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Diversity of Cultural Expressions

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

**Fourth ordinary session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room II
11–14 June 2013**

Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda: Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties

This document presents in Annex the Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties.

Decision required: paragraph 2

1. The document presents in Annex the report of the Committee on its activities and decisions adopted between the third and fourth ordinary sessions of the Conference of Parties. The Committee adopted the enclosed report at its sixth ordinary session in December 2012 and decided to submit it to the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (Decision 6.IGC 14).
2. The Conference of Parties may wish to adopt the following resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 4.CP 6

The Conference of Parties,

1. *Having examined document CE/13/4.CP/6 and its Annex;*
2. *Takes note of the report of the Committee on its activities and decisions submitted to the Conference of Parties and included in this document.*

ANNEX

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

1. Composition of the Committee

1. Article 23 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter “the Convention”) provides for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter “the Committee”). According to this provision, the Members of the Committee shall be elected for four years and their election shall be based on the principles of equitable geographical representation as well as rotation. In conformity with Rule 15.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties, the election of the Members of the Committee shall be conducted on the basis of the composition of the electoral groups of UNESCO, as determined by the UNESCO General Conference, it being understood that ‘Group V’ shall consist of two separate electoral groups: V(a) (African States) and V(b) (Arab States).

2. At its third ordinary session, on 15 June 2011, 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 the duration of their term of office are as follows:

Group I			
Canada	2009-2013	Sweden	2011-2015
France	2009-2013	Switzerland	2011-2015
Group II			
Albania	2009-2013	Bulgaria	2009-2013
Armenia	2011-2015	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2011-2015
Group III			
Argentina	2011-2015	Honduras	2011-2015
Brazil	2009-2013	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2011-2015
Cuba	2009-2013		
Group IV			
China	2009-2013	Viet Nam	2011-2015
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2009-2013		
Group V(a)			
Cameroon	2009-2013	Kenya	2009-2013
Congo	2011-2015	Zimbabwe	2011-2015
Guinea	2001-2015		
Group V(b)			
Jordan	2009-2013	Tunisia	2009-2013
Kuwait	2011-2015		

2. Meetings of the Committee since the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (14-15 June 2011)

4. Since the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, the Committee has met twice in ordinary session. Those meetings were held as follows:

Sessions	Dates
Fifth ordinary session, Paris, France (5.IGC)	5-7 December 2011
Sixth ordinary session, Paris, France (6.IGC)	10-14 December 2012

5. According to Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee shall elect a Bureau at the end of each ordinary session whose mandate continues until the next ordinary session. At its fourth and fifth ordinary sessions, the Committee suspended the application of Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure in order to elect the Chairperson of the Committee (Decision 4.IGC 15) and two of the Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee (Decision 5.IGC 11).

6. Given that the elected Chairperson, Mr Paul Damasane, could not participate in the sixth ordinary session of the Committee due to unforeseen circumstances, and in accordance with Rule 14 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee unanimously accepted the recommendation of its Bureau to entrust to H.E. Ambassador Rodolphe Imhoof of Switzerland the functions of the Chairperson.

Sessions	Members of the Bureau	Dates
Fifth ordinary session Paris (France)	Chairperson: Mr Zhi Yang (China) Rapporteur: Ms Dominique Levasseur (Canada) Vice-Chairpersons: Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Tunisia	5-7 December 2011
Sixth ordinary session Paris (France)	Chairperson: Mr Paul Damasane (Zimbabwe) Rapporteur: Mr Artashes Arakelyan (Armenia) Vice-Chairpersons: Brazil, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Switzerland, Tunisia	10-14 December 2012

3. Activities of the Committee since the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (14-15 June 2011)

7. Since the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, the main activities and decisions of the Committee, in conformity with Article 23.6 (b), (e) and (f) of the Convention, refer to the following:

- implementation of the pilot phase of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD);
- adoption of the terms of reference for evaluating the pilot phase of the IFCD;
- revision of the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the IFCD;
- development of a fundraising strategy for the IFCD;
- draft operational guidelines for the use of the emblem of the Convention and selection of an emblem;
- first quadrennial periodic reports of the Parties and examination of the Secretariat's strategic and action-oriented analytical summary;
- examination of information obtained during consultations on the implementation of Article 21 on international consultation and coordination;
- progress on the number of ratifications to the Convention and implementation of the ratification strategy.

Implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)

8. The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session (December 2011), approved 17 projects to be funded by the IFCD during the second year of the pilot phase. The Committee further decided to issue a new appeal for project applications in 2012 and to dedicate 70% of the funds available on 30 June 2012 for the third year of the pilot phase (2012) (Decision 5.IGC 6). The Committee also decided to renew, for a period of one year from the date of that session, the membership of the Panel of Experts charged with drawing up recommendations for the sixth ordinary session of the Committee with a view to its examination of requests for the funding of programmes/projects during the third year of the implementation of the Fund. The Committee requested the Secretariat to invite the coordinator of the Panel of Experts to participate in the sixth ordinary session of the Committee (Decision 5.IGC 5). Finally, the Committee requested the Secretariat to make available online within the statutory deadlines all project files as well as their evaluation (Decision 5.IGC 7).

9. At its sixth ordinary session (December 2012), the Committee approved 13 projects for the total amount of US\$ 1,074,826 to be funded by the IFCD during the third funding cycle. The Committee appreciated the presentation of recommended projects by the coordinator of the Panel of Experts and his observations on the IFCD pilot phase. While acknowledging that the 30 June 2012 marked the end of the IFCD pilot phase, the Committee decided to issue a new call for projects in 2013 and to dedicate 70% of the funds made available on 30 June 2013 for the fourth funding cycle. The Committee also decided to renew the members of the Panel of Experts to draw up recommendations for the seventh ordinary session of the Committee with a view to its examination of requests for the funding of projects by the IFCD and requested the Secretariat to present to the seventh ordinary session of the Committee a proposal for a new composition of the Panel of Experts (Decision 6.IGC 5).

Evaluation of the pilot phase of the IFCD

10. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, requested the Committee to draw up the terms of reference for an evaluation of the pilot phase of the Fund (Resolution 3.CP 11). The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, examined and adopted the terms of reference for an evaluation of the pilot phase of the IFCD (Decision 5.IGC 7).

11. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee examined the report of the evaluation of the pilot phase of the IFCD that the International Oversight Service (IOS) launched in January 2012 in close cooperation with the Secretariat. The Committee took note of the IOS report and its recommendations and requested the Secretariat to transmit it as an information document to the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties along with a summary of the Committee's

debates on the report and an update on the implementation of IOS recommendations. The Committee also encouraged UNESCO to seek extra-budgetary funds to implement IOS recommendations on knowledge management and project monitoring. The Secretariat was requested to prepare an action plan on the implementation of the IOS recommendations accepted by the Committee. The Committee also decided that the fourth call for projects should give special attention to projects aiming at capacity-building for the introduction and development of cultural policies in developing countries (Decision 6.IGC 7).

Revision of the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the IFCD

12. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, invited the Committee to examine the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the Fund, taking account of the results of the evaluation of the pilot phase of the IFCD, and to submit the results of its work on the matter to the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session (Resolution 3.CP 11). The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, therefore requested the Secretariat to prepare preliminary draft revisions to the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the Fund for consideration at its sixth ordinary session (Decision 5.IGC 6).

13. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee examined, amended and adopted a revision of the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the IFCD, taking into account decisions of previous sessions of the Committee, recommendations of the Panel of Experts, recommendations of IOS as well as lessons learned during the pilot phase. The Committee requested the Secretariat to transmit the revised Guidelines to the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session in June 2013 for its approval. The Committee also decided to continue the application of the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the IFCD as approved by the second ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (2009) for the fourth call for projects in 2013 (Decision 6.IGC 8).

Fundraising strategy

14. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, took note of different approaches and modalities that exist at national and international levels and of issues that should be addressed in developing a future fundraising strategy for the IFCD (Resolution 3.CP 9). The Conference of Parties further took note of the terms of reference for the future fundraising strategy for the IFCD and requested the Committee to continue its work on the matter and identify the resources to be used for this initiative (Resolution 3.CP 9). The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, decided to allocate, in addition, under fixed costs a maximum amount of US\$ 200,000 for fundraising activities from unassigned funds of the IFCD, and requested the Secretariat to identify appropriate means or mechanisms to facilitate the payment of contributions to the IFCD (Decision 5.IGC 6). The Committee further decided to include the item on fundraising activities in the agenda of the sixth ordinary session of the Committee and requested the Secretariat to submit to it a detailed report on the use of funds intended for fundraising activities (Decision 5.IGC 6).

15. The Secretariat launched in May 2012 a request for proposals for the elaboration of a fundraising strategy for the IFCD. The proposal submitted by Small World Stories was selected based on its clear understanding of the IFCD, its needs, opportunities and challenges. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee examined and adopted the fundraising strategy for the IFCD developed by Small World Stories. Following the debate, the Committee requested the Secretariat to pursue fundraising activities for 2013 and to set up the appropriate mechanism to facilitate the payment of contributions to the IFCD for subsequent years. The Secretariat was requested to prepare and submit an information document on the IFCD fundraising activities to the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (June 2013) and to prepare a report on the implementation of the IFCD fundraising strategy at the seventh ordinary session of the Committee (December 2013) (Decision 6.IGC 6).

Emblem of the Convention

16. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, approved the principle of creating an emblem in a cost-efficient manner, and requested the Committee to develop a draft operational guidelines for the use of the emblem (Resolution 3.CP 11). The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, discussed the issue so as to decide whether the emblem of the Convention should be used with or without the UNESCO logo. The Committee subsequently requested the Secretariat to draw up preliminary draft Operational Guidelines on the use of the emblem, taking account of the principle of flexibility, that is, the use of the emblem with or without the UNESCO logo, and to submit them to the Committee for consideration at its sixth ordinary session. The Committee further requested the Secretariat to submit at that session proposals for an emblem, taking into consideration the Convention's existing visual identity (5.IGC 9).

17. Following the Committee's decision to create an emblem of the Convention based on the Convention's existing visual identity, the Secretariat engaged a graphic designer who created three emblem options. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee examined the three emblem options as well as the preliminary draft operational guidelines on the use of the emblem of the Convention. After rich debate, the Committee recommended that there should only be one emblem for the Convention and the IFCD, and took note that the majority of the members of the Committee have expressed a preference for emblem option 1. The Committee requested the Secretariat to propose a fourth emblem option taking into consideration its debates during the sixth ordinary session and transmit all the options for consideration by the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session. The Committee amended and adopted the draft Operational Guidelines for the use of the emblem and decided to submit it for approval to the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session (Decision 6.IGC 12).

Strategic and action-oriented analytical summary of the quadrennial periodic reports

18. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, approved the operational guidelines on information sharing and transparency (Article 9 of the Convention) as well as the framework applicable to the quadrennial periodic reports on measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions (Resolution 3.CP 7). The Conference of Parties also adopted the timetable for the submission of the quadrennial periodic reports (Resolution 3.CP 10). According to the timetable, 94 Parties were due to submit their quadrennial periodic report in 2012. The Conference of Parties further decided that the quadrennial periodic reports would be made available to Parties for information before the Committee session at which the reports were to be considered, and that the reports would be made available to the public after the session of the Committee at which they had been considered (Resolution 3.CP 10). The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, decided that only the summaries of the quadrennial periodic reports would be translated into English and French. The Committee invited Parties to submit, to the extent possible, their quadrennial periodic reports in both working languages of the Committee, and further invited Parties in a position to do so to also submit their reports in other languages for the purposes of information sharing (Decision 5.IGC 4).

19. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee examined and took note of the strategic and action-oriented analytical summary of the quadrennial periodic reports prepared by the Secretariat at its request. This summary was based on the analysis of 45 reports received before 31 August 2012. The Committee invited the Parties whose reports are due on 30 April 2013 to submit them to the Secretariat and encouraged those Parties that have not yet submitted their reports in 2012 to do so. The Committee also encouraged the UNESCO Institute for Statistics to assist Parties in compiling the Sources and Statistics Annex. The Committee requested the Secretariat to make all reports available on the Convention website and forward them to the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session, together with the Committee's comments

and Secretariat's analytical summary. The Committee further requested the Secretariat to revise the electronic submission forms, elaborate a training programme for Parties on the preparation of quadrennial periodic reports, as well as organize an exchange session between Parties and experts charged with the examination of the quadrennial periodic reports in order to benefit from the knowledge gained, to stimulate the exchange of good practices and to identify issues of common interest including the relationship with other legal instruments. (Decision 6.IGC 4).

Implementation of Article 21 – International consultation and coordination

20. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, and the Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, requested the Secretariat, in the context of the implementation of Section V of the Convention on the relationship to other instruments, to present on an annual basis, in relation to Article 21, cases where the Convention had been invoked or utilized in other international fora (Resolution 3.CP 11 and Decision 5.IGC 8). The Committee, at its fifth ordinary session, took note of the information obtained during the first consultation, and requested the Secretariat to pursue its efforts in that regard and to submit its findings to the Committee for consideration at its sixth ordinary session (Decision 5.IGC 8).

21. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee examined the outcome of the second consultation on the implementation of Article 21 and invited the Parties to bring to the attention of the Secretariat all relevant information. The Committee requested the Secretariat to continue its work on this matter including the further development of the online inventory of information and also to compile a working document on the implementation of this article and to submit it to the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session (Decision 6.IGC 11).

Strategy for encouraging ratifications of the Convention

22. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, invited the Committee to continue its work on the ratification strategy (Resolution 3.CP 11). The Committee requested the Secretariat to submit to it at its sixth ordinary session a document reporting on the progress of ratifications of the Convention as well as on steps taken and actions carried out in 2011-2012 (Decision 4.IGC 4).

23. At its sixth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the progress of ratification during 2011 and 2012. Acknowledging that the cumulative number of ratifications since the start of the implementation of the strategy is 21, the Committee requested the Secretariat, Parties and civil society to continue their efforts to implement the strategy so as to attain 14 additional ratifications by the end of 2013. For the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, the Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a progress report. It also invited the Secretariat to submit a document on the final outcomes and to continue sharing information and good practices on the implementation of the Convention as an effective means of promoting ratification (Decision 6.IGC 10).

Promotion and visibility of the Convention

24. The Conference of Parties, at its third ordinary session, invited the Committee to continue its work on the promotion and visibility of the Convention (Resolution 3.CP 11). The Committee has pursued the promotion and visibility of the Convention by means of various activities relating to the IFCD, the fundraising strategy and the ratification strategy. This has been made possible with extrabudgetary funds provided by the government of Spain.

4. Information meeting

25. A meeting to discuss the participation of civil society in the preparation of quadrennial periodic reports was held on 5 December 2011 in advance of the fifth ordinary session of the Committee. The meeting provided an opportunity for Parties and representatives of civil society to share their experiences with the aim of increasing the involvement of civil society in the preparation of the quadrennial periodic reports, in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention and its operational guidelines.

26. On 10 December 2012, an information meeting entitled “Unlocking opportunities: Governance of culture for development” was held prior to the opening of the sixth ordinary session of the Committee. The purpose of the meeting was to take stock of the results of the UNESCO/EU project “Expert Facility to Strengthen the System of Governance for Culture in Developing Countries” funded by the EU and to exchange with the experts who had undertaken several technical assistance missions in 2012. Chaired by the Assistant Director-General for Culture, the meeting highlighted important experiences that indicated a long term need for capacity building on the introduction and development of policies that have a direct effect on the creation, production, distribution and access to a diversity of cultural expressions that requires active engagement of various government ministries as well as civil society.