



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and eighty-second session

182 EX/INF.15  
PARIS, 11 August 2009  
English & French only

## Item 30 of the provisional agenda

### **REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING METHODS REGARDING THE “104 PROCEDURE” ESTABLISHED IN 104 EX/DECISION 3.3**

The Chair of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations has received from the President of ASPAC, H.E. Mr Tadamichi Yamamoto, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of Japan to UNESCO, a letter dated 17 June which is reproduced below.

“As the Chair of ASPAC, I have the honour to communicate to you the views of many of the members of our Group concerning the methods of work of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations.

Needless to say, since not all of us are members of the CR Committee, views are necessarily based on the experiences of the Committee members.

Therefore, the comments which are below are general in character and each member will provide you with more detailed comments of their own.

The ASPAC Group has high esteem for the working of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations and fully supports the objectives of the Committee's work as defined in the terms of reference.

We would like, however, to raise the following points in order to improve and refine the working of the Committee.

1. Time allocation between:
  - (a) examination of periodic reports by Member States on their implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education; and
  - (b) examination of communications relating to cases and questions concerning the exercise of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence should be revised to provide a better balance.

2. With regard to the conduct of the examination, it was the sense of the members who were involved in the examination that, while appreciating the effort of the Chairperson to ensure the cordiality of the proceedings, it would be beneficial to reconfirm that all exchanges should be held with the mutual respect and cordiality as would be expected of the formal exchanges involving the Permanent Representatives of the Member States.”