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Diversity of
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8 IGC

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

Eighth Ordinary Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
9 – 11 December 2014

Point 14 of the provisional agenda: Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions at the Conference of Parties

In accordance with Rule 45.1 of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, this document presents in Annex the Committee's report on its activities and decisions, which will be examined by the Conference of Parties at its fifth ordinary session (June 2015).

Decision required: paragraph 2

1. Rule 45.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as the "Committee") stipulates that it presents a report on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties. This report is presented in Annex to the present document.
2. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 8.IGC 14

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document CE/14/8.IGC/14 and its Annex;*
2. *Adopts the report on its activities and decisions since the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, as attached to the present decision;*
3. *Submits the report on the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties.*

ANNEX

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

1. Composition of the Committee

1. Rule 23 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as "the Convention"), specifies the establishment of an Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as the "Committee"). In accordance with this Rule, the members of the Committee are elected for a term of office of four years and their election is based on the principles of equitable geographical distribution and rotation. Pursuant to Rule 15.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties, the election of members of the Committee takes place based on the composition of UNESCO's electoral groups, as defined by the General Conference of UNESCO, it being understood that "Group V" is composed of two electoral subgroups: V(a) (African states) and V(b) (Arab states).

2. At its fourth ordinary session, from 11 to 13 June 2013, the Conference of Parties elected 12 members of the Committee, in accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties.

3. The 24 States Members of the Committee and their terms of office are as follows:

Group I			
Austria	2013-2017	Sweden	2011-2015
The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2013-2017	Switzerland	2011-2015
Group II			
Armenia	2011-2015	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2011-2015
Belarus	2013-2017	Lithuania	2013-2017
Group III			
Argentina	2011-2015	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2011-2015
Honduras	2011-2015	Saint Lucia Uruguay	2013-2017 2013-2017
Group IV			
Afghanistan	2013-2017	Vietnam	2011-2015
Australia	2013-2017		
Group V(a)			
Congo	2011-2015	Madagascar	2013-2017
Ethiopia	2013-2017	Zimbabwe	2011-2015
Guinea	2011-2015		

Group V(b)			
United Arab Emirates	2013-2017	Tunisia	2013-2017
Kuwait	2011-2015		

2. Meetings of the Committee since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (11 -13 June 2013)

4. Since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, the Committee has met twice in ordinary session. These meetings were scheduled as follows:

Sessions	Dates
Seventh ordinary session, Paris, France (7.IGC)	10-13 December 2013
Eighth ordinary session, Paris, France (8.IGC)	9-11 December 2014

5. In accordance with Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elects a Bureau at the end of each ordinary session, whose term of office continues until the next ordinary session. At its sixth and seventh ordinary sessions, the Committee suspended application of Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure to proceed with the election of the Chairperson, the Rapporteur and the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee (Decisions 6.IGC 16 and 7.IGC 15).

Sessions	Members of the Bureau	Dates
Seventh ordinary session Paris (France)	Chairperson: Ms Arev Samuelyan (Armenia) Rapporteur: Mr Nicolas Mathieu (Switzerland) Vice-Chairpersons: Congo, Kuwait, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden and Vietnam	10- 13 December 2013
Eighth Ordinary Session Paris (France)	Chairperson: Mr Jean-Marie Adoua (Congo) Rapporteur: Ms Laure Rabarison (Madagascar) Vice-Chairpersons: Austria, United Arab Emirates, Lithuania, Saint Lucia and Vietnam	9- 11 December 2014

3. Activities of the Committee since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (11- 13 June 2013)

6. Since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (June 2013), the main activities and decisions of the Committee covered, in accordance with Rules 23.6 (b), (e) and (f) of the Convention:

- the implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD);
- the implementation of the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) following the evaluation of the pilot phase of the IFCD;
- the implementation of the first and second phases of the strategy for raising funds for the IFCD;
- the new quadrennial periodic reports from the Parties and the updated executive summary from the Secretariat;
- a draft revision of the operational directives relative to Article 9 ("Information sharing and transparency");
- the examination of the results obtained between 2010 and 2013 concerning the implementation of the ratification strategy and its action plan;
- the examination of the report on the use of the Convention's emblem;
- the examination of the information collected during consultation concerning the implementation and impact of Articles 16 "Preferential treatment for developing countries" and 21 "International cooperation and consultation" of the Convention;
- the examination of the reports from the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) concerning the implementation of the Convention;
- the examination of the report on the audit of UNESCO's governance;
- other activities, particularly: the impact of digital technologies on the Convention, the role of the public radio broadcasting service in attaining the objectives of the Convention, the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention, the tenth anniversary of the Convention.

Implementation of the International fund for cultural diversity (IFCD)

7. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee approved the projects financed by the IFCD as part of the fourth funding cycle (10 projects for a total amount of USD 1,454,990). It also decided to launch a new call for funding requests in 2014 and to devote 70% of the funds available on 30 June 2014. The Committee appointed a group of six experts responsible for preparing the recommendations for examination by the Committee of funding requests and their approval. Six replacement experts were also designated. Lastly, the Committee requested the Secretariat to organise a meeting in Paris with the members of the experts group, following the technical examination that it will have carried out. (Decision 7.IGC 6)

8. The Committee requested the Director-General to propose, at its eighth ordinary session, a policy for cost collection based upon identical principles to those applying to other Conventions in the area of culture. (Decision 7.IGC 9)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Implementation of the recommendations of the IOS

9. Following the assessment of the pilot phase of the IFCD, at its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted the progress made in the overall implementation of the recommendations of the IOS. It also noted a certain number of challenges with which the Secretariat is coping in implementing some of them, and the financial impact on the results framework and the system of knowledge management related to it. (Decision 7.IGC 8)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Strategy for raising funds for the IFCD – first and second phases

10. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee decided to implement the specific activities corresponding to the first and second phases of the IFCD's fundraising strategy. It therefore decided to allocate USD 55,281 to the Secretariat in order to carry out the fundraising activities planned for 2014, this amount being deducted from the non-allocated funds in the IFCD's special account. It also requested the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the IFCD's fundraising strategy at its eighth ordinary session. (Decision 7.IGC 7)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Periodic quadrennial reports: new reports and executive summary

11. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties decided that the Parties having ratified the Convention in 2010 would submit their first quadrennial periodic report to the Secretariat before 30 April 2014. The Conference of Parties also made the Committee responsible for re-examining and revising, if necessary, the operational directives relative to Article 9, including the framework for the quadrennial periodic reports attached to these directives, on the basis of acquired experience, and to submit the results of its work for approval at its fifth ordinary session. (Resolution 4.CP 10)

12. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee examined and noted the information collected as a result of the second reference year for the periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention. The Committee invited the Parties who had to present the reports on 30 April 2014 to do so and encouraged the Parties who had not yet submitted their reports in 2013 to do so. It also invited the Parties who had to present their periodic reports in 2014 and in 2015 to pay on a voluntary basis particular attention to the impact of digital technologies on the implementation of the Convention. The Committee encouraged the Parties to undertake multipartite discussions when preparing their reports, in association with civil society organisations in particular, and to assign extra-budgetary resources to the Secretariat's programme for training and preparing reports, and for setting up a global system of knowledge management. The Committee requested the Secretariat to make the quadrennial periodic reports public on the Convention's website after the session and, in cooperation with UNESCO Institute Statistics, to submit for its examination, at its eighth ordinary session in December 2014, the draft revision of the operational directives relative to Article 9 "Information sharing and transparency". (Decision 7.IGC 5)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Results of the Committee's ratification strategy (2010-2013)

13. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted the results obtained between 2010 and 2013 concerning the implementation of the ratification strategy and its action plan. The Committee requested the Parties and civil society to continue their efforts to promote the ratification of the Convention by widely sharing information about the best practices of implementation and the advantages of ratification. It requested the Secretariat to prepare an information document reporting the results of implementing the ratification strategy and monitoring activities, and to send it to the Conference of Parties at its fifth ordinary session in June 2015. (Decision 7.IGC 10)

Emblem

14. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties chose an emblem for the Convention and decided that it may be used independently or together with the UNESCO's logo (resolution 4.CP 12). At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee requested the Secretariat to inform all Parties to the Convention of the result of the consultation that it carried out with the World Intellectual Property Organisation in order to protect the emblem. It also provisionally adopted the Request Form on the use of the emblem, the Endorsement Form and the Reporting Form. Lastly, the Committee requested the Secretariat to present, at its eighth ordinary session, qualitative and quantitative information on requests for using both the stand-alone and linked emblem, which it will have authorised in 2014, and the impact that these uses may have on the visibility of the Convention. (Decision 7.IGC 11) Through various activities related in particular to the emblem, the Committee continued to promote the visibility of the Convention.

To be completed during 8.IGC

Report on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21 of the Convention

15. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties requested the Committee to continue its work on implementing Article 21 and to send it the results at its fifth ordinary session. It also requested the Committee to debate and analyse the information on the implementation of Article 21, to send it the results of the impact of this implementation, and to continue its work, including developing the database, through a biennial invitation to the Parties to complete a questionnaire. (Resolution 4CP.11)

16. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted the preliminary information gathered concerning the impact of Article 21 of the Convention. It invited the Parties, civil society and international organisations to use the online platform to continue to provide the Secretariat with all relevant information concerning the implementation of Article 21 of the Convention and its impact. The Committee requested the Secretariat to actively pursue its work of collecting and analysing the information on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21, using appropriate mechanisms and taking into account its debates, and to continue to develop the online platform and the database. Lastly, the Committee requested the Parties to support the work of the Secretariat, including the online platform, through the provision of extra-budgetary resources. (Decision 7.IGC 12)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Reports of the Internal Oversight Service

17. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee requested the Secretariat to submit, at its eighth session, a report concerning the implications of adopting the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service for the work of the Convention. (Decision 7.IGC 13)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Audit of the governance of UNESCO

18. At its seventh session (December 2013), the Committee favourably received document 37 C/49 (Item 6.4) examined by the 37th session of the General Conference and covering reform of governance. The Committee invited all Parties to participate in the self-evaluation exercise according to the common framework supplied by the External Auditor, and requested the Secretariat to facilitate this task. (Decision 7.IGC 13)

To be completed during 8.IGC

Other activities

Digital issues

19. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties invited the Parties wishing to do so, and civil society, to report to the Secretariat on aspects of the development of digital technologies that have an impact on the Convention and proposals for future action for examination of the Committee during its seventh session. It also requested the Committee to send the results of its work to its fifth session. (Resolution 4.CP 13)

20. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee invited the Parties that had to submit their periodic reports in April 2014 and in April 2015 to pay, on a voluntary basis, particular attention to the impact of digital technologies on the implementation of the Convention, using the current format of the framework for quadrennial periodic reports and their corresponding electronic forms (Decision 7.IGC 5). It also invited the Secretariat to analyse all relevant information contained in the periodic reports from Parties to the Convention and other relevant documents, particularly concerning the development of digital technologies (Decision 7.IGC 13).

To be completed during 8.IGC

Role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention

21. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to include an item on the agenda of its seventh ordinary session on the role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention (Resolution 4.CP 13). At its seventh session (December 2013), the Committee invited the Secretariat to analyse all relevant information contained in the periodic report from the Parties to the Convention and other relevant documents, particularly concerning public service broadcasting (Decision 7.IGC 13).

To be completed during 8.IGC

Assessment of the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention

22. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to continue its work on the assessment of the involvement of civil society, recognised in article 11 of the Convention, in the implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and international levels, including in the work of the statutory bodies of the Convention (resolution 4.CP 13). At its seventh session (December 2013), the Committee invited the Secretariat to analyse all relevant information contained in the periodic report from the Parties to the Convention and other relevant documents, particularly concerning the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention (Decision 7.IGC 13).

To be completed during 8.IGC

Tenth anniversary of the Convention

23. Several Parties raised the question of the tenth anniversary of the Convention during the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, without this being the subject of one of its resolutions. At its seventh session (December 2013), the Committee noted that in 2015, the Convention would celebrate its tenth anniversary and invited the Parties and civil society to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Convention at the local, national, regional and international levels, noting that there would be no financial consequences for UNESCO, and to give the Secretariat information on events and activities that they wished to elaborate and implement (Decision 7.IGC 13).

Future activities

24. The Conference of Parties, at its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), adopted Resolution 4.CP 13 on the future activities of the Committee, requesting the Committee to establish, at its seventh ordinary session, a work plan for its activities, including an approximate timetable and, insofar as possible, the human and financial resources available taken from the ordinary Programme and extra-budgetary resources. In this context, and concerning its efforts to align the work of the Secretariat with the available resources, the Committee had a debate at its seventh ordinary session (December 2013) and reached the following conclusion on the priority activities:

- governing bodies meetings;
- capacity-building activities, in particular supporting the preparation of quadrennial periodic reports;
- implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity and its fundraising strategy; and
- knowledge management, in particular monitoring the implementation and the impact of Articles 16 and 21, and monitoring transversal issues of relevance to the Convention including digital technologies, status of the artist, public service broadcasting, civil society.