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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
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联合国教育、  
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### Report

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## REPORT BY THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION (IPDC) ON ITS ACTIVITIES (2012-2013)

### OUTLINE

**Source:** 21 C/Resolution 4/21, Article 11 of the Statutes of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC).

**Background:** The Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) submits this report to the General Conference in pursuance of Article 11 of its Statutes adopted at its 21st session, which stipulates that the Council shall submit reports on its activities to the General Conference at each of its ordinary sessions.

**Purpose:** To inform the General Conference on the IPDC's activities during (2012-2013) and to provide an overview of relevant decisions and initiatives of the Council, IPDC projects and the financial situation of the Programme.

## INTRODUCTION

The International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), which was created in 1980, is the only intergovernmental programme in the United Nations system mandated to mobilize international support in order to contribute to sustainable development, democracy and good governance by strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries in transition in the field of electronic and print media. Since its creation, IPDC has channelled more than US \$100 million to over 1,600 media development projects in some 140 countries.

Its unique role has been continuously reaffirmed through resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, including the most recent one *Resolution [A/RES/67/124 A](#) "Information in the service of humanity"*, adopted on 18 December 2012 at the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, which urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system and all other stakeholders concerned "to provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media".

The overall responsibility for the Programme lies with **the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC**, which meets every two years to assess the work carried out by the Programme. It consists of representatives from 39 countries elected by the General Conference of UNESCO.

## TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IPDC AND THE FOLLOW-UP TO ITS DECISIONS

The twenty-eighth session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC was held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris from 22 to 23 March 2012.<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with the Council's rules of procedure, the Bureau of the IPDC Intergovernmental Council was elected. Its composition is as follows:

**Chairperson:** Mr Jyrki Pulkkinen (Finland)  
**Vice-Chairs:** Peru, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand  
**Rapporteur:** Mr Mikhail Gusman (Russian Federation)  
**Members:** Albania, Algeria, United States of America

The third Report by the Director-General on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity was presented at the Council session. It provided an overview of the 127 killings of journalists condemned by the Director-General during the previous two years. The report noted that in most cases, these journalists were reporting on local conflicts, corruption and other illegal activities, such as organized crime.

The Council adopted the Decision on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, in which it renewed its request to the Director-General to prepare a biennial report on this matter. The Decision commended "the progress of the work of the United Nations agencies and other stakeholders involved in the preparation of the draft United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity". The Decision also requested the Director-General to prepare a UNESCO Work Plan on safety and impunity issues, and to present it for adoption at the 191st session of the Executive Board (which was subsequently carried out, with the Plan adopted). The draft United Nations Plan of Action on these issues was presented to the Council and subsequently endorsed by the United Nations Chief Executives Board in April 2012.

The Council heard from invited experts on how to mainstream gender in media, and endorsed UNESCO's initiative to develop the Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media.

<sup>1</sup> Final Report available at:  
<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/intergovernmental-programmes/ipdc/>

## 148 PROJECTS APPROVED AT FIFTY-SIXTH AND FIFTY-SEVENTH IPDC BUREAU MEETING

The 56th IPDC Bureau was organized from 22 to 24 February 2012. Among 103 projects proposals considered, the IPDC Bureau approved 85 projects in 62 countries for a total amount of \$2,170,180. The fifty-seventh IPDC Bureau was held from 20 to 22 March 2013. The Bureau approved 63 projects (among 110 considered) for a total amount of \$1,052,156.

In 2012-2013, a total of 213 project proposals were thus submitted for the Bureau's consideration by media organizations worldwide. The IPDC Bureau decided to approve 148 projects in 75 countries for a total amount of \$3,222,336:

Distribution of IPDC financial support in 2012-2013 BY REGION			
REGION	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	TOTAL FUNDS (IN US\$)	% BY REGION
AFRICA	60	1,102,750	34%
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	35	731,500	23%
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	34	615,450	19%
ARAB STATES	18	739,636	23%
INTERREGIONAL	1	33,000	1%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>3,222,336</b>	<b>100%</b>

A number of strategic documents regarding IPDC's development were also prepared and approved by the Bureau at its fifty-seventh meeting. These included an overall strategy for strengthening IPDC; a fundraising strategy; a communication and visibility strategy; and an information note on strengthening the Media Development Indicators (MDI) initiative. It also agreed a new special initiative to promote "knowledge-driven media development".

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE IPDC

In accordance with IPDC's procedures, the Bureau allocates funds to projects only on the basis of financial resources already available at the moment of its proceedings. This practice helps to avoid any deficit in the IPDC budget and to proceed with the launching of the projects immediately after the Bureau's meeting. During the period 2011-2012, a total of **\$3,113,913** was received from nine donor countries which was used for the financing of the 148 projects approved in 2012-2013.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE IPDC (in US dollars)				
		56th Bureau	57th Bureau	Total
1.	Andorra	21,368	33,288	54,656
2.	Denmark	275,000	550,000	825,000
3.	France	-	35,000	35,000
4.	Finland	266,666	259,740	526,406
5.	Netherlands	66,666	64,767	131,433
6.	Norway	174,709	196,100	370,809
		276,420 (FIT)	161,816 (FIT)	438,236 (FIT)
7.	Spain	133,869	-	133,869
8.	Sweden	103,657	30,704	134,361
9.	USA	464,143	-	464,143
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,782,498</b>	<b>1,331,415</b>	<b>3,113,913</b>

**IPDC SPECIAL INITIATIVE: The Media Development Indicators (MDIs)** (endorsed by the IPDC Intergovernmental Council in 2008).

Regarding MDI-related activities in 2012-2013, MDI-based assessments have been finalized or are in their final stages in four countries (Egypt, Gabon, Nepal and Tunisia), as well as a regional project in South-East Europe. MDI assessments are ongoing in another 12 countries. Most have received direct financial support from IPDC (including Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Liberia, Nepal, Palestine, South Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Uruguay). In 2013 the IPDC Bureau also made an additional allocation of \$35,000 for the development and application of a set of indicators for measuring the safety of journalists, as an add-on to the existing MDI framework.

### **EVALUATION OF RECENT IPDC PROJECTS**

The projects submitted to IPDC are considered to be a part of the long-term programme implemented by IPDC in each country. Every two years, the IPDC Bureau makes a selection of implemented projects to undergo an **external evaluation**. At its 55th meeting, the Bureau decided to increase the funds allocated from the IPDC Special Account for this purpose in order to enable the IPDC Secretariat to reinforce the evaluation of IPDC projects and ensure adequate follow-up. In accordance with this decision, 16 evaluation reports were completed and submitted to the 28th session of the IPDC Council.

### **UNESCO-IPDC PRIZE FOR RURAL COMMUNICATION**

The Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists and the Kenyan Arid Lands Information Network were the co-winners of the 2012 edition of the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication, which recognizes meritorious and innovative efforts to improve communication for rural communities in developing countries. The award ceremony took place during the twenty-eighth session of the IPDC Council.