

Executive Board

189 EX/Decisions

Hundred and eighty-ninth session

(Paris, 27 February-9 March 2012)*

PARIS, 9 April 2012

DECISIONS ADOPTED
BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 189th SESSION

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Dates of the 190th session and provisional list of matters to be examined by the Executive Board at its 190th session (189 EX/INF. 8; 189 EX/INF.9)

190th session

(Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies*)

(3 to 18 October 2012)

(12 working days/16 calendar days)

Bureau	Wednesday 3 and Friday 5 October
Special Committee (SP)	To be determined
Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR)	To be determined
Committee on Non-Governmental Partners (NGP)	To be determined
Plenary meetings (Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 October, then Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 October)	Monday 8 to Thursday 18 October
Commissions (Thursday 11 to Tuesday 16 October)	

* Specific dates for the meetings of the subsidiary bodies will be decided upon during the course of the consultations concerning the organization of the work of the session.

Ad Hoc Preparatory Group: 17-20 September 2012

The Executive Board <u>took note</u> of document 189 EX/INF.9 (Provisional list of matters to be examined by the Executive Board at its 190th session).

(189 EX/SR.7)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Proposal for the establishment in Sri Lanka of a South Asian centre for teacher development as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (189 EX/23; 189 EX/30)

The Executive Board,

- 1. Recalling the 36 C/Resolution 15,
- 2. Welcoming the proposal of Sri Lanka, which is in accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines for the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) annexed to document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103,
- 3. Recalling the importance of the positive contribution of category 2 centres to UNESCO's priorities and potential international or regional impact,
- 4. <u>Having examined</u> document 189 EX/23 and its Annex on the proposal for the establishment in Sri Lanka of a South Asian centre for teacher development as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
- 5. <u>Aware</u> of the importance of international and regional cooperation and North-South-South cooperation in the field of teacher education and development,
- 6. Considering the positive observations and conclusions of the feasibility study,

- 7. <u>Approves</u> the establishment of the South Asian Centre for Teacher Development in Meepe, Sri Lanka, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
- 8. <u>Authorizes</u> the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Sri Lanka.

(189 EX/SR.7)

24 Response of UNESCO to the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic (189 EX/24; 189 EX/30)

After considering this item, the Finance and Administrative Commission (FA) and the Programme and External Relations Commission (PX) recommended, by a vote taken by roll-call, that the Executive Board adopt the following decision, with 35 votes in favour, 8 votes against and 14 abstentions; details of the vote are annexed to these decisions:

The Executive Board,

- 1. <u>Mindful</u> of the fundamental principles of UNESCO contained in the preamble to its Constitution, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all other relevant human rights instruments.
- 2. Recalling that "The purpose of the Organization is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, gender, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations" (Constitution, Article I.1),
- 3. Reaffirming UNESCO's essential role in ensuring education for all, in protecting the cultural, historical and natural heritage of humanity, and in facilitating the free flow of ideas,
- Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolutions 66/176 and 66/253, <u>also recalling</u> Human Rights Council resolutions S/16-1, S/17-1, S/18-1 and A/HRC/19/L.1Rev.1, and <u>further recalling</u> League of Arab States resolution 7446 dated 12 February 2012,
- 5. <u>Extremely concerned</u> with the continuous deterioration of the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and with the violent repression affecting civilians, including children, students and journalists.
- 6. <u>Strongly condemns</u> the continued widespread and systematic violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the Syrian authorities, in all UNESCO's fields of competence;
- 7. <u>Urges</u> the Syrian authorities to immediately put an end to all human rights violations, to protect their population, particularly children and students, to restore freedom of expression and communication, and to protect heritage;
- 8. <u>Invites</u> the Director General to report on the implementation of the present decision and on the consequences of the current situation concerning UNESCO's activities and tasks: