

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

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

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация Объединенных Наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры

. منظمة الأمم المتحدة . للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、 · 科学及文化组织 .

9 COM

CLT-14/9.COM/CONF.203/14 Paris, 12 December 2014 Original: English

SECOND PROTOCOL TO THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1954 FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY
IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT

COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT

Ninth meeting
UNESCO Headquarters
18 to 19 December 2014

Item 11 of the Agenda:

Methods to enhance awareness-raising efforts of the Second Protocol to the
1954 Hague Convention

(Prepared by Egypt)

- 1. Awareness-raising is an essential component of promoting the Hague Convention Second Protocol, its role and further potential in protecting cultural property in the event of armed conflict. This has been well recognized and established and reinvigorated efforts should be exerted, particularly at the national level, in this regard. Various means and tools, that can reach all segments in society, exist, such as the different media methods, educational procedures and school curricula.
- 2. All types of media (print, audio, visual), the electronic social media like Facebook and Twitter, and other internet outlets, have a great influence on communities and the wide public in general. This wields immense potential in raising the people's awareness of the importance of cultural heritage in their countries, as a national wealth that must be protected, especially in times of armed conflict. Governments should help orient people through education to be more conscious of the importance of the cultural heritage and property. More attention should be given to educational curricula at schools in order to raise the children's cultural awareness.
- 3. Furthermore, the role played by civil society, including NGOs, can complement the primary role of governments in raising the awareness of the importance of cultural heritage and participating in its protection. NGOs in all countries should play a larger role in protecting the cultural property. This role is crucial because NGOs are active on the ground and are closer to people, thus enjoying a direct and fast influence on them. NGOs are well placed, with the support and supervision of governments, to devise programs to positively protect cultural property.
- 4. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 9.COM 14

The Committee,

- 1. Having examined document CLT-14/9.COM/CONF.203/14.
- 2. <u>Reaffirming</u> the relevance and importance of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,
- 3. <u>Emphasizing</u> the need to strengthen appreciation and respect for cultural property both in time of peace and in time of armed conflict,
- 4. <u>Welcomes</u> the efforts undertaken by the Director-General of UNESCO in promoting the ratification of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954, its dissemination and raising-awareness of its importance;
- 5. <u>Further welcomes</u> the measures taken by States Parties to the Second Protocol in this regard, and <u>invites</u> them to enhance their awareness-raising efforts of the Protocol, particularly at the national level, through the adoption of appropriate means pursuant to Article 30 thereof, including by:
 - a) designing, as appropriate, specific methods and programs geared to reach all segments in society,
 - b) increasing the use of all types of media (print, audio, visual), as well as electronic social media and other internet outlets, in their awareness-raising efforts, with a view to maximizing the intended results,
 - c) incorporating, as appropriate, the principles and objectives stipulated in the Second Protocol in educational curricula at various levels, including primary education,

- d) forging partnerships with UNESCO, civil society, including NGOs and other partners listed in Article 27(3) of the Second Protocol, for promotional and awareness-raising purposes,
- e) sharing of information and best practices regarding the promotion of the Second Protocol,
- 6. <u>Requests</u> the Secretariat, within available extra-budgetary resources, to provide technical assistance to States Parties, at their request, for the implementation of the measures stipulated in the present resolution.