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الدورة الرابعة والثلاثون، باريس ٢٠٠٧

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Item 5.6 of the provisional agenda

## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART I

#### PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SHARED AQUIFER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN TRIPOLI, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 14.

**Background:** The Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya presented a detailed proposal for the establishment of the Regional Centre for Shared Aquifer Resources Management under the auspices of UNESCO in April 2007. The Executive Board, at its 176th session, welcomed the proposal and recommended in 176 EX/Decision 14, that the General Conference, at its 34th session, approve the establishment of the Centre and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

**Purpose:** Following 176 EX/Decision 14, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the establishment of the Centre. For reference, document 176 EX/14 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to establish the Centre.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

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1. The Executive Board, at its 176th session (April 2007), considered item 14 on the proposed establishment of the Regional Centre for Shared Aquifer Resources Management in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 176 EX/14 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal for the establishment of the Centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the creation for the said Centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/Decision 14).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 14,
2. Further recalling resolution XV-10 adopted at the 15th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme in June 2002,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part I,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to establish the Regional Centre for Shared Aquifer Resources Management under the auspices of UNESCO which is in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90, relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 1 and 2);
5. Approves the establishment of the Regional Centre for Shared Aquifer Resources Management in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 176th session (176 EX/Decision 14);
6. Invites the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya contained in Annex II to document 176 EX/14.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART II

#### PROPOSAL TO GRANT TO THE INTERNATIONAL GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENT CENTRE (IGRAC) IN UTRECHT, NETHERLANDS, THE STATUS OF A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 15.

**Background:** The Government of the Netherlands presented in April 2007 a detailed proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC). The Executive Board, at its 176th session, welcomed the proposal and recommended in 176 EX/Decision 15, that the General Conference, at its 34th session, approve the proposal to grant to the Centre the status of a category 2 centre and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the Netherlands granting the Centre the status of a category 2 centre.

**Purpose:** Following 176 EX/Decision 15, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the Centre of the status of a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 176 EX/15 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Netherlands.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 176th session (April 2007), considered item 15 on the proposed establishment of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), in Utrecht, Netherlands, under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 176 EX/15 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this Centre, hosted and operated by the Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) and placed under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said Centre the status of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the Netherlands and TNO concerning the establishment and operation of the Centre (176 EX/Decision 15).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 15,
2. Further recalling resolution XV-11 adopted at the 14th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme in June 2000,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part II,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Netherlands to place the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) under the auspices of UNESCO which is in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90, relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 1 and 2);
5. Approves the granting to the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), in Utrecht, Netherlands, of the status of category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 176th session (176 EX/Decision 15);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement contained in Annex II to document 176 EX/15.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART III

## 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

### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 16.

**Background:** The Government of Malaysia presented a proposal for the establishment of an International Centre for South-South Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation in Kuala Lumpur under the auspices of UNESCO. The Executive Board at its 176th session, welcomed the proposal and recommended in 176 EX/Decision 16, that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the establishment of the Centre and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Malaysia to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

**Purpose:** Following 176 EX/Decision 16, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the establishment of the Centre. For reference, document 176 EX/16 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre, which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains in Annex II the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Malaysia to establish the Centre.

**Decision required:** Paragraph 2.

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1. The Executive Board, at its 176th session (April 2007), considered item 16 on the proposed 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. Having examined document 176 EX/16 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board at its 176th session welcomed the proposal for the establishment of the Centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the establishment of the said Centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Malaysia to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/Decision 16).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 23 (I.5.xi) which authorizes the Director-General to follow up the Doha Plan of Action,
2. Further recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 16,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part III,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Malaysia to establish the International Centre for South-South Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation in Kuala Lumpur under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO;
5. Approves the establishment of the International Centre for South-South Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 176th session (176 EX/Decision 16);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Malaysia, presented in the annex to document 176 EX/16.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART IV

#### PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE IN MOSCOW, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX/Decision 17.

**Background:** The Government of the Russian Federation presented a detailed proposal for the establishment of a Sustainable Energy Development Centre in Moscow, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO in April 2007. The Executive Board at its 176th session welcomed the proposal and recommended in 176 EX/Decision 17, that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the establishment of the Centre and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the Russian Federation to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

**Purpose:** This document follows up 176 EX/Decision 17 and introduces a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the establishment of the Centre. For reference, document 176 EX/17 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains as Annex the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Russian Federation to establish the Centre.

**Decision required:** Paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 176th session (April 2007), considered item 17 on the proposed establishment of the Sustainable Energy Development Centre in Moscow, Russian Federation, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 176 EX/17 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal for the establishment of the Centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the creation of the said Centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the Russian Federation to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (176 EX/Decision 17).

2. In the light of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 176 EX Decision 17,
2. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part IV,
3. 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,
4. Approves the establishment of the Sustainable Energy Development Centre in Moscow, Russian Federation, under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 176th session (176 EX/Decision 17);
5. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Russian Federation presented in the Annex to document 176 EX/17.





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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART V

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL CENTRE FOR UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY IN ZADAR, CROATIA, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 67.

**Background:** The Republic of Croatia proposed the establishment of a regional Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar, Croatia, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and asked the Secretariat to assist its authorities in carrying out a feasibility study in compliance with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of UNESCO institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 1 and 2) (33 C/Resolution 90).

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 67 the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the Centre the status of a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 177 EX/67 Add. describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Croatia.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 67 on the proposed establishment of the regional Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar, Croatia, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 177 EX/67 and Add., which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this Centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said Centre the status of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Croatia concerning the establishment and operation of the Centre (177 EX/Decision 67).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 67,
2. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part V,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Croatia to establish the regional Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar, Croatia, under the auspices of UNESCO, as being in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90, relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 1 and 2);
4. Approves the establishment of the regional Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar, Croatia, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 67);
5. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement annexed to document 177 EX/67 Add.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART VI

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IHP INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF WATER FOR FOOD SECURITY AT CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

##### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 11.

**Background:** Following a proposal by the Government of Australia to establish an IHP international centre of water for food security under the auspices of UNESCO, in Australia, the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution XVII-3 in July 2006 welcoming the establishment of the centre.

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 11, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the centre of the status of a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 177 EX/11 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Australia.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 11 on the proposed establishment of the IHP international centre of water for food security (IC-WATER) at Charles Sturt University, in Australia, under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 177 EX/11 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said centre the status of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Australia concerning the establishment and operation of the centre (177 EX/Decision 11).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 11,
2. Further recalling IHP-IC Resolution XVII-3 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in July 2006,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part VI,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government Australia to place the IHP international centre of water for food security (IC-WATER), under the auspices of UNESCO which is in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90, relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 1 and 2);
5. Approves the granting to the IHP international centre of water for food security (IC-WATER) in Australia, of the status of category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 11);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/11.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART VII

#### PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE ON KARST IN GUILIN, CHINA, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 13.

**Background:** In response to an initial proposal by the Government of China to establish on its territory an international research centre on karst, the Scientific Board of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) decided unanimously, at its 32nd session (February 2004), to support this initiative. After receiving a more detailed proposal, the IGCP Scientific Board at its 35th session (February 2007) adopted Resolution IGCP 35/1, welcoming the establishment of the centre and requesting UNESCO's assistance in preparing the necessary documentation to be submitted to UNESCO's governing bodies.

**Purpose:** In implementation of 177 EX/Decision 13, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the centre of the status of category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 177 EX/13 describes the proposal and assesses the feasibility of the centre, in accordance 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 (category 2), as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains in Annex II the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Chinese Government.

**Decision required:** Paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 13 of its agenda concerning the proposal of the Chinese Government to establish on its territory an international research centre on karst under the auspices of UNESCO. After having considered document 177 EX/13, which describes the proposal and assesses the feasibility of the centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and directives for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal of the Government of the People's Republic of China to establish the centre in Guilin (China) under the auspices of UNESCO. In 177 EX/Decision 13, the Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said centre the status of category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Chinese Government concerning the establishment and operation of the centre with the following amendment to Article XV 2 (e):

“2. UNESCO undertakes to:

...

(e) only contribute financially to concrete activities of the Centre if those are deemed in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and if such contribution is provided for in UNESCO's Programme and Budget. UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes.”

2. In the light of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 13,
2. Further recalling Resolution IGCP 35/1 adopted at the 35th session of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) Scientific Board in February 2007 (Annex I of document 177 EX/13),
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part VII,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the People's Republic of China to establish an international research centre on karst in Guilin, China, under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (categories 1 and 2);
5. Approves the granting to the international research centre on karst of the status of category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in accordance with the recommendation made by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 13);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement contained in Annex II of document 177 EX/13, as amended by 177 EX/Decision 13.



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Item 5.6 of the provisional agenda

## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART VIII

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL CENTRE FOR WATER MANAGEMENT RESEARCH IN ARID ZONES IN PAKISTAN, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 15.

**Background:** Following a proposal by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to establish a regional centre for water management research in arid zones under the auspices of UNESCO on its territory, the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution XVII-2 in June 2006 welcoming the establishment of the Centre. A UNESCO mission was undertaken to Pakistan in January 2007 in order to assess the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre.

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 15, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the Centre of the status of a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 177 EX/15 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 15 on the proposed establishment of a regional centre for water management research in arid zones in Pakistan, under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 177 EX/15 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this Centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said Centre the status of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Pakistan concerning the establishment and operation of the Centre (177 EX/Decision 15).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 15,
2. Further recalling IHP-IC Resolution XVII-2 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in July 2006,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part VIII,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to establish a regional centre for water management research in arid zones under the auspices of UNESCO, and requests that the Government of Pakistan 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), that forms the basis for the strategy for UNESCO water centres currently under consideration by the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, 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. Approves the establishment of the regional centre for water management research in arid zones in Pakistan, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 15);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/15.





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12 October 2007  
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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART IX

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL CENTRE FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN MANAMA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 24.

**Background:** The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain proposed to UNESCO to establish on its territory a regional centre for information and communication technology placed under the auspices of UNESCO and requested the Director-General's assistance in preparing the necessary documentation to be submitted to UNESCO's governing bodies.

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 24, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the Centre of the status of a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 177 EX/24 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains annexed, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Bahrain.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 24 on the proposed establishment of a regional centre for information and communication technology in Bahrain, under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 177 EX/24 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this Centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said Centre the status of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Bahrain concerning the establishment and operation of the Centre (177 EX/Decision 24).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 24,
2. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part IX,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain to establish the regional centre for information and communication technology under the auspices of UNESCO, as being in line with the guiding principles of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy regarding applications of ICTs to harness the potential of ICTs for knowledge acquisition and sharing, as well as in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90, relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 1 and 2);
4. Approves the establishment of the regional centre for information and communication technology (CICT) in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 24);
5. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement contained in the Annex to document 177 EX/24.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART X

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INSTITUTE ON A PARTNERSHIP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT (IPED) IN TRIESTE, ITALY, AS A CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 10.

**Background:** In pursuance of a request from Italy in February 2005 on the creation in Trieste, Italy, of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED), the Executive Board at its 172nd session took note of the proposed modalities for future interactions between UNESCO and Italy on the proposed IPED. An aide-memoire between UNESCO and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Environment and Territory of Italy concerning the establishment of IPED was signed in Paris on 18 October 2005.

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 10, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the establishment in Trieste, Italy, of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED) under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). For reference, document 177 EX/10 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Institute which is 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 (category 1 and 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Italian Government.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

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1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 10 on the proposed establishment in Trieste, Italy, of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED), under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). Having examined document 177 EX/10 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Institute in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this Institute. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said Institute the status of a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of Italy concerning the establishment and operation of the Institute (177 EX/Decision 10).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 10,
2. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part X,
3. Welcomes the proposal submitted by the Government of Italy for the establishment in Trieste of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED) under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) which is to be 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;
4. Approves the establishment in Trieste of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED), as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 10);
5. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/10 at such time as he has received from the Italian Government the relevant documentation confirming that it has established the institute in accordance with the terms of the feasibility study and of the agreement annexed to the aforementioned document (177 EX/10).



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART XI

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN CHINA OF A WORLD HERITAGE TRAINING AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION, AS A CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 21.

**Background:** The Government of the People's Republic of China proposed, at the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2004, to establish a World Heritage training and research institute in China for the benefit of the Asia and the Pacific region. The Committee, recalling the responsibility of States Parties in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage "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", welcomed this initiative.

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 21, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the establishment in China of a World Heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). For reference, document 177 EX/21 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the People's Republic of China.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 21 on the proposed establishment in China of a World Heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). Having examined document 177 EX/21 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Institute in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this Institute. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said Institute the status of a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of the People's Republic of China concerning the establishment and operation of the Institute (177 EX/Decision 21).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 21,
2. Further recalling the importance of international cooperation for strengthening the capacity of States Parties to promote and implement the World Heritage Convention through building capacity for preparation of effective nominations and for sustainable conservation and management of World Heritage properties,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part XI,
4. Welcomes the proposal submitted by the Government of the People's Republic of China for the establishment of a World Heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) which is 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. Approves the establishment of the World Heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 21);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/21.



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART XII

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CENTRE ON HYDROINFORMATICS FOR INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AT ITAIPÚ BINACIONAL (BRAZIL, PARAGUAY), AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90, 176 EX/Decision 11 and 177 EX/Decision 66.

**Background:** Following a proposal by the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay to establish an international centre on hydroinformatics for integrated water resources management at Itaipú Binacional under the auspices of UNESCO, in Brazil and Paraguay, the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution XVII-4 in July 2006 welcoming the establishment of the centre.

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 66, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board for the approval of the granting to the centre of the status of a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices. For reference, document 177 EX/66 describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre which is 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 (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and contains, as Annex II, the Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Governments of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Paraguay.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

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1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 66 on the proposed establishment of an international centre on hydroinformatics for integrated water resources management at Itaipú Binacional (Brazil and Paraguay), under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 177 EX/66 which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place under UNESCO's auspices this centre. The Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th session approve the proposal to grant to the said centre the status of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Governments of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Paraguay concerning the establishment and operation of the centre (177 EX/Decision 66).

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 23 and 177 EX/Decision 66,
2. Further recalling Resolution XVII-4 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in July 2006,
3. Having examined document 34 C/40 Part XII,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Governments of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Paraguay to establish the international centre on hydroinformatics under the auspices of UNESCO at Itaipú Binacional, which is to be done 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. Approves the establishment of the international centre on hydroinformatics under the auspices of UNESCO at Itaipú Binacional (Brazil, Paraguay) as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 66);
6. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the Agreement presented in Annex II to document 177 EX/66 concerning the future establishment of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).





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## ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART XIII

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INSTITUTE FOR AFRICAN CULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AT THE OLUSEGUN OBASANJO PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY IN ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA, AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 69.

**Background:** In the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and UNESCO in April 2007 for the development and formulation of a national cultural policy in Nigeria, the Nigerian authorities have proposed the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding as a centre (category 2) under the auspices of UNESCO (33 C/Resolution 90).

**Purpose:** Following 177 EX/Decision 69, the present document contains a draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board which aims at approving the carrying out of a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed institute in line with the applicable criteria for category 2 institutes adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session, and at delegating to the Executive Board the authority to approve the granting to such an institute of category 2 centre status.

For reference, document 177 EX/69 is contained in Annex I and 177 EX/Decision 69 is contained in Annex II to the present document.

**Decision required:** paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 177th session, considered item 69 on the proposed establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding as a centre (category 2) under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined document 177 EX/69, which presents this proposal, the Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 34th

session approve the proposal to carry out a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed institute 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 and to present the results of the feasibility study to the Executive Board at its 179th session. Furthermore, it recommends to the General Conference to delegate its authority to the Executive Board so that it can finalize the process of the establishment of the centre as a category 2 centre under UNESCO auspices and, subsequently, request the Director-General to sign an Agreement once approved by the Executive Board.

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may wish to consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 177 EX/Decision 69,
2. Having examined document 34 C/40,
3. Welcomes the proposal by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) which is 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;
4. Stressing the importance of this proposal towards safeguarding Africa's unique cultural heritage and fostering cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in Africa,
5. Requests that the Director-General carry out a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed institute in line with the applicable criteria for category 2 institutes adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session, and to present the results of this feasibility study to the Executive Board at its 179th session;
6. Authorizes the Executive Board to finalize the process of the establishment of the centre and subsequently request the Director-General to sign an Agreement once approved by the Executive Board.

ANNEX I



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

**Executive Board**  
Hundred and seventy-seventh session

**177 EX/69**

PARIS, 17 September 2007  
Original: English

Item 69 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INSTITUTE FOR  
AFRICAN CULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING  
AT THE OLUSEGUN OBASANJO PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY IN  
ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA, AS A CATEGORY 2  
CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

**SUMMARY**

In the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and UNESCO in April 2007 for the development and formulation of a national cultural policy in Nigeria, the Nigerian authorities have proposed the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding as a centre (category 2) under the auspices of UNESCO. The present document provides an explanatory note in this regard.

Decision proposed: paragraph 5.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

### Background

1. The Memorandum of Understanding, which was signed between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and UNESCO in April 2007, covers a wide range of areas of collaboration, the main one being to develop and formulate national policies to give greater recognition to cultural diversity and intercultural, inter-ethnic and interreligious dialogue, as well as to heritage as a tool for sustainable development and social cohesion. Consequently, the Government of Nigeria has proposed to establish the Institute for African Culture and International Understanding on the premises of the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library in Abeokuta, Ogun State and has asked for UNESCO's assistance in placing such an institute under the Organization's auspices in compliance with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as stipulated in 33 C/Resolution 90 (see Annex).

2. The justification for the establishment of this centre is based primarily on the need for national cultural policies to give greater recognition to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, including its interreligious component, in order to reinforce social cohesion in Nigeria's pluralistic society. The Institute aims to study, evaluate, inventorize, exhibit and disseminate all relevant material related to Africa's cultural heritage – both tangible and intangible – and its diasporas. In addition, it will encourage academic and scientific research on black culture and its cultural expressions, creating a global network of specialists on this topic with workshops and seminars aimed at raising awareness not only among Nigerian stakeholders but also among national and local decision-makers. The Nigerian Government wishes to link this Institute to other national bodies devoted to the safeguarding of heritage and black culture from Africa and other parts of the world.

3. The above-mentioned activities build on the activities and conclusions of a number of international encounters, notably: FESTAC '77 hosted in Nigeria in 1977; the International Congress of Dialogue among Civilizations, Religions and Cultures in West Africa held in Abuja in December 2003; and the African Regional Conference on the Dialogue among Civilizations, Cultures and Peoples, held in Abuja in June 2006. These encounters stressed the need to actively promote intercultural and interreligious dialogue and to urge religious leaders and civil society to work together towards sustainable development and other common goals. The proposed activities of the Institute could also be coordinated with those of the existing network of some 25 UNESCO Chairs on intercultural and interreligious dialogue, which engage the international intellectual community in a multidisciplinary approach to pressing issues such as social cohesion and peace-building in our globalized world.

4. Although the Government has committed itself to securing financial funding, a financial statement is needed as well as more precise information about the Institute's strategies, activities and organizational design. To this end, a UNESCO mission is scheduled to take place in September, the results of which will be communicated to the Board at its 177th session.

5. In the light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
2. Stressing the importance of this proposal towards safeguarding Africa's unique cultural heritage and fostering cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in Africa,
3. Requests that the Director-General carry out a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed institute in line with the applicable criteria for category 2 institutes adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session, and to present the results of this feasibility study to the Executive Board at its 179th session.

ANNEX

PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NIGERIA  
TO UNESCO

DÉLÉGATION PERMANENTE DU NIGÉRIA  
AUPRÈS DE L'UNESCO



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PDN/O22/CLT/Vol II.

4 July 2007

H.E. Mr. Koichiro Matsuura  
Director-General of UNESCO  
7, Place de Fontenoy  
75007  
Paris

Dear Director-General,

In April 2007, you signed together with then President Olusegun Obasanjo and then President-elect Umaru Yar'Adua the historic **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and UNESCO** concerning the field of culture.

This MoU contains specific areas of collaboration envisaged to be pursued between Nigeria and UNESCO in the Culture domain, among them the establishment of an **Institute for African Culture and International Understanding**. As envisaged in the MoU, my Government wishes to propose this Institute for designation as a category II centre under UNESCO's auspices. In the MoU, UNESCO expressed its support for Nigeria in conducting a feasibility study on the creation of such a category II centre.

Allow me to present to you formally my Government's proposal: the Government of Nigeria has decided that the **Institute shall be established on the premises of the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library in Abeokuta, Ogun State**, the very first such library in Africa. This choice shall honor and acknowledge the seminal contribution made by President Obasanjo to expanding and fortifying collaboration of Nigeria with UNESCO. The location of the Institute will ensure that all its assets, in particular cultural objects and materials as well as collections and archives, are properly guarded, maintained and preserved. Above all, it will contribute to a secure a stable and sustainable financial basis as efforts are under way to secure from the Federal Government of Nigeria an annual grant towards the operating budget. Other funding will need to be mobilised and secured by the Director in conjunction with the Board, also drawing on private sector support. Moreover, the Institute will benefit from the availability, free of charge, of a distinctly separate space, including working space for staff and researchers and make available free of charge the use of common facilities like meeting rooms, auditorium and exhibition space, further bolstering the prospects for sustainability of this new Institute.



Let me briefly outline the overarching **justification** and **rationale** for the centre. The effects of globalization pose challenges for the preservation and maintenance of cultural heritage and identities worldwide. The pressures on Africa and its cultural heritage, tangible and intangible alike, in this context are particularly severe and demand effective and concrete responses to ensure the preservation of black culture at large and related cultural expressions – in Africa, in the diaspora and in countries on other continents – for future generations and its appropriate systematization, research, presentation to and accessibility for a larger audience. This builds also on the growing recognition of the need for national policies to give greater recognition to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue for cohesion of a pluralistic society like Nigeria. It also needs to anchor firmly the role of culture in sustainable development policies and activities at the national level and to provide appropriate and coherent linkages with relevant initiatives at the *sub-regional and regional levels in Africa as well as inter-regional exchanges*. This will promote cultural diversity as well as possibilities for intercultural, inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue.

The **specific purpose of the Institute** shall be the study, appreciation, evaluation, the creation of inventories and catalogues, including in digitized form, the dissemination and exhibition of collections and materials of relevance for tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the African region and diaspora. The Institute shall also induce academic and scientific studies and serve as hub for a newly-to-be created virtual global network of specialists on black culture and cultural expressions, complemented by workshops, seminars and training activities. With the support and collaboration of UNESCO, the Institute shall also promote access to the available materials and raise awareness among Nigerian stakeholders, including national and local decision-makers, with regard to the important role played by cultural diversity and its corollary, intercultural dialogue, for social cohesion in a pluralistic society like Nigeria and the importance of the rich and invaluable intangible cultural heritage of the country, including its living human treasures and traditional music and musical instruments. It will also include the promotion of mutual knowledge about spiritual traditions and religious expressions and their underlying values with a view to strengthening intercommunity harmony. In general, activities will also build also on the experience of FESTAC '77, which Nigeria was proud to host on behalf of Africa in 1977, on the conclusions of the International Congress of Dialogue on Civilizations, Religions and Cultures in West Africa, held in Abuja in December 2003, and the African Regional Conference on the Dialogue among Civilisations, Cultures and Peoples, held in Abuja in June 2006 as well as on contribution from UNESCO Chairs on cultural dialogue.

The **legal structure** of the Institute shall be an independent not-for-profit entity under Nigerian law with an **independent Board of Governors**, including representatives of the Obasanjo Presidential Library, the Government of Nigeria, Director-General of UNESCO and representatives of civil society and the culture sector as well as the private sector. The Institute shall be capable of receiving funds and financial support from the Nigerian and other Governments, the private sector, civil society and international donors.



Furthermore, the Government of Nigeria has also decided to include the new Institute as an integral part of the national master plan for the safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, thereby linking the Institute to other institutions in the country. More specifically, the Institute's own structure shall be such that it will be linked to a **set of different branches or sub-centres** being an integral part of the Institute at different locations in the country, dedicated to specific themes and aspects of the overall theme. The first such branch shall be the "Ulli and Georgina Beier Centre for Black Culture and International Understanding". This sub-centre is primarily conceived for the purpose of serving as a repository for the archive and collections of Ulli and Georgina Beier, who had been pioneers and catalysts of the Osogbo School of painting and arts in the in the process of being created in Osogbo, Osun State, with the full support of the Governor of the State who has made available, free of charge, a dedicated building and has committed to financial support meeting the estimated operational costs. The Centre shall also operate in close association with the relevant institutes of the universities of Osogbo and Ife.

Ulli and Georgina Beier have signed an agreement with the Government in which they agreed to transfer their archive and collection of some 10,000 items of books, articles, photographs, negatives and albums, films, videos, audio cassettes, record and CDs, printed ephemera about concerts and exhibitions and other cultural items and material pertaining to Nigerian and in particular Yoruba culture in the early 1950s as well as material on black culture related to Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Australia and other countries. The physical transfer of all materials is envisaged for October 2007.

The Institute and its first sub-centre have been created in strict compliance with the **Guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2)**, as promulgated by the General Conference at its 33<sup>rd</sup> session. Accordingly, I wish to request you respectfully to undertake, at the Secretariat's earliest convenience a feasibility study with a view to presenting its findings to the Executive Board at its 177<sup>th</sup> session – for which I would request the Chairman of the Executive Board to include a specific item into the provisional agenda.

I am confident that given the advanced state of the creation of the Institute and with the collective competence of the Culture Sector, the UNESCO Office in Abuja and the support of the Chairman of the UNESCO-Nigeria Working Group, the Director of BSP, such a study can be completed in good time, together with a draft agreement, for submission to the Board.

Please accept, dear Mr. Director-General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Michael Omolewa  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate





## ANNEX II

### 177 EX/Decision 69

**69 Proposal for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding at the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (*Programme aspects*) (177 EX/69)**

11. After considering this item, and after having examined the draft decision transmitted to it by the Finance and Administrative Commission, the Programme and External Relations Commission recommended that the Executive Board adopt the following draft decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/69,
2. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
3. Stressing the importance of this proposal towards safeguarding Africa's unique cultural heritage and fostering cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in Africa,
4. Requests that the Director-General carry out a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed institute in line with the applicable criteria for category 2 institutes adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session, and to present the results of this feasibility study to the Executive Board at its 179th session;
5. Recommends to the General Conference that it authorize the Executive Board to finalize the process of the establishment of the centre and subsequently request the Director-General to sign the Agreement once approved by the Executive Board.