, which is expected quite soon. She added that the Secretariat is preparing itself so that it could immediately implement the procedures to meet the request of Parties who wish to use the emblem.
229. The delegation of **Austria** expressed its satisfaction with the visual identity for the Convention and the IFCD as well as with the modalities the Secretariat proposed for communicating the operational guidelines in a very clear accurate way and setting up a practical feedback mechanism. The delegation mentioned how time-consuming and complicated managing an emblem could be. It also expressed its confidence that the emblem will serve as an effective tool to reach out to new and different audiences, stakeholders and communities and increase awareness and visibility of the Convention and the IFCD.
230. The delegation of **Armenia** raised a question on whether approval of the request forms is subject to an official procedure.
231. The **Secretary of the Convention** clarified that the forms do not require a formal procedure, however expressed the intentions of the Secretariat to work together with the Committee on the forms, welcoming their comments.
232. The delegation of **Switzerland** thanked the Secretariat for the preparation of the document and the relevant forms. In view of the positive response of the Committee, the delegation made a suggestion to insert a paragraph in the draft decision suggesting to adopt the forms and proposed to provide the wording for this additional paragraph.
233. The **Chairperson** thanked the delegation of Switzerland for its comments and requested the wording. She then invited observers for their comments. No comments were recorded from observers. The Chairperson read the draft decision and adopted it paragraph by paragraph. After adopting the first three paragraphs without comments, she continued reading the new paragraph, proposed by Switzerland, “Adopts the request form for the use of the emblem, the endorsement form and the reporting form as presented in Annexes II, III and IV respectively”.
234. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** expressed its consent to Switzerland’s comment with regard to the need to adopt the forms, however proposed to either adopt them on a tentative basis or simply take note of these forms as there eventually might be a number of questions and issues raised related to the forms.
235. The **Chairperson** took up Saint Lucia’s suggestion to change the wording of the new paragraph to “Takes note of the request form...”.
236. The delegation of **Armenia** commented that the previous version “Adopts the request form...” seems more in conformity with the requirements and the procedures for the use of the emblem.

237. The delegation of **Congo** echoed the comments of Armenia and supported the previous wording with “adopts”. The delegation questioned why it should be “adopts on a tentative basis”. It expressed its opinion that the Committee should first adopt the forms and then make changes later on, if necessary.
238. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** agreed with Saint Lucia that certain questions on the form may be difficult to answer. The delegation reiterated the proposal from Saint Lucia and suggested using the forms on an experimental basis and then determining whether the forms need to be modified or improved.
239. The delegation of **Switzerland** agreed to Saint Lucia’s proposal to add “Adopts on a tentative basis”.
240. The delegation of **Armenia** stated that a procedure cannot be established on a tentative basis and that it should be set forth so that the organizations who wish to use the emblem may follow the procedure. However, the delegation also mentioned that if this reflection is not correct, it would be willing to go along with the majority.
241. The delegation of **Madagascar** supported the comments of Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The delegation considered question 9 on funding in the request form as an obstacle preventing potential users from using the emblem. In order to make the Convention more visible through the emblem, it encouraged the Committee not to be too strict with the forms.
242. In reaction to Madagascar’s comments, the **Chairperson** proposed to find an alternate wording other than “on a tentative basis”, such as “adopts for a year”, which would enable the Committee to eventually examine whether the forms function and identify problems.
243. The delegation of **Congo** suggested the wording “adopts on a provisional basis” in place of “tentative basis”.
244. The delegation of **Sweden** supported the previous comments made by Switzerland, Saint Lucia and Madagascar.
245. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** commented that the wording “on a provisional basis” is an excellent suggestion, which implies possible changes depending on the feedback.
246. The **Chairperson** read the new paragraph 4 “Adopts on a provisional basis the request form for the use of the emblem, the endorsement form and the reporting form as presented in Annexes II, III and IV”. No objections were recorded. She moved on to, paragraph 5, which was also adopted without comments.

Decision 7.IGC 11 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 12 – INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION: REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF ARTICLE 21 OF THE CONVENTION

Document CE/13/7.IGC/12

247. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to introduce the document.

248. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that the Secretariat was requested to present, in relation to Article 21, a compendium of cases wherein the Convention is invoked or utilized in other international fora. In 2011 and 2012, the Secretariat consulted Parties through a questionnaire concerning the steps they had taken to implement Article 21. The information obtained from 38 Parties is available on an online platform. The results and analysis of the consultation show that the definition of international forum continues to be broad, encompassing fora whose primary mission may not be cultural. Parties had invoked the Convention in a variety of contexts and ways, for example, in statements at meetings and conferences, in declarations and resolutions adopted at international meetings, in cultural and bilateral trade agreements, in discussions on the link between culture and development, and dialogue with States not Party to the Convention in order to encourage them to ratify. An inventory of experiences and practices on the implementation, which contains 62 references (39 documents and 23 declarations and statements) in English French and Spanish, along with two online questionnaires have been posted to the Convention's website. The Secretary of the Convention encouraged all Parties to actively participate in the gathering of documents and up to date information on the implementation of Article 21 for the establishment of a solid knowledge management tool. She then presented the first report on preliminary findings on the impact of Article 21, annexed in Document 12, which identifies results in the form of outputs and outcomes from the information and documents collected. The results suggest that it is still too early to evaluate the full impact of Article 21, which depends on long term effects entailing major changes at institutional and governance levels. Nevertheless, the analysis shows the effect of Parties' efforts to implement the Article in the sphere of international cooperation that have been inclusive of the Convention's objectives and principles in cultural declarations and agreements as well as in the implementation of programmes and increased investments. The results observed in the field of trade show that Parties have used existing legal tools such as cultural reservations and exemption clauses as well as new methods such as the cultural cooperation protocol in their bilateral trade relations, whereas case law is still considered to be in its infancy. With regard to culture and development, outcomes are apparent from the initiatives taken by the Parties that are committed to making the Convention a key element in the process of including culture in the post 2015 development agenda. Lastly, the Secretary of the Convention recalled that the Committee is expected at this session to examine the report, debate and analyse the information provided, as requested by the Conference of Parties at its fourth session, and determine a work plan of priorities for 2014.
249. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for her presentation and opened the floor for debates.
250. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** thanked the Secretariat for the interesting document that gives the scope of the implementation of Article 21 and some ideas on how to advance in its implementation. As steps to take forward for the next reporting, the delegation suggested to include Article 16 in future reports, also referring to the debate taken at the last Conference of Parties where both Articles were discussed together, and to present some case studies, such as on the success and challenges of implementing preferential treatment agreements. Saint Lucia also highlighted the challenges and approaches to reporting on the implementation, outlined in the document, and suggested to take them into further consideration as they affect the quality of reporting and decision-making.
251. The delegation of **Austria** considers Article 21 to be essential for the long-term impact and credibility of the Convention and supported the proposal of Saint Lucia to apply other Articles and provisions of the Convention to the reporting. In addition to Article 16, the delegation underlined Article 20 on relationship to other treaties as important considering that international culture and trade negotiations as well as case law and bilateral agreements may have a real effect on Parties to pursue measures and policies to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions. Austria also expressed its support to having more in-depth analysis through case studies and scientific research such as the EU-CARIFORUM protocol. It suggested adding the report and any further information to the online inventory.

252. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** thanked the Secretariat for its very detailed report and endorsed the proposal made by Saint Lucia and Austria to have Article 16 and the provisions of Article 20 included in the report. The delegation observed that much had been done on the implementation of Article 21 since 2009 by looking at the Convention's online inventory, however also took notice of a setback in the implementation of Article 21 in 2013 with the exception of three major events, cited as the Ouagadougou and Suriname declarations and the resolution of the European Parliament on negotiations and agreements with the United States of America. The delegation, taking good note of the challenges illustrated in the report, asked the Secretariat what tools or resources would be needed to overcome these challenges.
253. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** commented that it did not understand what should be done with the information collected in the report and did not see how a future report in the same form and methodology could be useful. It understood the purpose of the report to be looking at whether the international community is working in a way that applies the principles of the Convention and results in the protection of its aims. Therefore, the report should be tackled from a different end, starting with the results rather than the inputs, and examining whether the outcomes from the international community have resulted in what was intended for implementation of Article 21 and, if not, to address the issue. The delegation also explained the difficulties of Parties reporting on sensitive diplomatic issues that were discussed during bilateral negotiations.
254. The **Chairperson** proposed that, on the basis of the information collected by the Secretariat through the questionnaire, it is the time to examine the report, draw conclusions and perhaps propose different ways to approach it.
255. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** thanked the United Kingdom for its interesting intervention and agreed that it would be useful to have information about the agreements where the Convention was not respected. However, unlike the United Kingdom, the delegation considered the information in the report to be worthy and have provided the Committee with a good basis to begin brainstorming about the next steps to take and considering the challenges mentioned in the document and the benchmarks to assess the improvement and impact of the implementation of Article 21. Saint Lucia also stressed the necessity to continue discussing and experimenting on the matter so that the Committee may advance in identifying its role on the issue and finding the right mechanism for collecting information and taking decisions.
256. The delegation of **Tunisia** joined the previous speakers in thanking the Secretariat for its work and reminded the Committee that this report is the very first and a starting point to begin assessing the implementation of this Article. The delegation commented that the report meets its expectation at this initial stage covering three main areas, including international cultural cooperation and international trade agreements, and that it looks forward to exchanging on the way forward.
257. The delegation of **Australia** agreed with the comments of the United Kingdom that surveying Parties regarding their use of Article 21 is of limited benefit given the confidential nature of trade and international agreement negotiations. The delegation suggested considering a mechanism involving civil society more actively in the process as civil society may draw the attention to examples where Parties might not have met the requirements of Article 21.
258. The **Chairperson** acknowledged the proposal of Australia to be a valid direction to follow. She then encouraged new members of the Committee to actively join in the debate.
259. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** shared the concerns expressed by the United Kingdom and questioned the impact of some agreements and declarations. It referred to one of the information documents from civil society, the International Network of Lawyers for Cultural Diversity, on digital technology, through which it noticed that there are bilateral

agreements that have not been enforced. The delegation therefore stated the need to have examples of the actual implementation of the agreements and to further discuss the role of the Committee to monitor the implementation.

260. The **Chairperson** cited a good example of the Eastern Partnership signed by five countries including Armenia that ratified the Convention and are implementing a four-year programme together with the European Union, to support creative work and artists.
261. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** supported both opinions from the delegations, on one hand being satisfied with the current report as it is presented and on the other hand expecting to see more results of the agreements in future reports. The delegation reminded the Committee that the representatives in the cultural field have extra duties to raise awareness of the Convention and at the same time convince decision makers to implement the Convention and Article 21 in particular.
262. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** clarified that it considers the Secretariat to have done its job in preparing the report and that the problem actually lies in the questions that were raised to collect the information, resulting in a report that does not answer the questions at the core of the issue. The delegation proposed to define the questions, instead of the forms and input, so that the new report could answer these questions and address the progress that is being made under Article 21. The questions given as an example included whether there are new agreements where the principles of the Convention were protected and, if not, why is the case. Other questions concerned the role of individual negotiators, whether they have raised the principles of the Convention and, if not, could there be issues of lack of understanding or capacity, etc.
263. Echoing the debates of Committee members, the **Chairperson** requested the Secretariat to apply a complementary approach to the report and requested Parties to provide the Secretariat with more precise questions they would like to have answered.
264. The **Secretary of the Convention** took note of all the comments and thanked the members of the Committee for providing direction to the Secretariat. She summarized the Secretariat's understanding of the Committee's suggestions on the way to go forward, as the following: first, that the Secretariat should rethink the questions and propose questions that are more precise on exactly what kind of information is needed and, second, that the report should have real case studies to better understand the challenges on the ground and to find out how the Article is being implemented by working with the beneficiaries and the whole chain of local actors involved in the implementation of the Article, including artists, cultural professionals, public officials, negotiators of the trade agreements, etc. She additionally gave some examples of the questions that could be raised on the impact of the cultural protocol negotiated between the EU and the CARIFORUM, whether there has been an increase in the number of artists from the CARIFORUM countries to Europe and whether there has been larger market access and penetration as a result of the implementation of the Article.
265. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to observers.

[Observers]

266. The delegation of **Germany** supported the comments of the United Kingdom, commenting that it's time for a realistic assessment of Article 21. It also expressed its difficulty to fully respond to the questionnaire due to complicated inter-ministerial knowledge management in collecting information, especially where the interesting and pertinent issues related to Article 21 are in the interface between cultural policy, trade and economy. The delegation highlighted three examples for which more information is required. The first concerns the impact of the European Parliament vote on the negotiation mandate with the Trans-Atlantic Partnership and the way the Convention was used as a referential point for awareness-raising and having the

dual nature of the issue better understood. The second example is the impact of the EU trade agreement with the Republic of Korea, which was politically connected to ratification. The delegation stressed the importance of building policy memory considering that these processes take a lot of time and there is a constant turnover of the staff in Ministries. It also underlined the importance of using concrete examples to demonstrate the implementation of Article 21 and encouraged a more proactive way in bringing more relevant practice, relevant impact and understanding to the report. The third example provided by the delegation is the Asia-Europe political dialogue between Ministers of Culture that will take place in the Netherlands in 2014 with a focus on the cultural economy.

267. The delegation of **Brazil** informed that in its periodic report it mentioned many initiatives undertaken with other countries in the region to implement Article 21, for example, at MERCOSUR where a special group to discuss cultural diversity was created, at the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR: Unión de Naciones Suramericanas) within Iberian-American agreements and within discussions held by the community of Portuguese speaking countries. Brazil has been working hard to mobilize efforts to help other countries implement not only Article 21 but also other Articles of the Convention, including Articles 9 on information sharing and transparency, 12 on the promotion of international cooperation, 13 on integration of culture in sustainable development, 14 on cooperation for development, as well as promoting the many important concepts and ideas for culture that are at the heart of the Convention. Brazil indicated its positive view on the implementation of Article 21 and suggested the possibility of further reflection on collaboration with other organizations like WTO and WIPO on issues such as Article 16 in terms of how to promote the objectives and concepts of the Convention. As a tool of cooperation that facilitates reflection on specific issues to the Convention, the delegation gave the example of the memorandum signed between MERCOSUR and the EU in the area of culture.
268. The **Turkish National Commission for UNESCO** announced that progress is being made towards ratification of the Convention and looked forward to soon becoming an observer to the Convention. The representative informed the Committee about civil society initiatives to put in place a platform on the development of the cultural industries in the country. It also underlined that ratification of the Convention was among the prerequisites for Turkey's membership to the EU.
269. The **Chairperson** congratulated Turkey for its efforts towards ratification and the measures it is putting in place to promote the diversity of cultural expressions.
270. The representative of the **Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie** (APF), Mr Henri-François Gautrin, thanked the Secretariat for the high quality of its report on Article 21. He reminded the Committee of upcoming negotiations on the free trade agreement between the EU and the United States of America, which has not yet signed the Convention. He asked the Secretariat whether it would be possible, for the next Committee meeting, to provide information on the progress of the application of Article 21 in these negotiations, which could eventually test the scope of the Article.
271. The representative of **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** (IFCCD), Mr Charles Vallerand, talked about the importance of the database, on how, if properly enriched and maintained, it could be particularly useful to shed light on various issues. He suggested certain reflections on the structure of the information as well as on issues that could be further explored such as human rights, freedom of speech, freedom of creation and sustainable development, which require extra consultation efforts. The representative questioned whether the database will eventually offer that possibility to discuss coordinated actions, to work on common objectives and to talk to counterparts of trade, development and human rights to defend the aims of the Convention. Wikileaks was given as a comparative example of a database on confidential trade related issues. He also raised questions on the mobilization of civil society and the value of consultation.

272. The representative of **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)** spoke of its activities to promote the Convention in line with Article 21. UCLG had produced a document on culture and development in partnership with the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD), the International Federation for the Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) and Culture Action Europe in order to include culture in the post-2015 development agenda. The representative talked about its objective on the sustainability of culture and how it could contribute to reaching the MDGs and to raise visibility of what is at stake within the Convention. It also presented a new guide to implement Agenda 21, which is expected to foster the exchange of policies and practices taken by local governments.
273. As there were no further comments, the **Chairperson** indicated that no amendments had been received for the draft decision.
274. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** commented that it would propose an amendment to paragraph 5 when the time comes to adopt it.
275. The **Chairperson** read the draft decision paragraph by paragraph. After adopting the first four paragraphs without objections, she gave the floor to the United Kingdom to present its amendment.
276. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** made an amendment to paragraph 5, suggesting to delete certain parts and introduce additional wording to read as “the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21” and replacing “through a biennial invitation to Parties to fill in the online questionnaire ” with “through appropriate mechanisms, taking into account its debate”. It explained that the reason for deleting the reference to the questionnaire was to open the door to other methodologies that could fully deliver. By adding “taking into account the debate”, the delegation considered that the Secretariat would take due note of the type of questions that should be answered in the future report and choose the most appropriate methodology for gathering the information.
277. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** supported the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom and pointed out that it encompasses everything and at the same time does not exclude the option of the questionnaire, leaving the flexibility to the Secretariat to choose the appropriate mechanism.
278. The delegations of **Armenia, Honduras and Zimbabwe** supported the amendment made by the United Kingdom.
279. The delegation of **Guinea** supported the amendment, however it considered the first drafting to have taken better account of the concerns of the other Parties and didn’t see it particularly relevant to specify “through appropriate mechanisms”.
280. The **Chairperson** reread the amended paragraph 5. Paragraphs 5 and 6 were adopted without further comments.
281. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** asked the Secretariat when the Committee will have the next report on this topic.
282. The **Secretary of the Convention** clarified that the Secretariat is to report to the Committee at each of its session and therefore the next report will be submitted to its eighth ordinary session. She indicated that the Secretariat will work hard to examine the different methodologies, to collect information and to take into consideration all of the Committee’s debates.

Decision 7.IGC 12 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 13 – ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE (2013-2014)

- **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE CONVENTION: PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE ACTION**
- **ROLE OF PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING IN ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CONVENTION**

Document CE/13/7.IGC/13

283. The **Chairperson** moved to examine the future activities of the Committee. She referred to Document 13 and notified the Committee that the examination of the document would take some time as the Committee must first focus on the work plan and then consider the audit of IOS on the Cultural Conventions in order to make decisions on new activities. She asked the Secretary of the Convention to introduce the document.

284. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that in June 2013 the Conference of Parties adopted in Resolution 4CP.13 a list of future activities for the Committee to undertake during its mandate 2013-2015. These activities include:

- examination of the impact of digital technologies on the Convention;
- examination of the Parties' quadrennial periodic reports, and if needed, the revision of the operational guidelines on Article 9 in particular on the implementation of related issues such as the status of artists;
- implementation of the IFCD, including a fundraising strategy and action plan to implement the IOS recommendations;
- promotion and visibility of the Convention, in particular, a framework for the processing of future requests for authorizing use of the emblem;
- follow-up activities in regions and sub-regions under-represented among Parties to the Convention;
- design and implementation of a comprehensive capacity-building programme including the development of a knowledge management system to support capacity-building initiatives of Parties and civil society;
- assessment of the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and international levels, including the work of the Convention's statutory bodies;
- monitoring of the implementation and assessment of the impact of Article 21;
- examination of the role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention.

The 10th anniversary of the Convention in 2015 was added to this list. The Secretary of the Convention reminded the Committee that it had already examined many of these activities that were subject of a working document and decision, with the exception of the issues on the impact of the development of digital technologies, the role of public service broadcasting and the assessment of the involvement of civil society. She informed the Committee of a draft work plan for the activities of the Committee, presented in Annex I of the document, which the Conference of Parties had requested the Committee to establish at its seventh session, as a

base for discussion. The work plan sets out main activities determined by the Conference of Parties as a priority, the action required to implement them, the timeframe and estimates of extrabudgetary resources required beyond the resources available through the regular programme. She clearly indicated that certain activities will not be achieved without additional funding and/or human resources. She also suggested that the Committee, for its discussion, takes into consideration the results of the audit of the working methods of culture conventions, which was conducted by IOS and presented to the 192nd session of the Executive Board. One of the main findings of this report, included in Annex II of the document, was the unsustainable situation of the culture convention Secretariats with a decrease in regular programme resources and an increase in the Convention Secretariat's workload, which needed to be reviewed.

285. The **Chairperson** proposed that the Committee examines the results of the IOS audit before starting its debate on the work plan as it would help determine the context of the future activities. She gave the floor to the Director of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS), Mr Bert E. Keuppens, to present the results of the audit.
286. The **Director of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS)** presented the basic findings of the IOS review on the working methods of all six Conventions in the Culture Sector. The main objective of the audit was to assess the adequacy and efficiency of the standard-setting working methods and funding arrangements. The main conclusion was that the current situation is not sustainable with the increase of the workload of the Convention Secretariats and the declining resources, which leads to the need to raise resources and have less work prioritized. He explained that, in comparison to the Conventions within the UN system with trust funds that cover secretariat expenses including staff, UNESCO's Conventions follow a slightly different financial model where part of the secretariat expenses is paid out of the regular programme. He added that, as the financing of the Convention comes from different sources, regular programme, the Fund and extrabudgetary resources, there is a greater need of the application of the cost recovery policy. The review also found opportunities for setting up more efficient working methods, for example formal mechanisms for interaction between the different Convention Secretariats, a common platform for support services such as IT and web, communication, meeting logistics across the Conventions and a coordinated fundraising effort.
287. The **Chairperson** thanked the Director of IOS for his presentation and opened the floor for debate.
288. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** commented that the document was incomprehensible with the two separate draft decisions and the annexed recommendations from the IOS report. This IOS report is a generic report about UNESCO's Conventions without any explanations on how these recommendations would impact the functioning of the 2005 Convention such as recommendations for common branding and a common fundraising platform. The delegation stated that it is not ready to adopt draft decision 7.IGC 13b, which relates to the IOS recommendations. It requested the Secretariat to include in the next session's document an analysis on how adopting the IOS recommendations would work in relation to the 2005 Convention and affect the future impact of the Convention.
289. The **Chairperson** invited other members of the Committee to take the floor.
290. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** supported the comments made by United Kingdom and agreed that the Committee needs to see a detailed report for its next session with a better analysis on the relation of the evaluation with the Convention and its impact on the work of the Secretariat. In addition, the delegation expressed its difficulty in understanding how the recommendation on the coordinated fundraising strategy could be implemented when the Convention has a specific partner for fundraising, Small World Stories.

It also questioned whether the recommendations, if applied, would bring any financial benefits to the Convention.

291. The delegation of **Tunisia** fully agreed with the United Kingdom and stated that draft decision 7.IGC 13b could not be adopted in its current state without having any idea on how these recommendations could actually work for the Convention in practical terms and not simply at the theoretical level.
292. The delegation of **Australia** expressed its support for the United Kingdom's position. It commented that the draft decision is confusing and does not link in practical terms to the Committee's task to oversee the implementation of the Convention as well as set the priorities and ensure that the Secretariat is properly resourced to implement the priorities.
293. The delegations of **Congo, Honduras** and the **United Arab Emirates** also supported the comments of the United Kingdom.
294. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to the representative of the Director-General, Mr Kishore Rao.
295. The **representative of the Director-General** provided some additional information and clarifications to the IOS recommendations so that the Committee could consider them. He explained that the report on the audit, published in September, was considered at the General Assembly of the World Heritage Convention in November as well as the Committee meeting of the 2003 Convention early December. He recalled the report was previously submitted to the Executive Board, on which occasion the Assistant Director-General for Culture had presented the proposal for a common platform consisting of two units, one for the logistical aspects of organizing meetings of the Conventions and another one responsible for communication, outreach and partnership. He clarified that a common fundraising strategy would mainly be looking at pooling the scarce staff resources under a common platform and that each Convention will keep its unique mode of strategizing its fundraising activities. He mentioned, as the main recommendations to consider, the creation of a subaccount to be able to gather additional resources to finance staff costs, which had already been accepted by the General Assembly of the World Heritage Convention in November by creating a subaccount to the World Heritage Fund, as well as the application of the cost recovery policy, which had been applied to the 2003 Convention. Another important recommendation from the audit related to prioritizing the working methods of the governing bodies.
296. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** clarified that the Committee does not consider the audit and its report of bad quality, on the contrary, quite excellent. For example, it highly welcomed the idea of streamlining a common service. With regard to the issues of the subaccount and the overhead costs, they would be discussed later in the day. As for common branding, Saint Lucia strongly expressed its disagreement to the proposal. It commented that some of the recommendations in the report might be possible to implement. However, in order for the Committee to make decisions on that matter, the delegation stressed that it needs a document that shows how the recommendations could be adapted to the Convention and clarifies the impact of the recommendations for this Convention.
297. The **Director of the IOS** confirmed that it is a generic report covering the working methods of all conventions as was the terms of reference of the audit. He found it quite encouraging that the Secretariat had responded quickly to a report that was only recently published in September. Although it is understandable that the Committee wishes to look into the specificity of certain recommendations, he considered some of the issues dealt in the draft decision to be general enough for the Committee to consider such as setting priorities, or streamlining meetings. He reminded the Committee that it is expected to undertake a self-assessment of the efficiency of the current meeting with the external auditor looking at governance issues. He also pointed out that the audit made recommendations on the cost

recovery principle, which will rightfully be discussed later on how it could be applied to the Convention, as well as the recommendation on the common logistics unit, which has been already implemented by the Culture Sector.

298. The delegation of **Sweden** recalled the decision taken at the 37th General Conference concerning governance reform, which includes the self-assessment by organs facilitated by the external auditor in order to optimize the governance of the organs toward greater synergies, harmonization, efficiencies and impact. The delegation stressed the critical importance of having this decision implemented throughout the Organization and therefore submitted an amendment to item 13, on behalf of the Nordic countries, which welcomes the governance reform and invites all Parties to participate in the self-assessment exercise as well as requests the Secretariat to facilitate this work. Sweden suggested the amendment to be included in draft decision 13a, although the original idea was to add it to draft decision 13b.
299. The **Chairperson** thanked the Committee for the instructive debates. She asked the Committee whether it would like to first hold its thematic debates or prefer to examine the list of the Committee's future activities as provided in Annex I
300. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** suggested looking at Annex I first to examine all activities and identify priorities for the Secretariat to pursue.
301. The **Secretary of the Convention** introduced the draft work plan presented in Annex I. The table presents the priority activities, as indicated in Resolution 4.CP 13 and identified by the Conference of Parties for the Committee to undertake during its mandate 2013-2015, along with a column of main actions to be taken by the Committee in relation to the priority activities as well as a timeframe between the seventh and eight ordinary sessions of the Committee and the resource requirements beyond those covered by the regular programme. She pointed out that while some activities do not require additional resources, others such as the implementation of the fundraising strategy do, which required a budget of US\$ 55,281 and has already been approved by the Committee under agenda item 7. She explained that the table clearly shows that not all of the activities can be achieved within the next 18 months without additional resources and therefore the main purpose of the debate would be to establish priorities among the priority activities.
302. The **Chairperson** drew the Committee's attention to the total resources required for 2014 with extrabudgetary resources, US\$ 1,835,281. She invited the Committee to make comments around this ambitious work plan and budget. She also renewed her invitation to the new members to take the floor.
303. The **Secretary of the Convention** reminded the Committee that throughout their debates during this session certain priorities had been expressed, such as the urgent need for training programmes for periodic reports and for the design of IFCD projects as well as workshops to raise the visibility and awareness of the Convention and its implementation.
304. The **Chairperson** asked the Committee whether it would like to discuss the work plan item by item and then asked the Secretariat to display Annex I on the screen.
305. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** asked the Chairperson how she wishes the Committee to proceed and whether each Committee member should be indicating its priorities within the work plan.
306. The **Chairperson** suggested the members should indicate their priorities.
307. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** agreed with the priorities summarized by the Secretary of the Convention. In addition, its priorities for the work plan 2014 are: the examination of periodic reports along with its two-year analysis, the implementation of the IFCD and its fundraising

strategy, for which resources were just granted to guarantee the visibility of the Convention and fundraising among private sector actors, monitoring the implementation of Articles 21 and 16, the assessment and involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention, and the capacity-building programme. The delegation added that the IOS recommendations of the IFCD should be discussed separately as they require US\$ 410,000 and that the results of the ratification strategy could be considered as a low priority.

308. The delegation of **Congo** asked for elements of information that seem to be missing in the table related to results-oriented budgeting, specific objectives and targets.
309. The **Chairperson** explained that this list is a summary resulting from all the discussions that already took place. She then suggested, in order to save time, giving the floor to each Committee member in alphabetical order so that it could express its opinion.
310. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** agreed with the priorities stated by Saint Lucia. It required clarifications on the implementation of the IOS recommendations of the IFCD in Document 8 that requires US\$ 410,000 including for the development of the knowledge management system, which is also included in the resource requirements for the capacity-building programme.
311. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that the knowledge management system related to the IOS recommendations specifically refers to the implementation of the results-based framework with smart indicators and can be distinguished from the knowledge management in terms of the capacity building. She added that the operation that the consultant and IOS proposed for the development of the results-based framework is quite expensive.
312. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** commented that it could indicate the priorities as an individual member, however is not in the position to do so on behalf of its electoral group. The delegation went through the activities one-by-one and indicated whether it could be considered a high, medium or low priority. Those considered as high priority were: examination of periodic reports and revision of the operational guidelines; implementation of the IFCD, with the priority towards least developed countries and small island developing states, and its fundraising strategy; and capacity building programme, although implementation will rely on extrabudgetary resources. Those indicated as medium or low priority were: monitoring Article 21 and its implementation; results of the ratification strategy, considered to be a self-filling activity; and promotion and visibility of the Convention and the use of the emblem. In addition, there were conditional activities depending on the availability of extrabudgetary resources to investigate the impact of digital technologies, the role of public broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention and the assessment of the involvement of civil society.
313. The **Chairperson** pointed out that the United Kingdom indicated several activities that actually do not require additional resources such as the use of the emblem. She also asked the United Kingdom's opinion on the implementation of the IOS recommendations.
314. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** clarified that, when it comes to the implementation of the IOS recommendations, without knowing the precise implications of the recommendations to the Convention, it is not ready to give an indication on which priority it should be given.
315. The **Secretary of the Convention** clarified that the IOS recommendations referred to in the work plan of the document are those related to the Fund, which were presented in Document 8 with an action plan of activities, and should be distinguished from the recommendations from the audit of the working methods of the culture conventions.
316. After receiving clarifications from the Secretary of the Convention, the delegation of the **United Kingdom** then asked how this activity is different from the implementation of the IFCD.

317. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that implementing the Fund implies daily work of managing the Fund, which includes issuing the call, monitoring projects, etc, whereas the implementation of the IOS recommendations requires extensive activity and long-term engagement from the Secretariat on certain recommendations such as implementing a results-based framework for the Fund.
318. The delegation of **Armenia** expressed its confusion on the two draft decisions and questioned why the Committee has continued examining Annex I and setting priorities before making conclusions on the draft decisions on whether to keep both. The delegation set its priorities in the following order of priority: examination of periodic reports, implementation of the IFCD and its fundraising strategy, monitoring the implementation and the impact of Article 21, capacity-building programme.
319. The delegation of **Sweden** agreed with the list of priorities presented by the United Kingdom, highlighting the periodic reports and capacity-building as the highest priorities and with the inclusion of the implementation of the IOS recommendations as a priority.
320. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** considered the periodic reporting activity and capacity building as linked items and therefore top priority. It included the implementation of the IFCD and its fundraising strategy as well as the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention as priorities. The delegation did not see any problem in implementing all those activities that do not require additional resources.
321. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** suggested considering the activities one by one in order to reach to a common agreement as it seems that each member has a different view and proposal for priorities. The delegation requested clarification on the funding situation, whether the implementation of the work plan is based on current available funds or relies on future prospects of funding.
322. The delegation of **Guinea** agreed with most of the priorities that were set out through previous interventions. It especially highlighted the capacity building programme to be considered as the second highest priority, provided that it will contribute to the understanding and awareness-raising of the Convention in countries that have not yet ratified.
323. The delegation of **Congo** pronounced the priorities: implementation of the IFCD fund raising strategy, capacity-building programme, examination of periodic reports, examination of the impact of digital technologies, examination of the role of public service broadcasting, implementation of IOS recommendations and implementation of the IFCD.
324. The delegation of **Austria** commented that ranking and prioritizing is a challenging task, which could entail compromise on a clear vision. Nevertheless, the delegation clustered the activities in three priority groups. The first focused on the implementation of the Convention itself, which mainly concerns the periodic reports and the implementation of the IFCD. The second group of activities looked at the investment in the sustainability and long-term perspective of the Convention, proposing the implementation of the fundraising strategy and the IOS recommendations as well as the capacity-building programme. The last group related to looking at emerging issues, which includes the implementation and impact of Article 21 and the impact of digital technologies. The delegation took note that only 33 Parties had reported on digital technologies but still considered it an emerging topic.
325. The delegation of **Lithuania** supported the proposals made by the United Kingdom and Sweden. In addition, it underlined as priority the activities that suggest to improve the working methods of the Convention Secretariats such as the IOS recommendations and to find better ways to promote the Convention and its values such as the involvement of civil society.

326. The delegation of **Switzerland** expressed its concerns on the approach taken to prioritize the activities and questioned whether this approach would satisfy the members as a whole. The delegation indicated as first priority the activities that are at the heart of the Convention listed on page 10 of the document, the periodic reports and the implementation of the IFCD and its fundraising strategy, for which resources are already available. The activities of capacity-building and the implementation of IOS recommendations were also highlighted as priority. The delegation raised a question to the Secretariat on the conditions that should be met to implement the activities. It echoed the comments of the delegation of United Arab Emirates and questioned whether they depend on future extrabudgetary resources. If that is the case, the delegation suggested giving priority to the development of the results-based framework and the fundraising strategy, which aims at enhancing the capacity of the Convention and the IFCD to mobilize new resources and to convince donors of the effectiveness and relevancy of its actions.
327. The **Chairperson** explained that it was not foreseen to proceed in this manner, having each member express its opinion one by one, and ensured Switzerland that the Secretariat is taking note of all the proposals.
328. The delegation of **Madagascar** proposed a two-fold approach to setting out the priorities. First, prioritizing activities that already have funding and, second, those that lack funding, among which capacity-building should be taken as priority.
329. The delegation of **Tunisia** expressed its difficulty in seeing how this prioritizing and ranking exercise could lead the Committee to taking a final decision.
330. The **Chairperson** clarified that the Committee is trying to determine the most important activities and ensured Tunisia that, if extrabudgetary resources are secured, efforts will be made to implement all of the activities.
331. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** fully agreed with the comments of the Chairperson and commented that this is a difficult yet useful exercise. It drew the attention of the Committee to the column of required resources that are currently not secured and stated why it is important for the Committee to flag to the Secretariat what it considers as priority within the available resources. The delegation also took note that there is a kind of consensus on most of the activities among the proposals made by the members. It reminded the Committee at the same time that, even if some activities do not require resources, there is still staff time that will have to be allocated, which could be spent on a more important activity.
332. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** acknowledged that the Secretariat is taking note of each proposal, which could lead to having a common result at the end of the debate. The delegation asked the Chairperson whether it is expected to pronounce its priorities like the other members.
333. The **Chairperson** explained that the original idea was not to simply set a numbered order of priorities but to have the opinions of the members in order to list the highest priorities and determine the way forward.
334. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** enumerated the activities in the following order of priority: implementation of the IFCD and its fundraising strategy, capacity-building programme, assessment of the involvement of the civil society, monitoring of the implementation and impact of Article 21, results of the ratification strategy, implementation of IOS recommendations, role of public service broadcasting, celebration of the 10th anniversary.
335. The **Chairperson** invited observers to take the floor.

[Observers]

336. The delegation of **Canada** echoed the previous speakers in congratulating the Secretariat for its work with so few resources. It reminded the Committee and Parties of the impact of their choices in terms of priorities on the future success of the Convention. Bearing in mind the difficult budgetary context, the delegation underlined the following activities as priority: periodic reports, the implementation of the IFCD, the implementation of Article 21 and the capacity building programme, in particular training for periodic reports. Canada also recalled its proposal on the impact of the development of digital technologies. With regard to draft decision 13b, the delegation stressed the need to maintain the frequency of statutory meetings however suggested reducing the agenda of the meetings. It expressed its hope to see a reasonable part of the amount coming from the Education Sector to the Culture Sector to be allocated to the Convention.
337. The delegation of **France** thanked and congratulated the Secretariat for its work. The delegation echoed the priorities expressed by Austria in supporting the periodic reports and the IFCD in terms of the follow-up of the implementation of the Convention, also underlining the fundraising strategy and capacity-building for the sustainability of the Convention and lastly prioritizing Article 21, the impact of the digital technologies and the 10th anniversary in support of future actions of the Convention.
338. The delegation of **Brazil** emphasized the importance of focusing on fundraising efforts and being very proactive in finding new resources and partners. In addition, it indicated the examination of periodic reports, the implementation of the IFCD and the capacity-building programme as priorities. The delegation also mentioned the work of the Secretariat in the area of the creative economy and the efforts to integrate culture into the post-2015 agenda, which are equally important and serve as a conceptual basis for the Convention.
339. The delegation of **Germany** praised the Convention on how it has become an impressive platform of international cooperation with so little resources, through the efforts and contributions of many countries. It pointed out the promotion and visibility of the Convention and the use of the emblem as priority, underlining the challenging responsibilities to explain the complexity of the Convention and make people understand the importance of the Convention within the countries. In addition, the delegation encouraged combined efforts to bring in public and private foundations to work together on the capacity-building programme and spoke about the need to celebrate the 10th anniversary, even if it has to be a no-budget activity.
340. The **Chairperson** encouraged each country to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Convention on its own territory.
341. The delegation of **Denmark** welcomed this healthy and useful exercise, bearing in mind the difficult financial situation. It acknowledged that the work of the Convention sets a good example for many other UNESCO's intergovernmental bodies. In terms of the prioritization, Denmark agreed with the proposal of the United Kingdom with one exception, which is the implementation of the IOS recommendations. The delegation considers the IOS recommendations essential to help the Secretariat develop a clear vision for the future direction of the Fund, which has also been demanded by donors. Looking at the estimated budget of US\$ 410,000 to implement the recommendations, the delegation inquired whether it would be possible to have a light version of the framework.
342. The representative of **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD)**, Mr Charles Vallerand, raised the question of the involvement of civil society, which could be mobilized on concrete subjects of the Convention such as status of the artist, freedom of expression, etc. He addressed the challenges of mobilizing civil society and emphasized that the biggest priority for the Convention is actually the Parties themselves and making them understand and take up their responsibility to actually implement the Convention. He also highlighted Article 21 as a priority that has been supported by many members and

suggested organizing, with the involvement of civil society, an open exchange among experts, Parties and professionals in the areas of economy and trade to discuss the implementation of Article 21 and its future.

343. The representative of the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)**, Mr Giacomo Mazzone, fully agreed with the previous speaker of the important role of Parties. With regard to the issue on the role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention, he took note of the budgetary constraints to implement this activity and proposed to see whether free assistance and guidance could be provided through the International Broadcasting Union, a worldwide association of broadcasters.
344. The representative of the **International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (IFTC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** supported the proposal to organize a session on Article 21 and, in this regard, proposed to collaborate with the Committee in the fields of telecommunications and digital technologies.
345. The **Chairperson** commented that the Convention is not designed to be only treated here in this room but to be rolled out in the field. She noted that civil society is an important partner to facilitate the relations.
346. The delegation of **Tunisia**, supported by **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** and **Switzerland**, asked the Secretariat to take note of the request to organize an open and frank dialogue session between economists, trade experts and Parties on the impact of Article 21 and make sure that it is included in the agenda for the next Committee meeting.
347. As per the request of the Chairperson, the **Secretary of the Convention** summarized the debate and informed the Committee of the top priorities expressed by the majority of the members, which were the periodic reports, the implementation of the IFCD and its fundraising strategy as well as capacity-building activities. She indicated that, in terms of issues or policy developments to be monitored, it was the monitoring and implementation of the impact of Article 21 that was emphasized the most followed by the impact of digital technologies. In addition, the implementation of the IOS recommendations was stressed by many members to be pursued to the degree possible or in a light version in the absence of resources. The Secretariat was also asked to continue its work on the essential role of civil society in the implementation of the Convention. The Secretary of the Convention clarified that the next agenda for the Committee would be comprised of reports and updates on these particular activities with relevant actions and benchmarks. Lastly, she took note of the request to organize an exchange session on Article 21 prior to the eighth session of the Committee next year.
348. The **Chairperson** explained that all the activities will remain important and efforts will be made to implement them once additional funding is secured. She commented that it is encouraging to have a list of priorities based on the instructive discussions so that the Committee may adopt this list and move forward. She asked the Secretariat to rearrange the activities in Annex I so that the top-ranking priorities appear first. She then proposed to continue the discussion relating to item 13 of their agenda, namely on emerging issues: the impact of digital technologies, the role of public service broadcasting and the involvement of civil society. She requested those who have submitted information documents on digital technologies to make a brief 10 minute presentation highlighting the main issues. She proposed the representatives of the civil society to come on the podium to make their presentation and, in this regard, informed the suspension of Article 20 of the Rules of procedure. She explained that this working method is in line with the decision for the Committee to hold thematic debates between the Parties and civil society representatives as part of the Committee meetings. She then gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to provide further details on the impact of digital technologies.

349. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that the Conference of Parties in its resolution 4.CP13 on future activities of the Committee requested the Committee at its seventh session to examine certain issues, which includes the impact of the development of digital technologies on the Convention, the role of public broadcasting service in achieving the objectives of the Convention, the assessment of the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and the 10th anniversary of the Convention in 2015. The resolution also invited the Parties and civil society to submit information documents, identifying the main issues, expected results and future action plan on these new topics for the Committee, which were posted to the Convention's website. Considering the enormity of the subject and in order to help guide the debate and identify the priority issues within the context of the debate on new technologies, the Secretariat sent a letter to Parties with a survey providing an overview of how and where new technologies were included within the operational guidelines and asked Parties to rank them in order of priority. 33 Parties, 9 civil society organisations and no intergovernmental organisation responded to this survey. Results are presented in Document 13 and indicate that the Committee should orient its debates and activities on the impact of new technologies on the Convention within the framework of policies and measures to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and within the context of activities related to education and raising public awareness of the Convention. In addition, the Secretary of the Convention reported that the responses given by Parties in their periodic reports identified a series of national measures, policies, programmes, plans, thematic workshops, seminars in reference to new technologies, which could inform a special feature focus of the upcoming biannual global report on the implementation of the Convention.
350. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for her presentation and reminded the Committee to reflect on the key issues at stake, which will be the basis for future actions, as well as the main outcomes to achieve through this new activity. She then invited the first speaker to the podium to make a brief presentation highlighting the main questions.
351. The representative of the **International Network of Lawyers for the Diversity of Cultural Expressions** (RIJDEC), Ms Véronique Guèvremont presented a report prepared by six legal experts and carried out in consultation with 32 African experts that form a new network around the Convention. The report is divided into four chapters, which starts with identifying the priority actions devoted to cooperation and raising special attention to questions related to the establishment of partnerships, exchange of best practices and strengthening of capacities in developing countries. The report presents a discussion on the need for adapting national cultural policies to the specific features of the digital environment and also includes references to digital technology in education and awareness-raising of the general public as well as on the promotion of the objectives of the Convention within other international forums. It concludes with a set of 12 recommendations for the purpose of embarking on a discussion to adapt policies in the digital world that reflect the principles of the Convention including those related to the integration of culture in sustainable development policies and address culture trade concerns. The full version of the report is posted to the Convention website in English and French [here](#).
352. The **Chairperson** thanked the first speaker and gave the floor to the following expert. She informed the audience that questions will be taken at the end of all the presentations.
353. The representative of the **Unión Latina de Economía Política de la Información la Comunicación y la Cultura** (ULEPICC), Mr Luis A. Albornoz, introduced a "Statement on the protection and promotion of cultural diversity in the digital era", including around 20 recommendations resulting from an international workshop organized in Madrid last October on audiovisual creation in the digital era. He highlighted access and participation of individuals and social groups as necessary conditions for cultural diversity in the new digital environment and as the basic principle of modern cultural policies. Among the recommendations, Mr Albornoz underlined the implementation of public policies at the national and international levels to promote the diversity of cultural content in the digital landscape and the development

of tools to promote the visibility and emergence of new content in developing countries. He ended his presentation with an announcement on the forthcoming international seminar on cultural diversity in the digital era and cultural industries, which will take place in Madrid in November 2014. The statement is available on the Convention website in French, English, Spanish, Chinese and Portuguese [here](#).

354. The representative of the **Canadian Coalition for Cultural Diversity**, Mr Charles Vallerand, started his presentation on the impact of the digital era on the implementation of the Convention by reminding the audience of the reality of the digital divide and accessibility. The presentation focused on how digital technologies are transforming and challenging the model of policies on content support and ownership on cultural industries in the context of Quebec and Canada. The representative stressed the need to revisit the traditional ways of promoting and protecting contents in the new digital landscape and change work methods. He emphasized the issues related to limited access to digital technology and computer literacy as well as the creation of interest and demand for French-speaking Canadian content. Furthermore he spoke about e-commerce and the relocation of virtual platforms and how they are challenging the fundamental notion of territorial rights. The contribution of the Canadian Coalition for Cultural Diversity is available in English and French [here](#).
355. The **Chairperson** thanked the representative of the Canadian Coalition for Cultural Diversity for presenting his critical views on the subject and gave the floor to the delegation of France.
356. The delegation of **France** pointed out how digital technologies might, on one hand, offer new opportunities in terms of creation, dissemination and access to works, but on the other hand change the whole cultural value chain by transforming cultural content into vulnerable products. It underlined the importance to reflect on the values and principles of the Convention and their implementation in the digital era. In this context, the delegation made several suggestions such as funding for projects that concern digital technology, the introduction of a section regarding the impact of digital technologies within the periodic reports followed by an analysis of this specific aspect of the reports and a summary report that could lead to in-depth debate and a guide of good practices. It also offered to provide surveys, a glossary, and the expertise to conduct a study in support of collective reflections on this subject. As a conclusion, the delegation proposed that operational guidelines on the aspects of the development of digital technologies related to the Convention be prepared and to take advantage of the Convention's 10th anniversary to reflect on the digital era. France's contribution is available on the Convention's website [here](#).
357. The delegation of **Germany** presented its document, resulting from the drafting of Germany's first periodic report in 2012 as well as from a work-in-progress perspective paper showcasing digital diversity. It talked about the theme of the World Day for Cultural Diversity in 2012, which focused on the value of creativity and challenges of being an artist in the digital age, and how this led to change in the public policy landscape. The delegation also informed of the ongoing debate at the European level on collective financing and searching for relevant ways to complement private funding of digital media with other public schemes. It suggested starting a new dialogue with colleagues from economics in analyzing and evaluating the change in the cultural value chain. It questioned how the principle of technological neutrality, already reflected in the Convention, could be translated into concrete action. Furthermore it recommended using the knowledge and experiences of the Parties to systematically evaluate policies and develop a political, legal and financial framework to strengthen intercultural exchanges. Another reflection for the EU group was to develop a digital agenda 2020 into the cultural and creative agenda. Lastly, the delegation agreed to the suggestion having an ongoing reservoir of examples using the Convention as a learning platform. The contribution from the delegation of Germany is available in English [here](#).
358. The delegation of **Canada** started the presentation by quoting comments from some experts who had advised the government on the links between the digital era and the Convention. The

document focused on the different measures aimed at promoting cultural diversity in the digital era, based on the experiences of Canada and Quebec, and on ways to implement the Convention in the digital environment, taking into account all aspects of the cultural value chain and paying specific attention to Articles 5, 6 and 7. The floor was passed to Ms Michèle Stanton-Jean, Representative of the Government of Québec to UNESCO in the Canadian Delegation, who highlighted two good practices that demonstrate how to adapt cultural programmes to the digital world. The examples showed how Parties could modernize their programmes to ensure that cultural actors could integrate the digital model in their business plans and support the creation of new digital cultural content as well as drawing up a digital strategy with civil society. She emphasized the challenges of education and awareness-raising with the public, integrating culture into sustainable development and keeping Parties updated on negotiations taking place in international fora. Lastly the delegation expressed its wish to have the discussions based on research conducted by civil society and praised the ongoing exchange and dialogue, which could feed into the reflections of the Committee. The document is available in English and French [here](#).

359. The **Chairperson** opened the floor for comments or questions regarding the six presentations.
360. The representative of the **Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF)**, Mr Henri-François Gauthier, commented that, considering the multifaceted nature of digital technology, the discussion on the impact of the digital technologies on the Convention should distinguish these multiple aspects and take them into account. These included the increasing business practices of digital technology and the trade aspects as well as the commercial challenges they bring along. Another aspect to reflect on is the production of cultural goods through digital media and the variety of media channels for producing and distributing them.
361. The **Chairperson** agreed on the vast and multifaceted nature of digital technology and commented that the situation varies greatly from one geopolitical situation to another.
362. The representative of the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)**, Mr Giacomo Mazzone, suggested having greater interaction between the different departments of UNESCO in the coordination of debates and reports and therefore creating better synergy. He recalled that there are other debates within UNESCO on this subject and mentioned a report that was produced by the Communication and Information Sector of UNESCO and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on the relation between local content and the development of internet, which looked only partially at the issue of content published on the Internet.
363. The representative of the **International Music Council (IMC)**, Ms Silja Fischer, shared information on the conclusions that came out of two symposiums organized by the IMC on African music, one on the topic of the challenges of the international music market and another one on structuring the music sector. They found that African musicians had high hopes for the future in terms of the digital world, however many obstacles were to be overcome, particularly limited access to the digital market place. She indicated that there is political will of States, giving the example of Cape Verde, and called on the Parties to consider adopting policies to support the emergence of a digital market place in Africa, in line with Articles 6 and 7 on measures to promote cultural expressions.
364. The representative of **Traditions for Tomorrow**, Mr Diego Gradis, raised the issue of exploitation of traditional knowledge in the digital environment as well as the links between intellectual property and traditional expressions of culture. He suggested that the Secretariat of the Convention participate in the exchange and discussions between the 2003 Convention and the patent office of WIPO, so that these perspectives on digital technology could be introduced into the reflections on creation and respect for traditional forms of cultural expression. He also shared information on the future WIPO treaty, on traditional folklore.

365. The **Chairperson** thanked the representative of Traditions for Tomorrow for raising this important question on the use of traditional songs in new forms of creation. She commented that the border line between simple use and exploitation is quite fine and that this matter should be further discussed.
366. The delegation of **Brazil** addressed the question of copyright, rights and freedom within the digital environment and stressed the importance exploring this topic. It quoted Gilberto Gil, musician and former Minister of Culture in Brazil, who said that cultural diversity relies on freedom in the digital world, which is much more important than property rights. The delegation also informed of a recent bill that was drafted to regulate and control the Internet due to issues of piracy and hacking.
367. As there were no further comments, the **Chairperson** gave the floor to the Secretary of the Convention to introduce the Committee's next thematic exchange on the role of public broadcasting service in achieving the objectives of the Convention.
368. The **Secretary of the Convention** reminded the Committee of the Conference of Parties' Resolution for it to examine the role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention. She referred to relevant Articles 6.2 (f) and 6.2 (h) of the Convention, which calls upon Parties to adopt measures aimed at establishing and supporting public institutions and at enhancing the diversity of the media, including through public service broadcasting. She clarified that, although the operational guidelines do not specifically mention broadcasting agencies, Article 6 of the Convention does refer to public service institutions and channels, stating that cultural policies and measures to promote the diversity of cultural expressions should promote access in the distribution of culture activities, goods and services through public, private or institutional channels at the national, regional or international levels. The Secretary of the Convention invited the Committee to identify pertinent themes and questions, avenues for reflection related to this issue that could form the basis of its future work plan. She reminded the Committee that the main purpose of the debate would be to exchange views about what is feasible and the objectives to be achieved before the next session of the Conference of Parties in 2015.
369. The **Chairperson** gave the floor to the representative of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Mr Giacomo Mazzone, to talk about the main challenges on this subject so that the Committee could take proper decisions on the basis of information provided.
370. The representative of the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)** encouraged the Parties to recognize the role of public service broadcasting and emphasized the importance of cultural diversity in public service missions of broadcasters in Europe. He first spoke about the mission of public service broadcasting, which is to produce national content linked to the identity of different communities, and gave specific examples on the different levels of investment in content production within the European market, with public service broadcasters showing a higher percentage of investment than commercial television. He also explained the specificity of the investment in film production where public service broadcasters tend to invest in young producers, which have less possibility of making a return on investment. The representative of the EBU then presented the second mission of the public service broadcasting to preserve the cultural expressions of traditional minorities. He reported that the majority of European countries had a specific service for minorities, which represents a significant amount of investment such as the case in Serbia. He additionally spoke about how public service broadcasting is contributing to the integration of new minority groups, resulting from new patterns of migration, into the broader national community. Lastly he expressed EBU's intention to extend this research on an international scale. The presentation is available in English on the Convention website [here](#).
371. The **Chairperson** thanked the representative of EBU for his presentation and then opened the floor for debate.

372. The delegation of **Austria** praised this thought-provoking initiative to have civil society introduce information documents within the Committee, which would certainly serve as a good foundation for its initial exchange and debate. It reiterated that digital technology is provoking a process of severe transformation, which has an impact on all the provisions of the Convention as well as on the States' ability to create an enabling environment to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions. Taking into account its effect on international cooperation and solidarity, the delegation stressed the need to promote cooperation with different stakeholders across a whole range of different policy fields, including the involvement of civil society, and to balance the consequences and concrete actions needed to be taken, which would require more in-depth discussions. It therefore expressed its support to the proposal made by several delegations to further engage in discussion, collect good practices and build a base of knowledge of how different countries deal with the challenges.
373. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** thanked all the speakers for raising a range of interesting issues. It however commented that it is not in a position to answer the question raised by the Secretariat in paragraph 13 of Document 13 on how the Committee could commit to these priorities. The delegation basically couldn't work out how these issues could be situated in the overall priorities of the Convention. It considered the interventions to relate partially to the Convention and represent the interest of a relative minority of countries and limited perspectives and therefore questioned whether these issues were really important for many of the Parties. The delegation supported the proposal to further debate on these issues, however not necessarily in the context of the Committee but in the context of an externally sponsored event as well as in the context of the overall membership and goals of the Convention. Lastly the delegation did not recognize the information and figures presented by the EBU representative about the UK film industry indicating that there is no film industry in the country except for that sponsored by the public broadcasting service, pointing out that the United Kingdom Government has put in place tax breaks in order to facilitate the growth of the independent film industry, which is private.
374. The delegation of **Switzerland** thanked the Parties and civil society representatives that provided the documents on the issue of digital technology, which is relevant to the objectives of the Convention. It underlined the need to set precise objectives when analyzing the topic so that the issues are relevant in the context of the Convention and a rapidly changing cultural landscape. The delegation considered the proposal made by France pertinent, which suggests a step by step approach until 2015 and a revision of the operational guidelines. It asked the Committee and the Secretariat for their opinion on whether this proposal could be feasible in terms of resources.
375. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** thanked all the speakers who spoke on digital technology. Echoing Switzerland's comments, it acknowledged its importance and relevance to the Convention and considered the focus on access and protection of content most significant for the Convention. The delegation pointed out however that digital technology is already included within the scope of the Convention and its operational guidelines and emphasized that a revision of the guidelines is not necessary. It reiterated that the Committee will work on the subject but emphasized that it should not be an objective in itself. The delegation also reminded the Committee the need to focus on the essential issues needed for the Convention such as problems of market access, with or without technology. It additionally expressed its regrets that the reports did not refer to countries from the South or from emerging countries in order to assess the real situation, which would help the Committee work on the question of digital technology.
376. The **Chairperson** joined the comments made by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on the need to have studies conducted by emerging countries.
377. The delegation of **Tunisia** saw this debate as a real opportunity for starting reflections on digital technology in relation to the Convention. It acknowledged, on one hand, the digital

divide as a point of departure and the reality where everyone is not equipped in the same way with digital technology and, on the other hand, the necessity to prepare ourselves for the digital challenges. Furthermore Tunisia recognized the potential benefits of digital technology to bring greater impact and visibility to the Convention as well as for developing countries. The delegation urged to start reflections on the subject at a steady pace and in a rational manner.

378. The delegation of **Uruguay** supported the comments of previous speakers on the impact of digital technology on the Convention. Uruguay considered digital technology to be very important for the Convention at every level and therefore wished the Committee to work on the subject. It shared information on the Government's national digital plan to have one computer per student and teacher. The delegation also mentioned the Government's intention to cooperate internationally and in particular at the South-South level.
379. The delegation of **Viet Nam** made some observations on the different presentations. It noted the certain level of optimism on the role digital technologies play in enhancing the value of cultural diversity, however, highlighted the negative impact on the use of digital technologies by raising the issues of addiction to electronic media and massive use of information technologies. The delegation also indicated the imbalance and divide between the North and the South, when it comes to digital technologies and cultural products. Another issue that Viet Nam raised was about support in favour of national minorities and the exchange between different minorities, aligned with the Articles of the Convention. It shared information on Viet Nam's specific situation of having a majority of minorities and explained the ethnic and cultural similarities and links that exist between the different minorities in the Southeast Asian region.
380. The delegation of the **United Arab Emirates** thanked all the speakers for providing interesting information on how to benefit from digital technology and how to relate it to the Convention. It pointed out that, regardless of the gap between the North and the South, the issue of digital technology is a live issue that cannot be denied. The delegation raised two questions on this matter, first on how much digital technology can be used for the implementation of the Convention and, second, on how the Convention can help in reducing the digital divides between countries. It was confident that the Committee would come to a common agreement on whether it would set up a priority on how digital technology can be beneficial to the implementation of the Convention or undertake further studies on the use of digital technology.
381. The delegation of **Tunisia** took the floor to thank the authors of the report of the International Network of Lawyers for the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (RIJDEC) for integrating the contribution of four African experts, which enables the Committee to have a constructive debate taking into account all regions of the world.
382. The delegation of **Guinea** raised the question on whether the issue of digital technology cannot be integrated as part of the capacity-building exercise, so that all countries can make most of its use. In addition, the delegation of **Congo** suggested the Secretariat to organize digital training in the context of capacity-building in order to reduce the major digital divide between the North and the South.
383. The delegation of **Sweden** expressed its appreciation for the interesting presentations and the current debate. It reiterated the importance of digital technology for the Convention, especially in relation to accessibility and artistic expressions. The delegation echoed the comments of previous speakers on how it is necessary to take into account the different possibilities for different actors in the field, which includes the question of capacity-building.
384. The **Chairperson** reassured the members of the Committee that the Secretariat has taken note of all their suggestions. She then gave the floor to observers and asked them to be brief in their comments.

[Observers]

385. The representative of the **Canadian Coalition for Cultural Diversity**, Mr Charles Vallerand, responded to the comments made by the United Kingdom on why such a debate on digital technology is taking place. He explained that it is so that the Convention is not totally out of touch with reality with what actually affects cultural expressions and how it can keep pace with rapidly evolving technologies and transforming modes of consumption in the context of the Committee's discussions or actual requirements and needs for the Convention.
386. The representative of the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)**, Mr Giacomo Mazzone, mentioned that he would respond to the United Kingdom's inquiry in private. He indicated that EBU had prepared other interventions, as the debate was foreseen for tomorrow, but considering the time constraint he would be satisfied if a decision could be taken based on the current discussions.
387. The representative of the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** indicated that it collects a lot of statistics and indicators on Internet penetration, which can be found on its website. He added that there are more mobile cellphones than the number of inhabitants in the world. He reiterated ITU's readiness to cooperate with the Convention in assisting to draft relevant documents on the subject, in particular on the digital divide and in the context of the established cooperation agreement between ITU and UNESCO.
388. The delegation of **Germany** clarified that, at the last Conference of Parties, it had found it useful to include the examination on the role of the public service media in the work plan of the Committee, as this element was highlighted in several periodic reports. It explained that the public service media are considered to be effective enablers to promote and strengthen the diversity of cultural expressions because they have a clear constitutional and political role as producers, commissioners and distributors of cultural content, which requires regulatory and financial provisions. The delegation presented four questions on this subject that could be examined as part of the work plan and result in a compilation of good practices. The first question was on how broadcasting systems could help in terms of outreach and cultural productions to fulfill their role in achieving the objectives of the Convention. Followed by the second question on how bilateral, regional and international cooperation could be enhanced in this field, relating to the issue of preferential treatment such as co-production of contents and enabling contents from the South to be available in other parts of the world. The other questions raised were how to bring the role of public service media into the context of the ongoing culture and development debate, as well as the role of public service media in relation to the dual cultural and economic nature of cultural activities, goods and services promoted by the Convention. Lastly, the delegation suggested constructing a knowledge base by tapping into the wealth of information at UNESCO, especially referring to the Communication and Information Sector and its work in the context of the World Summit on the Information Society.
389. The delegation of **Italy** agreed with the views expressed by several delegations on assessing the importance of digital technologies for the implementation of the Convention. The delegation considered that supporting access to digital technologies and seizing the opportunities of the digital environment to be a priority of the Convention, as such technology offers essential opportunities for a wider outreach with relatively small requirement of economic and infrastructure investment.
390. The **Chairperson** thanked the members of the Committee and observers for their comments and interest to the subjects, which enabled lengthy discussions. She then drew the attention of the Committee to the two draft decisions 7.IGC 13a and 7.IGC 13b. She started with draft decision 7.IGC 13a, reading and adopting it paragraph by paragraph.
391. After adopting the two first paragraphs, the delegation of the **United Kingdom** proposed an amendment to add "whilst taking into account the priorities raised during the debate" at the end of paragraph 3, which reads "Adopts the work plan for the activities of the Committee contained in Annex I of this document".

392. The **Chairperson** read the full paragraph with its amendment and, as there were no objections, adopted it.
393. After adopting paragraph 4, the delegation of the **United Kingdom** proposed a modification to paragraph 5 and the deletion of paragraph 6. It suggested deleting “to reflect on how” in paragraph 5, adding “noting that there would be no financial implications for UNESCO” and deleting the rest of paragraph “and to inform the Secretariat...” so that it reads “Invites the Parties and civil society to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Convention at the local, national, regional and international levels, noting that there will be no financial implications for UNESCO”. The delegation also proposed deleting the entire paragraph 6.
394. The **Chairperson** questioned the deletion of the end of paragraph “and to inform the Secretariat...” and commented that it would be good to have a summary of activities planned to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Convention in 2015.
395. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** responded that the celebration is clearly not a priority and therefore it did not wish to ask the Secretariat with its limited resources to prepare a separate special report on the anniversary, which could be included in a general report on activities.
396. The delegation of **Switzerland** proposed to keep the end of paragraph 6 as it considered it important that the Secretariat is informed of these activities.
397. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** reminded the Committee that any event that takes place in connection with the Convention will usually imply the use of the emblem, which is reported in the document on the emblem. Therefore, in line with streamlining the work and expenses, the delegation expected the Secretariat to report on the 10th anniversary through the reporting on the use of the emblem and found it unnecessary to have two documents report on the same issues.
398. The **Chairperson** clarified that the use of the emblem is not always related to the celebration of the 10th anniversary and recalled that this is the first anniversary celebration of the Convention.
399. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** pointed out that any celebration of the 10th anniversary without using the emblem will not be well-received.
400. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** agreed with Switzerland that, like the other Conventions, the Parties should be informed by the Secretariat of anniversary celebrations in different countries and regions. It commented that, without the end of paragraph 6, it can be considered that there will be no celebration.
401. The delegation of **Congo** thanked the United Kingdom for its amendment, however wished to keep the original version of paragraph 6 with the end “and to inform the Secretariat...”, as it would encourage the Parties to organize events, which the Secretariat should be clearly aware of.
402. The delegation of **Austria** commented that it fully understands United Kingdom’s position that this is not priority, however stated that the 10th anniversary should be celebrated with an open invitation to Parties to organize their own celebration activities. It did not expect the reporting on these events to cause major financial implications, if the report would be a simple compilation of the information without analyzing and summarizing the activities in order to keep the resources used in this activity to a minimum.
403. The **Secretary of the Convention** proposed to use an online form, referring to the model of the 2003 Convention, where Parties could be invited to upload information on the events they

are organizing, so that all the information could be presented as a calendar of events on the Convention's website. This would enable the Secretariat to not only promote and disseminate the information according to the Secretariat's limited resources, but also have a database of information and avoid preparing a separate report.

404. The **Chairperson** recalled that the celebration could also be a matter of obtaining more funds. She then read paragraph as amended "Invites the Parties and civil society to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Convention at the local, national, regional and international levels, noting that there will be no financial implications for UNESCO, and to inform the Secretariat of the events and activities that they wish to organize and implement". There were no further comments and it was adopted. She then moved on to paragraph 7.
405. The delegation of **Tunisia** proposed an amendment for the first bullet point of paragraph 7, which reads as "all relevant information relating to activities and actions they are undertaking with regard to the development of digital technologies connected with the diversity of cultural expressions so that at its next session the Committee may consider the next steps in its reflection on this subject". It proposed to delete the second bullet point of paragraph 7, which was supported by **Congo**.
406. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** questioned why another debate on public service broadcasting should take place and why the Committee is asking Parties to submit information that was already submitted for this session unless it intends to have the same debate again, which did not seem to be the case. It supported the amendment by Tunisia and Congo to delete this point.
407. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** expressed its support for the amendment, however requested clarifications on whether, through this amendment, the Committee is asking additional information to what was already adopted in decision 7.IGC 5, which is to include reporting on this subject in the periodic report followed by the results of the analysis.
408. The delegation of **Tunisia** clarified that it is not asking for additional information but simply a follow-up to what already exists.
409. The **Chairperson** asked for confirmation whether it refers to the periodic reports, to which **Tunisia** answered yes.
410. The delegation of **Australia** agreed with the comments of Saint Lucia and considered it an unnecessary duplication to decision 7.IGC 5 that was adopted to call for Parties to include information on digital technologies in their periodic reports.
411. The delegation of **Sweden** agreed with Australia and Saint Lucia. It did not approve of the idea of having a special questionnaire on this subject and suggested having it included in the periodic reporting.
412. The delegation of **Honduras** supported the position of Saint Lucia that all information should be included in the periodic reports.
413. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** reminded the Committee that decision 7.IGC 5 states the specific information to be reported on a voluntary basis in the periodic reports.
414. The delegation of **Viet Nam** asked for clarity on the meaning of the phrase "civil society within their territory" in the third bullet point of paragraph 7. The delegation suggested the following, "assessment of the work undertaken by civil society on these issues in the framework of the implementation of the Convention", and invited the civil society present in the room to make better suggestions.

415. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that the periodic reports certainly provide information on digital technologies, on the important role of public service broadcasting and on the engagement of civil society. She also reminded the Committee that the periodic reporting exercise will be expanded on a biannual basis with additional information on global trends and statistics. She therefore proposed, in the context of the periodic report exercise and analysis over the next two years, to highlight the issues considered to be important including the additional information provided in the reports as well as the new developments to demonstrate that the Convention is forward-looking and examine all these issues in an analytical manner.
416. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** proposed deleting the whole paragraph 7, in view of the explanation of the Secretary of the Convention and taking into account the already-taken decision 7.IGC 5. Furthermore it suggested adding a new preambular reference “recalling the decision” to remind the Committee why the whole paragraph was deleted.
417. The **Secretary of the Convention** suggested an amendment to paragraph 7, which reads as “invites the Secretariat to include in its analysis all relevant information provided in the Parties’ periodic reports and other relevant sources relating to the activities and actions of the Convention stakeholders with regard to the development of digital technologies, public service broadcasting and the engagement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention”.
418. The **Chairperson** reread the paragraph and adopted it. She read paragraph 8 and suggested taking out the paragraph as it is already mentioned in the adopted paragraph 7 as amended.
419. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** indicated that paragraph 7 seems to address Parties whereas paragraph 8 addresses civil society. It proposed to insert a new paragraph to replace draft decision 7.IGC 13b on the IOS recommendations, taking into account the debates that took place on this matter.
420. The **Chairperson** suggested examining draft decision 13b and seeing what could be considered to be added in draft decision 13a.
421. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** suggested not adopting 13b at all.
422. The **Chairperson** asked Saint Lucia to introduce its amendment.
423. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** presented the main idea behind the amendment, which was not to adopt 13b and to ask the Secretariat to explain the application and adoption of the recommendations for the Convention at its next session, and read the amendment as “Further requests the Secretariat to submit to it a report concerning the implications of adopting the IOS recommendations for the work of this Convention”.
424. The **Chairperson** suggested adding “at/for its eighth session” to the amended paragraph.
425. With regard to Saint Lucia’s amendment, the delegation of **Switzerland** questioned the effects and consequences for the Convention if the IOS recommendations were not taken into account. It expressed its concerns on some recommendations that need to be acted upon quickly.
426. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** clarified that most of the IOS recommendations have already been applied such as prioritizing the Committee’s work and the common service platform for the Conventions, whereas the self-assessment exercise of the Parties is mentioned in paragraph 4 of the current draft decision and the issue of cost recovery was already discussed. The delegation assured Switzerland that most of the issues were covered and that there are no implications on the Convention related to these recommendations. It however pointed out that the issue of fundraising requires explanation on the impact it may have to the work of the Convention, which is included in the new paragraph 8.

427. The delegation of **Congo** supported the proposal of Saint Lucia and agreed that draft decision 7.IGC 13b be deleted. On the other hand, the delegation commented that it does not see the 10th anniversary being figured in the draft decision and cannot see the link.
428. The **Chairperson** clarified that there are two points, paragraphs 5 and 6, approved in the draft decision concerning the 10th anniversary.
429. The delegation of **Congo** rephrased his question and asked why the 10th anniversary figured in the draft decision, when the other paragraphs in the draft decision were related to ongoing activities that could be distinguished from a specific event such as the 10th anniversary.
430. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** agreed that the draft decision is not composed in a very orderly manner as it addresses many different issues at the same time but reassured the delegation of Congo that it was the best way to go to finalize the decision.
431. The **Chairperson** asked for further comments on the draft decision. No comments were recorded. She then announced draft decision 7.IGC 13a adopted as decision 7.IGC 13.

Decision 7.IGC 13 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 14 – DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

Document CE/13/7.IGC/14

432. The **Chairperson** opened the discussion on dates for the next session of the Committee. She recalled Article 4.1 of the Rules of the Procedure, which stipulates the Committee to decide on the date for the next session in consultation with the Director-General, and Article 4.2, which determines the sessions of the Committee are to be held in Paris at UNESCO Headquarters. She also reminded the Committee to take into account Recommendation 1 resulting from the IOS audit of working methods of the cultural conventions, which invites the Secretariat to present to the governing bodies proposals to reduce the number of meetings of Parties and to synchronize them in order to optimize efficiency. In this regard, the Chairperson suggested the Secretariat to work with the other Convention Secretariats to make a joint proposal at the Committee's eighth ordinary session for a better scheduling between Convention sessions. She informed the Committee of the proposed dates 9-12 December 2014, which were booked by the Secretariat also taking into account the dates of the meetings for the other conventions' governing bodies.
433. The delegation of the **United Kingdom** proposed reducing the duration of the next session from four days to three, based on the fact that the current session was held under four days but also as a way of addressing Recommendation 1 of the IOS audit.
434. Taking up the suggestions made by the United Kingdom, the **Secretary of the Convention** suggested two options for the Committee to consider, holding the meeting either on 10-12 December (from Wednesday to Friday) or on 9-11 December 2014 (from Tuesday to Thursday). She recalled the decision to hold an exchange session on Articles 21 and 16 prior to the next session. She also reminded the Committee that organizing the meeting on a Monday would imply supplementary costs as personnel would be required to come in on Sunday to set up the room. She therefore proposed to start the Committee meeting on 9 December 2014 with a two-hour exchange session at 10a.m., followed by the opening ceremony at noon and with the Committee meeting continuing for two days and a half.

435. The **Chairperson** informed of the dates for the next Committee meeting of the 2003 Convention, which are 24-28 November in Paris, as well as those for the 1954 Convention, which are 18-19 December 2014 in Paris.
436. The delegation of **Armenia** suggested keeping the four day duration as it anticipated that there might be more lively debate. However it also agreed to follow the Committee's final decision.
437. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** commented that three full days are sufficient for the Committee meeting, which has been the case in the past, but not two days and a half. It pointed out that the exchange session should be separated from the Committee meeting and it should not be paid from the costs for the Committee meeting.
438. In response to Saint Lucia, the **Secretary of the Convention** suggested having the exchange session on Monday afternoon of 8 December 2014, then followed by the Committee meeting on 9-11 December 2014.
439. The delegation of **United Arab Emirates** asked for reassurance that the Committee would not be short of time with three days.
440. The delegation of **Sweden** agreed with the proposal to have three days of Committee meeting with the exchange session taking place the day before.
441. The delegation of **Congo** requested clarification on whether costs will be saved if the Committee is held for only three days instead of four. If that is not the case, the delegation suggested keeping four days for the next session as discussions might be longer and more complicated.
442. The **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed that there would be cost savings to the Secretariat if the meeting took place over three days in place of four. She explained how the Secretariat is still paying for four days for the current session, as the room and interpretation are booked in advance. She referred to past meetings and expressed full confidence that the next meeting can be delivered in three days.
443. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** reminded the Committee that it has continuously been paying for one more day for nothing and that previous meetings show that three days are sufficient.
444. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to post the draft decision on the screen. There were no objections recorded to the proposed dates of 9 through 11 December 2014 in the draft decision.

Decision 7.IGC 14 was adopted.

ITEM 15 – ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU OF THE EIGHTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

Document CE/13/7.IGC/15

445. The **Chairperson** introduced the item recalling that in accordance with Article 12.1 the Committee elects, among the members of the Committee, one Chairperson and several Vice-Chairpersons, and a Rapporteur who will remain in function until the end of the session. In accordance with Article 11.1 the bureau should have equitable geographical distribution. She explained that the Committee therefore needs to elect a Bureau of six

members each representing electoral groups of UNESCO, which is composed of one Chairperson, four Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur. She invited the Committee members to present the proposal for Chairperson.

446. The delegation of **Tunisia** informed that, following the order of rotation and after consultation of the two electoral groups Group V(a) and Group V(b), it was decided that the Chair would be chosen from Group V(a). It then presented Mr Jean-Marie Adoua of Congo as Chairperson.
447. The delegation of **Sweden** proposed Austria to serve as a Vice-Chairperson for the Electoral Group I. The delegation of **Armenia** put forward Lithuania to be the Electoral Group II's Vice-Chairperson, while Saint Lucia was proposed by the delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** to be the Vice-Chairperson representing the Electoral Group III. The delegation of **Tunisia** proposed United Arab Emirates as the Vice-Chairperson for the Electoral Group V(b). The delegation of **Australia** requested more time for Group IV's nomination of a Vice-Chairperson.
448. The **Chairperson** acknowledged the difficult task of the Rapporteur and thanked the current rapporteur who took up the role at the last minute. She requested the two electoral groups, Group IV and Group V(a) to propose a Rapporteur, following the principle of rotation.
449. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** proposed Ms Laure Rabarison of Madagascar to take the post of Rapporteur.
450. The **Chairperson** requested Group IV to present its proposal for Vice-Chairperson.
451. The delegation of **Australia** proposed Viet Nam as the Vice-Chairperson for Group IV.
452. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** expressed its support for the nomination of Viet Nam as Vice-Chairperson. The delegation however pointed out that the re-election of Viet Nam is against the rules of procedure and that the rules should have been applied by suspending them in order to re-elect Viet Nam.
453. The delegation of **Viet Nam** thanked the members of its group for proposing Viet Nam to extend its mandate. It acknowledged that there is an issue with the rules of procedure and stated that, if there is another candidate in its group who is in the position to take up the role of Vice-Chair, it would be willing to withdraw its candidature.
454. The **Chairperson** explained the situation that Group IV had three days of consultation, during which time Viet Nam had refused several times to take up the role, trying to give others a chance.
455. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** commented that it was fully aware of the situation. The delegation reminded the Committee that this is against the rules of procedure and that, for the re-election to be legitimate, the concerning article in the rules of procedure should be suspended before the election.
456. The **Chairperson** read the first paragraph of the draft decision, which reads as "Decides to suspend the application of Article 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure in order to elect the Chairperson and one of the Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee", followed by paragraphs 2-4.

Decision 7.IGC 15 was adopted.

ITEM 16 – OTHER BUSINESS

457. The **Chairperson** invited Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to speak under the item “Other Business”.
458. The delegation of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** raised the issue of the IFCD projects and the evaluation process. It recommended the Secretariat to organize the first experts’ meeting after the first evaluation and before the final recommendations are made, so that the experts could exchange views and reach a reasonable position in cases where two experts have different opinions on the evaluation, which would eventually increase the chance of projects scored 28 or 29 of being selected if funds are available. In addition, the delegation recommended the Secretariat to review the application and evaluation forms, based on its experience during the pilot phase, so that they are clearer and less complicated to fill in. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines made observations that certain countries have been benefitting from the Fund every cycle and stated this does not respect one of the criteria in the Operational Guidelines for the Fund, namely the one in paragraph 6.6, which stipulates that the Committee ensures the use of resources respects to the extent possible an equitable geographical distribution and gives priority to Parties who have not yet benefitted or who have benefitted the least from these resources. The delegation therefore recommended that the panel of experts take into account the economic and social contexts of the country when evaluating the project proposals.
459. The delegation of **Congo** thanked and congratulated the Chairperson for the way she chaired the session with proficiency as well as the Secretariat for its preparation for the meeting. It expressed its confidence in working with the Secretariat and also thanked the members of its group for their trust in proposing him as Chair. The delegation commented that it would do its best to fulfil its role in the interest of the Convention and the Parties so that it could be beneficial to all.
460. The delegation of **Tunisia**, echoing the comments of Saint Vincent and Grenadines, stressed the importance of taking into account geographical balance and asked for a follow-up on all the recommendations made by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines at the next session. The delegation then congratulated and thanked the Chairperson for her quality work and the Secretariat for its professionalism. It expressed its support to the Convention so that it continues on the right path.
461. The **Chairperson** agreed with having a follow up on the points raised by the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines so that it could help raise the level of proposals and increase the number of beneficiaries while maintaining the geographical distribution.
462. The **Secretary of the Convention** took good note of all the comments and assured the Committee that the Secretariat continues to improve the processes, submission forms and evaluation forms by applying the lessons it learns with each new cycle.
463. The delegation of **Tunisia** pointed out that there are certain number of considerations to be taken into account other than geographical consideration such as issues related to the presentation and the evaluation of the projects. The delegation highlighted the need for evaluators to coordinate and harmonize their views.
464. The delegation of **Saint Lucia** expressed that it did not agree with five of the evaluation results and particularly on the way the coordinator of the Panel of Experts made a final decision on the evaluation. For the next session, it expected the representative of the Panel of Experts to provide clear explanations and detailed answers to the way the decision was made and suggested to the Committee discussing in–depth on the substance of the evaluation if necessary.

465. The **Chairperson** thanked Saint Lucia for its pertinent comments and agreed that the candidates need to have more information on the evaluation so that they may understand how they should apply to the IFCD differently in the future. She then gave the floor to observers.

[Observers]

466. The delegation of **Grenada** commended the Committee for its work and thanked the Secretariat for all its efforts as well as the Panel of Experts for considering the projects submitted by Grenada. Following up on the interventions made by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia and Saint Lucia, it wished to make comments on the process of the evaluation of the IFCD projects in view of a possible review and improvement of the application and evaluation forms. The delegation gave detailed information about the evaluation of a project submitted by Grenada, which had received a score of 29 points in the evaluation and was therefore not recommended. Grenada regretted that there were discrepancies between the evaluations of the two experts, specifically referring to questions 14.3 on ensuring financial accountability and 13.4 on south-south and north-south-south cooperation, which in the delegation's view caused the project to lose the 2 points that were needed to have the project recommended to the Committee. The delegation concurred with the Committee's view on the need to have a meeting with the experts to exchange comments, clarify certain points and take into account other elements such as the social and economic situation of the country, before making final decisions. In addition, the delegation suggested to the Committee to invite the Secretariat to find a mechanism to assist Parties that have projects with a total score of 29 or 28 to improve and clarify the presentation of their project and, in addition, to have the opportunity to understand the difficulties encountered by Parties in view of the review forms.

467. The **Chairperson** assured that the Secretariat took good note and proposed to Grenada to provide the Secretariat with its detailed comments.

468. The delegation of **Belgium** took the floor for the first time as a Party to the Convention. It congratulated the Chairperson for her skillful conduct of the meeting and the Secretariat for its excellent and pertinent work. The delegation highlighted the technical assistance projects in Africa funded by the European Union as concrete examples of the Convention's work as well as the tremendous work done by Parties through the periodic reports to further promote the Convention. It recognized the Convention to be an established framework for promoting the governance of culture. The delegation echoed the support, expressed by many others, to the role of culture in sustainable development and culture at the heart of the post-2015 agenda. It also expressed the country's satisfaction in being able to develop national capacities under Articles 16 and 21 and develop a strategy to raise extrabudgetary funds for the Convention. In this line, Belgium announced its contribution of 50,000 Euro from the French Community of Belgium to the Fund and assured the Committee of its effort to make the contribution on an annual basis. In addition, the delegation presented its intention to honour the Convention and its anniversary in the framework of the designation of Mons as the European Capital of Culture 2015 and referred in particular to Articles 21, 22 and 23.6(e) and the possibility of setting up consultation mechanisms in international fora to promote the principles of the Convention. The delegation assured that the role of public broadcasters and information and communication technologies, as major tools contributing to the development of culture, would also be highlighted in this regard.

469. The **Chairperson** thanked Belgium for its contribution.

470. The delegation of **Canada** thanked the Chairperson for her excellent engagement in leading the discussions. It underlined the participation and commitment of the French-

speaking group on the issues of cultural diversity by analysing the issues and planning in advance the interventions on such issues like digital technologies.

471. The representative of **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD)**, Mr Charles Vallerand, shared some ideas on organizing a scientific colloquium with experts to have a more in-depth reflection on the issue of digital technologies and called for civil society and Parties to support this idea and see if this event could be organized before the next Committee meeting. He also called upon the Parties to host a meeting of the members of the Coalition as well as of the U40 network in Latin America, as they have not met since 2009. Lastly, he invited the Parties and civil society to contribute to discussions on the links between sustainable development and culture.
472. The **Chairperson** thanked the members of the Committee and observers for all their interventions and efforts. She then asked the Secretariat to display all the adopted decisions on the screen and passed the floor to the Rapporteur, Mr Schultz, who was asked to present them.
473. The **Rapporteur** presented an oral report, summarizing the discussion and outlining the decisions that had been adopted.
474. After thanking the Rapporteur for his report, the **Chairperson** expressed her gratitude to the Secretariat, in particular the Secretary of the Convention and her team, for its excellent preparatory work, which led to the fruitful results of this Committee. She thanked Mr Francesco Bandarin and Mr Kishore Rao for their presence representing the Director-General as well as all the technical staff, interpreters and interns for their discreet contribution. After expressing her support to the Bureau for its work at the next session and wishing season's greetings, she declared the seventh session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions closed.

CLOSING OF THE SESSION