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Cultural Organization



Diversity of  
Cultural Expressions

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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 revised 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 revised 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 REV and its Annex;*
2. *Adopts the report on its activities and decisions since the fourth 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. Article 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 Article, 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:

<b>Group I</b>			
Austria	2013-2017	Sweden	2011-2015
The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2013-2017	Switzerland	2011-2015
<b>Group II</b>			
Armenia	2011-2015	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2011-2015
Belarus	2013-2017	Lithuania	2013-2017
<b>Group III</b>			
Argentina	2011-2015	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2011-2015
Honduras	2011-2015	Saint Lucia Uruguay	2013-2017 2013-2017
<b>Group IV</b>			
Afghanistan	2013-2017	Vietnam	2011-2015
Australia	2013-2017		
<b>Group V(a)</b>			
Congo	2011-2015	Madagascar	2013-2017
Ethiopia	2013-2017	Zimbabwe	2011-2015
Guinea	2011-2015		
<b>Group V(b)</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)	<p>Chairperson: Ms Arev Samuelyan (Armenia)</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mr Nicolas Mathieu (Switzerland)</p> <p><i>Replaced by:</i> Mr Michael Shultz (Sweden)</p> <p>Vice-Chairpersons: Congo, Kuwait, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden and Vietnam</p>	10 - 13 December 2013
Eighth Ordinary Session Paris (France)	<p>Chairperson: Mr Jean-Marie Adou (Congo)</p> <p>Rapporteur: Ms Laure Rabarison (Madagascar)</p> <p>Vice-Chairpersons: Austria, United Arab Emirates, Lithuania, Saint Lucia and Vietnam</p>	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 Article 23.6 (b), (e) and (f) of the Convention:

- implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) and the first and second phases of the fundraising strategy for the IFCD;
- implementation of the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) following the evaluation of the pilot phase of the IFCD;
- analysis of the new quadrennial periodic reports;

- a draft revision of the Operational Guidelines on Article 9 ("Information sharing and transparency");
- examination of the results obtained between 2010 and 2013 concerning the implementation of the ratification strategy and its action plan;
- examination of the report on the use of the Convention's emblem;
- 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;
- examination of the reports from the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) concerning the implementation of the Convention;
- 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 public service broadcasting in attaining the objectives of the Convention; the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention; and 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 763,748). 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 panel 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). The meeting took place on 28 and 29 July 2014 at UNESCO Headquarters.

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

9. At its eighth ordinary session (December 2014), the Committee approved seven new projects funded by the IFCD as part of its fifth funding cycle for a total of USD 624,296. It decided to issue a new call for funding requests in 2015 and dedicate 70 per cent of the funds available on 30 June 2015 for this purpose. Furthermore, the Committee invited the Conference of Parties to consider the most appropriate criteria for the allocation of funds from the IFCD, in particular, sustainability and need, and invited Parties who have the means to support their own NGOs to refrain from submitting projects during the next cycle in light of the current financial status of the IFCD. Finally, the Committee invited the Secretariat to present to the Conference of Parties a mechanism by which Parties to the Convention could declare the amount they wish to voluntarily and regularly contribute to the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 8)

10. The Committee thanked all the contributors to the IFCD and encouraged Parties to provide regular voluntary contributions equivalent to at least 1 per cent of their total contribution to UNESCO. It also requested the Director-General to invite the Executive Board to review the Programme Support Costs for the IFCD taking into account the work done by the Convention's Secretariat to raise and manage the funds for the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 10)

### ***Implementation of the recommendations of the IOS***

11. 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 by the Secretariat 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)

12. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee encouraged the Secretariat to pursue its work on the implementation of the IOS recommendations. It took note of the financial implications for their full implementation, particularly related to the RBM framework and the knowledge management platform. It requested Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources to fully implement these recommendations and to support the reinforcement of the Secretariat through the appointment of an Associate Expert or a secondee to work on the implementation of the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 8)

### ***IFCD Fundraising Strategy – first and second phases***

13. 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 taken from unassigned funds in the IFCD Special Account. It also requested the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the IFCD fundraising strategy at its eighth ordinary session. (Decision 7.IGC 7)

14. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee decided to implement specific activities corresponding to phase two of the IFCD fundraising strategy and allocate USD 47,563 for this purpose. It requested the Secretariat to seek a professional company specialized in fundraising to implement the IFCD fundraising strategy and to present a report on the implementation of the IFCD fundraising strategy to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties and to its ninth ordinary session. (Decision 8.IGC 9)

### ***Quadrennial periodic reports: new reports and executive summary***

15. 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 Guidelines on Article 9, including the framework for the quadrennial periodic reports attached to these guidelines, 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)

16. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee examined and noted the information collected as a result of the second cycle of periodic reporting 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 particular attention on a voluntary basis 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 extrabudgetary 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 Guidelines on Article 9 "Information sharing and transparency". (Decision 7.IGC 5)

17. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee examined the information collected as a result of the third year of quadrennial periodic reporting on the implementation of the Convention (i.e., 6 reports submitted in 2014). It also reviewed the transversal analysis all 71 reports received so far by the Secretariat, as well as additional sources on selected issues determined by the Governing Bodies (i.e., impact of digital technologies, role of civil society and role of public service broadcasting). The Committee invited the Parties whose reports are due in 2015 and 2016 to submit them to the Secretariat in a timely manner and encouraged the Parties that have not yet submitted their reports due in 2012-2014 to do so at their earliest convenience in either working language of the Committee or, if possible, in both languages, as well as in other languages. The Committee once again encouraged the Parties to engage in multi-stakeholder consultations in the preparation of their reports, involving in particular, civil society organizations. The Committee invited the Secretariat to implement the capacity-building programme aiming at assisting Parties in preparing their reports on the implementation of the Convention, funded by extrabudgetary resources. The Committee requested the Secretariat, following its eighth session, to make available on the Convention website the quadrennial periodic reports to the public for information. (Decision 8.IGC 7a)

18. The Committee held an important debate on the revised draft Operational Guidelines on Article 9, including the Framework for Quadrennial Periodic Reports, and after its adoption, submitted it to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties for approval. The debate included a discussion on the UNESCO Global Priority Gender Equality and the Operational Strategy for Youth, which were added to the revised draft Operational Guidelines. (Decision 8.IGC 7b)

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

19. 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***

20. 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 (WIPO) 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.

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

21. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties requested the Committee to continue its work on the implementation of 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 4.CP11)

22. 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 extrabudgetary resources. (Decision 7.IGC 12)

23. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to continue to actively consult Parties, international organizations and civil society on a biennial basis in order to collect and analyze information on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21, and to continue to develop the online platform and database by adding Article 16. It requested the Secretariat to reschedule the exchange session planned in December 2014 on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21 between economists, trade experts and Parties, with the involvement of civil society, and to organize it before the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties in June 2015. It also requested the Secretariat to develop training modules on the implementation of Articles 16 and 21 as part of its work on the Global Capacity-Building Strategy. Finally, the Committee called on the Parties to support the work of the Secretariat, including the online platform, by providing extrabudgetary resources. (Decision 8.IGC 11)

### ***Reports of the Internal Oversight Service***

24. 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)

25. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note that the audit carried out by the IOS seeks to identify possible improvements to the working methods of all UNESCO Culture Conventions and their synergy. It welcomed most of its conclusions and recommendations, as well as the establishment by the Culture Sector of a Common Services Unit to support the work of all Convention Secretariats, thus implementing Recommendation 3 of the IOS audit. The Committee looks forward to seeing its results for facilitating and alleviating the work of the Convention Secretariats and requested the Secretariat to report to it at its ninth ordinary session a report on the economies generated. It considered that the annual frequency of the sessions of the Committee is appropriate and in accordance with Article 23.2 of the Convention, and recalled that at its seventh ordinary session, it determined that the number of days of this eighth ordinary session was set at 3, instead of 5. The Committee noted the Organization's increasing reliance on extrabudgetary contributions and invited the Parties to provide financial resources to the Secretariat in accordance with the priorities established at its seventh ordinary session and in accordance with those set by the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session. It reiterated its understanding that resources and staff allocated to core activities will remain exclusively focused on those priorities and noted with satisfaction the prioritizing exercise done at its seventh ordinary session and welcomed a similar exercise for its next workplan. The Committee

acknowledged the need to strengthen the human resources capacities of the Secretariat in a sustainable manner to enable it to respond efficiently to the priorities identified by the Parties, and it also noted with appreciation the experts provided by Quebec (Canada) and Italy, and invited all Parties to consider such arrangements on a lasting basis. The Committee finally requested the Secretariat, in accordance with the practices of other Culture Conventions, Recommendation 1 (e) of the IOS audit and the financial regulations of the Special Account for the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (Article 5), to apply UNESCO's cost recovery policy consistently when using the resources of the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 5a)

26. The Committee also took note of the IOS Evaluation of UNESCO's Standard-setting Work of the Culture Sector Part IV – 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and its recommendations. The Committee encouraged UNESCO to seek extra-budgetary funds to implement the IOS recommendations, in particular those addressing the analysis and sharing of information on the impact of the Convention, capacity-building in the area of the governance of culture and the development of an overall results framework for the Convention including SMART indicators. (Decision 8.IGC 5b)

### ***Audit of the governance of UNESCO***

27. At its seventh ordinary 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)

28. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the Audit of the Governance of UNESCO and Dependent Funds, Programmes, and Entities and the exercise undertaken thereon. The Committee thanked the Chairperson of the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties and the Chairperson of the eighth ordinary session of the Committee for their diligent work in this regard. (Decision 8.IGC 6)

### ***Other activities***

#### *Digital issues*

29. 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)

30. 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).

31. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to continue its work on this theme through the analysis of quadrennial periodic reports and to share this information in the framework of the analytical report it produces biennially as well as in the framework of the report on Articles 16 and 21. It also requested the Secretariat to submit to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties a document on all the work undertaken on digital issues in the framework of the Convention as well as a summary of the debates of the Committee

and to continue its cooperation in this field with other relevant international organizations, as well as with experts and civil society, and keep the Committee informed. Furthermore, the Committee requested the Secretariat to add the challenges related to the implementation of the Convention in the digital age to the agenda of the exchange session scheduled to take place in the margins of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties on Articles 16 and 21. Finally, it decided to submit to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, a proposal to mandate the Committee, in consultation with the Parties, to prepare for its ninth ordinary session draft Operational Guidelines on digital issues and the diversity of cultural expressions that will take into account, in particular, international cooperation. (Decision 8.IGC 12)

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

32. 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).

33. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the information collected on the issue as a result of the analysis of all 71 reports received so far by the Secretariat, as well as additional sources. (Decision 8.IGC 7a)

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

34. 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).

35. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the information collected on the issue as a result of the analysis of all 71 reports received so far by the Secretariat, as well as additional sources, and decided to inscribe an item on the agenda of the ninth ordinary session of the Committee on the assessment of the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention (Decision 8.IGC 7a).

#### *Tenth anniversary of the Convention*

36. 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).

37. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the Secretariat's initiative in preparing a web page dedicated to the tenth anniversary of the Convention which will include a global Convention celebration calendar giving greater visibility to those activities organized by the

Convention's stakeholders. Participants shared information on events they are intending to organize in 2005, and the Committee invited all stakeholders to submit relevant information using the tenth anniversary online tool. It recommended to include the issue of the visibility of the Convention on the agenda of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties and requested the Secretariat to summarize relevant information for that discussion. (Decision 8.IGC 17)

### ***Future activities***

38. 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 extrabudgetary 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.