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United Nations
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Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
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UNESCO'S SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN MALI OF 15 MAY AND 20 JUNE 2015

OUTLINE

Source: 197 EX/Decision 39.

Background: This item was examined by the Executive Board at its 197th session at the request of Mali. This request was accompanied by an explanatory note.

Purpose: The present document transmits to the General Conference the decision taken by the Executive Board at its 197th session and contains, in annex, the above-mentioned explanatory note.

Decision required: Paragraph 3.

1. The Executive Board examined at its 197th session, document 197 EX/39 calling for the Implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali of 15 May and 20 June 2015.
2. The Executive Board took the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the Preamble to the Constitution of UNESCO,
2. Also recalling the United Nations Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace (resolution 53/243),
3. Further recalling resolution 2227 (2015) of the United Nations Security Council, and in particular its paragraph 14 regarding protection of the Mali's cultural and historic sites against all attacks,
4. Acknowledging the important role that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization continues to play regarding the promotion of a culture of peace,
5. Commending the major role UNESCO has played in the comprehensive programme to reconstruct the cultural heritage in Mali,
6. Welcoming the signature on 15 May 2015 of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, emanating from the Algiers process,
7. Recognizing the need to support the people of Mali in recovering the cohesion of their past, the foundation for all stability,
8. Bearing in mind the need to assist Mali in setting out determinedly on the path to peace,
9. Also welcoming the efforts of the Government of Mali to implement the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, in particular through the establishment of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission,
10. Noting the Director-General's declaration during her visit to Bamako, on 18 July 2015, and her undertaking to assist Mali in implementing the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation,
11. Conscious of the importance of initiating activities for education for a culture of peace with a view to strengthening social cohesion and dialogue among Malians,
12. Also conscious that peace, through education for a culture of peace, is a prerequisite for all forms of economic development and all social cohesion,
13. Recommends that the General Conference:
 - (a) congratulate Mali on the signature of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali;
 - (b) provide every backing in accompanying the national reconciliation process in Mali by means of support for the work of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission;
 - (c) invite the Director-General to make every effort to provide technical and financial support for the holding in Bamako of a national forum on the culture of peace and non-violence, and the establishment of a programme on that theme.

3. After examining this document, the General Conference may wish to adopt the following resolution:

The General Conference

1. *Congratulates* Mali on the signature of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation;
2. *Pledges* UNESCO's backing in accompanying the national reconciliation process in Mali by means of support for the work of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to make every effort to provide technical and financial support for the holding in Bamako of a national forum on the culture of peace and non-violence, and the establishment of a programme on that theme.

ANNEX

Explanatory note

1. After months of negotiations under the guidance of Algeria, head of the mediation team, the Government of Mali and the rebel groups signed the national Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali on 15 May 2015. The coordination coalition of Azawad movements signed the Agreement on 20 June 2015, and the text entered into force straightaway.
2. In accordance with the provision of the Agreement, the Monitoring Committee chaired by Algeria, has met to start work.
3. Likewise, the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission, a key body in the reconciliation process, has been established, with the installation of its president on Tuesday 4 August 2015, the day after his nomination by the Council of Ministers.
4. The definitive return to peace will not be complete until a true culture of peace has developed in Mali. That is why Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, during her visit to Mali on 17 and 18 July proposed assistance to the President of the Republic of Mali, H.E. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, in implementing the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali by means of activities in the field of the culture of peace, in accordance with the vocation of the international organization.
5. To this end, a workshop is being prepared that will bring together all concerned in the area around Bamako (Mali) so as to identify the main lines of a national forum for a culture of peace. The forum is expected to come up with clear decisions with a view to the establishment of a wide-ranging national programme that may support the Malian authorities in consolidating social cohesion, permanent dialogue among all communities, and ensuring a culture of peace through school, social and cultural programmes.