



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and seventy-sixth session

(Paris, 11 to 27 April 2007)*

176 EX/Decisions

PARIS, 25 May 2007

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 176th SESSION

* Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies before the plenary meetings.

All the terms used in this collection of texts to designate the person discharging duties or functions are to be interpreted as implying that men and women are equally eligible to fill any post or seat associated with the discharge of these duties and functions.

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1 Agenda and timetable of work (176 EX/1; 176 EX/INF.1; 176 EX/INF.7)

The Executive Board adopted the agenda and timetable of work as set out in documents 176 EX/1 and 176 EX/INF.1.

The Executive Board decided to refer the following items of its agenda to the commissions:

1. **Programme and External Relations Commission (PX):** items 9, 10, 19, 20, 23, 30, 47, 49, 50 and 52, and for programme-related aspects, items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24, 25, 39, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62;
2. **Finance and Administrative Commission (FA):** items 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44, and for administrative and financial aspects, items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24, 25, 39, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62;

and to refer the following items to the joint meeting of the PX and FA Commissions: items 27, 28, 38, 48 and 53.

(176 EX/SR.1)

2 Approval of the summary records of the 175th session (175 EX/SR.1-14)

The Executive Board approved the summary records of its 175th session.

(176 EX/SR.1)

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (176 EX/PRIV.1)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject.

(176 EX/SR.6)

EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME**4 Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference (176 EX/4 Part I and Add.-Add.2 and Part II; 176 EX/INF.3; 176 EX/INF.10; 176 EX/INF.13; 176 EX/INF.15; 176 EX/INF.17 Rev.; 176 EX/INF.18; 176 EX/INF.19; 176 EX/INF.21; 176 EX/INF.22; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)****I**

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 176 EX/4 Part I and Add.-Add.2, 176 EX/INF.3, 176 EX/INF.10, 176 EX/INF.13, 176 EX/INF.15, 176 EX/INF.17 Rev., 176 EX/INF.18, 176 EX/INF.19 and 176 EX/INF.21,
2. Takes note of their contents.

(176 EX/SR.10)

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Director-General's report on donations and special contributions received since the last session of the Executive Board and appropriated to the regular budget, on transfers between appropriation lines proposed within the budget appropriation, as well as the proposed transfers from Part IV to Parts I-III of the budget, in accordance with the terms of the Appropriation Resolution approved by the General Conference at its 33rd session (33 C/Resolution 96, paras. 1(b), (d) and (e)), document 176 EX/4 Part II and the recommendations of its Finance and Administrative Commission thereon (176 EX/67),

A

2. Notes that the Director-General has, as a consequence of these donations and special contributions, increased the appropriations to the regular budget by a total amount of \$1,943,487 as follows:

	\$
Part II.A - Major Programme I	519,606
Part II.A - Major Programme II	537,059
Part II.A - Major Programme III	75,706
Part II.A - Major Programme IV	156,727
Part II.A - Major Programme V	182,699
Part I.B - Direction (ODG)	44,987
Part I.B - Direction (IOS)	4,656
Part II.C - Programme Related Services (BSP)	13,104
Part III – Support for Programme Execution (indirect costs for field offices)	333,837
Part III – Support for Programme Execution (ERC)	75,106
Total	1,943,487

3. Expresses its appreciation to the donors listed in paragraph 6 of document 176 EX/4 Part II;

B

4. Recalling the provision of the Appropriation Resolution by virtue of which transfers between appropriation lines may be made by the Director-General with the prior approval of the Executive Board,
5. Approves transfers between appropriation lines of:
 - (a) \$1,500,000 from the Reserve for Reclassifications to Parts I-III of the budget;
 - (b) \$748,035 from Part II.A Education Sector to Part II.A Social and Human Sciences Sector;
 - (c) \$713,425 from Part II.A Social and Human Sciences Sector to a new division under Part II.C entitled Anticipation and Foresight;
 - (d) \$311,356 from Part II.C Bureau of Strategic Planning to Part II.A Social and Human Sciences Sector;

- (e) \$225,279 from Part II.A Social and Human Sciences Sector to Part II.A Culture Sector;
 - (f) \$312,772 from Part II.A Social and Human Sciences Sector to Part II.A Culture Sector;
 - (g) \$175,000 to be transferred to Part III.A for the mentoring exercise for 22 field offices, bearing in mind that the corresponding budget lines from which the funds would be transferred will be identified at the 177th session of the Executive Board;
6. Further approves the transfer of \$5,915,800 from Part IV to Parts I-III of the budget to cover increases in staff costs and in the costs of goods and services due to statutory and other factors;
7. Takes note of the revised Appropriation Table annexed to the present decision.

Annex
Revised Appropriation Table for 2006-2007

Appropriation line	33 C/5 Approved	33 C/5 Approved as adjusted (174 EX/Dec.24) (175 EX/Dec.3)	Proposed transfers					33 C/5 Approved as adjusted
			I Donations received	II Between-line transfers		III Transfers from Part IV		
				Transfers from the Reclassification Reserve	Transfers between appropriation lines	Staff costs	Goods and services	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
PART I GENERAL POLICY AND DIRECTION								
A. Governing bodies								
1. General Conference	5,507,100	5,530,900				3,700	5,534,600	
2. Executive Board	7,779,400	7,825,200				12,900	7,838,100	
Total Part I A	13,286,500	13,356,100				16,600	13,372,700	
B. Direction <i>(including: Directorate, Office of the Director-General, Internal Oversight Service, Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs)</i>	18,639,000	19,095,400	49,643	34,500		70,100	19,249,643	
C. Participation in the Joint Machinery of the United Nations System	6,734,600	6,734,600					3,287,400	
TOTAL, PART I	38,660,100	39,186,100	49,643	34,500	-	86,700	3,287,400	
PART II PROGRAMMES AND PROGRAMME RELATED SERVICES								
A. Programmes								
Major Programme I - Education								
I. Personnel	52,176,800	52,988,700		140,400	(365,200)	185,700	52,949,600	
II. Activities								
L1 Strengthening EFA coordination and planning								
L1.1 Enhancing international coordination and monitoring for EFA	3,913,600	4,235,871					4,235,871	
L1.2 Policy, planning and evaluation for achieving EFA	5,153,400	5,263,920	116,008				5,379,928	
L2 Attaining basic education for all								
L2.1 Universal basic education	7,867,000	8,194,032	62,651				8,256,683	
L2.2 Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) and United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD)	6,272,800	6,372,947	26,590				6,399,537	
L2.3 Teacher education	3,417,000	3,421,000	20,000				3,441,000	
L3 Enhancing quality education								
L3.1 Quality education for learning to live together	5,304,000	5,517,436	87,308		(382,835)		5,221,909	
L3.2 HIV/AIDS and education	1,272,200	1,410,325	171,850				1,582,175	
L4 Supporting post-primary education systems								
L4.1 Secondary and technical/vocational education	2,684,800	2,685,200	5,199				2,690,399	
L4.2 Higher education for the knowledge society	1,799,500	1,810,242	30,000				1,840,242	
UNESCO education institutes								
UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)	4,591,000	4,591,000					4,591,000	
UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)	5,100,000	5,100,000					5,100,000	
UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) (ex-UIE)	1,900,000	1,900,000					1,900,000	
UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE)	1,100,000	1,100,000					1,100,000	
UNESCO International Institute for Capacity-Building in Africa (IICBA)	2,000,000	2,000,000					2,000,000	
UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC)	2,200,000	2,200,000					2,200,000	
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,050,000	1,050,000					1,050,000	
Total, Major Programme I	107,802,100	109,840,674	519,606	140,400	(748,035)	185,700	109,938,345	
Major Programme II - Natural sciences								
I. Personnel	32,992,500	33,648,400		102,000		152,300	33,902,700	
II. Activities								
II.1 Science, environment and sustainable development								
II.1.1 Managing water interactions: systems at risk and social challenges	8,926,400	9,051,670	166,537				9,218,207	
II.1.2 Ecological and earth sciences for sustainable development	3,012,200	3,081,597	23,848				3,105,444	
II.1.3 UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)	3,876,400	3,876,400					3,876,400	
II.2 Capacity-building in science and technology for sustainable development								
II.2.1 Basic and engineering sciences, renewable energy and disaster mitigation	3,785,100	3,911,590					3,911,590	
II.2.2 Science and technology policies for sustainable development	1,686,900	1,735,257	346,675				2,081,931	
UNESCO science institutes								
UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (IHE)	-	-						
International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)	1,015,000	1,015,000					1,015,000	
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	700,000	700,000					700,000	
Total, Major Programme II	55,994,500	57,019,913	537,059	102,000	-	152,300	57,811,272	
Major Programme III - Social and human sciences								
I. Personnel	19,185,200	19,588,200		24,400	(94,550)	71,500	19,589,550	
II. Activities								
III.1 Ethics of science and philosophy								
III.1.1 Ethics of science	3,234,300	3,268,400	62,597				3,330,997	
III.1.2 Foresight, philosophy and human sciences, democracy and human security	2,913,900	2,913,900			(562,326)		2,351,574	
III.2 Human rights and social transformations								
III.2.1 Promotion of human rights	1,827,800	1,895,775	8,000				1,903,775	
III.2.2 Social transformations	2,576,800	2,841,954	5,109		464,791		3,311,854	
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,100,000	1,100,000					1,100,000	
Total, Major Programme III	30,838,000	31,608,229	75,706	24,400	(192,085)	71,500	31,587,750	

Appropriation line	33 C/S Approved	33 C/S Approved as adjusted (174 EX/Dec.24) (175 EX/Dec.3)	Proposed transfers					33 C/S Approved as adjusted
			I Donations received	II Between-line transfers		III Transfers from Part IV		
				Transfers from the Reclassification Reserve	Transfers between appropriation lines	Staff costs	Goods and services	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Major Programme IV - Culture								
I. Personnel	33,873,400	34,568,900		164,100	165,350	130,500	35,028,850	
II. Activities								
IV.1 Protect and safeguard cultural heritage worldwide								
IV.1.1 Reinforcing capacity-building for the protection of World Heritage	3,304,900	3,371,385	33,906				3,405,291	
IV.1.2 Identifying and safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage	2,433,800	2,475,713					2,475,713	
IV.1.3 Protecting and rehabilitating cultural heritage	2,315,100	2,346,587					2,346,587	
IV.1.4 Protecting cultural property	1,082,900	1,082,900	93,148				1,176,048	
IV.2 Strengthen cultural policies, cultural industries and intercultural dialogue								
IV.2.1 Developing cultural policies	2,061,300	2,067,900			372,701		2,440,601	
IV.2.2 Promoting intercultural dialogue	1,846,400	1,851,375	10,000				1,861,375	
IV.2.3 Sustaining cultural industries and crafts	2,606,800	2,606,800	15,168				2,621,968	
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,050,000	1,100,816	4,505				1,105,321	
Total, Major Programme IV	50,574,600	51,472,376	156,727	164,100	538,051	130,500	-	
Total, Major Programme IV	50,574,600	51,472,376	156,727	164,100	538,051	130,500	-	
Major Programme V - Communication and information								
I. Personnel	18,502,200	18,841,200		132,000		75,200	19,048,400	
II. Activities								
V.1 Empowering people through access to information and knowledge with special emphasis on freedom of expression								
V.1.1 Creating an enabling environment for the promotion of freedom of expression and universal access	3,489,600	3,531,536	11,488				3,543,024	
V.1.2 Fostering community access and diversity of content	6,480,500	6,508,807	159,654				6,668,461	
V.2 Promoting communication development and ICTs for education, science and culture								
V.2.1 Fostering media development	2,382,500	2,382,500					2,382,500	
V.2.2 Advancing the use of ICTs in education, science and culture	595,600	595,600	3,558				599,158	
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,500,000	1,500,000	8,000				1,508,000	
Total, Major Programme V	32,950,400	33,359,643	182,699	132,000	-	75,200	-	
Total, Major Programme V	32,950,400	33,359,643	182,699	132,000	-	75,200	-	
UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)	9,020,000	9,020,000					9,020,000	
Field - Management of decentralized programmes	40,813,800	40,825,800		342,800		60,200	41,228,800	
Total, Part IIA	327,993,400	333,146,635	1,471,796	905,700	(402,069)	675,400	-	
Total, Part IIA	327,993,400	333,146,635	1,471,796	905,700	(402,069)	675,400	-	
B. Participation Programme	20,000,000	20,000,000					20,000,000	
C. Programme related services								
1. Coordination of action to benefit Africa	4,309,200	4,389,200		24,300		13,700	4,427,200	
2. Fellowships Programme	1,867,300	1,887,300				9,200	1,896,500	
3. Public information	13,657,600	13,953,300		51,500		68,700	14,073,500	
4. Strategic planning and programme monitoring	6,258,600	6,447,564	13,104		(311,356)	21,200	6,170,512	
5. Budget preparation and monitoring	4,306,200	4,418,300		36,900		14,300	4,469,500	
6. Anticipation and foresight	-	-			713,425	-	713,425	
Total, Part IIC	30,398,900	31,095,664	13,104	112,700	402,069	127,100	-	
Total, Part IIC	30,398,900	31,095,664	13,104	112,700	402,069	127,100	-	
TOTAL PART II	378,392,300	384,242,299	1,484,901	1,018,400	-	802,500	-	
TOTAL PART II	378,392,300	384,242,299	1,484,901	1,018,400	-	802,500	-	
PART III SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMME EXECUTION AND ADMINISTRATION								
A. Field management and coordination <i>(Headquarters activities and field office operating costs)</i>	20,988,300	21,239,265	333,837	36,900		20,300	458,600	
B. External relations and cooperation	19,824,700	20,270,100	75,106	87,800		90,100	20,523,106	
C. Human resources management	30,716,900	31,189,300		52,400		117,800	31,359,500	
D. Administration	106,152,000	108,036,800		270,000		567,600	109,359,200	
TOTAL, PART III	177,681,900	180,735,465	408,943	447,100	-	795,800	943,400	
TOTAL, PART III	177,681,900	180,735,465	408,943	447,100	-	795,800	943,400	
TOTAL, PARTS I-III	594,734,300	604,163,864	1,943,487	1,500,000	-	1,685,000	4,230,800	
Reserve for reclassifications	1,500,000	1,500,000		(1,500,000)			-	
PART IV ANTICIPATED COST INCREASES	13,765,700	6,761,700				(1,685,000)	(4,230,800)	
TOTAL APPROPRIATION APPROVED AS ADJUSTED	610,000,000	612,425,564	1,943,487	-	-	-	614,369,051	

* Cross-cutting themes:

1. Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty.
2. The contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society.

Figures may not add up exactly owing to rounding.

5 Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions (176 EX/5 and Add.-Add.2, 176 EX/INF.4 and Add., 176 EX/INF.14; 176 EX/INF.17 Rev.; 176 EX/INF.18; 176 EX/INF.19; 176 EX/INF.20; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 176 EX/5 and Add.-Add.2; 176 EX/INF.4 and Add., 176 EX/INF.14, 176 EX/INF.17 Rev., 176 EX/INF.18, 176 EX/INF.19 and 176 EX/INF.20,
2. Takes note of their contents.

II

South-South cooperation in education

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 7 with regard to the establishment of a South-South cooperation fund for education,
2. Having in mind 174 EX/Decision 9, which requests the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's existing role as facilitator, innovator and catalyst for South-South cooperation in education by launching a new programme/fund for South-South cooperation in education, and invited him to take appropriate measures within the framework of the Education Sector reform for strengthening South-South cooperation in education and to define as a matter of priority a focal point to be responsible for coordination and administration of the programme with EFA partners, in particular with the E-9 rotating secretariat,
3. Taking into consideration 175 EX/Decision 4 (III), which requests the Director-General to take immediate action for the establishment of the South-South cooperation programme/fund with the objective of enabling developing countries to meet the objectives of the Dakar Framework for Action, and the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) relating to literacy,
4. Further recalling the Doha Declaration of the Second Summit of the Group of 77 and China held in Qatar from 12 to 16 June 2005 and the Monterrey Declaration of the Sixth E-9 Ministerial Review Meeting held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 13 to 15 February 2007,
5. Having examined document 176 EX/5,
6. Considering the different proposals made by the Director-General on South-South cooperation in document 34 C/5 under Major Programme I,
7. Taking note of the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to communicate with Member States that have already expressed interest in making voluntary contributions,
8. Also taking note of the establishment, within the Secretariat, of a focal point for South-South cooperation liaising with the Group of 77 and China Working Group on South-South Cooperation and a focal point for the E-9 initiative, as well as the contact points identified in each of the four Regional Bureaux for Education to facilitate planning and management of South-South cooperation funds and activities at the regional level,

9. Focusing on the priorities and key initiatives of UNESCO in education to support the countries in their efforts to achieve the EFA and MDG goals, with special attention to the areas of cooperation which include planning and programme design, institutional development, capacity-building, financing education, the teaching-learning process, assessment and evaluation systems, and management and educational administration, among others,
10. Invites the Member States to respond to the Director-General's appeal to provide voluntary contributions to the programme/fund;
11. Requests the Director-General to continue to elaborate the terms of reference for the presentation of pilot projects for South-South cooperation in education and for triangular (North-South-South) cooperation, and to identify appropriate resources from regular and extrabudgetary funds;
12. Encourages Member States to prepare and present to the UNESCO Secretariat pilot projects under this framework;
13. Invites the Director-General to report back to the Executive Board at its 177th session on the progress achieved.

III

Category 2 institutes and centres

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 176 EX/5, paragraphs 38 to 41,
2. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 18 and 33 C/Resolution 90,
3. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 177th session a report, including financial aspects, on the implementation of the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres as adopted in 33 C/Resolution 90, recognizing the contribution made by such institutes and centres in the current biennium to realizing or supporting UNESCO's policy objectives;
4. Decides to forward the Director-General's report, with its comments and recommendations, to the General Conference at its 34th session.

IV

UNESCO's role and the challenge of African migration

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 57 on UNESCO's role and the challenge of African migration, 175 EX/Decision 20 on the Second Conference of Intellectuals from Africa and the Diaspora, and 175 EX/Decision 41 on UNESCO's cooperation with African subregional and regional organizations,
2. Further recalling that Africa, least developed countries and young people are priorities in UNESCO's programmes,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/5 Add.,
4. Welcomes the report by the Director-General;

5. Emphasizes the need for an intersectoral approach involving each programme sector to address the challenge of African migration and development;
6. Expresses its support for the three-step action plan outlined in document 176 EX/5 Add.;
7. Stresses the need for UNESCO to continue to explore opportunities for new and innovative approaches and to enlist new partners in the implementation of practical solutions;
8. Encourages the Director-General to continue consultations, in the spirit of United Nations reform, with other United Nations and international bodies involved in the question of migration so as to avoid overlapping mandates;
9. Invites the Director-General to further strengthen UNESCO's activities in its fields of competence, in particular the sciences, education, culture and communication, in addressing the issues of international migration and development.

V

Progress in the development of cross-sectoral capacity-building programmes

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 59 and 174 EX/Decision 14,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/5 Add.2,
3. Emphasizes the crucial role of capacity-building for the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, especially with respect to the eradication of poverty and the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation;
4. Reiterating that institutional and individual capacity-building in Member States is one of the established key functions of UNESCO, and underlining the role thereof for the effective implementation of UNESCO's programmes and the realization of its expected results, as recognized in draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5,
5. Takes note of the broad range of relevant cross-sectoral and intersectoral capacity-building activities already being implemented or envisaged by UNESCO, at Headquarters and in the field;
6. Requests the Director-General to intensify ongoing efforts in all programme sectors and at all levels of the Secretariat to provide capacity-building to Member States in an effective manner, especially by developing concrete and coherent activities through the dedicated intersectoral platform elaborated in draft document 34 C/5;
7. Further requests the Director-General to analyse the impact of different modalities of capacity development and report on the lessons learned, as well as to report, in a results-based manner, on the further refinement and implementation of this intersectoral platform in his biannual reports (EX/4) on the implementation of the programme.

VI

**Commemoration of the 800th anniversary of the birth of
Mawlana Jalal-ud-Din Balkhi-Rumi**

The Executive Board,

1. Referring to 33 C/Resolution 63, by which the General Conference decided that UNESCO should commemorate the 800th anniversary of the birth of Mawlana Jalal-ud-Din Balkhi-Rumi (Mevlana Celaledin-i Belhi-Rumi) and 175 EX/Decision 56, by which the Executive Board decided to issue a commemorative medal in his honour,
2. Noting that 2007 will mark the 800th anniversary of the birth of this illustrious poet, philosopher and mystic, whose message of love, peace and harmony reflects the *raison d'être* of UNESCO,
3. Believing that UNESCO should support projects that seek to further the message and vision of Mawlana Jalal-ud-Din Balkhi-Rumi and help to construct the defences of peace in the minds of men and women,
4. Noting that moving images are very influential in shaping the historical consciousness of all peoples and are part of the overall dialogue among civilizations and cultures,
5. Thanks the Governments of India, Qatar, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic for their support and association with the notion of the production of a feature film on the life and work of Mawlana Jalal-ud-Din Balkhi-Rumi, to be produced in a collaborative international effort under the direction of noted Indian filmmaker, Mr Muzaffar Ali;
6. Authorizes the Director-General to take steps to associate UNESCO with this project, which is to be financed from extrabudgetary funds to be provided by Member States and various organizations, and for this purpose to designate a focal point in UNESCO to coordinate the technical and intellectual support that UNESCO may provide to this project.

(176 EX/SR.10)

- 6 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the reform process** (176 EX/6 Part I and Add.-Add.2 and Part II; 176 EX/INF.17 Rev.; 176 EX/INF.18; 176 EX/INF.19; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 5 (I), 174 EX/Decision 5 (I) and 175 EX/Decision 5,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/6 Part I,
3. Takes note of the work accomplished to implement the medium- and long-term staffing strategy and the human resources policy framework;
4. Further takes note of the proposed merit-promotion and recognition schemes, and requests that the Director-General provide information to the Executive Board on the costs and mechanisms for ensuring accountability and transparency prior to the implementation of the said schemes;

5. Underlines the need to ensure that results-based management training activities, in view of financial constraints, are well targeted, taking into account the priorities both in the C/5 document and in United Nations reform efforts;
6. Welcomes the development of a systematic approach and methodology for monitoring the impact of training activities on programme planning and implementation, to be considered at its 177th session, as requested in 175 EX/Decision 5;
7. Notes the need to make further efforts to appoint external candidates to posts at the professional level and above, and requests the Director-General to ensure a reasonable balance in such appointments;
8. Invites the Director-General to include in future draft C/5 documents an assessment of staff requirements based on an analysis of required competencies and deployment of posts between field offices and Headquarters;
9. Requests the Director-General to give due consideration to mandatory rotation for all international professional staff, to ensure that job descriptions, recruitment, posting procedures and promotion criteria give due emphasis to the principles of geographical, functional and inter-agency staff mobility and rotation, and also to take account of linguistic proficiency in the UNESCO working languages;
10. Calls on the Director-General to monitor, on an ongoing basis, the implementation of staff policy and procedures, as well as to ensure compliance with the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules;
11. Also requests the Director-General to ensure that management is appropriately assessed;
12. Further requests the Director-General to consider, within the available resources, alternative modalities for the pre-selection of candidates in order to avoid an additional burden on the sectors concerned and excessive delays in the recruitment process;
13. Also invites the Director-General to pursue the implementation of the medium- and long-term staffing strategy, and to report thereon to the General Conference at its 34th session;
14. Further requests the Director-General to continue to work towards equitable geographical representation and improvement of the gender balance, particularly at the higher levels;
15. Further invites the Director-General to pursue the implementation of the human resources policy framework, by using the change management capacity within the existing structures, taking into account wider United Nations reform efforts, and to report to it, on an annual basis, at its autumn session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 5 (II),
2. Having examined document 176 EX/6 Part II,

3. Takes note of the progress made in the implementation of the integrated management information system, covering programming and budgeting (SISTER), finance and accounting (FABS) and human resources management (STEPS);
4. Notes that the funds identified thus far are insufficient to complete the deployment of the system, in particular as regards the completion of the FABS roll-out to the field and the implementation of STEPS;
5. Also notes the need to identify, within the C/5 document, the appropriate resources, both financial and human, required for the development and implementation of a comprehensive long-term information technology (IT) strategy;
6. Endorses the appeal to Member States for voluntary contributions contained in 174 EX/Decision 5 so as to enable the Secretariat to complete the integrated management information system as well as to rationalize the overall IT system and the development of new IT tools;
7. Invites the Director-General to pursue the implementation of the integrated management information system, and to submit to it at its 179th session a progress report thereon.

(176 EX/SR.9)

7 Report by the Director-General on the conclusions and recommendations of the Overall Review Committee for Major Programmes II and III (176 EX/7; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 2 concerning the review of Major Programmes II and III,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/7 and its annexes,
3. Recognizing, as stated in document 176 EX/7, that the natural, social and human sciences are now universally viewed as the drivers of national economic and social development and as key contributors to poverty reduction and environmental conservation,
4. Acknowledging the need for natural, social and human sciences to contribute to the achievement of UNESCO's mission,
5. Expresses its appreciation of the work of the Overall Review Committee for Major Programme II (Natural Sciences) and III (Social and Human Sciences) as a valuable and timely contribution to further the relevance and effectiveness of UNESCO's activities in the field of natural, social and human sciences,
6. Recognizes the potential of the Organization to become the leading promoter within the United Nations system of the transformative power of scientific knowledge, building on its intellectual reputation, convening ability and global presence, which provide a solid foundation for its crucial roles as policy facilitator and capacity-builder in global, regional and country-level endeavours;
7. Takes note of the strengths as well as the weaknesses identified by the Committee;
8. Also takes note of the Director-General's comments on the Committee's recommendations;

9. Underscores that the Committee's recommendations along with the Director-General's comments should be taken into account in documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5;
10. Takes note of the Committee's findings that UNESCO needs some strategic reorientation of its activities and operational methods in the field of the natural, social and human sciences;
11. Taking into account the Director-General's proposal that document 34 C/4 be considered as a rolling document,
 - (a) requests the Director-General to forward the report and recommendations of the Overall Review Committee for Major Programmes II (Natural Sciences) and III (Social and Human Sciences), as well as his comments on that report, to the governing bodies of the intergovernmental/international science programmes for their information, and to invite those bodies to transmit their comments thereon to the Executive Board;
 - (b) also requests the Director-General to conduct wide-ranging consultations on the possible implementation of the Review Committee's recommendations, and to take appropriate steps in order to allow for informed decision-making regarding UNESCO's core functions and competencies in the field of science, as indicated by the Director-General in his introduction to document 34 C/4.

(176 EX/SR.10)

Education

8 Migration and education: quality assurance and mutual recognition of qualifications (176 EX/8; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 26) and the 1998 Declaration adopted by the World Conference on Higher Education,
2. Building on the six regional conventions and one interregional convention on the recognition of qualifications in higher education, the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education, the 1997 Recommendation on the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel, and the 2005 Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-Border Higher Education,
3. Also recalling 32 C/Resolution 10 on higher education and globalization and 33 C/Resolution 19 on cooperation between UNESCO and OECD in drafting guidelines on "Quality Provision in Cross-Border Higher Education",
4. Further recalling the United Nations High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2006,
5. Having examined document 176 EX/8,
6. Taking note of paragraph 11 of document 176 EX/8,
7. Reaffirming the belief that UNESCO should contribute to the promotion of international academic mobility as a means to advance knowledge and knowledge sharing based on the 1998 Declaration of the World Conference on Higher Education,

8. Recognizing that mobility and migration both within States and across borders, whether voluntary or forced, is a reality for an increasing number of individuals and their countries,
9. Acknowledging the challenges and opportunities associated with increased mobility at the international, national and individual levels,
10. Aware that increased mobility across borders constitutes a challenge as well as an opportunity for the exercise of the right to education,
11. Affirming that appropriate systems for the recognition of qualifications benefit both migrants and their host country, taking into account national and regional practices,
12. Further affirming the need to see this issue addressed in conjunction with the issue of the impact of the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education,
13. Noting the willingness of the Government of Norway to make an initial contribution and the need for the Director-General to seek extrabudgetary resources,
14. Requests the Director-General to:
 - (a) include the issue of the impact of migration on education and recognition of qualifications in document 34 C/5 provided that funds are obtained for that purpose, with the aim of facilitating the recognition of migrants' higher education qualifications and making this a priority;
 - (b) present and disseminate an inventory of existing good practices on migration and the mutual recognition of qualifications in the field of higher education, taking into account diverse systems of education and knowledge development practices.

(176 EX/SR.10)

9 Report by the Director-General on an improved version of the Global Action Plan to achieve the EFA goals by 2015, and progress report on its implementation (176 EX/9; 176 EX/66 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 7,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/9,
3. Reaffirming the importance of accelerating progress towards the six EFA goals and other educational development goals,
4. Welcoming the changes introduced into the Global Action Plan reflecting the specific concerns expressed by the Executive Board and the participants in the Sixth Meeting of the EFA High-Level Group held in Cairo, Egypt, in November 2006,
5. Having requested the Director-General to continue to improve and develop the Global Action Plan by reinforcing collective ownership through ongoing regular consultations among the five original EFA convening agencies so that it remains a dynamic framework for coordination, and can be expanded to include other EFA partners,
6. Taking note of the efforts made to coordinate the Global Action Plan with the United Nations reform process and the fact that the Global Action Plan will be increasingly

focused on implementation at the country level, including that of the pilot countries selected in the context of the United Nations reform,

7. Further noting the welcome given to the improved version of the Global Action Plan by the Sixth Meeting of the EFA High-Level Group,
8. Welcoming the efforts to harmonize the Global Action Plan and the UNESCO National Education Support Strategy (UNESS) at the country level,
9. Further welcoming the new agreement on “Partnerships for Education” between UNESCO and the World Economic Forum,
10. Invites the Director-General to seek other partnerships of this kind;
11. Supports the Director-General in his efforts to continue working on the strategy for support to education in order to enhance the number of countries participating in the UNESCO National Education Support Strategy;
12. Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 179th session an initial report on the application of the Global Action Plan, including at the country level, taking into account the forthcoming *EFA Global Monitoring Report* and the discussions and conclusions of the meeting of the EFA High-Level Group to be held in Dakar in December 2007.

(176 EX/SR.10)

10 Proposal by the Director-General on new strategic orientations for the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme (176 EX/10; 176 EX/66 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 26 C/Resolution 1.1(c) and 161 EX/Decision 9.1,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/10,
3. Bearing in mind the strong emphasis on results-based programming and enhanced intersectorality in draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5,
4. Takes note of the increasing geographical imbalance of UNESCO Chairs in favour of the North, the need for a systematic regrouping of Chairs into dynamic networks with the objective of increasing North-South and South-South cooperation; and the many benefits of moving from the concept of centres of excellence to poles of excellence;
5. Takes note with satisfaction of the new strategic approach proposed in document 176 EX/10;
6. Invites the Director-General to continue to examine ways of implementing this new approach concerning the criteria for the establishment of chairs and the creation of networks, the definition of priorities, and the role of the National Commissions in their cooperation with UNESCO;
7. Further invites the Director-General to explore closer cooperation with the United Nations University, and to report thereon to the Executive Board at its 177th session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

Natural sciences

11 Report by the Director-General on the evaluation of the first phase of the International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP), and proposals regarding draft document 34 C/4 and draft document 34 C/5 (176 EX/11; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 172 EX/Decision 12,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/11,
3. Noting that the mandate of the International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP), and the partnerships in capacity-building in science that IBSP promotes are reflected in the strategic programme objectives for the Organization to be set out in its draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4), and are aimed at providing the science inputs to assist countries to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
4. Recognizing that IBSP is a response to a recommendation by the World Conference on Science, and that UNESCO has sole responsibility for the basic sciences within the United Nations system,
5. Calling for an enhanced partnership with International Council for Science (ICSU) scientific unions and the industrial sector in the framework of IBSP,
6. Recognizing the importance of joint work between governments, the private sector and international and regional organizations,
7. Referring to recommendations of the ministerial round table on “The Basic Sciences: the Science Lever for Development”, as well as to the decisions of the African Union Summit on science, technology and scientific research for development,
8. Takes note of the assessment of the initial phase of IBSP presented in document 176 EX/11, and recommends that it be submitted for information to the General Conference at its 34th session, together with the conclusions of the Executive Board;
9. Approves the proposals made by the Director-General regarding the future IBSP strategy;
10. Requests the Director-General to give priority consideration to projects from developing countries, mainly from the least developed countries and post-conflict countries, to be carried out in cooperation with regional science centres, and to consider how to support the submission of high-quality proposals from developing countries in the context of the IBSP strategy;
11. Recommends that Member States continue to inform the Director-General of activities that they would propose for IBSP, and of complementary extrabudgetary support they may provide to reinforce the IBSP budget for the implementation of their proposals and that proposed activities should be in line with the five major priority actions of the new strategy;
12. Requests the Director-General to:
 - (a) take action for implementation of the strategy proposed in document 176 EX/11 for the development of IBSP activities in 2008-2013;

- (b) encourage, within the Third UNESCO/ICSU Framework Agreement for 2008-2013, direct participation in IBSP of relevant scientific unions of ICSU;
- (c) encourage the setting up of national committees for IBSP in order to increase the visibility and effectiveness of the Programme, joining together national scientific committees and institutional partners, as well as private partners, and to develop the committees' networks;
- (d) prepare and circulate to Member States, in 2008, an information document on IBSP and its functioning within the established strategy of action;
- (e) submit to the Executive Board at its 181st session and then to the General Conference at its 35th session a report on the development and outcomes of IBSP during the first biennium of the Medium-Term Strategy, and on measures to be taken to promote the services and efficiency of IBSP.

(176 EX/SR.10)

[12 Statutes and financial regulations of the UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science]

This item was withdrawn from the provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 176 EX/1.

[13 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED), in Trieste (Italy)]

This item was withdrawn from the provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 176 EX/1.

14 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of a regional centre for shared aquifer resources management in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/14; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 175 EX/Decision 11,
2. Further recalling resolution XV-10 adopted at the 15th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in June 2002 (176 EX/14, Annex I),
3. Having examined document 176 EX/14 and its annexes,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to establish a regional centre for shared aquifer resources management under the auspices of UNESCO, and requests that the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya ensures that it is in line with the guiding principles for UNESCO's strategy for water centres as delineated by the IHP Intergovernmental Council (IHP/IC-XVII/8, July 2006), which shall form the basis for the strategy for UNESCO water centres currently under preparation that will be considered by the Bureau of the IHP Intergovernmental Council in June 2007, as well as in conformity with document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (categories 1 and 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;

5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the regional centre for shared aquifer resources management (RCSARM) in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in Annex II to document 176 EX/14, in accordance with paragraph 4 of this decision.

(176 EX/SR.10)

15 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an international groundwater resources assessment centre in Utrecht, Netherlands, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/15; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 175 EX/Decision 53,
2. Further recalling resolution XIV-11 adopted at the 14th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in June 2000 (176 EX/15, Annex I),
3. Having examined document 176 EX/15 and its annexes,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Netherlands to place the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) under the auspices of UNESCO, and requests that the Government of the Netherlands ensures that it is in line with the guiding principles for UNESCO's strategy for water centres as delineated by the IHP Intergovernmental Council (IHP/IC-XVII/8, July 2006), which shall form the basis for the strategy for UNESCO water centres currently under preparation that will be considered by the Bureau of the IHP Intergovernmental Council in June 2007, as well as in conformity with document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (categories 1 and 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;
5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the recognition of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) in Utrecht, Netherlands, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreements presented in Annexes II and III to document 176 EX/15, in accordance with paragraph 4 of this decision.

(176 EX/SR.10)

16 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an international centre for South-South cooperation in science, technology and innovation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/16; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the proposal submitted by the Malaysian Government to establish an international centre for South-South cooperation in science, technology and innovation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the auspices of UNESCO,

2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 23 (I.5(xi)), which authorizes the Director-General to follow up the Doha Plan of Action,
3. Aware of the importance of international cooperation for the promotion of science and technology innovation in developing countries, and of triangular North-South-South cooperation,
4. Welcoming the proposal of the Government of Malaysia,
5. Having examined the positive response by the Director-General to this proposal, as well as the feasibility study prepared by UNESCO in document 176 EX/16 in the light of the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of UNESCO institutes and centres (category 1) and institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) approved by 33 C/Resolution 90,
6. Takes note of the observations and conclusions of the feasibility study;
7. Deeming the considerations and proposals contained therein to be such as to meet the requirements needed for UNESCO to grant its auspices to the international centre,
8. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of an international centre for South-South cooperation in science, technology and innovation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in the Annex to document 176 EX/16.

(176 EX/SR.10)

17 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of a sustainable energy development centre in Moscow, Russian Federation, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/17 and Corr.; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/17 and Corr. and its Annex,
3. Takes note of the observations and conclusions of the feasibility study;
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Russian Federation to establish the sustainable energy development centre under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the principles and guidelines for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as adopted by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;
5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the sustainable energy development centre in Moscow, Russian Federation, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in the Annex to document 176 EX/17.

(176 EX/SR.10)

[18 Amendments to the statutes and the financial regulations of the UNESCO Great Man-Made River International Water Prize for Water Resources in Arid Zones]

This item was withdrawn from the provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 176 EX/1.

Culture

19 Report by the Director-General on the place of religion in the programme on interfaith and interreligious dialogue and activities designed to promote respect for and dialogue among cultures (176 EX/19; 176 EX/66 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 49,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/19,
3. Recognizing the importance of the dialogue among peoples, cultures and religions, guarantor of social cohesion, peace and tolerance,
4. Bearing in mind the recommendations contained in the declarations adopted at conferences on intercultural and interreligious dialogue convened by UNESCO in order to establish better reciprocal knowledge and mutual respect,
5. Reaffirming the need to develop teaching tools and specific educational programmes with a view to fostering cultural and spiritual awareness,
6. Encourages the development of appropriate partnerships for the implementation of the recommendations adopted at meetings organized in cooperation with UNESCO and of those contained in the report of the High-Level Group for the Alliance of Civilizations, in keeping with UNESCO's own core values;
7. Requests the Director-General to continue reflection in the context of documents 34 C/4 and 35 C/5 on the place of religion, under an interdisciplinary approach which fosters knowledge of and respect for all cultures and religions, and to pursue action aimed at putting in place an operational framework to promote interfaith and intercultural dialogue;
8. Further requests the Director-General to devote even greater attention to encouraging non-governmental organizations to develop intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

(176 EX/SR.10)

20 Jerusalem and the implementation of 33 C/Resolution 50 and 175 EX/Decision 14 (176 EX/20 and Add.; 176 EX/INF.11; 176 EX/66 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 39 and 175 EX/Decision 14, as well as the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and the related Protocols, and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the inclusion of the Old City of Jerusalem in the World Heritage List and in the List of World Heritage in Danger, and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO on the protection of the cultural heritage,

2. Affirming that nothing in the present decision, which is aimed at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, shall in any way affect the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, in particular the relevant Security Council resolutions on the legal status of Jerusalem,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/20 and its addendum concerning Jerusalem,
4. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for his sustained efforts for the safeguarding of the cultural and natural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, in compliance with 32 C/Resolution 39 of the General Conference and 171 EX/Decision 18 of the Executive Board, and reiterates its concern as to the obstacles and practices affecting the safeguarding of the cultural and natural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem;
5. Taking note of the declaration by the Director-General concerning Jerusalem at the 172nd session of the Executive Board, which appeals to all parties concerned to respect the outstanding universal value of the Old City of Jerusalem, and to refrain from anything that may jeopardize the distinctive character of the Old City of Jerusalem inscribed on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger, invites him to pursue his efforts with the authorities concerned in regard to the safeguarding and preservation of the distinctive character of the Old City of Jerusalem;
6. Congratulates the Director-General on his initiatives in favour of the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, particularly the latest UNESCO missions;
7. Expresses its gratitude to the Director-General for the progress made towards establishing a centre for the conservation of Islamic manuscripts in al-Ashrafiya Madrasa within the Esplanade of the Mosques (al-Haram ash-Sharif), requests him to intensify his efforts in that regard, and thanks Italy, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Welfare Association for their support and their generous contributions;
8. Takes note of the information provided in document 176 EX/20 and its Addendum concerning the progress made towards the establishment of an action plan based on the guidelines proposed by the International Committee of Experts on the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, and the results of the missions on the spot;
9. Encourages UNESCO Member States to contribute to the efforts towards the implementation of the programme activities for the first phase of the action plan for the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem as identified by the experts and the concerned authorities, notably through extrabudgetary resources;
10. Invites the Director-General to present the above-mentioned action plan to it at its 177th session, and decides to include this item in the agenda of the 177th session of the Executive Board.

(176 EX/SR.10)

[21 Progress report by the Director-General on the preparation of a draft declaration of principles relating to cultural objects displaced in connection with the Second World War]

This item was withdrawn from the provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 176 EX/1.

Communication and information

22 Consolidated report on the measures taken by Member States for the implementation of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace (176 EX/22; 176 EX/69)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 54,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/22 concerning the reports and replies received in the first consultation of Member States on the application of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace,
3. Thanks the Director-General for his efforts to facilitate the establishment of a system of reports on measures taken to implement this Recommendation, in particular through the elaboration of a set of guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States for submission to the General Conference;
4. Takes note of the fact that 23 Member States submitted reports for this first consultation;
5. Recalls that the submission by Member States of periodic reports concerning the application of the recommendations adopted by the General Conference is an obligation enshrined in the Constitution;
6. Further recalls that the periodic consultation of Member States on the application of the aforementioned Recommendation is intended to enable the Organization to assess the extent to which Member States are implementing that instrument, as well as the obstacles they encounter;
7. Reaffirms the importance of the Recommendation and of its application by Member States so that the provisions of this standard-setting instrument may become a reality for all;
8. Recommends that the General Conference invite those Member States that have not yet done so to take measures to implement the Recommendation;
9. Notes in addition that the consultation has provided useful information on the measures taken to implement the Recommendation, which Member States may use to promote its application in future;
10. Invites the Director-General to transmit to the General Conference at its 34th session the consolidated report on the measures taken by Member States for the implementation of this Recommendation, together with the Executive Board's observations or comments and any observations or comments that the Director-General may wish to make.

(176 EX/SR.7)

Intersectoral programme activities

23 Report on UNESCO action in favour of the respect for freedom of expression and respect for sacred beliefs and values and religious and cultural symbols (176 EX/23; 176 EX/66 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 49 and 174 EX/Decision 46,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/23,
3. Takes note of the conclusions, as presented in document 176 EX/23, of the compilation and comprehensive study of all existing relevant international instruments on the subject of respect for freedom of expression and respect for sacred beliefs and values and religious and cultural symbols, as well as of the progress achieved towards the implementation of the plan of action for the dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples;
4. Recognizes the complexity and multi-dimensional character of this issue, as well as the need to strengthen UNESCO's leadership role in advocating the promotion of dialogue among cultures, religions and peoples through an interdisciplinary and coordinated approach within UNESCO;
5. Invites the Director-General to report to it at its 179th session on the implementation of innovative modalities of action, including the Power of Peace Network, for the purpose of furthering mutual understanding, as well as respect for all people's religious and cultural values, and for freedom of expression.

(176 EX/SR.10)

DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY FOR 2008-2013 (34 C/4) AND DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2008-2009 (34 C/5)

24 Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) and recommendations of the Executive Board (34 C/4; 176 EX/INF.17 Rev.; 176 EX/INF.18; 176 EX/INF.19; 176 EX/INF.21; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) prepared by the Director-General,
2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 1 on preparations for the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 and 33 C/Resolution 64 on the future role of UNESCO, as well as 175 EX/Decision 21 on the preparation of documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5,
3. Taking into account the report and recommendations of the Overall Review Committee for Major Programmes II and III, pursuant to 33 C/Resolution 2, and the Director-General's comments thereon contained in document 176 EX/7, and recalling 176 EX/Decision 7,
4. Conscious that the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 will need to enable UNESCO to respond better to ongoing and future challenges, including those defined in the 2005

World Summit Outcome document, associated with globalization and arising from United Nations reform,

5. Taking note of the broad-based consultations that were carried out by the Director-General in the process of preparing the Draft Medium-Term Strategy,
6. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the preparation of draft document 34 C/4, which provided a good foundation for deliberations by the Executive Board;
7. Reaffirms the abiding validity and relevance of the Constitution, which must guide and inspire all action, programmes and activities by the Organization, especially its mandate to build the defences of peace in the minds of men and women in all its domains,
8. Proposes that the Organization's mission statement be as follows: *As a specialized agency of the United Nations, UNESCO contributes to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information;*
9. Endorses the five functions through which UNESCO will deliver its programme as contained in paragraph 4 of document 34 C/4;
10. Proposes five overarching objectives for the Organization, which express the unique core competencies of UNESCO and its comparative advantages in the multilateral system;
11. Further proposes 14 strategic programme objectives, which translate into thematic terms the intent of the overarching objectives;
12. Underlines that both the overarching and strategic programme objectives must be pursued by the Organization through both sectoral and intersectoral approaches and platforms at the country, regional and global levels;
13. Takes note of the ongoing discussions on United Nations reform, especially the objective of ensuring coherence and high-quality delivery at the country level in response to the national development priorities of Member States, and at their request;
14. Emphasizes the imperative need to preserve the unique mandate of UNESCO within the framework of a reforming United Nations system;
15. Welcomes the progress achieved in introducing a comprehensive and coherent results-based programming, management, monitoring, reporting and evaluation approach applied consistently in documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5;
16. Stresses the need to continue refining this approach, especially with a view to better identifying expected outcomes, expected results, performance indicators and benchmarks in order to measure progress which also reflects the qualitative dimensions and impact of UNESCO's action;
17. Convinced that emerging challenges and a changing global environment require UNESCO to review periodically its priorities, strategies, approaches and programmes, as well as its structures,
18. Endorses therefore the proposal by the Director-General to conceive document 34 C/4 as a rolling strategy, allowing for a revision every two years by the General Conference so as to reflect developments pertaining to the Organization's fields of competence,

and recommends that the General Conference adopt document 34 C/4 as a rolling strategy;

19. Further recommends that the General Conference request the Executive Board:
 - (a) to begin reviewing document 34 C/4 at its 180th session;
 - (b) to submit any proposed revisions to document 34 C/4 to the General Conference for consideration, beginning with its 35th session;
20. Welcomes the intention of the Director-General to publish an abridged and professionally designed version of document 34 C/4 for a broader audience in order to enhance the public visibility of the Organization and awareness about UNESCO and its activities;
21. Transmits to the General Conference the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) with its proposed changes and amendments in tracked form in document 34 C/11.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling that at its 176th session a Drafting Group was established by the Executive Board in order to prepare a consolidated draft decision for consideration by the Executive Board, containing recommendations pertaining to draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5, to be forwarded to the General Conference,
2. Noting that the Drafting Group held 12 meetings,
3. Considering that the Drafting Group has been able to complete, in a harmonious and consensual atmosphere, a full reading of draft document 34 C/4, resulting in a comprehensive set of recommendations and amendments pertaining to the document submitted by the Director-General,
4. Recognizes the need to bring draft document 34 C/5 into line with the provisions of draft document 34 C/4, as amended, in order to ensure coherence between both documents;
5. Having considered the report of the Drafting Group, which indicated that it was not possible to complete a review and reading of draft document 34 C/5 within the limited time available at the 176th session,
6. Noting that pursuant to Rule 11, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, “Member States and Associate Members shall receive the draft programme and budget estimates, prepared by the Director-General and submitted to the General Conference by the Executive Board, at least three months before the opening of the session. Member States and Associate Members shall also receive, at least three months before the opening of the session, the recommendations that the Executive Board may have deemed it desirable to make concerning the draft programme and the corresponding budget estimates”,
7. Decides that its recommendations pertaining to draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5 adopted at its 176th session shall be transmitted to Member States and Associate Members at least three months before the opening of the 34th session of the General

Conference, in conformity with Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;

8. Authorizes, exceptionally, the Drafting Group in its present composition, under the co-chairmanship of the Ambassadors of India and Nigeria, to reconvene as soon as possible, and prior to the 177th session of the Executive Board, in order to enable it to complete its work concerning document 34 C/5, and to report to the Executive Board at its 177th session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

25 Consideration of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5) and recommendations of the Executive Board (34 C/5 Vols 1 and 2 and Add. and 34 C/5 Rev. Vols 1 and 2; 176 EX/INF.17 Rev.; 176 EX/INF.18; 176 EX/INF.19; 176 EX/INF.21; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling that at its 176th session a Drafting Group was established by the Executive Board in order to prepare a consolidated draft decision for consideration by the Executive Board, containing recommendations pertaining to draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5, to be forwarded to the General Conference,
2. Noting that the Drafting Group held 12 meetings,
3. Considering that the Drafting Group has been able to complete, in a harmonious and consensual atmosphere, a full reading of draft document 34 C/4, resulting in a comprehensive set of recommendations and amendments pertaining to the document submitted by the Director-General,
4. Recognizes the need to bring draft document 34 C/5 into line with the provisions of draft document 34 C/4, as amended, in order to ensure coherence between both documents;
5. Having considered the report of the Drafting Group, which indicated that it was not possible to complete a review and reading of draft document 34 C/5 within the limited time available at the 176th session,
6. Noting that pursuant to Rule 11, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, "Member States and Associate Members shall receive the draft programme and budget estimates, prepared by the Director-General and submitted to the General Conference by the Executive Board, at least three months before the opening of the session. Member States and Associate Members shall also receive, at least three months before the opening of the session, the recommendations that the Executive Board may have deemed it desirable to make concerning the draft programme and the corresponding budget estimates",
7. Decides that its recommendations pertaining to draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5 adopted at its 176th session shall be transmitted to Member States and Associate Members at least three months before the opening of the 34th session of the General Conference, in conformity with Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
8. Authorizes, exceptionally, the Drafting Group in its present composition, under the co-chairmanship of the Ambassadors of India and Nigeria, to reconvene as soon as

possible, and prior to the 177th session of the Executive Board, in order to enable it to complete its work concerning document 34 C/5, and to report to the Executive Board at its 177th session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5) prepared by the Director-General,
2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 1, 33 C/Resolution 95 and 175 EX/Decision 21 and DG/Note/06/54 of 6 November 2006,
3. Notes that draft document 34 C/5 has been prepared in accordance with the methodology adopted by the General Conference;
4. Also notes that draft document 34 C/5 has been divided into two volumes: Volume 1, which contains only the resolutions proposed for adoption by the General Conference, and Volume 2, which contains the programmatic and budgetary details;
5. Further notes that the number of programming levels presented in draft document 34 C/5 has been limited to “Major Programme” and “Main Line of Action”, and that the overall number of Main Lines of Action has been reduced in comparison with document 33 C/5, thereby increasing concentration on priority objectives;
6. Also notes that transfers between appropriation lines up to an amount of 1% of the initial appropriation may be made at the discretion of the Director-General provided that the Executive Board is informed in writing at the session following such transfers;
7. Welcomes the presentation of information on staff costs by Main Line of Action;
8. Further notes that in accordance with 175 EX/Decision 21, the Director-General has presented a core budget scenario of zero real growth, with three alternative scenarios, and that the Director-General has expressed his clear preference for a base-line budget of \$648.3 million, corresponding to zero real growth;
9. Invites the Director-General to ensure:
 - (a) the strengthening of results-based management;
 - (b) a better presentation of the links between the C/4 and C/5 documents, in particular the outcomes and strategic programme objectives that the Organization is expected to achieve in the medium term (draft document 34 C/4) and the Main Lines of Action and the expected results of the programme for the 2008-2009 biennium (draft document 34 C/5);
 - (c) a better identification of expected outcomes and results, clear benchmarks and performance indicators for the measurement of progress;
10. Also invites the Director-General to ensure that the reports on the implementation of the programme illustrate whether and how progress was made towards achieving expected results under each Main Line of Action, and thus towards strategic programme objectives;

11. Further invites the Director-General to ensure the timely implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), the Ethics programme, and information technology (IT) tools development, it being understood that these are core activities and should therefore be financed under the regular programme;
12. Requests the Director-General to present to the Executive Board at its 177th session a single budget scenario based on a ceiling of \$..., taking into account the debates and the discussions on this matter at the 176th session;
13. Recommends that the General Conference adopt a budget ceiling of \$... million.

(176 EX/SR.10)

METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

[26 Summary report by the Director-General on the cost-effectiveness of the programmes evaluated during the period of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4)]

This item was merged with item **28**, and figures as an addendum to document 176 EX/28; see the footnote in document 176 EX/1.

27 Report by the Director-General on the UNESCO evaluation policy and elaborated elements of the UNESCO evaluation strategy (176 EX/27; 176 EX/68)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 26,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/27,
3. Emphasizes the importance of evaluation as a shared duty and responsibility of governing bodies, all staff (at Headquarters and in the field) and partners as appropriate;
4. Welcomes the cooperation between UNESCO and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Evaluation Group;
5. Takes note of the proposed UNESCO evaluation policy and the evaluation priority-setting model;
6. Further takes note of the revised version of the Evaluation Strategy for 2008-2013 contained in Annex 2 and Annex 3 of document 176 EX/27, subject to the replacement in both Annex 2 and Annex 3 of the objective “increased funding for evaluations” with the objective “provision of funding for evaluations”, and requests the Director-General to keep it actively involved throughout the evaluation process;
7. Takes note with appreciation of the rich debate on the indicative 34 C/4 evaluation plan contained in Annex 4 of document 176 EX/27, and, in the light of that debate, requests the Director-General to present an updated and revised version to the Executive Board at its 177th session.

(176 EX/SR.8)

28 Comments by the Director-General on the evaluations undertaken during the 2006-2007 biennium and the cost-effectiveness of the programmes evaluated during the period of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4) (176 EX/28 and Add.)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 22,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/28, which summarizes the evaluation reports that have been presented,
3. Taking note of the recommendations made by the evaluators as well as the report by the Director-General on the actions taken or to be taken to implement these recommendations,
4. Invites the Director-General to implement the recommendations relating to results-based management, exit strategies, cross-cutting themes and capacity-building to improve the programmes and services to which they relate, with a clear timetable for implementation for each element or recommendation, and to continue to improve the quality of evaluations by implementing the UNESCO Evaluation Strategy;
5. Requests the Director-General to continue to report to the Executive Board on evaluations conducted on the Organization's programme activities, along with the details of resources spent on such evaluations, and on the progress made in strengthening programme management, in the follow-up to evaluation recommendations for each programme evaluated, and in strengthening the quality of the evaluations undertaken and their impact on the management culture of the Organization.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 22,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/28 Add.,
3. Requests the Director-General to take the necessary steps, including continuing results-based management corporate training and promoting results-based management leadership among sector ADGs, Chiefs of Executive Offices, Directors and Heads of Offices, to enhance results-based management culture and practice throughout the Organization;
4. Further requests the Director-General to ensure that future evaluations, to the extent possible, include cost-effectiveness analysis.

(176 EX/SR.8)

29 Follow-up to 33 C/Resolution 92 (para. 5) concerning relations between the three organs of UNESCO (176 EX/29; 176 EX/64)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 176 EX/29 and 174 EX/INF.7,

2. Recalling the request made in 33 C/Resolution 92, Recommendation 13 and 33 C/Resolution 78,
3. Considering that Recommendation 13 of 33 C/Resolution 92 to improve the reporting of the Executive Board to the General Conference can be addressed together with 33 C/Resolution 78 requesting the Executive Board to report to the General Conference, and further considering that such reporting should also address the work, role, functioning and relevance of UNESCO's category 1 institutes and of its various intergovernmental programmes,
4. Decides to prepare its report to the General Conference in accordance with the following guidance:

Scope

Major Programmes
Category 1 institutes
Intergovernmental programmes

Structure

Introduction, including the purpose of the report
Assessment of key achievements, key challenges and lessons learned
Recommendations (to the General Conference on how to fulfil the constitutional mandate of the Organization)

Issues to be addressed

To what extent have the strategic objectives been achieved?
What are the main challenges/problems/obstacles (to be illustrated by several cases or examples)?
What are the main lessons learned?

Main elements to be considered (in addressing the issues)

Relevance
Financial and human resources
Cost effectiveness
Sustainability

Potential sources of data

C/3, C/4, C/5
EX/4 reports
Evaluation reports
SISTER and FABS data
Summary records
Written assessment by ADGs
Information and data on achievements, and challenges at country level, plus lessons learned (from Member States).

Characteristics of the report

Concise and focused
Analytical
Informing strategic decision-making;

5. Invites the Director-General, when preparing EX/4 and C/3 documents, to provide adequate information to enable the Executive Board to address in its future reports the following issues:
 - How efficiently and effectively have financial and human resources been used? In particular, the cost-effectiveness of UNESCO programmes?
 - Does UNESCO have the capacity (both human and financial) to deliver the strategic objectives?
 - What can be said about the overall management of the programmes, especially in the field offices? Is it guided by sound, results-based management practice? Does current results-based management practice provide the Board with a sound basis for decision-making? If not, what improvements are required?
 - What is the current status of risk management within the Organization? Does the Board have proper assurance that strategic risks that can influence the achievement of strategic objectives are being properly managed?
 - How have lessons learned from monitoring and evaluation informed the programme design and delivery, and on a more strategic level, the subsequent C/4 and C/5 documents?
 - What can be said about the financial management and internal controls of the programmes? Have programmes been implemented in line with the rules and procedures of the Organization? Have programmes been implemented in a timely fashion?
 - What are the main achievements and challenges in the area of intersectoral/interdisciplinary work?
 - Which programmes should be continued?
6. Requests the Special Committee to meet and continue to debate Recommendation 8 of 33 C/Resolution 92 at the 177th session of the Executive Board.

(176 EX/SR.8)

30 Methods of work of the Organization (176 EX/30; 176 EX/66 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 51 and document 176 EX/30,
2. Wishing to suitably clarify the issue of the composition of representation on the Executive Board, while recalling 26 C/Resolution 19.3, which changed the nature of representation on the Executive Board through amendment of Articles V and VII of the Constitution of UNESCO, thereby establishing that representation on the Executive Board is at the level of Member States, and the provision established in Rule 83, paragraph 11, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference that one Member State may not represent or vote for another,
3. Recalling in particular the relevant articles of the Constitution of UNESCO and the Rules of Procedure of UNESCO's Executive Board,
4. Calls upon Executive Board Members to refrain from appointing in their delegations to the Executive Board persons who are Permanent Delegates or Chargé d'affaires a.i. of

other Member States to UNESCO, while confirming that it is the sovereign right of Member States to determine the composition of their delegations to the Executive Board;

5. Notes that it is current practice of the Executive Board for its Members, including those speaking on behalf of regional organizations and regional groups to which they belong, to support positions or proposals, as the occasion demands, on behalf of one or more Member States, without prejudice to paragraph 6 of this decision;
6. Confirms that the principle and practice of dual or multiple representation are not consistent with the Constitution of UNESCO and the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.

(176 EX/SR.10)

MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

31 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon (176 EX/CR/HR and Add-Add.3; 176 EX/3 PRIV. Draft and Add. and Corr.)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject.

(176 EX/SR.7)

32 Report by the Director-General on the ninth session of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendation concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART), and report by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations thereon (176 EX/32; 176 EX/69)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 154 EX/Decision 4.4, 157 EX/Decision 6.3 and 169 EX/Decision 3.4.1,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/32,
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the ninth session of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART/9/2006/10);
4. Expresses its appreciation of the work of the Joint Committee in stimulating action to promote greater awareness and wider application of the two Recommendations concerning the status of teaching personnel, and invites the Director-General to assist the Joint Committee in carrying out its next cycle of work, the report of which, scheduled for 2010, will be submitted to the Executive Board;
5. Invites the Director-General to transmit the report of the Joint Committee, together with any observations by the Executive Board to Member States and their National Commissions, international teachers' organizations, and other relevant international organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO, and to encourage them to continue to intensify their efforts to apply all provisions of both normative instruments in order to improve the status of the teaching profession and to guarantee academic freedoms in higher education.

(176 EX/SR.7)

33 Monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments
(176 EX/33 Parts I and II; 176 EX/69)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1 and 32 C/Resolution 77, 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21 and 175 EX/Decision 28 on the first aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) relating to the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments,
2. Having examined documents 176 EX/33 Parts I and II, and the report of the CR Committee thereon (176 EX/69),
3. Requests the Committee to continue its examination of this item at the 177th session, and decides to grant it one additional working day for that purpose.

(176 EX/SR.7)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

34 Preparation of the provisional agenda of the 34th session of the General Conference
(176 EX/34)

The Executive Board,

1. Having regard to Rules 9 and 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/34,
3. Decides:
 - (a) that the provisional agenda of the 34th session of the General Conference shall comprise the items proposed in document 176 EX/34, as well as items which the Executive Board decided to include at its 176th session;
 - (b) that any other items submitted by Member States or Associate Members or by the United Nations, in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, no later than 100 days before the opening of the session (i.e. by 8 July 2007) shall be inscribed by the Director-General on the provisional agenda, which shall then be communicated to Member States and Associate Members no later than 90 days before the opening of the session (i.e. 18 July 2007).

(176 EX/SR.7)

35 Draft plan for the organization of the work of the 34th session of the General Conference
(176 EX/35 and Corr.)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered document 176 EX/35 and Corr.,
2. Approves the suggestions contained in that document;

3. Invites the Director-General to draw up on this basis document 34 C/2 on the organization of the work of the General Conference, taking into account the observations expressed at its 176th session.

(176 EX/SR.7)

36 Invitations to the 34th session of the General Conference (176 EX/36 and Add.)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 176 EX/36 and Add.,
2. Takes cognizance of the notification to be sent by the Director-General to Member States and Associate Members in accordance with Rule 6, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
3. Takes note of the invitations to be sent by the Director-General to intergovernmental organizations in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of that Rule;
4. Decides, in accordance with paragraph 4 of that Rule, that the following States shall be invited to send observers to the 34th session of the General Conference:

Holy See
Liechtenstein
Singapore;

5. Includes Palestine in the list provided for in paragraph 6 of that Rule, and notes that the Director-General intends to send it an invitation in accordance with that paragraph;
6. Notes the invitations that the Director-General intends to send to international non-governmental organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO;
7. Decides to examine at its 177th session the admission to the 34th session of the General Conference of observers from non-governmental organizations (other than those maintaining formal relations with UNESCO), foundations and similar institutions maintaining official relations with UNESCO, as well as from other international organizations.

(176 EX/SR.7)

37 Submission of nominations for the offices of chairpersons of the commissions and committees of the 34th session of the General Conference (176 EX/INF.5 Rev.)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 176 EX/INF.5 Rev.,
2. Having noted that a consensus has not been reached,
3. Decides to postpone the recommendation of candidates for the offices of chairpersons of the commissions and committees to its 177th session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

38 **Comments by the Director-General on the implementation of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) Strategy in 2006-2007: annual report 2006** (176 EX/38 and Corr.; 176 EX/68)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 160 EX/Decision 6.5 and 164 EX/Decision 6.10,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/38 and Corr.,
3. Noting the contributions made by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) to improving the management of the Organization as part of its ongoing reform,
4. Recalls that the governing bodies, management and all staff are responsible for establishing and implementing internal control for the proper management of financial, programming and staffing issues, with the Internal Oversight Service taking the role of assessing the effectiveness of the controls in place, risks and governance processes;
5. Takes note of the Director-General's commitment to take action in response to issues raised in the annual report, and to take further action on issues raised in 174 EX/Decision 28 (adopted on examination of document 174 EX/29) where improvements are still needed and in strengthening the culture of learning and accountability and the governance of the oversight function;
6. Invites the Director-General, as part of his follow-up to issues identified in document 176 EX/38, to issue as a matter of priority:
 - (a) an internal control policy defining key authorities, roles and responsibilities for the management of the programme and budget, including financial and staffing issues in line with the Table of Authority and Accountability and Financial Rules;
 - (b) terms of reference for the Oversight Advisory Committee, together with a work plan which takes account of issues raised in document 176 EX/38 and other issues arising from the work of the Internal Oversight Service;
 - (c) measures to strengthen the Organization's commitment to internal oversight so that the Internal Oversight Service can undertake its work effectively;
7. Also invites the Director-General to present an update on these efforts to it at its 177th session;
8. Further invites the Director-General to designate a focal point in an appropriate unit to direct the development of a risk management framework, with the objective of ensuring that a risk management strategy is incorporated into the Organization's planning and monitoring arrangements.

(176 EX/SR.8)

39 Report by the External Auditor on the procedures used to hire consultants for the restructuring of the Education Sector (176 EX/39; 176 EX/INF.12; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 5, and having examined documents 176 EX/39 and 176 EX/INF.12,
2. Expresses its appreciation to the External Auditor for his excellent work, the clear recommendations presented in his report, and his oral presentations;
3. Notes with serious concern the flaws and irregularities that the External Auditor has identified in the procurement process, monitoring of contracts, and procedures used to hire consultants, including the lack of competitive bidding, for the restructuring of the Education Sector;
4. Welcomes the steps taken by the Director-General to implement the External Auditor's recommendations;
5. Recalls that UNESCO's procurement policies and practices should be governed by the principles of ethical behaviour, economy, effectiveness, competition and transparency, and be in keeping with the standards of conduct of the international civil service, as well as with UNESCO's own values;
6. Affirms that even in cases where urgent action may be warranted, the proper procurement procedures must be scrupulously followed in accordance with the financial rules;
7. Urges the Director-General to take further action, taking into account the current practice within the United Nations system, on the External Auditor's recommendations to:
 - (a) strengthen internal control mechanisms with appropriate and rigorous procedures;
 - (b) establish a monitoring mechanism to assist the Comptroller in ensuring compliance with procedures and accountability in that respect, including specific mechanisms to monitor contracts above the designated threshold to ensure compliance with contract procedures;
 - (c) report in appropriate fashion to the Executive Board, when submitting audited financial statements, on waivers granted for contracts submitted to the Contracts Committee;
 - (d) strengthen the role of administrative officers and the Comptroller and clarify their reporting lines and their accountability so as to assure their independence from line management in the discharge of their internal financial control responsibilities;
 - (e) initiate comprehensive training and refresher programmes on UNESCO administrative regulations and procedures relating to contract and procurement processes for all UNESCO staff, in particular for those who are involved in the procurement and contract processes at Headquarters and in the field offices;
8. Encourages the Director-General to monitor closely, and to report as appropriate to the Executive Board on, the coherence and overall effectiveness, including the impact on programme, staff and administration, of the restructuring of the Education Sector;

9. Further encourages the Director-General to continue to undertake the process of developing appropriate disciplinary measures under the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules;
10. Recalls, in this regard, the External Auditor's recommendation that the Organization's system of disciplinary measures be clarified and supplemented, thereby reinforcing the integrity and credibility of the Organization;
11. Requests the Director-General to report to the Executive Board at its 177th session on progress in implementing the External Auditor's recommendations and this decision.

(176 EX/SR.10)

40 Progress report by the Director-General on the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) (176 EX/40; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the decision of the United Nations General Assembly in June 2006 approving the adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) for the United Nations system by 2010 at the latest,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/40,
3. Takes note of the significant amount of work involved in the change to IPSAS over the period 2007 to 2009, and further takes note of the need to make available, within the C/5 document, adequate funds for timely implementation of IPSAS;
4. Notes that under IPSAS, long-term staff benefits will need to be recorded as liabilities;
5. Further notes that this issue is the subject of continuing review by UNESCO in the light of developments within other organizations of the United Nations system;
6. Noting that the preparatory process is already under way within the Organization, recommends that the General Conference, at its 34th session, approve the adoption of IPSAS as the accounting standard of UNESCO from 1 January 2010;
7. Further recommends that the Secretariat examine the Financial Regulations of the Organization with a view to proposing all necessary amendments in order to reflect the adoption of IPSAS, and that such amendments be submitted to the General Conference at its 35th session.

(176 EX/SR.9)

41 Annual report (2006) by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC): report by the Director-General (176 EX/41; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 114 EX/Decision 8.5 and 174 EX/Decision 28,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/41,
3. Takes note of its contents and of General Assembly resolution 61/239;

4. Invites the Director-General to continue to ensure UNESCO's participation in the work of the International Civil Service Commission, and to take due account of the results of its work.

(176 EX/SR.9)

42 Report by the Director-General on the use of consultant and fee contracts by the Secretariat (176 EX/42 and Add.; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 35 and 175 EX/Decision 5,
2. Having examined documents 176 EX/42 and Add.,
3. Takes note of the data and analyses presented in document 176 EX/42, and further recalls the need to achieve a wider geographical distribution in the hiring of consultants, where there is an equal level of competence among consultants and individual contractors;
4. Further takes note of the intention of the Director-General to disseminate information on opportunities for the hiring of consultants and on the criteria and procedures applied in the selection of consultants, and to establish rosters of potential candidates from all regional groups;
5. Requests the Director-General to ensure that proper mechanisms are in place to monitor compliance with rules and regulations on the use of consultant contracts, and that all managers receive training in the application of the policy and rules in force in this respect;
6. Invites the Director-General to submit his next report on the use of consultant and fee contracts to the Executive Board at its 179th session, distinguishing between Headquarters and the field.

(176 EX/SR.9)

43 Progress report by the Director-General on extrabudgetary resources and activities (176 EX/43; 176 EX/INF.9; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 166 EX/Decision 8.7, 33 C/Resolution 92 and 175 EX/Decision 36,
2. Having examined documents 176 EX/43 and 176 EX/INF.9,
3. Takes note of the progress achieved thus far in the further elaboration and implementation of the Director-General's Action Plan on improved management of UNESCO's extrabudgetary activities, including cost recovery;
4. Urges the Director-General to pursue vigorously such further action as may be needed to implement the plan fully, including the further examination on programme support cost rates for already established intergovernmental programmes governed by intergovernmental councils, as well as category 1 institutes, taking into account their status approved by the General Conference;

5. Acknowledges the information and proposals presented by the Director-General with regard to the policies guiding the use, and potential value to the Organization, of self-benefiting funds, given that these are one aspect of extrabudgetary resources;
6. Invites the Director-General to include in the further elaboration of the Action Plan on improved management of UNESCO's extrabudgetary activities clear criteria for the management of self-benefiting funds, taking into account the mandate of UNESCO, its priority objectives, the development priorities of national governments, and the principle of national ownership of development programmes;
7. Encourages the Director-General to enhance cooperation with the other organizations of the United Nations system in combining financial resources to carry out priority activities;
8. Further encourages the Director-General to pursue his active consultations with the relevant United Nations partners, in the context of the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review of the operational activities of the United Nations system, and to continue to participate, as appropriate, in the discussions on the "United Nations system-wide coherence" exercise in order to improve the management and programming of extrabudgetary activities.

(176 EX/SR.9)

44 Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex (176 EX/44; 176 EX/67)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 74, 172 EX/Decision 40 and 175 EX/Decision 38,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/44,
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the progress achieved in managing the UNESCO complex and the implementation of the Belmont Plan;
4. Notes that the current trend in construction costs in France may lead to an increase in such costs relating to the Belmont Plan,
5. Invites the Director-General to identify adequate resources to cover construction cost increases in the host country affecting the implementation of the renovation plan, and to report to it thereon at its 177th session;
6. Also invites the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, to keep it informed of the progress of work on the Miollis/Bonvin site;
7. Further invites the Director-General to explore additional ways to avoid the waste of paper and to promote recycling;
8. Also takes note of the proposals by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on revised rental scales for revenue-generating activities relating to conference rooms, exhibitions and cultural events effective for Permanent Delegations as from January 2008;
9. Also notes that the proposals by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on revised rental scales for offices in the Miollis building will

be submitted to it at its 177th session, to be effective as from January 2008, on the basis of appropriate examination of all technical aspects concerning the expenditure and income relating to the offices of Permanent Delegations in the Miollis building by the Headquarters Committee as requested in 175 EX/Decision 38;

10. Reiterates its request to the Director-General to apply without exception all necessary measures resulting from the contracts for the letting of office space to Permanent Delegations, including the redistribution of those offices to delegations regularly discharging their contractual obligations;
11. Further reiterates the invitation to Member States to make voluntary contributions for the restoration and improvement of Headquarters;
12. Requests that, in accordance with 33 C/Resolution 78, an item on the management of UNESCO Headquarters be inscribed on the agenda of the 34th session of the General Conference.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling that UNESCO became a non-smoking organization on 1 June 1995,
2. Mindful of the responsibility of the Organization to provide a healthy workplace unpoluted by tobacco smoke to all those working in UNESCO premises,
3. Requests the Director-General to take all necessary measures within the shortest delay possible to extend to all UNESCO premises a ban on tobacco smoking.

(176 EX/SR.9)

RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES AND INTERNATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

45 Relations with non-governmental organizations, foundations and similar institutions (176 EX/45; 176 EX/65)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 31 and 175 EX/Decision 40,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/45,
3. Welcomes the continued efforts made by the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) to further stimulate a better dialogue and improve interaction among Member States, NGOs and the Secretariat;
4. Stresses the importance of cooperation with NGOs at the international, regional and national levels, and the need to reinforce triangular cooperation between the Secretariat, at Headquarters and in the field, National Commissions and NGOs, and to improve communication and the dissemination of information among the various partners in order to ensure better mutual understanding and enhanced results in attaining UNESCO's overarching objectives;
5. Requests the NGO Committee to continue constructive dialogue among the different partners in order to attain these essential goals;

6. Decides to grant to the NGO Committee an additional working day at its 177th session;
7. Further decides to admit to formal consultative relations the World Fellowship of Buddhists;
8. Takes note of the Director-General's decision to admit five organizations to operational relations: International Association of Art (IAA), International Consortium of Landslides (ICL), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), and Yachay Wasi ("House of Learning" in Quechua).

(176 EX/SR.8)

46 Sexennial report of the Executive Board to the General Conference on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (2001-2006)
(176 EX/46; 176 EX/INF.6; 176 EX/65)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 176 EX/46,
2. Recommends that the General Conference adopt the following resolution:

The General Conference,

Having examined the sexennial report submitted to it by the Executive Board on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by non-governmental organizations from 2001 to 2006, in pursuance of Section V.3 of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted in 1995 at its 28th session (28 C/ Resolution 13.42),

Considering that the participation of non-governmental organizations in UNESCO's action is a crucial element in the achievement of the Organization's missions and goals,

Recalling that such cooperation is based on Article XI of the Constitution of the Organization and is governed by the above-mentioned Directives, which constitute the framework for its implementation,

1. *Thanks* the National Commissions, the non-governmental organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO, the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, and all Secretariat units at Headquarters and in the field, which have contributed widely to this evaluation and reflection exercise;
2. *Reaffirms* the basic goals of the Directives, in particular the revitalization and diversification of partners and the strengthening of cooperation to benefit developing countries and countries in transition;
3. *Stresses* the importance of the development of strategic partnerships with non-governmental organizations in order to take up the many challenges facing the Organization in a changing world;
4. *Recognizes* the need to develop a genuine partnership culture as a process aimed at improving the efficiency of UNESCO's action, having regard to both the definition of policies and the operational implementation of projects, and involving all the parties concerned, in particular the non-governmental organizations with which the Organization maintains special ties;

5. *Adopts* the following recommendations:

(1) Recommendations to the Secretariat

(a) Promoting a partnership culture at the highest level:

- (i) include the partnership culture as one of UNESCO's main lines of action in the C/4 and C/5 documents;
- (ii) wherever possible, organize meetings or events involving representatives of NGOs maintaining official relations when the Director-General or Assistant Directors-General make official visits to Member States;

(b) Ensuring coherence with the United Nations system:

as part of the ongoing reform within the United Nations system (in particular the recommendations in the "Delivering as One" report), ensure the sustainability of the cooperation system established with civil society representatives, and keep the latter informed about developments concerning them;

(c) Keeping cooperation partners informed:

- (i) prepare and disseminate to all partners a practical handbook on cooperation and a complete list of NGOs maintaining official relations with UNESCO for the information of the various partners: National Commissions, NGOs, and Secretariat at Headquarters and in field offices;
- (ii) improve the functionalities of the NGO database and develop the existing Internet interface in order to identify members or branches of international NGOs maintaining official relations with UNESCO and active at the national and/or regional levels;
- (iii) develop transparent mechanisms for informing NGOs about the programme sectors' cooperation requirements;

(d) Managing working relations:

apply the provisions of the Directives concerning operational relations in the selection of NGOs and in the management of all regular relations with them; the Section for Non-Governmental Organizations should be kept informed systematically so that the database may be updated in real time, and the Executive Board informed in due course;

(e) Evaluating cooperation and improving its visibility:

- (i) in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Directives and other documents of the governing bodies, ensure a regular evaluation based on the results of the activities carried out in cooperation with NGOs, especially when such cooperation has financial implications;
- (ii) disseminate the lessons learned from the partnerships that have been undertaken, in particular through information and communication technology tools;

- (iii) systematically include in the reports of meetings and in the reports to the governing bodies the contributions of NGOs to the formulation and implementation of the programme;
- (f) *National and regional cooperation*
- (i) widely disseminate the Guidelines for Interface and Cooperation between UNESCO Field Offices and National Commissions for UNESCO, *inter alia*, to international NGOs and their national members, and devise arrangements for undertaking partnerships with civil society;
 - (ii) assign focal points in UNESCO field offices for partnerships with civil society;
 - (iii) entrust the field offices, in cooperation with the National Commissions and the Section for Non-Governmental Organizations, with producing an inventory of NGOs with expertise that may be useful for the Organization's activities at the national and/or regional levels and incorporate this information in the database in order to facilitate their admission to official relations;
 - (iv) promote NGO consultations at the national, subregional and regional levels, *inter alia* on the margins of the Director-General's biennial consultations on the C/4 and C/5 documents;
 - (v) build the capacities of national and regional NGOs from developing countries with a view to facilitating their full participation in UNESCO's activities, taking as the main inspiration the experiments carried out under the Education for All (EFA) programme;
- (g) *Collective consultations on specific subjects*
- extend collective thematic consultations to other sectors by drawing not only on the best practices of the consultations on education for all and on higher education, but also on the consultative mechanisms to be found at other intergovernmental organizations;
- (h) *The Director-General's consultations on the C/4 and C/5 documents*
- in cooperation with the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, adapt the consultation documents for NGOs, *inter alia* by simplifying them and paying particular attention to the goals of those consultations;
- (i) *Joint programmatic commissions*
- increase the involvement of the programme sectors in the functioning of the joint programmatic commissions.
- (j) *Financial management tools and funding arrangements*
- (i) improve the use of computerized management systems to facilitate inclusion in the sexennial report of an accurate and comprehensive evaluation of the various contracts concluded with NGOs;
 - (ii) submit for adoption by the Executive Board at its 179th session a revised version of the financial and material arrangements for

cooperation with NGOs (154 EX/Decision 7.3), taking into account the evaluation carried out in connection with the sexennial report and its recommendations.

(k) *NGO focal points and the Section for Non-Governmental Organizations:*

strengthen the role and the resources of the NGO focal points in the programme sectors, and those of the Section for Non-Governmental Organizations and the Sector for External Relations and Cooperation, in order to improve and facilitate the effective implementation of the Directives;

(2) Recommendations to NGOs

(a) *Enabling more effective involvement of the NGO community maintaining official relations with UNESCO in the formulation of the Organization's programme*

(i) taking into account the existing consultative mechanisms, bring the dates of relevant NGO meetings, including that of the International Conference of NGOs, into line with UNESCO's programming cycle, so as to facilitate the transmission of the collective recommendations by NGOs to the Secretariat when drawing up the Draft Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and the Draft Programme and Budget (C/5);

(ii) at the same time, envisage the introduction of appropriate information procedures in order to increase the rate of response to the Director-General's consultations;

(b) *Strengthening the role of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee*

(i) use modern technologies to improve the exchange of information and communication with all NGOs maintaining official relations with UNESCO;

(ii) make better use of the expertise and the resources of the community of NGOs maintaining official relations with UNESCO, not only for technical reasons, but also in order to foster greater openness towards NGOs without representatives in France, including by appointing regional focal points;

(c) *Functioning of the joint programmatic commissions*

(i) organize a working cycle that tallies with UNESCO's biennial programming with regard to planning, follow-up and evaluation;

(ii) strengthen the link with the programme sectors;

(iii) explore all possibilities of ensuring greater openness towards NGOs without representatives in Paris, for example through the use of electronic tools;

(d) *Participating in the International Conference of NGOs*

identify and obtain, with the support of the UNESCO Secretariat, the resources needed to fund the participation in the International Conference

of NGOs by NGOs without representatives in Paris, especially regional NGOs;

(e) *Participation Programme*

- (i) systematically send to the National Commissions that have lent NGOs their support the outcome of their requests and the reports concerning the implementation of their projects;
- (ii) urge NGOs, in particular those already receiving financial support under a framework agreement, to give priority in their requests to projects in aid of developing countries and/or disadvantaged populations;

(3) Recommendations to the Member States

(a) *Role of the National Commissions*

- (i) play to the full their role as catalysts for cooperation at the national level and as UNESCO focal points for the purposes of reaching and mobilizing national civil society;
- (ii) encourage the designation of focal points for partnerships with civil society at the interministerial level;
- (iii) in cooperation with the field offices, compile an inventory of NGOs with expertise useful to the Organization's activities at the national level;

(b) *United Nations reform*

actively promote the partnership culture when implementing the United Nations reform in the field, as recommended by the "Delivering as One" report;

(4) Recommendations to the Executive Board

- (i) continue to revitalize the Executive Board's Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations, at the Board's two annual sessions, by opening up to NGO representatives the Committee's round tables and the thematic forums it holds with the Member States and the Secretariat;
- (ii) in order to devote more time to these debates, apply Section VI.1 of the Directives, according to which "The Executive Board shall rule once a year on matters within its mandate relating to the establishment of relations between UNESCO and non-governmental organizations" and agree that the ruling shall be made at the spring session; the Secretariat shall provide the relevant documents on time;

6. *Decides* to amend the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations as follows:

Section I – Formal relations

6. Modification, termination and suspension of relations

6.1 Where the Director-General considers that circumstances make it necessary to move an organization from one type of relations to another, he shall refer the matter to the Executive Board for a decision. (*Remainder of the paragraph unchanged.*)

Section II – Operational relations

4. Advantages

(...)

4.1(b) in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 14, of the Constitution, the Executive Board may invite them to be represented as observers at specified plenary meetings of the General Conference and meetings of its commissions. (*Remainder of the paragraph unchanged.*)

(...)

4.1(d) they may be invited to participate ~~as observers~~ in various collective consultations of NGOs organized by UNESCO in connection with the implementation of its programme;

(...)

4.1(f) they shall be invited to ~~send observers~~ be represented at the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organizations provided for in Section III, Article 1, below. (*Remainder of the paragraph unchanged.*)

Section IV – Financial and material arrangements for cooperation

3. Forms of contribution

3.1 The various forms of financial contribution shall comprise (i) the awarding of various types of contract (contracts for the implementation of framework agreements; other contracts for the implementation of UNESCO's regular programmes; ~~contracts under the special programme of support to non-governmental entities for activities in developing countries~~); and (ii) contributions under the Participation Programme; ~~and (iii) subventions~~;

Section VI – Requests for the establishment or modification of relations

(...)

3. Requests for the establishment or modification of formal relations shall be submitted no later than 30 September of each year.

(176 EX/SR.8)

47 Proposals by Member States for the celebration of anniversaries in 2008-2009 with which UNESCO could be associated (176 EX/47 and Rev. (Spanish only) and Corr. (French and Russian only); 176 EX/66 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 176 EX/47,
2. Noting that the proposals sent by Member States to the Director-General listed below comply with the criteria adopted in 159 EX/Decision 7.5,
3. Encourages the Member States of all regions to make proposals with a view to ensuring an improved geographical distribution and gender balance;
4. Recommends to the General Conference:
 - (a) that UNESCO should be associated in 2008-2009 with the following celebrations:
 - (i) 150th anniversary of active life of Sayyed Jamal-ud-Din Afghani, philosopher (1858) (Afghanistan)
 - (ii) 850th anniversary of the death of Abu-I-Majd Majdud Sana'i of Ghazna, poet and philosopher (circa 1080-1158) (Afghanistan)
 - (iii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Atahualpa Yupanqui, music composer (1908-1992) (Argentina)
 - (iv) 200th anniversary of the death of Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) (Austria)
 - (v) 100th anniversary of Musa Aliyev, geologist (1908-1985) (Azerbaijan)
 - (vi) 100th anniversary of the birth of Mir Jalal Pashayev, writer (1908-1978) (Azerbaijan)
 - (vii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Mikayil Mushfig, poet (1908-1939) (Azerbaijan)
 - (viii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Ebrahim al-Arrayed, poet (1908-2002) (Bahrain)
 - (ix) 600th anniversary of the Belovezhskaya Pushcha/Białowieża Forest Reserve (Belarus)
 - (x) 200th anniversary of the birth of Vincent Dunin-Martsinkevich, poet, playwright and actor (1808-1884) (Belarus)
 - (xi) 100th anniversary of the birth of Nikola Vaptsarov, poet (1909-1942) (Bulgaria)
 - (xii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Lubomir Krastanov, scientist (1908-1977) (Bulgaria)
 - (xiii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Rostislav Kaishev, scientist and linguist (1908-2002) (Bulgaria)
 - (xiv) 50th anniversary of the intellectual career of professor Joseph Ki-Zerbo (1922-2006) (Burkina Faso)

- (xv) 50th anniversary of the intellectual career of Georges Niangoran-Bouah, ethnosociologist/anthropologist (1935-2002) (Côte d'Ivoire)
- (xvi) 500th anniversary of the birth of Marin Držić, playwright and lyricist (1508-1567) (Croatia)
- (xvii) 500th anniversary of the death of Ivan Duknović (Iohannes Dalmata), sculptor and architect (1440-1509) (Croatia)
- (xviii) 100th anniversary of the creation of National Library José Martí's magazine (1909) (Cuba)
- (xix) 50th anniversary of the death of Bohuslav Martinů, composer (1890-1959) (Czech Republic)
- (xx) 400th anniversary of the death of Jehuda Löw ben Bezalel, writer and philosopher (1520(1512?)-1609) (Czech Republic)
- (xxi) 100th anniversary of the death of Josef Hlávka, architect (1831-1908) (Czech Republic supported by Austria)
- (xxii) 1000th anniversary of the foundation of the Harar Jugol – the Fortified Historic Town – and the celebration of Ethiopian Millennium (Ethiopia)
- (xxiii) 100th anniversary of the death of d'Henri Becquerel, physicist (1908) (France)
- (xxiv) 100th anniversary of the birth of Olivier Messiaen, composer (1908) (France)
- (xxv) 200th anniversary of the birth of Louis Braille, professor (1809) (France)
- (xxvi) 150th anniversary of the birth of Emile Durkheim, sociologist (1858) (France)
- (xxvii) 250th anniversary of the birth of Friedrich Schiller, poet (1759-1805) (Germany)
- (xxviii) 150th anniversary of the death of Bettina von Arnim, writer (1785-1859) (Germany)
- (xxix) 150th anniversary of the birth of Max Planck, physicist (1858-1947) (Germany)
- (xxx) 950th anniversary of the birth of Imam Mohammad Ghazali, philosopher (1058-1111) (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- (xxxi) 150th anniversary of the birth of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, linguist (1858-1922) (Israel)
- (xxxii) 400th anniversary of the birth of Evangelista Torricelli, scientist (1608-1647) (Italy)
- (xxxiii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Cesare Pavese, writer (1908-1950) (Italy)

- (xxxiv) 500th anniversary of the birth of Andrea Palladio, architect (1508-1580) (Italy)
- (xxxv) 400th anniversary of Galileo's Discoveries (1609) (Italy)
- (xxxvi) 50th anniversary of Al Arabi Magazine (1958) (Kuwait)
- (xxxvii) 100th anniversary of the foundation of King's College, Lagos (1909) (Nigeria)
- (xxxviii) 400th anniversary of the publication of the *Royal Commentaries of the Incas* by Garcilaso de la Vega (1609) (Peru)
- (xxxix) 100th anniversary of the creation of the University of the Philippines (Philippines)
- (xl) 200th anniversary of the birth of the Orthodox Archbishop Andrei Şaguna (1808-1873) (Romania)
- (xli) 100th anniversary of the birth of Eugène Ionesco, dramatist and writer (1908-1994) (Romania)
- (xlii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Şerban Țițeica, physicist and educationalist (1908-1986) (Romania)
- (xliii) 200th anniversary of the birth of N.V. Gogol, writer (1809-1852) (Russian Federation and Ukraine)
- (xliv) 100th anniversary of the birth of Lev D. Landau, physicist (1908-1968) (Russian Federation and Ukraine)
- (xlv) 1150th anniversary of the foundation of the City of Veliky Novgorod (Russian Federation)
- (xlvi) 100th anniversary of the birth of Ljubica Marić, composer (1909-2003) (Serbia)
- (xlvii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Margita Figuli, writer (1909-1995) (Slovakia)
- (xlviii) 100th anniversary of the birth of Eugen Suchoň, music composer (1908-1993) (Slovakia)
- (xlix) 500th anniversary of the birth of Primož Trubar, ecclesiastic and writer (1508-1586) (Slovenia)
- (l) 1150th anniversary of the birth of Abu Abdullah Rudaki, poet (858-941) (Tajikistan with the support of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Kazakhstan)
- (li) 100th anniversary of the birth of Maria Primachenko, painter (1909-1997) (Ukraine)
- (lii) 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, poet (1759-1796) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
- (liii) 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin, naturalist (1809-1882) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

- (iv) 400th anniversary of the birth of John Milton, poet (1608-1674) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
 - (iv) 2200th anniversary of the foundation of the city of Toshkent (Uzbekistan)
- (b) that any contribution by the Organization to these celebrations will be financed under the Participation Programme, in accordance with the rules governing that programme;
- (c) that proposals for anniversaries of eminent personalities, nominated posthumously only, and events with which Member States would like to associate UNESCO shall normally be limited to four per Member State for each biennium, and that the selection criteria and procedures for consideration of the proposals concerning the celebration of anniversaries adopted by the Executive Board at its 154th and 159th sessions and amended at its 166th session be amended accordingly, with effect from the next biennium, with paragraph II(c) of the approved text contained in paragraph 9 of document 159 EX/32 reading as follows:

“the anniversary should concern personalities of genuinely universal stature, nominated posthumously only, and works or events of genuinely worldwide or at least regional significance in order to reflect the ideals, the values, the cultural diversity and the universality of the Organization.”

Furthermore, paragraph III A(c) of that same text shall be amended to read as follows:

“The intersectoral committee shall ensure, insofar as possible, a geographical balance when it draws up the list so that anniversaries from every region are included. Thus, to improve the distribution of celebrations among the various regions and the selection of proposals submitted, the proposals for anniversaries shall normally be limited to four per Member State for each biennium.”

(176 EX/SR.10)

48 Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) of interest to UNESCO, and the status of implementation of approved/accepted recommendations contained in JIU reports (176 EX/48; 176 EX/68)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 169 EX/Decision 7.2 and 174 EX/Decision 33,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/48 containing the comments by the Director-General and the status of implementation of recommendations contained in previous Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) reports,
3. Thanks the Joint Inspection Unit for its reports JIU/REPORT/2005/8 “Further measures to strengthen United Nations system support to the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)”, JIU/REPORT/2006/2 “Oversight lacunae in the United Nations system”, JIU/REPORT/2006/4 “A second review of the implementation of Headquarters agreements concluded by United Nations system organizations: provision of Headquarters premises and other facilities by host countries”, and JIU/REPORT/2006/5 and Corr.1 “Towards a United Nations humanitarian assistance programme for disaster response and reduction: lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster”;

4. Requests the Director-General to ensure follow-up to the implementation of approved/accepted recommendations contained in JIU reports, and to report to it at its 179th session on the status of implementation of those recommendations.

(176 EX/SR.8)

GENERAL MATTERS

49 Implementation of 33 C/Resolution 70 and 175 EX/Decision 47 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories (176 EX/49 and Add.; 176 EX/66 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 70 and 175 EX/Decision 47, as well as Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with regard to the right to education, Articles 4 and 94 of the Fourth Geneva Convention with regard to the denial of the right of children to education, as well as the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972) and the Hague Convention (1954) and its Additional Protocols,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/49 and its Addendum,
3. Further recalling the role that UNESCO is called upon to play in order to satisfy the right to education for all, and to meet the need for Palestinians to have safe access to the education system,
4. Recalling paragraph 31 of the Medium-Term Strategy (31 C/4 Approved), defining a “road map for a revitalized UNESCO: principles of action and programming”, and paragraph 12 of 31 C/Resolution 43,
5. Committed to the safeguarding of monuments, works of art, manuscripts, books and other historical and cultural properties to be protected in the event of conflicts,
6. Deeply convinced that the continuous strengthening of the reconstruction and development process in the Palestinian Territories should be carried out in a context of non-violence and of mutual respect and recognition, as promoted by the objectives of the road map,
7. Supports the efforts made by the Director-General with a view to the implementation of 33 C/Resolution 70 and 175 EX/Decision 47, and requests him to do everything possible to ensure that they are fully implemented in the framework of the Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5 Approved);
8. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of all concerned Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to UNESCO's action in the Palestinian Territories, and appeals to them to continue assisting UNESCO in this endeavour;
9. Thanks the Director-General for the results that have been obtained in relation to the implementation of a number of current educational and cultural activities, and invites him to strengthen UNESCO's financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian educational and cultural institutions in order to address new needs and problems resulting from recent developments;

10. Expresses its continuing concern at any actions undermining the cultural and natural heritage, and cultural and educational institutions, as well as at any impediments which prevent Palestinian and all other schoolchildren and students from being an integral part of their social fabric and from exercising fully their right to education, and calls for the observance of the provisions of 33 C/Resolution 70 and 175 EX/Decision 47;
11. Encourages the Director-General to continue to reinforce his action in favour of the reconstruction, rehabilitation and restoration of the Palestinian archaeological sites and cultural heritage;
12. Invites the Director-General to address the needs for capacity-building in all UNESCO's fields of competence by expanding the financial assistance programme for Palestinian students both from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources, and thanks Saudi Arabia for its generous contribution in this regard;
13. Requests the Director-General to follow closely the implementation of the recommendations of the seventh joint meeting of the UNESCO Secretariat and the Palestinian National Committee for UNESCO (1-2 September 2005), especially in Gaza, and to organize, as soon as possible, the eighth joint meeting of the UNESCO Secretariat and the Palestinian National Committee for UNESCO;
14. Encourages the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, and expresses the hope that the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations will be resumed, and that a just and comprehensive peace will be brought about speedily, in accordance with UNESCO's Constitution and the United Nations resolutions on this matter, particularly the relevant Security Council resolutions;
15. Also invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts he is making to preserve the human, social and cultural fabric of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of this decision;
 - (b) to undertake efforts to offer appropriate curricula, and to provide more grants and adequate assistance to the educational and cultural institutions of the occupied Syrian Golan;
16. Decides to include this item in the agenda of the Executive Board at its 177th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(176 EX/SR.10)

50 Report by the Director-General on UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (176 EX/50; 176 EX/66 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 54,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/50,
3. Emphasizing the need to reinforce UNESCO's contribution to Lebanon's reconstruction, in the context of the five-year plan entitled "Recovery, Reconstruction and Reform" presented by the Government of Lebanon to the International Donor Conference for Lebanon's Reconstruction (Paris III Conference) in January 2007,
4. Recalling the responsibility of UNESCO, within the integrated United Nations response, in the fields of education, culture, science and communication, and more particularly its

role in the protection and preservation of Lebanese cultural heritage, as well as in the promotion of education for all throughout Lebanon,

5. Notes with satisfaction the results achieved by UNESCO in contributing to early recovery efforts led by the Government of Lebanon;
6. Requests the Director-General to strengthen support to the Lebanese Government in the formulation and implementation of programmes within UNESCO's fields of competence, in the context of the reconstruction process;
7. Thanks Member States, intergovernmental organizations and foundations for their contributions to UNESCO action in favour of the Lebanese people;
8. Appeals to all donors to continue to assist UNESCO in its efforts to foster reconstruction and development in Lebanon;
9. Invites the Director-General to submit a report to it at its 177th session on the progress made in UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon.

(176 EX/SR.10)

51 Provisional list of matters to be considered by the Executive Board at its 177th session (176 EX/INF.8)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 176 EX/INF.8,
2. Takes note of its contents.

(176 EX/SR.8)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

52 Presentation of the World Forum on Education, Research and Innovation: New Partnership for Sustainable Development, Trieste, Italy, 10-12 May 2007 (176 EX/52; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered documents 176 EX/52 and 176 EX/INF.16,
2. Takes note of their contents.

(176 EX/SR.10)

53 Report by the Executive Board to the General Conference on the implementation of document 33 C/5 together with the results achieved in the previous biennium (34 C/3) (176 EX/53; 176 EX/68)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 78 and 174 EX/Decision 3,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/53,

3. Fully aware of the linkages between 33 C/Resolution 92, Recommendation 13, and 33 C/Resolution 78,
4. Having taken due note of the oral report by the Chairperson of the Special Committee,
5. Agrees that a draft of the report by the Executive Board to the General Conference on the implementation of document 33 C/5, together with the results achieved in the previous biennium (34 C/3), should be prepared for consideration at the 177th session of the Executive Board;
6. Considers that the report should be drafted in line with the decision taken on the follow up to 33 C/Resolution 92, paragraph 5, concerning relations between the three organs of UNESCO (176 EX/Decision 29),
7. Requests the Chairperson of the Executive Board to take the measures required to achieve this endeavour, through appropriate consultations;
8. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the appropriate support be given by the Secretariat to successfully complete this undertaking.

(176 EX/SR.8)

54 Regular budget contribution by UNESCO to the International Bureau of Education (IBE) for 2008-2009 (176 EX/54; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 of the General Conference reaffirming the need for UNESCO to consolidate its support to the UNESCO institutes,
2. Further recalling the commitments and principles of multilateralism enshrined in the UNESCO Constitution,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/54,
4. Noting that regular budgetary contributions have the objective of maintaining the core activities of the International Bureau of Education (IBE) in the spirit of multilateralism,
5. Further noting that the programmes of the International Bureau of Education are presently funded, in their entirety, by extrabudgetary and voluntary contributions,
6. Conscious of the need to maintain the autonomy and excellence of the UNESCO institutes, including the International Bureau of Education,
7. Further conscious of the need for the Director of the International Bureau of Education to perform core functions of the Bureau in accordance with its mandate and the needs and priorities established by the Member States,
8. Aware that the International Bureau of Education has been tasked with the organization of the International Conference on Education (ICE) in 2008, and that additional contributions from the regular programme and budget of UNESCO will be required for the successful discharge of this responsibility,
9. Reiterating the need to respect the principles of equality and proportionality in any future allocation of funds to UNESCO institutes,
10. Calling upon Member States to maintain, and if possible increase, their generous voluntary contributions,

11. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the International Bureau of Education, in the 2008-2009 biennium, receives its full share of available resources from the regular budget of the Organization, taking into account priorities in the Education Sector, to enable it to meet its agreed objectives.

(176 EX/SR.10)

55 Proposal for the establishment of a lifelong learning centre for sustainable development in South-East Asia as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/55; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part I; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the education for all (EFA) goals set in Dakar in 2000 and the Millennium Development Goals concerning education to be attained by 2015,
2. Further recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 57/254, adopted in December 2002, declaring 2005-2014 the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/55 and its annexes,
4. Takes note of the important opportunities for cooperation between UNESCO and the regional centre proposed in that document, as well as existing mechanisms in the South-East Asia region, particularly with a view to promoting quality education for all towards sustainable development;
5. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Philippines to establish a lifelong learning centre for sustainable development in South-East Asia, and place it under the auspices of UNESCO, in line with existing principles and guidelines (33 C/Resolution 90) and the proposed strategy for this category of institutes and centres;
6. Requests the Director-General to prepare a feasibility study on this proposal for submission to it at its 180th session at the very latest.

(176 EX/SR.10)

56 Implementation by UNESCO of the decisions taken by the African Union Summit on Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development, held in Addis Ababa in January 2007 (176 EX/56 and Add. & Corr.; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the commitment by UNESCO to assist the African continent in achieving sustainable development in all its forms,
2. Recognizing the role of UNESCO in promoting science, technology and scientific research,
3. Further recognizing the importance of science, technology and scientific research in Africa,
4. Having examined documents 176 EX/56 and Add. & Corr.,
5. Appreciating the importance of effective teaching of the basic sciences in the mother tongue for the promotion of scientific research, innovation and technological development, as well as the role of language institutes and academies in this regard,

6. Underscoring the critical role of local languages in the popularization of science and technology, the integration of indigenous knowledge into teaching and research in science and technology, and the promotion of scientific culture,
7. Referring to UNESCO cooperation with African regional and subregional organizations as outlined in document 175 EX/39, paragraph 14(d),
8. Recalling the decision of the African Heads of State and Government on the report of the Extraordinary Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology reproduced in Annex I of document 176 EX/56,
9. Further recalling the Addis Ababa Summit and the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union on Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development reproduced in Annex II of document 176 EX/56,
10. Taking note of the call by the African Union for UNESCO to support the African Union and Member States to implement the Addis Ababa Summit's decision on science and technology,
11. Requests the Director-General to finalize a plan of action, including specific programmes and activities foreseen in draft documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5, on how UNESCO is to participate in the implementation of the African Union Heads of State and Government Summit's decision and Declaration, to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 177th session and subsequently to the General Conference at its 34th session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

57 Ibero-American regional centre for dance, music, performing arts and audiovisual communication, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (176 EX/57 and Corr.; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90,
2. Having examined document 176 EX/57 and Corr.,
3. Welcomes with interest the proposal of the Governments of the Dominican Republic and Spain to establish an Ibero-American regional centre for dance, music, performing arts and audiovisual communication in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic;
4. Invites the Director-General, in cooperation with both governments, to submit to it at its 177th session, a viability study on this proposal, with a view to examining the possibility of placing this centre under the auspices of UNESCO as a category 2 centre.

(176 EX/SR.10)

58 Use of languages in intergovernmental meetings at UNESCO (176 EX/58; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Reaffirming the role of UNESCO as a political forum for dialogue and debate, which fosters "the free exchange of ideas and knowledge" in order that the peoples of the world may reach "mutual understanding and a truer and more perfect knowledge of each other's lives",

2. Recalling the mandate of the Executive Board, as enshrined in the Constitution of UNESCO, whereby it is responsible for the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/58,
4. Taking into consideration 33 C/Resolution 91 of the General Conference, which states that the working languages at intergovernmental meetings other than international conferences of States shall be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish,
5. Reaffirming that any measure that may be adopted in favour of the use of the six working languages of UNESCO is decisive in ensuring the smooth flow of communication between representatives of Member States,
6. Aware that although there are financial challenges in guaranteeing the use of the six working languages of the Organization, they are an indispensable tool in ensuring the fruitful exchange of knowledge and experience among Member States,
7. Taking note of Decision 1 COM.2 of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, by which it adopted its Rules of Procedure, Rule 41 of which stipulates that the working languages of the Committee shall be English and French,
8. Taking into account the fact that meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage are representative and convened under the auspices of UNESCO, pursuant to binding legal instruments,
9. Recognizing that the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage is governed by its own regulations,
10. Encourages the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage to work in the spirit of 33 C/Resolution 91, and to consider amending paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Rule 41 of its Rules of Procedure in order to include therein the six working languages of the Organization.

(176 EX/SR.10)

59 Preparation of a convention for the protection of indigenous and endangered languages (176 EX/59; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 176 EX/59,
2. Considering that indigenous and vernacular languages as a whole are increasingly affected by the adverse consequences of globalization,
3. Expressing concern at the continuous displacement and extinction that often threaten many languages, year after year, throughout the world,
4. Stressing that indigenous and vernacular languages are vehicles of peoples' cultural identity and ancestral knowledge, and constitute a vast irreplaceable heritage,
5. Further stressing that whenever there is a veiled threat of displacement or extinction of the linguistic and cultural heritage, indigenous communities and peoples which are the bearers of such heritage, at various levels, have responded actively and have voiced

their protests in international fora with strong statements in support of their cultural and linguistic heritage with a view to its perpetuation,

6. Recalling that the Organization, in fulfilling its basic purpose of protecting creativity and cultural diversity throughout the world, has undertaken to promote linguistic diversity and multilingualism through international standard-setting instruments such as the 2001 UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, and the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and by implementing an intersectoral strategy for the programmatic integration of indigenous languages into the Organization's five sectors,
7. Considering that the political will of States and the implementation of regional initiatives to safeguard and revitalize languages and promote multilingualism may not suffice at the world level to guarantee the preservation and intergenerational transmission of indigenous and vernacular languages,
8. Requests the Director-General to conduct a preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of a possible international standard-setting instrument for the protection of indigenous and endangered languages, including a study of the outcomes of the programmes implemented by UNESCO relating to this issue, and to submit such a preliminary study to the Executive Board for examination at its 179th session;
9. Invites the Director-General to convene a meeting of experts, including representatives of indigenous peoples, to assist him in the preparation of such a preliminary study, and to seek extrabudgetary funding for it.

(176 EX/SR.10)

60 Intercultural dialogue between Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (176 EX/60 and Rev. (Arabic only); 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the debate on the need to strengthen intercultural dialogue between Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean in Commission IV (Culture) at the 33rd session of the General Conference of UNESCO,
2. Considering that the pursuit of and follow-up to this rapprochement between Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean will serve to highlight the African roots of the cultures of the countries of the region, enhance the sociocultural contribution of Africa to the "New World", and pinpoint the mutual influences between Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean throughout history; furthermore, this will promote respect for cultural diversity, in that while strengthening the bonds of identity, it will also place this shared history in a positive light and open doors or build bridges to facilitate mutual understanding and pluralism between regions, countries with shared borders and/or within a single society, leading to the development of intercultural policies (interculturality) in support of peace and respect for difference in a globalized world,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/60,
4. Requests the Director-General to use elements within the existing budget to develop a prioritized proposal on South-South cooperation in the field of culture to be submitted to the General Conference at its 34th session;

5. Invites the Director-General to report to it on developments concerning this matter no later than at its 179th session.

(176 EX/SR.10)

61 Strengthening of UNESCO's ethical mission (176 EX/61 Rev., Rev.2 (English, Chinese and Russian only) and Rev. 3 (Arabic only); 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind that since the debates held at the 31st session of the General Conference in 2001 and the 33rd session of the General Conference in 2005, UNESCO's ethical function as a United Nations organization and its principal objective of promoting ethics in all its fields of competence have been under discussion,
2. Underlining the ethical function of UNESCO, especially in an era of globalization,
3. Having examined document 176 EX/61 Rev.2,
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to ensure that UNESCO directs its efforts towards the promotion of ethical standards and the production of the necessary knowledge to cope with the related challenges, and facilitates the dissemination of such knowledge worldwide (175 EX/22);
5. Takes note with interest of the proposal to include in the Draft Medium-Term Strategy (34 C/4) an overarching objective entitled "Addressing emerging ethical challenges", and underlines the need to indicate in document 34 C/5 that the appropriate measures envisaged under the Major Programmes concerned should be within the approved budget ceiling;
6. Also invites the Director-General to seek extrabudgetary contributions in order to carry out regional activities and then to expand them through national activities, thereby ensuring intellectual debate regionally and nationally in order to give practical effect to the results;
7. Further invites the Director-General to report on the implementation of this decision, including expected costs and results of activities, at its 179th session;
8. Recommends that the General Conference take this decision into account.

(176 EX/SR.10)

62 Proposal for the establishment in China of a world heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region (category 2), under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/62; 176 EX/INF.16; 176 EX/66 Part II; 176 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article 5(e) of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which calls on each State Party to foster the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage, and to encourage scientific research in this field,
2. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of China for the establishment of a world heritage training and research institute in China for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO,

3. Having examined document 176 EX/62,
4. Mindful of the importance of international and regional cooperation for the conservation of the world cultural and natural heritage in the Asia and the Pacific region,
5. Considering that the establishment of the institute might better facilitate capacity-building and research programmes among countries in the region,
6. Requests the Director-General to carry out a feasibility study on the proposed category 2 institute in line with the criteria for category 2 institutes adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session, and to present the results of such a feasibility study to the Executive Board at its 177th session for consideration.

(176 EX/SR.10)

PRIVATE MEETINGS

Announcements concerning the private meetings held on Thursday 19 April and Wednesday 25 April 2007

At the private meetings held on the following dates, the Executive Board considered the following items: Thursday 19 April – item **3**; Wednesday 25 April 2007 – item **31**.

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (176 EX/PRIV.1)

In accordance with Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General informed the Board of the decisions taken since the 175th session regarding the appointments and extensions of contracts of staff members at grade D-1 and above whose posts come under the regular programme of the Organization. He also evoked some adjustments which could be brought to the structure of the Secretariat in order to increase its efficiency and rationalize its work.

31 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon

1. The Executive Board examined the report of its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations concerning the communications received by the Organization on the subject of cases and questions of alleged violations of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence<
2. The Executive Board, having taken note of the Committee's report, endorsed the wishes expressed therein.

(176 EX/SR.6; 176 EX/SR.7)

SPECIAL PLENARY MEETING

(Monday 16 April, Tuesday 17 April and Wednesday 18 April 2007)

176 EX/Special plenary meeting/Decision

Israeli archaeological excavations at the Mughrabi ascent in the Old City of Jerusalem
(176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/1; 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/INF.1; 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/INF.2)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem at the request of Jordan on the World Heritage List (1981) and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1982), the relevant resolutions, decisions and recommendations of UNESCO, paragraph 6 of Decision 30 COM 7A.34 of the World Heritage Committee, and other conventions as appropriate,
2. Having examined the report of the technical mission sent by the Director-General from 28 February to 2 March 2007 “to study the reconstruction work and archaeological excavation at the Mughrabi ascent”,
3. Reaffirms the outstanding universal value of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem and the importance of its protection and safeguarding for the collective memory of people from different religions and cultural backgrounds, especially the peoples of the region, having regard to their history and civilization;
4. Encourages the Israeli authorities to provide the necessary details regarding the final design of the Mughrabi ascent, and affirms that the principal aim of the said design should be to maintain the authenticity and integrity of the site;
5. Encourages the Israeli authorities to cooperate with the Waqf of Jerusalem and the Jordanian authorities;
6. Encourages all Member States, authorities and institutions to cooperate constructively for the protection, safeguarding and restoration of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem;
7. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for the actions he has taken to reaffirm UNESCO’s noble mission to safeguard, preserve and restore world heritage for the sake of humanity and future generations;
8. Appreciates the concern expressed on this topic at the special plenary meeting;
9. Invites the Director-General to request the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee to convene immediately to prepare the ground for the informal meeting of the World Heritage Committee in early June, in order to ensure a substantive discussion on the follow-up to the report of the technical mission at the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee;
10. Requests the Director-General, within the framework of the World Heritage Convention, to propose to the World Heritage Committee at its forthcoming session a mechanism to ensure the proper implementation of World Heritage Committee decisions;
11. Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 177th session a report on the progress made in this regard.

(176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/SR)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

176 EX/Decisions Corr.

Hundred and seventy-sixth session

(Paris, 11 to 27 April 2007)*

PARIS, 4 July 2007

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 176th SESSION

CORRIGENDUM

176 EX/Decision 46 – Sexennial report of the Executive Board to the General Conference on the contribution made to UNESCO’s activities by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (2001-2006) (176 EX/46; 176 EX/INF.6; 176 EX/65)

Replace paragraph 6 with the following text:

6. *Decides* to amend the Directives concerning UNESCO’s relations with non-governmental organizations as follows:

Section I – Formal relations

(...)

6. Modification, termination and suspension of relations

6.1 Where the Director-General considers that circumstances make it necessary to ~~downgrade~~ move an organization from one category type of relations to another, he shall refer the matter to the Executive Board for a decision. (*Remainder of the paragraph unchanged.*)

(...)

Section II – Operational relations

(...)

4. Advantages

(...)

4.1(b) in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 14, of the Constitution, the Executive Board may invite them to be represented as observers at specified plenary meetings of the General Conference and meetings of its commissions. (*Remainder of the paragraph unchanged.*)

(...)

*

Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies before the plenary meetings.

4.1(d) they may be invited to participate ~~as observers~~ in various collective consultations of NGOs organized by UNESCO in connection with the implementation of its programme;

(...)

4.1(f) they ~~may be~~ shall be invited to ~~send observers~~ be represented at the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organizations provided for in Section III, Article 1, below; ~~they may attend meetings of the Standing Committee provided for in paragraph 1.3.1 of Section III below, in the same capacity.~~

(...)

Section IV – Financial and material arrangements for cooperation

(...)

3. Forms of contribution

3.1 The various forms of financial contribution shall comprise (i) the awarding of various types of contract (contracts for the implementation of framework agreements; other contracts for the implementation of UNESCO's regular programmes); and (ii) contributions under the Participation Programme; ~~and (iii) subventions.~~

(...)

Section VI – Requests for the establishment or modification of relations

(...)

3. Requests for the establishment or modification of formal relations shall be submitted no later than ~~31 December~~ 30 September of each year.

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