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**Conférence générale**  
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**المؤتمر العام**  
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**Conferencia General**  
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**Item 8.3 of the provisional agenda**

34 C/24  
8 August 2007  
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## MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNESCO'S STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS

### Identification of priority recommendations

#### OUTLINE

**Source:** 175 EX/Decision 28 of the Executive Board.

**Purpose:** The Director-General submits to the General Conference for approval the Executive Board's recommendation that the General Conference request the Executive Board to ensure henceforth the priority monitoring of the 11 recommendations that it identified out of the 31 whose follow-up had been entrusted to the Board by the General Conference in 2003.

**Decision required:** Paragraph 7.

1. After the General Conference, in 2003 (32 C/Resolution 77), increased the number of recommendations entrusted to the Executive Board and its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) on whose implementation it would examine reports, the Board, at its 171st session (171 EX/Decision 27, paragraph 5(a)), requested the CR Committee, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to ascertain whether the 31 recommendations concerned, which covered all the sectors of UNESCO, were still relevant and needed to be monitored. In order to help the Committee to sort through the recommendations, the Secretariat, at the 174th session of the Board, divided the recommendations into various categories according to whether or not they were being monitored. At the conclusion of the debate, the Board requested the Secretariat to pursue the examination of all those instruments and to provide further information, in particular giving reasons for their continued relevance or otherwise.

2. At the 175th session of the Board, the Committee was informed that out of the Organization's 31 recommendations, the Secretariat had listed ten that were still being monitored. According to the answers provided by the programme sectors and by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS),

the remaining 20 or so recommendations were no longer being monitored for the three following reasons:

- the recommendations have been overtaken by the later adoption of a standard-setting instrument dealing with the same subject or by various technological developments;
- the principles contained in the recommendations are considered to be generally accepted and applied;
- the recommendations are being monitored by other organizations (by means of surveys).

3. After thanking the Secretariat for the substantial work of categorization it had started at the 174th session and had undertaken with a view to facilitating the work of the Committee, the Board considered that priority was to be given only to the recommendations that were currently being monitored and that were listed in paragraph 7 of document 175 EX/27 Part I.<sup>1</sup>

4. With regard to the 21 recommendations that were not being monitored, the Board took note of their division into three categories based on the reasons why they were not being monitored as stated in paragraph 2 above (paragraph 8 of document 175 EX/27 Part I), while at the same time stating that they could not be considered to be exhaustive criteria for declaring the Organization's recommendations redundant or not. In that respect, the Board expressed the view that in the tables contained in the annex to document 175 EX/27 the term "redundant" was preferable to that of "obsolete", which should be deleted.

5. Recalling that only the General Conference could decide on the future of the recommendations, the Executive Board consequently decided to request the latter at its 34th session to examine the recommendation to entrust to the Board the monitoring of only the following 10 recommendations that the Executive Board had considered to be priorities (175 EX/Decision 28):

- Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (14 December 1960),
- Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (5 October 1966),
- Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (19 November 1974),
- Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (20 November 1974),
- Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education (26 November 1976)
- Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics (27 November 1978),
- Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist (27 October 1980),
- Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel (11 November 1997),
- Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education (2 November 2001),
- Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace (15 October 2003).

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<sup>1</sup> Document available on the Executive Board website (<http://portal.unesco.org>) and from the Secretariat for consultation during discussion of this item in the meeting room.

6. Since the adoption of that decision, the Education Sector has informed the Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs that with regard to the Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education (13 November 1993), it would like the CR Committee to monitor it as a matter of priority given that it is a standard-setting instrument recognizing universal principles that still apply and complements the six regional conventions on the same subject.

7. The General Conference may wish to adopt the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

Emphasizing the importance of the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments,

Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1 and 32 C/Resolution 77 and 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21 and 175 EX/Decision 28 of the Executive Board,

Having examined document 34 C/24 and taken note of the report of the Legal Committee thereon,

Bearing in mind the considerations set forth in paragraph 8 of document 175 EX/27 Part I,

Considering that of the Organization's 31 recommendations, only the following 11 instruments should be monitored as a matter of priority:

- Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (14 December 1960),
- Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (5 October 1966),
- Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (19 November 1974),
- Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (20 November 1974),
- Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education (26 November 1976),
- Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics (27 November 1978),
- Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist (27 October 1980),
- Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education (13 November 1993),
- Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel (11 November 1997),
- Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education (2 November 2001),
- Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace (15 October 2003),

Decides that the Executive Board shall henceforth ensure the priority monitoring of the above-mentioned 11 recommendations.