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MEMORANDUM ON UNESCO'S STANDARD-SETTING ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY

In conformity with 20 C/Resolution 32.1 of the General Conference, the Director-General submits to the General Conference the present document which provides information in tabular form, on the standard-setting activities contemplated or in progress, and on the instruments already adopted.

1. The General Conference, in 20 C/Resolution 32.1, invited the Director-General to submit to it, at each of its sessions, 'a memorandum reporting the progress of work undertaken as part " of the Organization's standard-setting activities, indicating the subsequent stages contemplated and supplying all available information on the use made by Member States' governments of standard-setting instruments adopted under UNESCO's auspices'.
2. The present document has been prepared pursuant to this resolution. It contains the following tables:

Table I - Draft standard-setting instruments whose adoption is foreseen for 1995;

Table II - Possible standard-setting instruments whose adoption is envisaged for 1996-1997;

Table III - Possible standard-setting instruments whose adoption is envisaged for 1998 or later;

Table IV - Application of standard-setting instruments already adopted;

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Table V - List of standard-setting instruments adopted by UNESCO, or under its auspices, or for which it is the depositary.

3. In Tables I to III a distinction has been made, where appropriate, between the three categories of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments, namely:

- A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference.
- B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations (such as declarations, charters, etc.) which are adopted by the General Conference.
- C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO.

Table I

**DRAFT STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS WHOSE
ADOPTION IS FORESEEN FOR 1995**

A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO

Nil.

Table II

POSSIBLE STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS WHOSE ADOPTION IS ENVISAGED FOR 1996-1997

A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Possible international instrument for the protection of the underwater cultural heritage (28 C/39, item 7.6 of the provisional agenda)

Action required of the General Conference:

The relevant Rules of Procedure concerning conventions and recommendations (reproduced in the Manual of the General Conference) provide that:

- ‘Article 6 It shall be for the Conference to decide whether the question dealt with in the proposal should be regulated at the international level and, if so, to determine to what extent the question can be regulated and whether the method adopted should be an international convention or, alternatively, a recommendation to Member States.
- Article 7 1. The General Conference may, however, decide to defer to a future session the decisions mentioned in Article 6.
2. It may, in this case, instruct the Director-General to submit to a future session a report on the desirability of regulating the question dealt with in the proposal, on an international basis; on the method which should be adopted for that purpose; and on the extent to which the question can be regulated.
3. The Director-General’s report shall be communicated to Member States at least one hundred days before the opening of the session of the General Conference’.

B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Possible declaration on the protection of the human genome (28 C/38, item 7.5 of the provisional agenda)

C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO

Possible convention on the recognition of qualifications in higher education in the European region, to be jointly adopted by UNESCO and the Council of Europe (28 C/40, item 7.7 of the provisional agenda)

Action required of the General Conference:

Decision to convene, or not, jointly with the Council of Europe, an international conference of States with a view to the adoption of the proposed convention.

Table III

**POSSIBLE STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS
WHOSE ADOPTION IS ENVISAGED FOR 1998 OR LATER**

A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Possible declaration on academic freedoms (28 C/5, para. 05222).

Possible declaration on the rights of future generations (28 C/5, para. 05223).

C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO

Nil.

Action required of the General Conference:

Resolution 20 C/32.1 requires that:

- ‘(a) any proposal whose purpose is to initiate a preliminary study with a view to the international regulation of a question in the form of an international convention or recommendation to Member States should be the subject of a draft resolution submitted to the General Conference;
- (b) having regard to the nature of the question under consideration, such a draft resolution shall specify the appropriate time-limits, with respect to the session of the Executive Board during which the preliminary study is to be examined, or the session of the General Conference during which the question of the advisability of such regulation will, if appropriate, be discussed; it might also provide for consultation of Member States for the purpose of preparing the preliminary study;
- (c) proposals calling for the drafting of a normative instrument other than an international convention or a recommendation should also take the form of a draft resolution which might specify different time-limits, depending on the case, for the different stages of its preparation; such a draft resolution might provide for prior consultation to Member States’.

Table IV

**APPLICATION OF STANDARD-SETTING
INSTRUMENTS ALREADY ADOPTED**

1. Recommendation on the recognition of studies and qualifications in higher education

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the initial special reports submitted by Member States on the action taken by them to implement the above-mentioned Recommendation (28 C/34, item 7.1 of the provisional agenda).

Action required of the General Conference:

Examination of the reports.

2. Convention on the means of prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the reports by Member States regarding the implementation of the above-mentioned convention (28 C/35, item 7.2 of the provisional agenda),

Action required of the General Conference:

Examination of the reports.

3. Recommendation concerning the status of teachers

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the reports by Member States regarding the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendation (28 C/36, item 7.3 of the provisional agenda).

Action required of the General Conference:

Examination of the reports.

4. Recommendation on education for international understanding, co-operation and peace and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the report by the Director-General regarding the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendation (28 C/37, item 7.4 of the provisional agenda).

Action required of the General Conference:

Examination of the report.

Table V

**LIST OF STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS
ADOPTED BY UNESCO, OR UNDER ITS AUSPICES,
OR FOR WHICH IT IS THE DEPOSITARY**

A. Conventions and agreements

of a standard-setting nature adopted either by the General Conference
or by intergovernmental conferences convened solely by UNESCO
or jointly with other international organizations

Agreement for facilitating the international circulation of visual and auditory materials of an educational, scientific and cultural character, with Protocol of Signature and model form of certificate provided for in Article IV of the above-mentioned Agreement. 10 December 1948.

Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials, with Annexes A, B, C, D and E and Protocol annexed. 17 June 1950.

Universal Copyright Convention with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and resolution concerning Article XI. 6 September 1952.

Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the application of that Convention to the works of stateless persons and refugees. 6 September 1952.

Protocol 2 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the application of that Convention to the works of certain international organizations. 6 September 1952.

Protocol 3 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the effective date of instruments of ratification or acceptance of, or accession to, that Convention. 6 September 1952.

Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. 14 May 1954.

Protocol for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. 14 May 1954.

Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications. 3 December 1958.

Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States. 3 December 1958.

Convention against Discrimination in Education. 14 December 1960.

International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations. 26 October 1961.

Protocol instituting a Conciliation and Good Offices Commission to be responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes which may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education. 10 December 1962.

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Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. 14 November 1970.

Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris on 24 July 1971 with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and resolution concerning Article XI. 24 July 1971.

Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris on 24 July 1971 concerning the application of that Convention to works of stateless persons and refugees. 24 July 1971.

Protocol 2 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris on 24 July 1971 concerning the application of that Convention to the works of certain international organizations. 24 July 1971.

Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms. 29 October 1971.

Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. 16 November 1972.

Convention relating to the Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite. 21 May 1974.

Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. 19 July 1974.

Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials. 26 November 1976.

International Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab and European States Bordering on the Mediterranean. 17 December 1976.

Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States. 22 December 1978,

Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties and Additional Protocol. 13 December 1979.

Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe region. 21 December 1979.

Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Certificates, Diplomas, Degrees and other Academic Qualifications in Higher Education in the African States. 5 December 1981.

Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific. 16 December 1983.

Convention on Technical and Vocational Education. 10 November 1989.

B. Other agreements

of a standard-setting nature for which the Organization is depositary

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. 2 February 1971.

Protocol to amend the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. 3 December 1982.

C. Recommendations

Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations. 5 December 1956.

Recommendation concerning the Most Effective Means of Rendering Museums Accessible to Everyone. 14 December 1960.

Recommendation against Discrimination in Education. 14 December 1960.

Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding of the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites. 11 December 1962.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics relating to Book Production and Periodicals. 19 November 1964.

Recommendation on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Export, Import and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. 19 November 1964.

Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. 5 October 1966.

Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property Endangered by Public or Private Works. 19 November 1968.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Library Statistics. 13 November 1970.

Recommendation concerning the, Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage. 16 November 1972.

Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. 19 November 1974.

Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education. 19 November 1974.

Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers. 20 November 1974.

Recommendation on the Legal Protection of Translators and Translations and the Practical Means to Improve the Status of Translators. 22 November 1976.

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Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on Radio and Television. 22 November 1976.

Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education. 26 November 1976.

Recommendation on Participation by the People at Large in Cultural Life and their Contribution to It. 26 November 1976.

Recommendation concerning the International Exchange of Cultural Property. 26 November 1976.

Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas. 26 November 1976.

Revised Recommendation concerning International Competitions in Architecture and Town Planning. 27 November 1978.

Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics. 27 November 1978.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on Science and Technology. 27 November 1978.

Recommendation for the Protection of Movable Cultural Property. 28 November 1978.

Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist. 27 October 1980.

Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images. 27 October 1980.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on the Public Financing of Cultural Activities. 27 October 1980.

Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on the Production and Distribution of Books, Newspapers and Periodicals. 1 November 1985.

Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore. 15 November 1989,

Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education 13 November 1993.

D. Declarations adopted by the General Conference

Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation. 4 November 1966.

Declaration of Guiding Principles on the Use of Satellite Broadcasting for the Free Flow of Information, the Spread of Education and Greater Cultural Exchange. 15 November 1972.

International Charter of Physical Education and Sport. 21 November 1978.

Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice. 27 November 1978.

Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racialism, Apartheid and Incitement to War. 28 November 1978.