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MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNESCO'S STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS

SUMMARY

On the occasion of the 179th session of the Executive Board, the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations decided to hold, at the present session, a special meeting in order to examine the measures taken by the Secretariat in application of the new procedures for the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments, adopted by the Board at its 177th session.

1. In the context of strengthening the first aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) relating to the implementation of standard-setting instruments, the Board adopted at its 177th session a specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided (177 EX/Decision 35, Part I).¹
2. At that same session, the Board also adopted framework guidelines for the preparation of reports on the implementation of conventions for whose monitoring the CR is responsible (177 EX/Decision 35, Part II).² Among the eight conventions for whose monitoring the CR was responsible, the Executive Board decided that the framework would apply to the three conventions that were being monitored regularly (see below), given that the other five were not or no longer subject to monitoring, either because of their obsolescence or because of their inactive status since the advent of the Internet and digital publishing.³

¹ Procedure set out in paragraph 10 of information document 179 EX/CR/2.

² Framework set out in paragraph 11 of the information document 179 EX/CR/2.

³ The five conventions are the following: Agreement for Facilitating the International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of an Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character, with Protocol of Signature and Procès-Verbal of deposit of the model form of certificate provided for in Article IV of the above-mentioned Agreement (Beirut, 10 December 1948); Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials, with Annexes A to E and Protocol annexed (Florence, 17 June 1950); Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications (Paris, 3 December 1958); Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States (Paris, 3 December 1958); and Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials with Annexes A to H (Nairobi, 26 November 1976).

3. In addition, at its 34th session, on the recommendation of the Board, the General Conference, in 34 C/Resolution 87, decided that of UNESCO's 31 recommendations, the Executive Board would primarily monitor 11 recommendations requiring monitoring as a matter of priority.

4. Pursuant to the aforementioned decisions and resolution, the new legal framework concerning the implementation of conventions and recommendations for which no specific monitoring mechanism is provided therefore applies to the following UNESCO standard-setting instruments:

(a) 3 conventions:

- Convention against Discrimination in Education (Paris, 14 December 1960);
- Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (Paris, 14 November 1970);
- Convention on Technical and Vocational Education (Paris, 10 November 1989);

(b) 11 recommendations:

- 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).

5. In order to determine the measures taken by the Secretariat to implement those new procedures, the Secretariat of the Committee had, in February and then in May 2008, sent to the programme sectors concerned and to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) the list of the Organization's conventions and recommendations, for whose monitoring the CR is responsible, and asked them to reply to the following questions:

- (a) the legal basis for the obligation to submit reports (relevant article of the convention and/or recommendation);
- (b) the text(s) which specifies (specify) the next session of the General Conference during which the reports will be examined (resolution of the General Conference or decision of the Executive Board);
- (c) the time-frame for the next consultation concerning the convention(s) and/or recommendation(s) for which the sector or institute is responsible, namely the date on which the next consultation of Member States should be initiated and the date of the next submission to the CR of the draft guidelines (for the three conventions only).

6. The responses provided by the programme sectors and UIS have been summarized in tabular form, with regard to conventions (Annex I) and to recommendations (Annex II).

7. Having regard to the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1, 32 C/Resolution 77, 34 C/Resolution 87 and 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21, 175 EX/Decision 28, 176 EX/Decision 33 and 177 EX/Decision 35 Parts I and II on the first aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) relating to the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/31 and the report of the CR Committee thereon (180 EX/ ...),
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the initial measures taken by the Secretariat with a view to the application of the new procedures adopted at its 177th session on the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided;
4. Invites the Director-General to ensure the implementation of this new legal framework by the programme sectors responsible for the conventions and recommendations monitored by the CR Committee.

ANNEX I

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTIONS FOR WHOSE MONITORING THE CR COMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE (Summary of programme sectors)

Conventions	Sector and unit concerned	Legal basis for the obligation to submit reports	Text setting the date of the next consultation	Timeframe for the next consultation		
				Date on which the next consultation will be initiated	Date of submission(s) to the CR	Date of examination by the General Conference
Convention against Discrimination in Education (14 December 1960)	ED	Article 7 of the Convention	34 C/Resolution 13 (2007): next consultation (eighth) at the 37th session of the General Conference (2013) (consultation with the 1960 Recommendation see Annex II)	2010	2010 (Consideration of the draft guidelines) 2013 (Examination of the reports)	2013 (37th session)
Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (14 November 1970)	CLT	Article 16 of the Convention	34 C/Resolution 45 (2007): no date set for the next consultation (sixth)	2010	2010 (Consideration of the draft guidelines) 2011 (Examination of the reports)	2011 (36th session)
Convention on Technical and Vocational Education (10 November 1989)	ED	Article 7 of the Convention	First consultation (consultation with the 2001 Recommendation see Annex II)	2009	2009 (Consideration of the draft guidelines) 2011 (Examination of the reports)	2011 (36th session)

ANNEX II

Implementation of the recommendations for whose monitoring the CR Committee is responsible (Summary of programme sectors and UIS)

Recommendations	Sector and unit concerned	Legal basis for the obligation to submit reports	Text setting the date of the next consultation	Timeframe for the next consultation		
				Date on which the next consultation will be initiated	Date of submission to the CR	Date of examination by the General Conference
Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (14 December 1960)	ED	Article 7 of the Recommendation	34 C/Resolution 13 (2007): next consultation (eighth) at the 37th session of the General Conference (2013) (consultation with the 1960 Convention, see Annex I)	2010	2013	2013 (37th session)
Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (5 October 1966)	ED	No specific provision in the Recommendation	176 EX/Decision 32 (2007): next consultation (tenth) at the 184th/185th session of the Executive Board in 2010 (CEART) (consultation with the 1997 Recommendation)	2008/2009	2010	N/A

Recommendations	Sector and unit concerned	Legal basis for the obligation to submit reports	Text setting the date of the next consultation	Timeframe for the next consultation		
				Date on which the next consultation will be initiated	Date of submission to the CR	Date of examination by the General Conference
Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (19 November 1974)	ED	Preamble to the Recommendation (paragraph 3)	31st session of the General Conference (2001): last consultation in the context of the Permanent System of Reporting on Education for Peace, Human Rights, Democracy, International Understanding and Tolerance; no date set for the next consultation	2008	2009	2009 (35th session)
Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (20 November 1974)	SHS SC	Preamble to the Recommendation (paragraph 3)	2006: last ad hoc consultation; no date set for the next consultation	2010 (after consultation with COMEST and the Member States)	2011	2011 (36th session)
Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education (26 November 1976)	ED	Preamble to the Recommendation (paragraph 3)	27th session of the General Conference (1993): last consultation	2008	2009	2009 (35th session)

Recommendations	Sector and unit concerned	Legal basis for the obligation to submit reports	Text setting the date of the next consultation	Timeframe for the next consultation		
				Date on which the next consultation will be initiated	Date of submission to the CR	Date of examination by the General Conference
Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics (27 November 1978)	UIS	Preamble to the Recommendation (paragraph 2)	34 C/ Resolution 51: revision of the International Standard Classification of Education with a view to its finalization for 2011	2010	2011	2011 (36th session)
Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist (27 October 1980)	CLT	Preamble to the Recommendation (paragraph 2)	2007: last annual ad hoc consultation launched by the World Observatory on the Social Status of the Artist	2009	2011	2011 (36th session)
Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education (13 November 1993)	ED	Article II. 7 of the Recommendation	First consultation	2009 (as part of the follow-up to the World Conference on Higher Education 2009)	2011	2011 (36th session)

Recommendations	Sector and unit concerned	Legal basis for the obligation to submit reports	Text setting the date of the next consultation	Timeframe for the next consultation		
				Date on which the next consultation will be initiated	Date of submission to the CR	Date of examination by the General Conference
Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel (11 November 1997)	ED	No specific provision in the Recommendation	176 EX/Decision 32 (2007): next consultation (tenth) at the 184th/185th session of the Executive Board in 2010 (CEART) (consultation with the 1966 Recommendation)	2008/2009	2010	N/A
Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education (2 November 2001)	ED	Preamble to the Recommendation (paragraph 5)	First consultation (consultation with the 1989 Convention see Annex I)	2009	2011	2011 (36th session)
Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace (15 October 2003)	CI	Final clauses of the Recommendation (paragraph 3)	34 C/Resolution 49: next consultation (second) at the 36th session of the General Conference (2011)	2010	2011	2011 (36th session)