



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and seventy-seventh session

(Paris, 25 September – 31 October 2007)*

177 EX/Decisions

PARIS, 30 November 2007

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 177th SESSION

* Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies before the plenary meetings.

All the terms used in this collection of texts to designate the person discharging duties or functions are to be interpreted as implying that men and women are equally eligible to fill any post or seat associated with the discharge of these duties and functions.

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1 Agenda, timetable of work and report of the Bureau (177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2; 177 EX/2; 177 EX/INF.1; 177 EX/INF.5)

The Executive Board adopted the agenda and timetable of work as set out in documents 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2 and 177 EX/INF.1.

The Executive Board decided to refer the following items of its agenda to the commissions:

1. **Programme and External Relations Commission (PX):** items 7, 8, 19, 20, 23, 58, 62, 63, 64, 65 and 72; and for programme-related aspects, items 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 21, 24, 29, 30, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71 and 73;
2. **Finance and Administrative Commission (FA):** items 6, 25, 45, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56; and for administrative and financial aspects, items 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 21, 24, 29, 30, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71 and 73;

and to refer the following items to the joint meeting of the PX and FA Commissions: items 17, 26, 27, 28, 46 and 61.

The Executive Board approved the proposal by the Bureau contained in document 177 EX/2 concerning the following agenda item:

- 59 Relations with the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and draft memorandum of understanding between UNESCO and that regional organization (177 EX/59)

(177 EX/SR.1)

2 Approval of the summary records of the 176th session (176 EX/SR.1-10 & 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/SR)

The Executive Board approved the summary records of its 176th session.

(177 EX/SR.1)

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (177 EX/PRIV.1)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject.

(177 EX/SR.5)

EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME

4 Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference (177 EX/4 Parts I and II and Corr.; 177 EX/INF.7; 177 EX/INF.10; 177 EX/INF.12 Rev.; 177 EX/INF.13; 177 EX/INF.14; 177 EX/INF.15; 177 EX/INF.17; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/4 Part I, 177 EX/INF.7, 177 EX/INF.10, 177 EX/INF.12 Rev., 177 EX/INF.13, 177 EX/INF.14 and 177 EX/INF.17,

2. Takes note of their contents.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Director-General's report on donations and special contributions received since the beginning of the biennium and appropriated to the regular budget, as well as the proposed transfers from Part IV to Parts I-III of the budget, in accordance with the terms of the Appropriation Resolution approved by the General Conference at its 33rd session (33 C/Resolution 96, paras. 1(b), (d) and (e)), document 177 EX/4 Part II, and the recommendations of its Finance and Administrative Commission thereon (177 EX/78),

A

2. Notes that the Director-General has, as a consequence of these donations and special contributions, increased the appropriations to the regular budget by a total amount of \$2,438,869 as follows:

	\$
Part II.A – Major Programme I	731,516
Part II.A – Major Programme II	340,877
Part II.A – Major Programme III	417,285
Part II.A – Major Programme IV	243,278
Part II.A – Major Programme V	422,068
Part I.B – Direction (ODG)	13,245
Part II.C – Programme Related Services (BSP)	14,026
Part III – Support for Programme Execution (indirect costs for field offices)	252,162
Part III – Support for Programme Execution (ERC)	200
Part III – Human Resources Management (HRM)	4,212
Total	2,438,869

3. Expresses its appreciation to the donors listed in paragraph 7 of document 177 EX/4 Part II;

B

4. Recalling the provision of the Appropriation Resolution by virtue of which transfers between appropriation lines may be made by the Director-General with the prior approval of the Executive Board,

5. Approves transfers between appropriation lines of:
 - (i) Up to \$1,850,000 from various subprogrammes of the five major programmes to centrally pooled codes where these funds will be managed, on the understanding that the details of these transfers and their impact on the activities affected will be provided to the Executive Board at its 179th session;
 - (ii) \$640,000 from Part II.A Education Sector to Part II.A UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) (formerly UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE));
6. Approves the transfer of \$845,900 from Part IV to Parts I-III of the budget to cover increases in the costs of goods and services due to statutory factors and inflation;
7. Approves the proposals for transfers of appropriations up to the totals outlined in document 177 EX/4 Part II Corr., and agrees in principle that regularizing transfers will be made at the closing of the accounts for the 2006-2007 financial period, and will be reported to the Executive Board at its 179th session;
8. Takes note of the revised Appropriation Table annexed to the present decision.

ANNEX
Revised Appropriation Table for 2006-2007

Appropriation line	33 C/S Approved	33 C/S Approved as Adjusted (174EX/Dec.24) (175EX/Dec.3) (176EX/Dec.4)	Proposed Transfers			33C/S Approved as Adjusted
			I	II	III	
			Donation received	Transfers between appropriation lines	Transfers from Part IV Goods and services	
PART I GENERAL POLICY AND DIRECTION	\$	\$				
A. Governing bodies						
1. General Conference	5,507,100	5,604,600 **	-			5,604,600
2. Executive Board	7,779,400	7,918,100 **	-			7,918,100
Total, Part IA	13,286,500	13,522,700	-			13,522,700
B. Direction <i>(including: Directorate, Office of the Director-General, Internal Oversight Service, Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs)</i>	18,639,000	19,249,643	13,245			19,262,888
C. Participation in the Joint Machinery of the United Nations System	6,734,600	10,022,000	-		125,000	10,147,000
TOTAL, PART I	38,660,100	42,794,343	13,245	-	125,000	42,932,588
PART II PROGRAMMES AND PROGRAMME RELATED SERVICES						
A. Programmes						
Major Programme I - Education						
I. Personnel	52,176,800	52,949,600	-	640,000		52,309,600
II. Activities						
I.1 Strengthening EFA coordination and planning						
I.1.1 Enhancing international coordination and monitoring for EFA	3,913,600	4,235,871	72,989			4,308,860
I.1.2 Policy, planning and evaluation for achieving EFA	5,153,400	5,379,928	36,463			5,416,391
I.2 Attaining basic education for all						
I.2.1 Universal basic education	7,867,000	8,256,683	323,729			8,580,412
I.2.2 Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) and United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD)	6,272,800	6,399,537	28,540			6,428,077
I.2.3 Teacher education	3,417,000	3,441,000				3,441,000
I.3 Enhancing quality education						
I.3.1 Quality education for learning to live together	5,304,000	5,221,909	223,986			5,445,896
I.3.2 HIV/AIDS and education	1,272,200	1,582,175	23,809			1,605,984
I.4 Supporting post-primary education systems						
I.4.1 Secondary and technical/vocational education	2,684,800	2,690,399				2,690,399
I.4.2 Higher education for the knowledge society	1,799,500	1,840,242	22,000			1,862,242
UNESCO education institutes						
UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)	4,591,000	4,591,000				4,591,000
UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)	5,100,000	5,100,000				5,100,000
UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) (formerly UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE))	1,900,000	1,900,000		640,000		2,540,000
UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (ITE)	1,100,000	1,100,000				1,100,000
UNESCO International Institute for Capacity-Building in Africa (IICBA)	2,000,000	2,000,000				2,000,000
UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC)	2,200,000	2,200,000				2,200,000
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,050,000	1,050,000				1,050,000
Total, Major Programme I	107,802,100	109,938,345	731,516	-	-	110,669,861
Major Programme II - Natural sciences						
I. Personnel	32,992,500	33,902,700				33,902,700
II. Activities						
II.1 Science, environment and sustainable development						
II.1.1 Managing water interactions: systems at risk and social challenges	8,926,400	9,218,207	132,568			9,350,775
II.1.2 Ecological and earth sciences for sustainable development	3,012,200	3,105,444	157,309			3,262,753
II.1.3 UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)	3,876,400	3,876,400				3,876,400
II.2 Capacity-building in science and technology for sustainable development						
II.2.1 Basic and engineering sciences, renewable energy and disaster mitigation	3,785,100	3,911,590	51,000			3,962,590
II.2.2 Science and technology policies for sustainable development	1,686,900	2,081,931				2,081,931
UNESCO science institutes						
UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (IHE)	-	-				-
The International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)	1,015,000	1,015,000				1,015,000
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	700,000	700,000				700,000
Total, Major Programme II	55,994,500	57,811,272	340,877	-	-	58,152,149
Major Programme III - Social and human sciences						
I. Personnel	19,185,200	19,589,550				19,589,550
II. Activities						
III.1 Ethics of science and philosophy						
III.1.1 Ethics of science	3,234,300	3,330,997	20,000			3,350,997
III.1.2 Foresight, philosophy and human sciences, democracy and human security	2,913,900	2,351,574				2,351,574
III.2 Human rights and social transformations						
III.2.1 Promotion of human rights	1,827,800	1,903,775	308,745			2,212,520
III.2.2 Social transformations	2,576,800	3,311,854	88,540			3,400,394
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,100,000	1,100,000				1,100,000
Total, Major Programme III	30,838,000	31,587,750	417,285	-	-	32,005,035

Appropriation line	33 C/S Approved	33 C/S Approved as Adjusted (174EX/Dec.24) (175EX/Dec.3) (176EX/Dec.4)	Proposed Transfers			33C/S Approved as Adjusted
			I	II	III	
			Donation received	Transfers between appropriation lines	Transfers from Part IV Goods and services	
Major Programme IV - Culture	\$	\$				
I. Personnel	33,873,400	35,028,850				35,028,850
II. Activities						
IV.1 Protect and safeguard cultural heritage worldwide						
IV.1.1 Reinforcing capacity-building for the protection of World Heritage	3,304,900	3,405,291	7,634			3,412,925
IV.1.2 Identifying and safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage	2,433,800	2,475,713	8,475			2,484,188
IV.1.3 Protecting and rehabilitating cultural heritage	2,315,100	2,346,587	39,208			2,385,794
IV.1.4 Protecting cultural property	1,082,900	1,176,048				1,176,048
IV.2 Strengthen cultural policies, cultural industries and intercultural dialogue						
IV.2.1 Developing cultural policies	2,061,300	2,440,601	68,892			2,509,493
IV.2.2 Promoting intercultural dialogue	1,846,400	1,861,375	64,875			1,926,250
IV.2.3 Sustaining cultural industries and crafts	2,606,800	2,621,968	33,202			2,655,169
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,050,000	1,105,321	20,992			1,126,313
Total, Major Programme IV	50,574,600	52,461,753	243,278	-	-	52,705,031
Major Programme V - Communication and information						
I. Personnel	18,502,200	19,048,400				19,048,400
II. Activities						
V.1 Empowering people through access to information and knowledge with special emphasis on freedom of expression						
V.1.1 Creating an enabling environment for the promotion of freedom of expression and universal access	3,489,600	3,543,024	81,127			3,624,151
V.1.2 Fostering community access and diversity of content	6,480,500	6,668,461	201,577			6,870,038
V.2 Promoting communication development and ICTs for education, science and culture						
V.2.1 Fostering media development	2,382,500	2,382,500				2,382,500
V.2.2 Advancing the use of ICTs in education, science and culture	595,600	599,158	135,411			734,569
Projects relating to cross-cutting themes*	1,500,000	1,508,000	3,953			1,511,953
Total, Major Programme V	32,950,400	33,749,542	422,068	-	-	34,171,611
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	9,020,000	9,020,000	-			9,020,000
Field - Management of decentralized programmes	40,813,800	41,228,800	-			41,228,800
Total, Part II.A	327,993,400	335,797,463	2,155,025	-	-	337,952,487
B. Participation Programme	20,000,000	20,000,000	-			20,000,000
C. Programme related services						
1. Coordination of action to benefit Africa	4,309,200	4,427,200	-			4,427,200
2. Fellowships Programme	1,867,300	1,896,500	-			1,896,500
3. Public information	13,657,600	14,073,500	-			14,073,500
4. Strategic planning and programming monitoring	6,258,600	6,170,512	14,026			6,184,538
5. Budget preparation and monitoring	4,306,200	4,469,500	-			4,469,500
6. Anticipation and foresight	-	713,425	-			713,425
Total, Part II.C	30,398,900	31,750,637	14,026	-	-	31,764,663
TOTAL, PART II	378,392,300	387,548,100	2,169,050	-	-	389,717,150
PART III SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMME EXECUTION AND ADMINISTRATION						
A. Field management and coordination <i>(Headquarters activities and field office operating costs)</i>	20,988,300	22,088,902	252,162		279,700	22,620,764
B. External relations and cooperation	19,824,700	20,523,106	200			20,523,306
C. Human resources management	30,716,900	31,359,500	4,212			31,363,712
D. Administration	106,152,000	109,209,200	-		441,200	109,650,400
TOTAL, PART III	177,681,900	183,180,708	256,574	-	720,900	184,158,182
TOTAL, PARTS I - III	594,734,300	613,523,151	2,438,869	-	845,900	616,807,920
Reserve for reclassifications	1,500,000	-	-			-
PART IV ANTICIPATED COST INCREASES	13,765,700	845,900	-		845,900	-
TOTAL APPROPRIATION APPROVED AS ADJUSTED	610,000,000	614,369,051	2,438,869	-	-	616,807,920

* Cross-cutting themes:

1. Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty.
2. The contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society.

** Transfers from Part IV, Goods and services (176EX/Dec.4):

\$150,000 transferred from Part IV to Part III.D. Administration (ADM/CLD) for the purpose of supernumerary services for translation, document production, planning and conferences (\$80,000) and interpretation services (\$70,000)

which were approved in the 176th session of the Executive Board (ref: 176EX/4 Part II.A.III. para. 19 and 20) was moved to Part I.A. (General Conferences: \$70,000, Executive Board: \$ 80,000) as these funds would be mainly used for these appropriation lines, but would continue to be managed by ADM/CLD.

Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding.

5 Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions (177 EX/5 and Add.; 177 EX/INF.12 Rev.; 177 EX/INF.13; 177 EX/INF.14; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/5 and Add., 177 EX/INF.12 Rev., 177 EX/INF.13 and 177 EX/INF.14,
2. Takes note of their contents.

II

Convening of a session of the International Conference on Education (ICE) in Geneva, Switzerland, by the International Bureau of Education (IBE) in 2008

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 40,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/5,
3. Taking into account the decision adopted at the 55th session of the International Bureau of Education (IBE) Council concerning the organization of the 48th session of the International Conference on Education (ICE),
4. Emphasizing the importance of the International Conference on Education as a major global platform for promoting dialogue among ministers of education of UNESCO Member States,
5. Noting that the Director-General has made the necessary proposals to convene a session of the International Conference on Education in 2008 within the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5), and has provided an appropriate financial allocation to support the activities of the International Bureau of Education under Major Programme I,
6. Recommends that the General Conference request, at its 34th session, the IBE Council, in accordance with the IBE Statutes, to organize the 48th session of the International Conference on Education from 25 to 28 November 2008 on the theme of "Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future", and modify accordingly the draft resolution concerning the International Bureau of Education in draft document 34 C/5;
7. Takes note with satisfaction of the ongoing regional consultations on the International Conference on Education;
8. Invites the Director-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the International Bureau of Education so as to mobilize the necessary human and financial resources necessary for the International Bureau of Education to successfully organize the International Conference on Education in 2008;
9. Renews its call to Member States, international organizations and other agencies to contribute financially and by other appropriate means to the organization of the International Conference on Education in 2008;

10. Requests the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 179th session a progress report on the preparatory process for the 48th session of the International Conference on Education.

(177 EX/SR.10)

6 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the reform process (177 EX/6 Part I and Add.-Add.2 and Part II; 177 EX/INF.12 Rev.; 177 EX/INF.13; 177 EX/INF.14; 177 EX/78)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 6(I),
2. Having examined documents 177 EX/6 Part I and Add.-Add.2,
3. Takes note of the work accomplished in the implementation of the human resources policy reform framework and of the medium- and long-term staffing strategy;
4. Requests the Director-General:
 - (a) to pursue the implementation of the human resources policy reform framework, ensuring harmonization with United Nations common system policies and practices;
 - (b) to pursue the implementation of the medium- and long-term staffing strategy;
 - (c) to report to it at its 180th session and to the General Conference at its 35th session on the implementation of the human resources policy framework and the approved medium- and long-term staffing strategy.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/6 Part II,
2. Takes note of the preliminary findings of the review of the decentralization strategy;
3. Commends the Director-General for his proactive work to put United Nations system-wide coherence at the core of the Organization's decentralization policies and practice;
4. Requests the Director-General to intensify his efforts, based on the conclusions of the ongoing intergovernmental debate at the United Nations, to prepare for the programming and implementation of United Nations system-wide coherence, at the country and regional levels;
5. Further requests the Director-General to present, at its 179th session, a progress report on the review of the decentralization strategy, as well as a report on UNESCO's efforts and challenges with respect to United Nations system-wide coherence;
6. Invites the Director-General to submit to it a preliminary proposal for the new decentralization structure at its 180th session and a final report thereon at its 181st session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

Education

7 Report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO International Institute for Capacity-Building in Africa (IICBA) on the Institute's activities for 2006-2007 (177 EX/7 and Add. and Corr.; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/7 and Add. and Corr.,
2. Takes note of their contents.

(177 EX/SR.10)

8 United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD) (2003-2012): progress report 2006-2007 (177 EX/8; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 169 EX/Decision 3.4.3 and 172 EX/Decision 9,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/8,
3. Reaffirming the importance of the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD) (2003-2012) in contributing to the achievement of the education for all (EFA) goals and in complementing international poverty eradication initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
4. Also reaffirming that literacy is central to all levels of education,
5. Also reaffirming the importance of the literacy initiatives that have been successfully implemented over the last two years in different regions,
6. Further reaffirming the importance of the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) promoted by UNESCO within the framework of the United Nations Literacy Decade,
7. Taking note of the significance of the regional meetings of ministers of education under the auspices of UNESCO and the forthcoming UNESCO regional conferences in support of global literacy in order to rally high-level political commitment to address the main literacy challenges specific to each region, and to identify the way forward, to build effective partnerships among all the stakeholders, and to mobilize the resources needed to achieve the goals of the United Nations Literacy Decade and its International Plan of Action, with the ultimate aim of having a real and measurable impact on the life of children, young people and adults, which should contribute to sustainable human development and poverty eradication,
8. Expressing its satisfaction with the activities undertaken with regard to the UNESCO regional conferences in support of global literacy, organized on the basis of the White House Conference on Global Literacy, and contributing to a major drive to promote literacy, as a foundation of lifelong learning, at the national, regional and international levels as one of the major EFA goals,
9. Recognizing the strategic importance of the mid-Decade review not only in order to assess progress made thus far, but also to seek the views of Member States on the progress and plans of action for the United Nations Literacy Decade, and to identify ways to propose concrete steps, actions and outcomes that address the challenges facing literacy for all during the second half of the Decade,

10. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 61/140 inviting Member States and all stakeholders to intensify their efforts to implement effectively the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade, and to further cooperate in promoting and monitoring the Decade,
11. Requests the Director-General to conduct the mid-Decade review in collaboration with all United Nations Literacy Decade partners during 2007-2008, and to submit the results thereof to the United Nations General Assembly at its 63rd session, as well as to ensure adequate resources for the review;
12. Further requests the Director-General to make available to all Member States, stakeholders and donor countries, the outcomes of the regional conferences in support of global literacy, such as recommendations for effective literacy policies, strategies, programme delivery, monitoring and evaluation, and information on innovations and effective practices, as well as examples of how countries have developed holistic education policies including literacy;
13. Invites the Director-General to promote South-South and North-South-South (triangular) cooperation as one of the objectives of the conferences, in order to mobilize resources including, *inter alia*, through the UNESCO South-South Cooperation Fund for Education, with a view to having an effective impact in countries so requesting, taking into account the exchange of experiences and best practices which may contribute to solving the problem of illiteracy;
14. Calls upon the Director-General to ensure that literacy continues to be one of the top priorities for UNESCO on the EFA agenda, in particular through the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade and the strengthening of the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE);
15. Also invites the Director-General to monitor continuously the progress towards meeting the expected outcomes of the Decade, and to submit a report on that progress to the United Nations General Assembly at its 63rd session, and to the Executive Board at its 182nd session in autumn 2009; the report to the Executive Board should include a synthesis of the activities undertaken and achievements obtained by Headquarters, the field offices and the specialized literacy institutes, as well as an account of the obstacles and challenges for the second half of the Decade.

(177 EX/SR.10)

9 Progress report by the Director-General on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) (2005-2014) (177 EX/9; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the expectations for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) (2005-2014) expressed by Member States in United Nations General Assembly resolution 57/254,
2. Also recalling UNESCO's role as the lead agency to promote the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development as set out in General Assembly resolution 57/254,
3. Having examined document 177 EX/9,
4. Further recalling the comprehensive and strategic framework of the International Implementation Scheme (IIS) adopted by the Executive Board at its 172nd session in 2005,

5. Recognizing UNESCO's global leadership, and its implementation efforts based on the International Implementation Scheme, such as the creation of the Section for DESD Coordination, the High-Level Panel on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, the Reference Group for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, the Monitoring and Evaluation Expert Group, the Intersectoral Working Group and the Inter-Agency Coordination Committee for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,
6. Also recognizing the achievements of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development over the past two years,
7. Affirming that education for sustainable development is important in addressing environmental challenges, including, *inter alia*, climate change, as well as for disaster mitigation and preparedness, within UNESCO's core mandates,
8. Calls upon the Director-General to take the necessary measures to mobilize both regular and extrabudgetary resources in order to ensure the steady implementation of the DESD programmes, in conformity with the International Implementation Scheme through, *inter alia*:
 - (a) providing tools and guidelines that could offer guidance for the development of educational programmes that could help achieve the goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, ensuring respect for different social and cultural values as regards the design of work programmes for sustainable development at the regional and national levels and the application of evaluation or measurement indicators;
 - (b) involving the Associated Schools Project network (ASPNet) in the process, as outlined in the UNESCO Action Plan for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development;
 - (c) developing, in consultation with Member States, tools to promote effective monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, and regularly providing information, as appropriate, on implementation of the Decade worldwide;
9. Welcomes the offer made by Germany to host and finance in 2009 the mid-term review conference which is to be held under the provisional title of "World Conference on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development";
10. Invites the Director-General to submit the progress report on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (177 EX/9) to the General Conference at its 34th session;
11. Also invites the Director-General to report regularly in the statutory reports on the efforts made by UNESCO regarding the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, and to submit a biennial report to the Executive Board at its 182nd session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

Natural sciences

10 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED) in Trieste, Italy, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/10; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 concerning the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/10 and its annex,
3. Takes note of the observations and conclusions of the feasibility study;
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Italy to establish the institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED) under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the principles and guidelines for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;
5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the institute on a partnership for environmental development (IPED) in Trieste, Italy, as an institute under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement contained in the Annex to document 177 EX/10 as soon as the Director-General has received from the Italian Government the relevant documentation confirming that it has established the institute in accordance with the terms of the feasibility study and the agreement annexed to document 177 EX/10.

(177 EX/SR.10)

11 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an IHP international centre of water for food security at Charles Sturt University in Australia, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/11; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and IHP-IC Resolution XVII-3 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in July 2006,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/11 and its annexes,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Australia to establish the international centre of water for food security (IC-WATER) in Australia, under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the existing principles and guidelines for institutes and centres, as outlined in document 33 C/19, approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;
4. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the international centre of water for food security (IC-WATER) in Australia, under the auspices of UNESCO, and to authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Australia contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/11.

(177 EX/SR.10)

[12 **Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an institute for small island States in the Bahamas, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO**]

This item was withdrawn from the draft provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2.

13 **Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an international research centre on karst in Guilin, China, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/13; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)**

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 concerning the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO,
2. Further recalling Resolution IGCP 35/1 adopted at the 35th session of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) Scientific Board in February 2007 (Annex I of document 177 EX/13),
3. Having examined document 177 EX/13 and its annexes,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of China to establish an international research centre on karst in Guilin, China, under the auspices of UNESCO;
5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of an international research centre on karst in Guilin, China, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and to authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement contained in Annex II of document 177 EX/13 with the following amendment to Article XV.2(e):

“2. UNESCO undertakes to:

...

- (e) ~~provide financial contributions on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with the relevant decisions of its governing bodies concerning UNESCO's programme and budget.~~ **only contribute financially to concrete activities of the Centre if they are deemed to be in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and if such contribution is provided for in UNESCO's Programme and Budget. UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes.”**

(177 EX/SR.10)

[14 **Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an international centre for science and technology parks governance in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO**]

This item was withdrawn from the draft provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2.

15 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of a regional centre for water management research in arid zones in Pakistan, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/15; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and IHP-IC Resolution XVII-2 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in July 2006,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/15 and its annexes,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Pakistan to establish a regional centre for water management research in arid zones under the auspices of UNESCO, and requests that the Government of Pakistan ensures that it is in line with the guiding principles for UNESCO's strategy for water centres as delineated by the IHP Intergovernmental Council (IHP/IC-XVII/8, July 2006), which form the basis for the strategy for UNESCO water centres currently under consideration by the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, as well as in conformity with document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;
4. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the regional centre for water management research in arid zones in Pakistan, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/15.

(177 EX/SR.10)

16 Report by the Director-General on a plan of action concerning UNESCO's participation in the implementation of the decision and declaration by the African Union Summit on Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development (January 2007) (177 EX/16; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 164 EX/Decision 8.6, 166 EX/Decision 4.1, 170 EX/Decision 4.1, 175 EX/Decision 41 and 176 EX/Decision 56,
2. Also recalling the Yaoundé Decision of the 32nd Organization of African Unity (OAU) Summit on Bioethics (AHG/Res.254 (XXXII)),
3. Further recalling the Addis Ababa Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union on Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development (Assembly/AU/Decl.5 (VIII)), in which the African Union (AU) called upon UNESCO to assist in the implementation of the decision of the Summit on science and technology and the Addis Ababa Declaration on Climate Change and Development in Africa (Assembly/AU/Decl.4 (VIII)),
4. Having examined document 177 EX/16,
5. Welcomes document 177 EX/16 prepared by the Director-General, and expresses its satisfaction that expected results have been formulated for the various programme areas;

6. Notes with satisfaction that the priorities of the Plan of Action correspond to the strategic programme objectives of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4), as amended by the Executive Board (34 C/11);
7. Invites the Director-General to ensure that in the implementation of document 34 C/5, once approved by the General Conference, all programme sectors, in particular the Natural Sciences and Social and Human Sciences Sectors, but also the Education and Communication and Information Sectors, will work in an intersectoral manner in the implementation of this Plan of Action and the achievement of the expected results;
8. Calls on UNESCO, as lead agency of the United Nations Science and Technology Cluster in Support of NEPAD, to continue coordinating its work with other appropriate United Nations organizations as well as bilateral and multilateral institutions, so as to ensure coordinated and coherent implementation of the Plan of Action;
9. Approves the emphasis placed by the Director-General on three flagship projects, namely the initiative for capacity-building in science policy, science, and technology and engineering education, and the establishment of an African virtual campus;
10. Considers that an important element in the implementation of the second of the above-mentioned flagship projects (science, technology and engineering education) should be the revitalization of higher education and research institutes in Africa with a view to reinvesting in African skills;
11. Requests the Director-General to support studies for the purpose of improving science and technology programmes and initiatives in African universities and research institutes;
12. Invites the Director-General to ensure that, during the three biennia (34 C/5, 35 C/5 and 36 C/5) covered by the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013, resources of the regular programme are made available to partially finance some of the projects in the core areas of the Plan of Action;
13. Further invites the Director-General to cooperate with the African Union in the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of this Plan of Action;
14. Requests the Director-General to initiate activities promoting the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, the International Declaration on Human Genetic Data, and the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, including support to ethics and national bioethics committees in Africa, and strengthening national research systems;
15. Underlines the importance of South-South and triangular North-South-South cooperation in the field of science and technology, and requests the Director-General to reinforce UNESCO's support in this regard;
16. Also requests the Director-General to ensure that the second of the above-mentioned flagship projects (science, technology and engineering education) contributes to the revitalization of the higher education sector, and includes the development of policies contributing to the provision of a conducive environment for the retention of qualified personnel;
17. Invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report on the implementation of this Plan of Action at its 180th session;
18. Decides to transmit this decision to the General Conference at its 34th session.

Culture

17 Report by the Director-General on the preparation of a draft declaration of principles relating to cultural objects displaced in connection with the Second World War (177 EX/17; 177 EX/77 Add.)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 45, in which the General Conference, among other things, invited the Director-General to submit to it at its 34th session a draft declaration of principles relating to cultural objects displaced in connection with the Second World War, and 175 EX/Decision 16,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/17, including 34 C/22 and its annexes,
3. Decides, in view of informal consultations and discussions on the issue during the 177th session of the Executive Board, to recommend:
 - (a) that the General Conference invite the Director-General to convene a meeting of intergovernmental experts to explore further the possibility of arriving at a consensus recommendation on the basis of the text adopted by the intergovernmental meeting (category II) in March 2007 (funded from extrabudgetary funds), to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 180th session and subsequently to the General Conference at its 35th session,
 - (b) that the General Conference decide to suspend further consideration of the above-mentioned draft declaration until the 35th session of the General Conference;
4. Requests the Director-General to inform the Executive Board by the time of its 180th session on the progress made or consensus achieved by the meeting of intergovernmental experts on this issue, with a view to a recommendation by the Executive Board to the General Conference at its 35th session.

(177 EX/SR.9)

[18 Establishment of a UNESCO award in recognition of excellence in the fields of cultural and creative industries, and abolition of the UNESCO Crafts Prize]

This item was withdrawn from the draft provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2.

19 Jerusalem and the implementation of 33 C/Resolution 50 and 176 EX/Decision 20 (177 EX/19 and Add.; 177 EX/INF.8; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 39 and 176 EX/Decision 20, as well as the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and the related Protocols, and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO on the protection of the cultural heritage,
2. Affirming that nothing in the present decision, which is aimed at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, shall in any way affect the relevant

United Nations resolutions and decisions, in particular the relevant Security Council resolutions on the legal status of Jerusalem,

3. Having examined documents 177 EX/19 and Add. concerning Jerusalem,
4. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for his sustained efforts for the safeguarding of the cultural and natural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, in compliance with 32 C/Resolution 39 of the General Conference and 171 EX/Decision 18 of the Executive Board, and reiterates its concern as to the obstacles and practices affecting the safeguarding of the cultural and natural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem;
5. Taking note of the declaration by the Director-General concerning Jerusalem at the 172nd session of the Executive Board, which appeals to all parties concerned to respect the outstanding universal value of the Old City of Jerusalem, and to refrain from anything that may jeopardize the distinctive character of the Old City of Jerusalem inscribed on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger, invites him to pursue his efforts with the authorities concerned in regard to the safeguarding and preservation of the distinctive character of the Old City of Jerusalem;
6. Congratulates the Director-General on his initiatives in favour of the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, particularly the finalization of the Action Plan presented in document 177 EX/INF.8, and thanks the Government of Italy for funding its elaboration;
7. Expresses its gratitude to the Director-General for the progress made towards establishing a centre for the conservation of Islamic manuscripts in al-Ashrafiya Madrasa within the Esplanade of the Mosques (al-Haram ash-Sharif), requests him to intensify his efforts in that regard, and thanks the European Commission, Italy, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Welfare Association for their support and their generous contributions;
8. Takes note of the information provided in documents 177 EX/19 and Add., concerning the establishment of an action plan based on the guidelines proposed by the International Committee of Experts on the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, and the results of the missions on the spot;
9. Encourages UNESCO Member States to contribute to the efforts towards the implementation of the programme activities for the second phase of the Action Plan for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem as identified by the experts and the authorities concerned, notably through extrabudgetary resources;
10. Invites the Director-General to present to it the progress in implementing the above-mentioned Action Plan at its 179th session, and decides to include this item in the agenda of its 179th session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

20 Report by the Director-General on progress made in the implementation of the decision adopted by the Executive Board at the special plenary meeting held during its 176th session concerning Israeli archaeological excavations at the Mughrabi ascent in the Old City of Jerusalem (177 EX/20 and Add.; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/20 and Add.,
2. Recalling decisions 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/Decision and 176 EX/20,

3. Further recalling 31 COM 7.A 18 adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, New Zealand, 2007),
4. Affirms that the principal aim of the final design of the Mughrabi ascent should be to maintain the authenticity and integrity of the site, and in this regard urges the Israeli authorities to limit ongoing activities at the Mughrabi ascent to consolidation and stabilization works;
5. Encourages the application of the reinforced monitoring mechanism, adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session, in monitoring the state of conservation of the Mughrabi ascent, subject to the procedures in document WHC-07/31.COM/5.2 and Decision 31 COM 5.2, and supports, in particular, the involvement of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in this mechanism;
6. Welcomes the agreement between all parties concerned on the holding, in Jerusalem, not later than the first week of November 2007, of a professional encounter, facilitated by the World Heritage Centre, between Israeli, Jordanian and Waqf experts to discuss the detailed proposals for the proposed final design of the Mughrabi ascent prior to any final decision, and further welcomes the continuing cooperation among all parties concerned in this process;
7. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for the action he has taken to perform the noble mission entrusted to UNESCO in safeguarding, preserving and restoring the world heritage for the sake of humanity and future generations;
8. Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 179th session a progress report in this regard.

(177 EX/SR.10)

21 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment in China of a world heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/21; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the proposal submitted by the Government of China for the establishment of a world heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
2. Aware of the importance of international cooperation for strengthening the capacity of States Parties to promote and implement the World Heritage Convention through building capacity for the preparation of effective nominations and for the sustainable conservation and management of World Heritage properties,
3. Having examined the feasibility study contained in document 177 EX/21 in the light of the principles and guidelines for the establishment and operation of UNESCO institutes and centres (category 1) and institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) approved in 33 C/Resolution 90,
4. Welcoming the proposal of the Government of China, which is in line with the existing principles and guidelines concerning the creation of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, and appreciating the results of the consultations held thus far between the Secretariat and the Chinese authorities,

5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment in China of a world heritage training and research institute for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement annexed to document 177 EX/21.

(177 EX/SR.10)

[22 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an Ibero-American regional centre for dance, music, performing arts and audiovisual communication in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO]

This item was withdrawn from the draft provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2.

Communication and information

23 Reports on the implementation of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) (177 EX/23; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/23,
2. Bearing in mind the discussion held on item 26 and the relevant decision on this item,
3. Takes note of document 177 EX/23.

(177 EX/SR.10)

24 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of a regional centre for information and communication technology in Manama, Bahrain, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/24; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 175 EX/Decision 11,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/24 and its Annex,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Bahrain to establish the regional centre for information and communication technology under the auspices of UNESCO, as being in line with the guiding principles of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy regarding ICT applications for knowledge acquisition and sharing, as well as in conformity with 33 C/Resolution 90;
4. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the regional centre for information and communication technology (CICT) in Manama, Bahrain, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and to authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement contained in the Annex to document 177 EX/24.

(177 EX/SR.10)

DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2008-2009 (34 C/5)**25 Consideration of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5), and recommendations of the Executive Board (34 C/5 2nd version Volumes 1 and 2 and Corr.-Corr.2; 177 EX/INF.12 Rev.; 177 EX/INF.13; 177 EX/INF.14; 177 EX/INF.18; 177 EX/78)****I**

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 submitted by the Director-General (34 C/5 2nd version Volumes 1 and 2 and Corr.-Corr.2);
2. Recommends that the General Conference adopt a budget ceiling of \$631 million for the biennium 2008-2009;
3. Noting with satisfaction that the Drafting Group discharged and completed its work in a timely and efficient manner at meetings held from 11 to 13 June 2007 and from 6 to 7 July 2007, building on a memorandum by the Director-General¹ indicating changes to be made to draft document 34 C/5 in the light of document 34 C/11;
4. Recommends to the General Conference that it adopt all draft resolutions in Volume 1 of draft document 34 C/5 as amended by the Executive Board and shown in tracked form in document 34 C/6 Add.;
5. Also recommends to the General Conference that it request the Director-General to prepare document 34 C/5 Approved, and in particular Volume 2, in line with the amendments to the draft resolutions proposed by the Executive Board and any other changes that may be made by the General Conference at its 34th session.
6. Further recommends to the General Conference that it invite the Director-General to report to the Executive Board regularly regarding the development and implementation of the various intersectoral platforms, beginning with the 179th session.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5 2nd version Volumes 1 and 2 and Corr.-Corr.2) and document 177 EX/INF.18 prepared by the Director-General,
2. Recalling 172 EX/Decision 21, 33 C/Resolution 1, 33 C/Resolution 95, 175 EX/Decision 21, DG/Note/06/54 of 6 November 2006, and 176 EX/Decision 25,
3. Notes that in accordance with 176 EX/Decision 25, the Director-General has presented a draft budget with a single scenario amounting to \$631 million;
4. Also notes that the draft budget presented has been prepared in accordance with the methodology adopted by the General Conference;
5. Recommends that the General Conference adopt a budget ceiling of \$631 million for the biennium 2008-2009;
6. Further notes that the recommended budget of \$631 million calls for rebalancing of expenditure to the benefit of the priorities of the major programmes;

¹ This memorandum was later integrated into document 34 C/5 2nd version Volumes 1 and 2.

7. Reiterates the need of the Organization to strengthen internal controls and prepare for the transition to International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
8. Requests the Director-General, when preparing document 34 C/5 Approved, and during the implementation of the programme, to identify ways of strengthening the priorities of the major programmes;
9. Also requests the Director-General, to this end, pursuant to 172 EX/Decision 21, to continue to undertake effective rationalization of financial resources allocated to central services and other parts of the budget not included in Part II A, and further encourages the Director-General to reinforce his efforts to rationalize and reduce significantly travel costs of staff, including by the revision of the Administrative Manual as appropriate;
10. Invites the Director-General to present programmatic and financial information through the Internet to all Member States by means of the new management tool SISTER 2 that is planned to be available before the end of 2007;
11. Further requests the Director-General to implement this decision in the preparation of the work plans, and to report thereon in the EX/4 document.

(177 EX/SR.10)

METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

26 Comments by the Director-General on evaluations undertaken during the 2006-2007 biennium (177 EX/26; 177 EX/77)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 28,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/26, which summarizes the evaluation reports that have been presented,
3. Endorses the recommendations of the evaluation concerning the Information for All Programme (IFAP) and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS);
4. Invites the Director-General to implement, in a timely manner, recommendations aimed at improving the programmes and services, with a clear calendar for the implementation of each feature and the corresponding recommendation, and to continue to improve the quality of evaluations by implementing the UNESCO Evaluation Strategy;
5. Requests the Director-General to present to it at its 179th session a results-based strategic plan with a timetable defining the role of the Information for All Programme as a stakeholder in the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Plan of Action;
6. Also requests the Director-General to present to it a report at its 180th session on the implementation of the recommendations of the evaluation of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics;
7. Further requests the Director-General to continue to report to it on evaluations undertaken of the Organization's programme activities, on the progress made in strengthening programme management, on the follow-up to evaluation recommendations for each programme evaluated, and on strengthening the quality of

the evaluations undertaken and their impact on the management culture of the Organization;

8. Finally requests the Director-General to keep it actively involved throughout the evaluation process.

(177 EX/SR.9)

27 Report by the Director-General on the updated and revised version of the indicative 34 C/4 evaluation plan (2008-2013) (177 EX/27; 177 EX/77)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 26 and 176 EX/Decision 27,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/27,
3. Recognizes the importance of preparing a summary report of the 34 C/4 strategic programme objectives referred to as “meta-evaluation” in document 177 EX/27;
4. Endorses the proposed indicative 34 C/4 evaluation plan (2008-2013), noting in particular the clear linkage between evaluation and strategic programme objectives defined in the C/4 document;
5. Requests the Director-General to keep the Executive Board involved throughout the evaluation process, while ensuring the independence of that process throughout;
6. Also requests the Director-General promptly to take the necessary steps to implement the indicative evaluation plan, and to allocate appropriate resources for its implementation;
7. Further requests the Director-General to report to it at its 180th session on the implementation of the indicative evaluation plan;
8. Finally requests the Director-General to take fully into consideration the decisions taken by the Executive Board on the outcome of the evaluations in drafting future C/5 and C/4 documents.

(177 EX/SR.9)

28 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the strategy and the development of the overall situation with regard to UNESCO prizes (177 EX/28; 177 EX/77)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 24 and documents 171 EX/19 and 171 EX/INF.11,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/28 and its Annex,
3. Expresses its gratitude for the progress achieved;
4. Requests the Director-General to continue his efforts, involving Member States and in the context of the United Nations reform process;
5. Decides to abolish officially the following UNESCO prizes: the UNESCO Science Prize (for an outstanding contribution to the technological development of a developing Member State or region), the Javed Husain Prize for Young Scientists, the UNESCO-International Music Council Music Prize, and the Samarkand Taronasi Prize;

6. Requests the Director-General to take the necessary administrative steps to give effect to this decision.

(177 EX/SR.9)

29 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres approved in 33 C/Resolution 90 (177 EX/29; 177 EX/INF.9; 177 EX/INF.16; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90,
2. Having considered document 177 EX/29,
3. Acknowledges the important contribution of category 2 institutes and centres to the realization of the strategic objectives and priorities of UNESCO;
4. Welcomes the proposed elements of a future comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres as defined in document 177 EX/29, paragraph 7;
5. Considers that, in the light of document 177 EX/29, the strategy and the existing guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres, as approved in 33 C/Resolution 90, need to be updated;
6. Recommends that the General Conference invite the Director-General, at its 34th session, to submit an integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres, taking into account the principle of the financial and legal autonomy of these institutes and centres, for consideration by the Executive Board at its 180th session;
7. Also recommends that the General Conference invite the Director-General, when updating the strategy, particularly to take into account the need to:
 - (a) ensure long-term strategic planning, in line with UNESCO's overarching and strategic objectives in document 34 C/4 and the programme priorities of the relevant C/5 documents, and the Organization's financial and human resources;
 - (b) ensure improved quality through regular evaluation of the contribution of category 2 institutes and centres to the strategic objectives of the Organization, as well as through regular reports by the institutes and centres on their activities and the results achieved;
 - (c) enhance UNESCO's visibility and the role and contribution of category 2 institutes and centres to the objectives of UNESCO;
8. Requests the Director-General to present, in that context, information on the estimated costs provided for in document 34 C/5 Approved in connection with the establishment, ongoing collaboration with and coordination of category 2 institutes and centres;
9. Further recommends that the General Conference authorize the Executive Board to adopt the aforementioned integrated comprehensive strategy on its behalf;
10. Also requests the Director-General to report to the Executive Board on the implementation of the strategy for category 2 institutes and centres;
11. Decides to transmit document 177 EX/29 together with this decision to the General Conference at its 34th session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

30 Report by the Director-General on the reorientation of the UNESCO Office in Brasilia
(177 EX/30; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/30, together with documents 177 EX/52 and 177 EX/54,
2. Takes note with satisfaction of the very positive progress being made in the reorientation process of the UNESCO Office in Brasilia as indicated in the reports of the Director-General and the External Auditor;
3. Encourages the Director-General to complete, according to a clear timetable, implementation of the recommendations made by the External Auditor to fully address the management control issues, including, most recently, in document 177 EX/54;
4. Also encourages the Director-General to continue monitoring the operations of the UNESCO Office in Brasilia, and to ensure that it continues to operate in line with UNESCO's overall policies, programme priorities, rules and regulations;
5. Invites the Director-General to continue to bring to its attention any significant issues regarding the UNESCO Office in Brasilia as part of his general report under item 5 "Report of the Director-General on the follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions";
6. Requests the External Auditor to report further to it on this issue at its 179th session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

31 Follow-up to 33 C/Resolution 92 concerning relations between the three organs of UNESCO
(177 EX/31 Rev.; 177 EX/75)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 29,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/31 Rev.,
3. Recognizes that the various recommendations have been implemented to varying degrees in the 2006-2007 biennium, and that further implementation will follow in the 2008-2009 biennium;
4. Decides to continue implementing those recommendations still outstanding according to the proposals contained in document 177 EX/31 Rev.;
5. Requests its Chairperson to present this revised report as document 34 C/19 Rev. on its behalf to the General Conference at its 34th session.

(177 EX/SR.8)

MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

- 32 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3 and report of the Committee thereon** (177 EX/CR/HR and Add.-Add.2; 177 EX/3 PRIV. Draft and Add. and Corr.)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject.

(177 EX/SR.7)

- 33 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: nominations and report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations thereon** (177 EX/33 and Add. and Corr.; 177 EX/74)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the provisions of Article 3 of the 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,
2. Having taken note of the list of persons nominated by the States Parties to the Protocol for the purpose of the election of three members of the Commission, communicated to it by the Director-General pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 2, of the said Protocol (177 EX/33 and Add. and Corr.),
3. Transmits this list to the General Conference at its 34th session;
4. Requests the Director-General to add to this list any candidatures which he may receive before the opening of the 34th session of the General Conference.

(177 EX/SR.7)

- [34 Opportunity of a revised recommendation on the conservation of historic urban landscapes]**

This item was withdrawn from the draft provisional agenda; see the footnote in document 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2.

- 35 Monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments** (177 EX/35 Parts I and II and Corr. (*English only*); 177 EX/74)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1 and 32 C/Resolution 77, 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21, 175 EX/Decision 28 and 176 EX/Decision 33 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 177 EX/35 Parts I and II and Corr., and the report of the CR Committee thereon (177 EX/74),

3. Decides to approve the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided, as set out in the Annex to this decision.

ANNEX

Specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided

Stage 1: Frequency of submission of reports on the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided

In accordance with the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 4, and Article VIII of the Constitution, reports shall be submitted every four years unless the General Conference, in the case of specific conventions or recommendations, decides otherwise.

Stage 2: Transmission of conventions and recommendations to Member States

Pursuant to the provisions of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, while transmitting a certified copy of any convention or recommendation to Member States, the Director-General will formally remind them of their obligation to submit the convention or recommendation in question to their competent national authorities in accordance with Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, and will also draw their attention to the difference in the legal nature of conventions and recommendations.

The Secretariat will ensure that the standard-setting texts adopted by the General Conference are widely disseminated to Member States and the public.

Stage 3: Establishment of reports for monitoring the effective implementation of conventions and recommendations

(a) Consultations concerning conventions

The Secretariat shall submit to the Executive Board its proposals concerning the modalities of consultation of Member States on any measures they have respectively adopted pursuant to Article IV, paragraphs 4 and 6, and Article VIII of the Constitution. To this effect, it shall prepare draft guidelines for the preparation of reports based on the framework guidelines adopted by the Executive Board, to which the Secretariat will add, in view of the wide variety of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments, specific questions on which additional information is sought in the light either of the conclusions of the previous consultation or of the information available.

The Executive Board shall entrust the examination of these proposals to its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR).

After the guidelines have been approved by the Executive Board, the Director-General will invite the Member States to submit their report on the action taken on the convention, within a period of six months. Each Member State must submit such a report pursuant to Article 17, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution.

(b) Collection of information concerning recommendations

The Secretariat will collect from Member States and National Commissions and from the various partners of the Organization such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), information on the implementation of the recommendation in question.

This collection of information may be conducted on the basis of the model guidelines.

(c) Preparation of reports

With regard to the conventions, the Member States may prepare reports, with the cooperation and support of the National Commissions, in accordance with the model guidelines approved by the Board. Within the limit of available resources, the guidelines may be made accessible on the Internet to Member States to enable them to draw up and submit their report to the Secretariat by electronic means.

With regard to the recommendations, the Secretariat will prepare a report on their implementation by the Member States, on the basis of the information collected, in particular with regard to national legislation.

(d) Technical assistance provided by the Secretariat to Member States

In order to reduce their workload, the Secretariat will provide Member States, at their request or at the request of the General Conference, with technical assistance, which will focus both on a better understanding of the objectives of the convention or recommendation in question and on practical procedures for the preparation of their reports, in particular, the collection of information and the drafting of the reports.

Stage 4: Consideration by the Executive Board of the reports for monitoring the effective implementation of conventions and recommendations

The Secretariat will submit to the Executive Board a summary of the reports received from Member States on the measures taken for the implementation of the conventions. The Executive Board may, if it so desires, ask the Secretariat to submit to it for consideration all the reports for each country.

With regard to recommendations, the Secretariat will submit its consolidated report on the implementation of these instruments, prepared on the basis of the information collected.

The documents prepared by the Secretariat will be examined by the Executive Board, which will entrust the task to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations. The debates and work of the Executive Board and the CR Committee arising from their consideration of the reports will take place in public meetings.

The Executive Board will transmit these documents to the General Conference, together with its observations or comments and any that the Director-General may make, following their consideration by the Executive Board.

Stage 5: Decision of the General Conference concerning the reports for monitoring the effective implementation of conventions and recommendations

The General Conference may take, as necessary, a decision with regard to the summaries of reports concerning the implementation of the conventions and recommendations.

The Director-General shall regularly inform the General Conference and the Executive Board with respect to the implementation of the decisions taken by the General Conference.

II

Model guidelines

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1 and 32 C/Resolution 77, 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21, 175 EX/Decision 28 and 176 EX/Decision 33 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 177 EX/35 Parts I and II, and the report of the CR Committee thereon (177 EX/74),
3. Having noted that of the eight conventions for whose monitoring the CR Committee is now responsible, three are monitored regularly,
4. Decides accordingly to approve the framework guidelines as set out in annex to this decision for the three conventions referred to below:
 - 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).

ANNEX

Framework Guidelines

I. Information on the legislative, judicial, administrative and other measures taken by the State at the national level

- (a) Pursuant to Article IV, paragraphs 4 and 6, and Article VIII of the Constitution, each State may provide information on its status in respect of UNESCO's conventions by indicating whether it plans to accede to the instruments to which it is not yet Party or which it has signed but not yet ratified.¹
- (b) States should describe the specific legal framework governing the protection on their territory of the rights guaranteed by the UNESCO convention to which they are Parties. They should indicate, *inter alia*, whether the rights set forth in the convention are protected by their constitution, by a basic legislative text or by any other national provision, and whether the UNESCO convention has been incorporated into national legislation, and should make reference to the legal, administrative or other authorities competent in relation to the rights guaranteed by the convention and the scope of such competence.

II. Information on the implementation of the convention (with reference to its provisions)

This part of the report provides States with an opportunity to concentrate on more specific questions pertaining to the implementation of the instrument concerned. It should contain the information requested by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in its most recent guidelines for the preparation of reports, and should set out the specific measures taken to respond to any concerns expressed by the Committee in its observations made at the conclusion of the examination of the State Party's previous report.

(a) *Convention against Discrimination in Education*

States should provide detailed information on:

- (i) the means employed to proscribe discrimination in education for the reasons set out in the Convention, and to ensure equality of treatment in education;

¹ In the case of the conventions on education, States Parties may wish to include information transmitted to the United Nations treaty bodies on their endorsement of other international human rights standards, in particular when such information is directly related to States' implementation of the provisions of UNESCO's conventions. States could indicate if they are Parties to regional human rights instruments.

- (ii) the measures taken to ensure equal opportunities in education, and to attain education for all (EFA), including gender parity in education, and to implement strategies and programmes in order to achieve in the country the full exercise by all of the right to education without discrimination or exclusion;
- (iii) progress made with respect to ensuring universal access to primary and secondary education, including technical and vocational education, and the means employed to protect the right of national minorities to carry out their own educational activities.

(b) *Convention on Technical and Vocational Education*

States should provide detailed information on:

- (i) the measures taken to define strategies and implement programmes and curricula for technical and vocational education designed for young people and adults, within the framework of the respective education systems;
- (ii) the measures taken to review periodically the structure of technical and vocational education, study programmes and plans, training methods and materials, as well as the forms of cooperation between the school system and the world of work, and the measures taken to give persons teaching in the field of technical and vocational education an opportunity to update their skills;
- (iii) the measures taken to facilitate international cooperation and to participate actively in international exchanges concerning study and teacher-training programmes, methods, equipment standards and textbooks in the field of technical and vocational education.

(c) *Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property*

States should provide detailed information on the measures taken to:

- (i) combat the illicit transfer of ownership, such as setting up one or more national services for the protection of the cultural heritage, and establishing and keeping up-to-date a national inventory of protected cultural property whose export would constitute an appreciable impoverishment of the national cultural heritage;
- (ii) combat illicit excavations, such as supervising archaeological excavations, ensuring the preservation *in situ* of certain cultural property, and protecting certain areas reserved for future archaeological research;
- (iii) control the export of cultural property, such as introducing an appropriate certificate by which the exporting State would specify that the export of the cultural property in question is authorized.

III. Methods introduced to draw the attention of the various authorities in the country to the instrument and to remove obstacles encountered

- (a) The report should contain an assessment of the effectiveness of the methods introduced to draw the attention of the various authorities of the country to the instrument and to remove obstacles encountered. It should highlight the difficulties encountered in implementing the key provisions of the convention, and the legal and practical obstacles encountered by States in implementing the convention.
- (b) States should describe briefly the main issues that need to be resolved in order to promote the implementation of the key provisions of the convention in the country, or

what measures have been taken to launch an awareness-raising campaign and to promote ratification.

- (c) States should describe the measures taken to raise awareness of the basic principles of the convention, including their translation into national and, where necessary, local languages, and their national or local dissemination, in particular to non-governmental organizations. States should specify the activities undertaken or supported by the National Commission with a view to promoting the convention and fostering debate on critical issues, in relation to the rights enshrined in the convention.

(177 EX/SR.7)

36 Results of the seventh consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and the Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (1960)
(177 EX/36; 177 EX/74)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 26 C/Resolution 1.18 and 30 C/Resolution 15,
2. Further recalling 170 EX/Decision 6.3 and 171 EX/Decision 28, by which it recognized the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education as a key pillar of education for all (EFA),
3. Having examined document 177 EX/36,
4. Notes with appreciation that 51 Member States submitted their reports under the seventh consultation;
5. Recognizes the significance of applying the principle of equality of educational opportunities and the importance of the application of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education by Member States for the EFA process in order to promote the realization of the right to education;
6. Commends the steps undertaken at the national level in order to meet the continuing challenges to the full implementation of the provisions of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education;
7. Notes that as of 31 July 2007, 94 Member States had ratified the Convention;
8. Invites Member States which have not become a party to the Convention to consider doing so, and to make the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education as well as the Protocol instituting a Conciliation and Good Offices Commission of 1962 better known to the bodies, target groups and other entities concerned with matters dealt with therein, in line with Article 16.2 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution of UNESCO;
9. Requests the Director-General to put special emphasis on and widely publicize the Convention against Discrimination in Education, and intensify his efforts to encourage Member States to adopt effective domestic measures intended to secure education for all without discrimination or exclusion as part of the EFA process;
10. Invites the Director-General to take appropriate action as a follow-up to the seventh consultation;
11. Invites all Member States to take an active part in the meeting of the States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education and other Member States, to be held on 24 October 2007 on the sidelines of the 34th session of the General Conference;

12. Requests the Director-General to transmit document 177 EX/36, along with this decision and any related comments, to the General Conference at its 34th session for consideration and follow-up decision;
13. Recommends that the General Conference invite the Director-General to initiate the eighth consultation of Member States in order that its results may be examined by the Executive Board and then submitted to the General Conference at its 37th session in 2013.

(177 EX/SR.7)

37 Report on the fifth and sixth meetings of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education (November 2006, May 2007) (177 EX/37; 177 EX/74)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 162 EX/Decision 5.4, 171 EX/Decision 27, 172 EX/Decision 26 and 175 EX/Decision 29,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/37,
3. Expresses its appreciation of the work of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education;
4. Recognizes the key importance of the theme it addressed at its fifth and sixth meetings;
5. Invites all Member States, in that regard, to fulfil their respective commitments and international obligations relating to universalizing access to free primary education for all;
6. Encourages Member States without sufficient resources to seek international cooperation and assistance with a view to securing compulsory primary education free of charge for every child, and invites States in a position to assist to consider such requests for cooperation and assistance to promote the full exercise of the right to education;
7. Requests the Director-General to consider, in consultation with Member States, the recommendations made by the Joint Expert Group in paragraph 22 of document 177 EX/37;
8. Invites the Joint Expert Group to continue its consultations relating to monitoring the progressive achievement of the full exercise of the right to education, and to continue to examine key issues within its mandate;
9. Requests the Joint Expert Group to report to the Executive Board at its 179th session.

(177 EX/SR.7)

38 Examination by the Executive Board of the new report by Member States and other States Parties on measures taken in application of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) (177 EX/38; 177 EX/74)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 38,

2. Having examined document 177 EX/38 on the examination by the Executive Board of the new report by Member States and other States Parties on measures taken to implement the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (hereinafter “the 1970 Convention”) and the two annexes to that document, which contain, respectively, the guidelines issued to facilitate the preparation of national reports on measures taken to protect and monitor cultural property, and the summaries of those reports,
3. Noting that the number of reports submitted by States Parties to the 1970 Convention remains very inadequate in view of the obligation of each State Party to report under Article 16 of the Convention,
4. Noting with satisfaction that several Member States not yet Parties to the 1970 Convention have provided information regarding their intention to ratify the Convention,
5. Stressing the importance of transmitting to UNESCO precise information on the measures taken by States to protect cultural property on their territory, particularly concerning the successes, failures and obstacles encountered in implementing the Convention, and on any requests for assistance which they might make in that respect,
6. Considering that action to combat trafficking in cultural property needs to be strengthened at the national as well as the international level,
7. Invites the States that are not yet Parties to the 1970 Convention and to the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention, which complements it, to consider acceding to them;
8. Reminds States Parties of their obligations under the 1970 Convention in respect of effective implementation, and in particular their obligation to report under Article 16 thereof;
9. Emphasizes that the content of such reports should be as detailed as possible to enable an accurate understanding and evaluation of the implementation of the 1970 Convention;
10. Encourages States Parties to the 1970 Convention to assess the national measures taken to implement the Convention so that areas of weakness may be identified and appropriate adjustments or improvements made as necessary;
11. Invites Member States and the Director-General to pursue activities aimed at strengthening regional and worldwide cooperation, particularly by encouraging the introduction of an international system to facilitate the restitution of stolen or illicitly exported cultural property;
12. Recommends that the General Conference adopt at its 34th session the following draft resolution:

“The General Conference,

Having examined the reports by Member States and other States Parties to the 1970 Convention on measures taken by them to implement the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970), and the information provided by the States Parties on measures taken to protect cultural property and monitor its illicit import, export and transfer of ownership,

Stressing the importance of transmitting to UNESCO precise information on the measures taken by States to protect cultural property in their territory, particularly

concerning the successes, failures and obstacles encountered in implementing the Convention, and on any requests for assistance which they might make in that respect,

Considering in particular the obstacles and progress mentioned by States in regard to action to combat the growing traffic in cultural property on the Internet,

Aware of the very great usefulness of these national reports for the Director-General and for the additional activities that he has undertaken since the 32nd session in regard to the protection of cultural property,

Noting with satisfaction the growing number of States Parties to the 1970 Convention, and *noting* the intentions of those that plan to become Parties and thus strengthen the effective scope of this international instrument,

1. *Calls on* all States that are not yet Parties to the 1970 Convention to consider acceding thereto;
2. *Recommends* that States consider acceding to the UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (1995), which complements the 1970 Convention;
3. *Encourages* States to take cognizance of and apply without delay the Basic Actions concerning Cultural Objects being offered for Sale over the Internet, drawn up jointly by UNESCO, Interpol and the International Council of Museums (ICOM);
4. *Invites* States and the Director-General to pursue activities aimed at strengthening regional and international cooperation, in particular through the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation;
5. *Also invites* the Director-General to assist States, at their request, in their efforts to implement the 1970 Convention, to prepare reports on such implementation, or on the means of becoming Parties to the Convention, and to propose other arrangements for the examination of national reports which are complementary to existing procedures.”

(177 EX/SR.7)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

39 Revised provisional agenda of the 34th session of the General Conference (177 EX/39)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/39,
2. Having regard to Rules 12 and 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,
3. Noting that nine proposals for supplementary items were submitted within the time limit set by Rule 12,
4. Noting also that these items are included in the supplementary list circulated to the Member States and Associate Members in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference (circular letter of 26 September 2007),
5. Establishes the revised provisional agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (34 C/1 Prov.) including the amendment set out in paragraph 5 of document 177 EX/39

with the addition of any item stemming from the decisions taken at its 177th session, and the following supplementary items:

Item	Title	Reference
GENERAL POLICY AND PROGRAMME QUESTIONS		
5.10	Renewal of the Operational Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Netherlands concerning the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE)	Item proposed by the Director-General
5.11	Enhancing the effectiveness of the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA)	Item proposed by the United States of America
5.12	Establishment of an international institute for human rights education in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina	Item proposed by Argentina
5.13	Proclamation of an international year for the rapprochement of cultures	Item proposed by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan and Ukraine
5.14	Further promotion of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)	Item proposed by Japan
5.15	Amendment to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC)	Item proposed by the Director-General
OTHER BUSINESS		
14.1	Preparation of a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire	Item proposed by Côte d'Ivoire
14.2	Holocaust remembrance	Item proposed by Australia, Canada, Israel, Russian Federation and United States of America
14.3	Remembrance of victims of the Great Famine (<i>Holodomor</i>) in Ukraine	Item proposed by Ukraine

(177 EX/SR.5)

40 Addendum to the draft plan for the organization of the work of the 34th session of the General Conference (177 EX/40; 177 EX/INF.19)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/40,
2. Approves the proposals contained in paragraph 2 of that document,

3. Recommends to the General Conference that the items listed below be examined by the following organs:

PRX Commission

- 14.1 Preparation of a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire
- 14.2 Holocaust remembrance
- 14.3 Remembrance of victims of the Great Famine (Holodomor) in Ukraine

ED Commission

- 5.11 Enhancing the effectiveness of the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA)
- 5.14 Further promotion of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)
- 5.15 Amendment to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC)

SC Commission

- 5.10 Renewal of the Operational Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Netherlands concerning the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE)

SHS Commission

- 5.12 Establishment of an international institute for human rights education in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina

CLT Commission

- 5.13 Proclamation of an international year for the rapprochement of cultures

4. Also recommends that the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) be referred to the programme commissions for examination.

(177 EX/SR.5)

41 Venue of the 35th session of the General Conference (177 EX/41)

The Executive Board,

1. Having regard to the provisions of Rules 2 and 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,
2. Considering that, on the date fixed by Rule 3, no Member State had invited the General Conference to hold its 35th session in its territory,
3. Recommends that the General Conference hold its 35th session at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

(177 EX/SR.5)

42 Submission of nominations for the offices of President and Vice-Presidents of the 34th session of the General Conference (177 EX/INF.3)

The Executive Board, in accordance with Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, recommends the following nominations for the offices of President and Vice-Presidents of the 34th session of the General Conference:

President of the General Conference: H.E. Mr George Anastassopoulos (Greece)

Vice-Presidents (36): The heads of delegation of the following Member States:

Afghanistan	Egypt	Nepal
Algeria	France	Nigeria
Australia	Gabon	Philippines
Austria	Germany	Qatar
Belgium	Grenada	Romania
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Honduras	Saint Lucia
Bulgaria	Hungary	Serbia
Cameroon	India	Seychelles
Canada	Indonesia	Syrian Arab Republic
Czech Republic	Jordan	United States of America
Dominican Republic	Kenya	Venezuela (Bolivarian
Ecuador	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Republic of)
		Zambia

(177 EX/SR.5)

43 Submission of nominations for the offices of Chairpersons of the commissions and committees of the 34th session of the General Conference (177 EX/INF.4)

The Executive Board decided to recommend to the General Conference the following nominations for the offices of Chairpersons of the commissions and committees:

PRX Commission	Ms Salwa Siniora Baassiri (Lebanon)
ED Commission	Mr Ricardo Henriques (Brazil)
SC Commission	Mr Eriabu Lugujo (Uganda)
SHS Commission	Mr Július Oszlányi (Slovakia)
CLT Commission	Mr Javad Zarif (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
CI Commission	Mr Frédéric Riehl (Switzerland)
Administrative Commission	Mr Olabiyi Yaï (Benin)
Credentials Committee	Ms Ina Marčiulionytė (Lithuania)
Nominations Committee	Mr Abdulsalam Mohamed Al-Joufi (Yemen)
Legal Committee	Mr Toshiyuki Kono (Japan)

(177 EX/SR.5)

44 Admission to the 34th session of the General Conference of observers from international non-governmental organizations (other than those maintaining formal relations), foundations and similar institutions maintaining official relations as well as from other international non-governmental organizations (177 EX/44 and Add.)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the requests from international non-governmental organizations other than those maintaining formal relations, those from foundations and similar institutions maintaining official relations with UNESCO and from other international organizations

wishing to be represented by observers at the 34th session of the General Conference (177 EX/44 and Add.),

2. Referring to Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, and to the procedure that it adopted at its 125th session, and modified at its 161st session, for the examination of such requests,
3. Decides to admit, as observers at the 34th session of the General Conference, the international non-governmental organizations maintaining operational relations with UNESCO, as listed in Annex I to documents 177 EX/44 and Add.;
4. Recommends that the General Conference admit, as observers at its 34th session, the foundations and similar institutions and other international organizations that have submitted a request to that effect and are listed in Annex II to documents 177 EX/ 44 and Add.

(177 EX/SR.5)

45 Recommendation of the Executive Board concerning communications received from Member States invoking the provisions of Article IV.C.8(c) of the Constitution and voting rights (177 EX/45 and Add.-Add.3; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/45 and Add.-Add.3,
2. Recalling the constitutional obligation of Member States to pay their contributions fully and on time,
3. Taking into account the history of payment of contributions in preceding years and previous requests for voting rights in the case of Member States in arrears, as well as the measures proposed by them to eliminate their arrears,
4. Requests the Director-General to transmit the communications received invoking the terms of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c) of the Constitution to the General Conference for decision.

(177 EX/SR.10)

46 Report by the Executive Board on its own activities in 2006-2007, including its methods of work (177 EX/46 Part I Rev. and Part II; 177 EX/INF.20; 177 EX/75; 177 EX/77)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 30 C/Resolution 81, 156 EX/Decision 5.5 and 176 EX/Decision 29,
2. Considering the decision by the General Conference to improve reporting (33 C/Resolution 78 and 33 C/Resolution 92),
3. Recognizing that this is an ongoing process,
4. Having revised document 177 EX/46 Part I,
5. Decides to review at its 179th session the format of its reporting to the General Conference;

6. Requests its Chairperson to present the report referred to in paragraph 4, on behalf of the Board, to the General Conference at its 34th session, taking into account the discussions thereon at its 177th session.

(177 EX/SR.8)

II

Report by the Executive Board on the implementation of the current Programme and Budget (33 C/5), together with the results achieved in the previous biennium (34 C/3)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 78 (para. 4) and 33 C/Resolution 92 (recommendation 13),
2. Having examined document 177 EX/46 Part II,
3. Recommends that the General Conference adopt, at its 34th session, the following draft resolution:

“The General Conference,

Recalling 33 C/Resolution 78 (para. 4) and 33 C/Resolution 92 (recommendation 13),

Mindful that the report contained in document 34 C/9 Part II constitutes the first attempt by the Executive Board to present a holistic view on the implementation of the programme,

1. *Encourages* the Executive Board to further develop the methodology for preparing such a report;
2. *Invites* the Executive Board to:
 - (i) have a wider and more strategic assessment of the performance of the programmes, including the EX/4 document, by expressing its views progressively during the biennium through explicit decisions on the performance of individual programmes at the main-line-of-action level;
 - (ii) reflect on an improved time-frame to fully address all the issues involved in the preparation of the C/5 and C/6 documents;
 - (iii) better synchronize the process of preparation of the C/3, EX/4 and C/5 documents through streamlining and proper sequencing of these documents in an improved format;
3. *Recommends* that conclusions of ad hoc programme reviews be presented and adopted in due time in order to ensure their integration in regular programme planning cycles;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to:
 - (i) improve reports on the performance of programme execution (EX/4 and C/3) in particular via presentations in tabular format showing the results achieved against the expected results (EX/4 against C/5);
 - (ii) present at least once a year information on the results achieved at country level, and include information on the participation of local stakeholders in programme implementation;

- (iii) ensure that information contained in SISTER, including results achieved at the country level, is complete, up to date and accessible to Member States, in order to serve as a reliable source of reference, in particular being coherent with the statutory EX/4 and C/3 documents;
- (iv) regularly conduct impact reviews of UNESCO's programmes at the global, regional and country levels, and include in statutory reports explicit findings geared to the different target audiences;
- (v) better identify needs and define concrete benefits for different target audiences with respect to given programmes."

(177 EX/SR.8, 177 EX/SR.9)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

47 Financial report and interim financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO as at 31 December 2006 for the financial period ending 31 December 2007 (177 EX/47; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Articles 12.10 and 11.2 of UNESCO's Financial Regulations,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/47,
3. Notes the use of the unspent balance of unliquidated obligations to liquidate other outstanding legal obligations of the Organization as explained in Note 5(ii)(c) to the Financial Statements (34 C/30 Annex, annexed to document 177 EX/47);
4. Decides to transmit the financial report of the Director-General together with the interim financial statements of UNESCO as at 31 December 2006 for the financial period ending 31 December 2007 to the General Conference at its 34th session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

48 Report by the Director-General on the actual position concerning all payment plans agreed upon between UNESCO and Member States in arrears with their contributions (177 EX/48 and Add.; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/48 and Add.,
2. Expresses its gratitude to Member States that have paid their contributions for the financial period 2006-2007 and to those that have sped up the payment of their contributions in response to appeals;
3. Notes that the considerable efforts made by many Member States have not been enough to prevent recourse to internal borrowing at the end of November 2006 to supplement the resources of the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of financing the approved programme;
4. Recalls that the prompt payment of contributions is an obligation incumbent on Member States under the Constitution and the Financial Regulations of the Organization;

5. Strongly supports the approaches the Director-General is continuing to make to Member States with a view to obtaining timely payment of contributions;
6. Urges Member States, on receipt of the Director-General's request for payment of assessed contributions, to inform him as promptly as possible of the date, amount and method of payment of the forthcoming contribution, in order to facilitate his management of the Organization's treasury function;
7. Urgently appeals to those Member States that are behind with the payment of their contributions to pay their arrears without delay;
8. Noting in particular the failure of 17 Member States to pay up to 25 September 2007 the amounts due by them against payment plans approved by the General Conference for settlement of their accumulated arrears in annual instalments,
9. Recalling the request of the General Conference to the Director-General to report to it at its 34th session thereon,
10. Urgently appeals to those Member States in arrears on payment plans to settle their outstanding instalments as well as their regular assessed contributions at the earliest possible time, bearing in mind the risk of loss of voting rights that may otherwise ensue at the 34th session of the General Conference;
11. Having taken note of the options presented with regard to the incentive scheme to encourage prompt payment of contributions,
12. Recommends that the General Conference:

Resolve that the existing scheme to encourage prompt payment of contributions should be continued until the end of the following biennium (2008-2009), as follows:

- (a) the resources to be distributed to eligible Member States shall consist of:
 - (i) all other income classified as miscellaneous income within the definition of Article 7.1 of the Financial Regulations except UNDP support costs, net of exchange adjustments, interest costs on borrowing, bank and investment charges, and taking into account the balance of the currency fluctuation account of the split-level assessment system;
 - (ii) interest on investments of the Working Capital Fund;
 - (iii) contributions resulting from the assessment on new Member States under the provisions of Article 5.9 of the Financial Regulations, exclusive of contributions that may be assessed on former Member States rejoining the Organization;
 - (iv) any unobligated or unspent balances of appropriations available for apportionment to Member States as defined in Articles 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations, after deducting therefrom any contributions relating to the appropriation of each financial period that remain unpaid;
- (b) the incentive points of eligible Member States shall be calculated by reference to the weighted scale shown in Annex VI of document 126 EX/35, taking into account dates and amounts of contributions paid, rounded to the nearest thousand United States dollars;

- (c) the funds available from the sources defined above at the end of the financial period shall be prorated to Member States that have paid in full their assessed contributions by the end of each year of the financial period concerned; if a Member State that has not paid in full for the first year pays the amount assessed for both years of the financial period before the end of the second year, that Member State will qualify for incentive points in the second year on the basis of contributions paid in respect of the amount assessed for that second year;
- (d) the share of resources to be distributed to each Member State shall be calculated according to the proportion of the incentive points accumulated by the Member State to the total pool of incentive points for the entire financial period;
- (e) the appropriate share of each eligible Member State shall be deducted from the contribution assessed on it for the second year of the subsequent financial period;

Further resolve that the relevant provisions of Articles 4.3, 4.4, 5.2 and 7.1 of the Financial Regulations shall be suspended for a two-year period commencing 1 January 2008;

- 13. Requests the Director-General to further examine these arrangements and to submit his findings to it at its 182nd session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

[49 Comments by the Director-General on the implementation of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) Strategy in 2006-2007: follow-up to the annual report for 2006]

This item was reported on under item 5 “Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions” as indicated in the footnote to document 177 EX/1 Prov. Rev.2.

50 Report by the Director-General on the geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff of the Secretariat (177 EX/50; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

- 1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 84 and 172 EX/Decision 37,
- 2. Having examined document 177 EX/50,
- 3. Takes note of the information provided by the Director-General regarding the situation of the geographical distribution and the gender balance of the staff as at 1 June 2007;
- 4. Also takes note of the efforts exerted to improve the geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff of the Secretariat since June 2000;
- 5. Invites the Director-General to adopt promptly measures needed in order to attain gender balance within UNESCO’s international professional staff at senior management levels (D and above), and to submit to it at its 179th session a plan to achieve improved gender balance at senior management levels, with a target of at least 50% women by 2015;
- 6. Further takes note of the implementation of specific measures aimed at improving geographical distribution, in particular for non- and under-represented Member States;

7. Invites the Director-General to provide to it at its 180th session an information note on the situation of the geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff of the Secretariat, and to submit to it a full report thereon at its 182nd session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

51 Progress report by the Director-General on extrabudgetary resources and activities (177 EX/51; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 166 EX/Decision 8.7, 33 C/Resolution 92, 175 EX/Decision 36 and 176 EX/Decision 43,
2. Having examined documents 177 EX/51, 177 EX/52 and 177 EX/4 Part II,
3. Takes note of the further progress achieved in the implementation of the Director-General's Action Plan on improved management of UNESCO's extrabudgetary activities;
4. Reiterates its request to the Director-General to pursue the implementation of the Action Plan, also bearing in mind the impact of the overall reform efforts of the United Nations system in the field of operational activities for development cooperation;
5. Also requests the Director-General to accelerate his efforts to establish a full monitoring and reporting procedure to monitor the management and performance of extrabudgetary activities, including procedures to monitor agreements contracted under arrangements for self-benefiting funds;
6. Further requests the Director-General to report to it at its 180th session on progress made in establishing such procedures;
7. Encourages the Director-General to pursue his active consultations within the High Level Committee on Management (HLCM) to arrive at a common response on the cost-recovery policy to be implemented in the context of the joint United Nations country-programming exercises;
8. Expresses the hope that the funding sources will increasingly provide voluntary contributions to strengthen the capacity of UNESCO to achieve its core mandates;
9. Invites the General Conference, on the basis of the Director-General's report to be presented to the General Conference at its 34th session, to keep developments under the Action Plan for improved management of UNESCO's extrabudgetary activities under review in accordance with a timeline to be established by the General Conference.

(177 EX/SR.10)

52 Report by the Director-General on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor on audits already undertaken (177 EX/52; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article 12 of the Financial Regulations,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/52,

3. Notes the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor;
4. Requests the Director-General to continue the ongoing process of implementing those recommendations where further action is required.

(177 EX/SR.10)

53 Report by the Director-General on progress in implementing 176 EX/Decision 39 and the External Auditor's recommendations concerning UNESCO's procurement policies and procedures (177 EX/53; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 39, document 176 EX/39, 176 EX/Decision 38 and document 176 EX/38,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/53,
3. Recognizes the progress made by the Director-General in the implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor and 176 EX/Decision 39 and 176 EX/Decision 38 on strengthening the internal control system of the Organization;
4. Encourages the Director-General to continue his efforts to improve the internal control and the control environment through policy development, streamlining of processes, and training of staff in accounting and financial management, while maintaining appropriate ethical conduct and professional independence from line management in respect of financial management matters;
5. Requests the External Auditor to report to it at its 179th session on progress made in responding to the External Auditor's recommendations on procurement policies and procedures.

(177 EX/SR.10)

54 Report by the External Auditor on the management of the UNESCO Office in Brasilia (177 EX/54; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/54,
2. Takes note of its content.

(177 EX/SR.10)

55 Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex (177 EX/55; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 74, 172 EX/Decision 40, 175 EX/Decision 38, 176 EX/Decision 44,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/55,
3. Expresses its gratitude to the Headquarters Committee and to its Chairpersons, H.E. Ms Raychelle Awuor Omamo (Kenya) and H.E. Mr David Hamadziripi (Zimbabwe) for the action taken and the results achieved between the 33rd and 34th sessions of the General Conference;

4. Takes note of the progress achieved in managing the UNESCO complex and the implementation of the Belmont Plan;
5. Takes note with concern of the lack of information provided in document 177 EX/55 regarding cost increases for the implementation of the renovation plan;
6. Noting that, despite many and regular appeals launched by the Executive Board and the General Conference, there have been no major voluntary contributions from Member States or from other sources for the renovation and improvement of the Headquarters premises,
7. Recommends that the General Conference carefully consider the additional budgetary requirements for implementation of the Belmont Plan, and consider the various possibilities for financing the additional cost of the renovation plan, including that of exceptionally suspending Financial Regulation 4.4 and authorizing the Director-General to use the unspent balance from the 2004-2005 biennium (estimated at \$3,735,000) to finance the additional costs of the renovation plan;
8. Takes note of the progress achieved in relation to the maintenance and conservation strategy for Headquarters buildings;
9. Notes that the Headquarters Committee will continue its examination of the rental scale for offices in the Miollis building, and report to it at its 179th session;
10. Reiterates its request to the Director-General to apply all necessary measures resulting from the contracts on letting office space to Permanent Delegations, including the redistribution of those offices to delegations regularly discharging their contractual obligations, and to keep it informed of work on the Miollis/Bonvin site;
11. Invites the Director-General to prepare preliminary proposals for the financing of the renovation plan for the Miollis/Bonvin site (32 C/INF.8), and to submit them to it at its 179th session;
12. Also invites the Director-General to better monitor and prepare for possible future cost increases regarding the renovation plan, and to inform Member States accordingly;
13. Requests the Director-General to report, before the 35th session of the General Conference, to the Executive Board at its 181st session, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on the progress of restoration and improvement of Headquarters buildings.

(177 EX/SR.10)

56 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Participation Programme and emergency assistance (177 EX/56; 177 EX/78)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 10 C/Resolution 7.31 and 12 C/Resolution 7.B.21, adopted by the General Conference, which set up the basic principles of the Participation Programme, together with the criteria, eligibility conditions and relevant procedure for its implementation,
2. Also recalling 33 C/Resolution 60,
3. Acknowledging that the Participation Programme is a vital complement to UNESCO's regular activities by analysing, evaluating and facilitating the implementation of national, subregional, regional and interregional projects directly related to the activities of the Organization,

4. Further acknowledging that the Participation Programme enhances UNESCO's visibility but also has a real impact in Member States, particularly in least developed countries (LDCs), developing countries, post-conflict and post-disaster countries, small island developing States (SIDS), and countries in transition,
5. Takes note of the information provided in document 177 EX/56;
6. Requests the Director-General to continue his efforts to draw the attention of Member States, in particular their National Commissions, to the importance of complying fully with the rules and regulations governing the Participation Programme;
7. Recommends that the General Conference invite the Director-General to identify ways and means of strengthening the Participation Programme in the forthcoming biennium for the benefit of the countries specifically mentioned in paragraph 4 of this decision.

(177 EX/SR.10)

RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES AND INTERNATIONAL, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

57 Relations with international non-governmental organizations, foundations and similar institutions (177 EX/57; 177 EX/76)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 172 EX/Decision 43 and 176 EX/Decision 45,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/57,
3. Welcomes the efforts made by the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), in the context of the revitalization started at its 174th session, to create a genuine space for dialogue and to improve interaction between Member States, NGOs and the Secretariat;
4. Emphasizes the importance of fully involving international NGOs and their national branches in the formulation and implementation of programmes and activities for developing countries, including small island developing States, particularly in connection with internationally recognized development goals;
5. Reaffirms the need to build the capacities of NGOs at national and local levels and to encourage cooperation with field units, National Commissions for UNESCO and the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) including strong networking mechanisms for proactive partnerships, within the context of United Nations reform, enhanced decentralization and greater intersectorality;
6. Requests, to this end, the Director-General to submit to it, at its 180th session, a document setting out various possible options, including the establishment of a fund, together with the review of the methodologies for cooperation with NGOs and United Nations Country Teams, in order to support the activities and build the capacities of NGOs in developing countries;
7. Requests the NGO Committee to pursue the constructive dialogue engaged in between the various partners, and to continue to improve its working methods in order to become a driving force in establishing a culture of partnership in UNESCO;
8. Decides to grant, as appropriate, a second day of work to the NGO Committee;

9. Also decides, in line with the recommendation of the Director-General, to renew for six years formal associate relations with the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA).

(177 EX/SR.8)

58 Appeals by Member States concerning their proposals for the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated in 2008-2009 (177 EX/58 and Add.; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 177 EX/58 and Add.,
2. Noting that the proposals listed below sent by Member States to the Director-General are in accordance with the criteria adopted in 159 EX/Decision 7.5,
3. Encourages the Member States of all regions to make proposals with a view to ensuring an improved geographical distribution and gender balance;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to revise the criteria and procedure for consideration of the proposals by the Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated and to submit them to it for decision at its 179th session;
5. Recommends to the General Conference:
 - (a) that UNESCO also be associated in 2008-2009 with the following celebrations:
 - (1) 100th anniversary of the birth of Victor Hambardzumyan, astronomer and astrophysicist (1908-1996) (Armenia, supported by the Russian Federation);
 - (2) 100th anniversary of the birth of William Saroyan, writer (1908-1981) (Armenia);
 - (3) 100th anniversary of the first opera in the East “Leyli and Majnun” (1908) (Azerbaijan);
 - (4) 100th anniversary of the birth of Marin Goleminov, musician (1908-2000) (Bulgaria);
 - (5) 400th anniversary of the death of Sheikh-e Bahaaee, calligrapher, mathematician, astronomer, doctor, architect and poet (1531-1609) (Islamic Republic of Iran);
 - (6) 500th anniversary of the epic “Kyz Zhibek” (1508) (Kazakhstan);
 - (7) 50th anniversary of the beginning of Jerzy Grotowski’s artistic career with the establishment of the Laboratory Theatre (*Teatr Laboratorium*) (1959) (Poland);
 - (8) 300th anniversary of the death of Nicolae Spătaru Milescu, diplomat, philologist, philosopher, geographer, ethnographer, theologian and writer (1636-1708) (Romania, with the support of the Republic of Moldova);
 - (9) 1000th anniversary of the birth of Kaşgarlı Mahmud, linguist (1008-1101) (Turkey);
 - (10) 400th anniversary of the birth of Katip Çelebi, scholar (1609-1657) (Turkey);

- (11) 100th anniversary of the birth of Sattar Bahlulzade, artist (1909-1974), replacing the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mikayil Mushfig, poet (1908-1939) (Azerbaijan);
 - (12) 200th anniversary of His Royal Highness Krom Luang Wongsajit Rajavidyalongkorn, scholar and poet (1808-1871) (Thailand);
 - (13) 100th anniversary of the death of King Toffa I (1874-1908) (Benin);
- (b) that the hereby completed list of anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO is to be associated in 2008-2009, which supplements the list contained in 176 EX/Decision 47, be definitively closed, according to the procedure adopted by the Executive Board at its 159th session (159 EX/Decision 7.5);
- (c) that any contribution by the Organization to these celebrations will be financed under the Participation Programme, in accordance with the rules governing that Programme.

(177 EX/SR.10)

59 Relations with the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and memorandum of understanding between UNESCO and that regional organization (177 EX/59; 177 EX/2)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/59,
2. Approves the memorandum of understanding contained in Annex II to the above-mentioned document;
3. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the memorandum of understanding annexed to this decision on behalf of UNESCO.

ANNEX

**Memorandum of Understanding
between
the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
and
the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

Inspired by the spirit of cooperation among Member States, which forms the basis of the foundation and operations of SAARC and UNESCO,

Founded upon the commonality of aims, goals and concerns, centred upon the development of UNESCO's fields of competence, e.g. education, culture, communication and information, and the sciences, between SAARC and UNESCO,

Considering the need to strengthen cooperation between UNESCO and the Member States of SAARC, and

Realizing that education, culture, communication and information and the sciences play a key role in socio-economic development and cultural progress,

SAARC and UNESCO agree on this Memorandum of Understanding, taking into account:

- the Charter of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation;
- the Constitution of UNESCO and its Medium-Term Strategy.

Accordingly, SAARC and UNESCO agree to cooperate mutually, as appropriate and possible and in agreed ways, to help Member States to:

1. achieve Education for All, agreed upon at the World Education Forum, Dakar, 2000;
2. achieve education-related SAARC Development Goals (SDGs);
3. promote pluralism through education by promoting dialogue among civilizations;
4. promote science and technology education, quality education and teacher training through increased use of ICTs and distance learning;
5. conserve their cultural, tangible and intangible heritage; promote and protect their cultural diversity, in particular, their cultural, natural and intangible heritage, as well as their cultural expressions, while supporting a fruitful intercultural and interreligious dialogue, notably through: (i) protecting and safeguarding activities for cultural heritage; (ii) promoting accession to and implementation of UNESCO's relevant standard-setting instruments; and (iii) enhancing capacity-building initiatives in these fields;
6. protect their environment and ecosystem;
7. build the capacity required for further advancement of education, culture, communication and information and the sciences;
8. facilitate technical cooperation, including capacity-building in the areas of education, culture, communication and information and the sciences;
9. promote freedom of expression and universal access to information.

To achieve the aforesaid aims, SAARC and UNESCO may:

- (i) inform each other of their initiatives and plans relevant to education, culture, communication and information and the sciences;
- (ii) exchange reports, technical publications and other documentation relevant to education, culture, communication and information and science activities;
- (iii) promote research, analysis and dissemination of information on such themes as enhancing technical cooperation and human resource development, including programmes in the mutually agreed areas;
- (iv) develop mutually agreed projects and programmes of collaboration.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon signature by the Secretary-General of SAARC and the Director-General of UNESCO.

Signature

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General of UNESCO

Date

Signature

Chenkyab Dorji
Secretary-General of SAARC

Date

(177 EX/SR.1)

60 Request for the admission of Palestine to UNESCO (177 EX/60)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 167 EX/Decision 8.5, 172 EX/Decision 47 and 33 C/Resolution 69,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/60,

3. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 182nd session;
4. Recommends that the General Conference adopt, at its 34th session, the following draft resolution:

“The General Conference,

Recalling the provisions of Article II of the Constitution of UNESCO relating to the admission of new Member States,

Recalling its previous resolutions and the decisions of the Executive Board regarding the request for the admission of Palestine to UNESCO,

Having examined document 34 C/25,

1. *Expresses* the hope that it will be able to consider this item favourably at its next session;
2. *Decides* to include this item in the agenda of its 35th session.”

(177 EX/SR.5)

GENERAL MATTERS

61 **Thematic debate: Facing the multidisciplinary challenges of knowledge societies and global climate change: UNESCO’s contributions to United Nations reform at the regional and country levels** (177 EX/INF.6; 177 EX/77)

The Executive Board,

1. Noting with appreciation the holding of a thematic debate on the theme “Facing the multidisciplinary challenges of knowledge societies and global climate change: UNESCO’s contributions to United Nations reform at the regional and country levels” on 2 October 2007 during its 177th session,
2. Noting with gratitude the remarks made by Mr Jean-Louis Borloo, Minister of State of France for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Planning, Dr Rajendra Pachauri, Chairperson, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Mr Hamadoun Touré, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and Mr José Mariano Gago, Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education of Portugal and President, European Council of Ministers of Higher Education,
3. Recalling Mahatma Gandhi’s adage that “welfare of the last and impact on the least privileged” is of immediate importance,
4. Bearing in mind the importance of North-South-South (triangular) and South-South cooperation when addressing climate change,
5. Recognizing that climate change is a defining challenge of our times, and noting the importance of widely disseminating scientific knowledge, promoting sustainable development, and building knowledge societies as tools for addressing that challenge,
6. Also recognizing the important role of the mass media and information in raising awareness about issues related to climate change,
7. Further recognizing the unique advantages and multidisciplinary competencies available within UNESCO for making fundamental contributions to promoting sustainable development by building a knowledge base through scientific research and monitoring, taking advantage of its decentralized networks,

8. Emphasizing the need for ethical education for sustainable development, harnessing indigenous and traditional knowledge as well as human and social science research for developing national and regional initiatives to raise awareness of and help to address climate change,
9. Invites the Director-General to continue contributing to the global efforts to address climate change within UNESCO's mandate and competencies, as appropriate, by:
 - (a) strengthening efforts to finalize UNESCO's strategy on climate change, in consultation with Member States;
 - (b) emphasizing, in particular, the educational dimensions at all levels, and with particular focus on education for sustainable development (ESD);
 - (c) linking activities pertaining to higher education and scientific research, taking into account, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Overall Review of Major Programmes II and III after approval by the General Conference;
 - (d) consulting closely with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), relevant United Nations bodies and other international bodies and experts on UNESCO's strategy on climate change and, as appropriate, with National Commissions and other representatives of civil society;
10. Welcomes the setting up by the Director-General of an intersectoral Secretariat Task Force on Climate Change under his chairmanship as a positive step in developing UNESCO's existing climate-related activities in an integrated manner;
11. Requests the Director-General to present to it at its 179th session the draft strategy on climate change.

(177 EX/SR.9)

62 Implementation of 33 C/Resolution 70 and 176 EX/Decision 49 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories (177 EX/62 and Add.; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 70 and 176 EX/Decision 49, as well as Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with regard to the right to education, Articles 4 and 94 of the Fourth Geneva Convention with regard to the denial of the right of children to education, as well as the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972) and the Hague Convention (1954) and its Additional Protocols,
2. Having examined documents 177 EX/62 and Add.,
3. Further recalling the role that UNESCO is called upon to play in order to satisfy the right to education for all, and to meet the need for Palestinians to have safe access to the education system,
4. Recalling paragraph 31 of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4 Approved), defining a "road map for a revitalized UNESCO: principles of action and programming", and paragraph 12 of 31 C/Resolution 43,
5. Committed to the safeguarding of monuments, works of art, manuscripts, books and other historical and cultural properties to be protected in the event of conflicts,

6. Deeply convinced that the continuous strengthening of the reconstruction and development process in the Palestinian Territories should be carried out in a context of non-violence and of mutual respect and recognition, as promoted by the objectives of the road map,
7. Supports the efforts made by the Director-General with a view to the implementation of 33 C/Resolution 70 and 176 EX/Decision 49, and requests him to do everything possible to ensure that they are fully implemented in the framework of the Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5 Approved);
8. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of all concerned Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to UNESCO's action in the Palestinian Territories, and appeals to them to continue assisting UNESCO in this endeavour;
9. Thanks the Director-General for the results that have been obtained in relation to the implementation of a number of current educational and cultural activities, and invites him to strengthen UNESCO's financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian educational and cultural institutions in order to address new needs and problems resulting from recent developments;
10. Expresses its continuing concern at any actions undermining the cultural and natural heritage, and cultural and educational institutions, as well as at any impediments which prevent Palestinian and all other schoolchildren and students from being an integral part of their social fabric and from exercising fully their right to education, and calls for the observance of the provisions of 33 C/Resolution 70 and 176 EX/Decision 49;
11. Encourages the Director-General to continue to reinforce his action in favour of the reconstruction, rehabilitation and restoration of the Palestinian archaeological sites and cultural heritage;
12. Invites the Director-General to address the needs for capacity-building in all UNESCO's fields of competence by expanding the financial assistance programme for Palestinian students both from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources, and thanks Saudi Arabia for its generous contribution in this regard;
13. Requests the Director-General to follow closely the implementation of the recommendations of the seventh joint meeting of the UNESCO Secretariat and the Palestinian National Committee for UNESCO (1-2 September 2005), especially in Gaza, and to organize, as soon as possible, the eighth joint meeting of the UNESCO Secretariat and the Palestinian National Committee for UNESCO;
14. Encourages the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, and expresses the hope that the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations will be resumed, and that a just and comprehensive peace will be brought about speedily, in accordance with UNESCO's Constitution and the United Nations resolutions on this matter, particularly the relevant Security Council resolutions;
15. Also invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts he is making to preserve the human, social and cultural fabric of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of this decision;
 - (b) to undertake efforts to offer appropriate curricula, and to provide more grants and adequate assistance to the educational and cultural institutions of the occupied Syrian Golan;

16. Decides to include this item in its agenda at its 179th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(177 EX/SR.10)

63 Report by the Director-General on UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (177 EX/63; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 50,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/63,
3. Takes note of the progress made by UNESCO in contributing to the reconstruction of Lebanon;
4. Invites the Director-General to intensify his efforts, and, taking into account circumstances on the ground, to dispatch an intersectoral mission as soon as possible;
5. Further invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 179th session a report on progress achieved regarding UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon.

(177 EX/SR.10)

64 Report by the Director-General on the cultural and educational institutions in Iraq (177 EX/64 Rev.; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 46,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/64 Rev.,
3. Recalling the major responsibility entrusted to UNESCO, within the United Nations integrated response, in the fields of education, culture, science and communication, as well as its key role in contributing to democracy, particularly human rights, freedom of expression and access to scientific knowledge, for the reconstruction of Iraq,
4. Emphasizing the need to reinforce UNESCO's activities in all its fields of competence in favour of dialogue and national reconciliation within Iraqi society, as part of the constitutional review process, and more broadly, to promote tolerance as well as mutual respect and understanding,
5. Acknowledges with satisfaction the results achieved in the implementation of educational, cultural, scientific and media activities, and the mobilization of substantial extrabudgetary resources to this effect;
6. Encourages the Director-General to give full support to the Iraqi Government in its implementation of educational, cultural, scientific and media programmes, in particular through capacity-building activities;
7. Invites the Director-General to continue monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Iraq (ICC);

8. Also invites the Director-General to reinforce UNESCO's efforts to address the most urgent humanitarian needs of the populations most affected by the crisis, especially displaced Iraqis within or outside the country;
9. Thanks all Member States, especially Japan, and the European Commission, as well as NGOs and foundations concerned, and in particular the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, for their substantial contribution to UNESCO's action in favour of the Iraqi people, and appeals to them to continue to assist UNESCO in its efforts to foster reconstruction and dialogue in Iraq;
10. Further invites the Director-General to submit to it a report thereon to the Executive Board at its 180th session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

65 Report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) on the activities of the Institute (177 EX/65; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article V.1(e) of the Statutes of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) (30 C/Resolution 44) and 175 EX/Decision 48,
2. Having examined the report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics on the activities of the Institute since October 2006 (177 EX/65),
3. Takes note of the achievements of the Institute in the last year;
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to be guided by the recommendations made by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics;
5. Further invites the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics to report to it at its 180th session.

(177 EX/SR.10)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

66 Proposal for the establishment of an international centre on hydroinformatics for integrated water resources management at Itaipú Binacional, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/66; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 21 C/Resolution 40.1 and 171 EX/Decision 23,
2. Further recalling Resolution XVII-4 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in July 2006,
3. Having examined document 177 EX/66 and its annexes,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay to establish the international centre on hydroinformatics for integrated water resources management under the auspices of UNESCO at Itaipú Binacional, which is to be done in conformity with document 33 C/19 relating to the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of institutes and centres (category 1) and institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;

5. Recommends that the General Conference authorize, at its 34th session, the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in Annex II to document 177 EX/66 concerning the proposed establishment of the international centre on hydroinformatics for integrated water resources management as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

(177 EX/SR.10)

67 Proposal for the establishment of a regional centre for underwater archaeology in Zadar, Croatia as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/67 and Add.; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the principles and objectives of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, adopted by the General Conference at its 31st session on 2 November 2001,
2. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of Croatia to establish a regional centre for underwater archaeology in Zadar, Croatia, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
3. Having examined documents 177 EX/67 and Add., and the draft agreement contained in the Annex to document 177 EX/67 Add., which is in line with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of UNESCO institutes and centres (category 1) and institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved in 33 C/Resolution 90, and with the discussions held between the Secretariat and the Croatian authorities,
4. Aware of the importance of international cooperation for the protection and preservation of the underwater cultural heritage,
5. Recommends that the General Conference approve, at its 34th session, the establishment of the regional centre for underwater archaeology of the Croatian Conservation Institute as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement annexed to document 177 EX/67 Add.

(177 EX/SR.10)

68 Proposal for the establishment of a water centre for sustainable development in Central America and the Caribbean in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/68 and Corr.; 177 EX/INF.11; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the importance of promoting and fostering scientific and technological research in Central America and the Caribbean, with particular emphasis on Caribbean island States, to support sustainable development in these Member States, as stressed in documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5,
2. Having examined document 177 EX/68 and Corr.,
3. Takes note of the importance of regional cooperation on the critical question of water, which might be fostered by a water centre for sustainable development in Central America and the Caribbean in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic;

4. Requests the Director-General to begin study of the proposal for the establishment of a water centre for sustainable development in Central America and the Caribbean in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic as a category 2 centre in accordance with document 33 C/19, relating to the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of UNESCO institutes and centres (category 1) and institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved in 33 C/Resolution 90, and the guidelines of the strategy for UNESCO's category 1 and category 2 water-related centres.

(177 EX/SR.10)

69 Proposal for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding at the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO (177 EX/69; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/69,
2. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of Nigeria for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
3. Stressing the importance of this proposal for safeguarding Africa's unique cultural heritage and fostering cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in Africa,
4. Requests the Director-General to carry out a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed institute in line with the applicable criteria for category 2 institutes approved by the General Conference at its 33rd session, and to present the results of this feasibility study to the Executive Board at its 179th session;
5. Recommends that the General Conference authorize the Executive Board to finalize the process of the establishment of the institute and subsequently request the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement, once approved by the Executive Board.

(177 EX/SR.10)

70 Commemorative activities for the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Auroville, an international township (177 EX/70 and Add.; 177 EX/INF.11; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the foundation of the international township of Auroville, in South India, in February 1968, when the youth of 124 Member States participated in the ceremony by depositing the soil of their countries in the foundation urn to symbolize the coming together of the nations of the world,
2. Noting that the Charter of Auroville, announced at the Foundation Ceremony, declares that Auroville belongs to nobody in particular but to humanity as a whole,
3. Recognizing that the aims of Auroville are to promote international understanding, peace, innovative education, a learning society, and all-round material and spiritual development for harmonious individual and collective growth, and that such aims contribute to the advancement of the objectives of UNESCO, especially dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions, cultural diversity, and culture as a factor for development,

4. Recalling that in 1983 the General Conference adopted a resolution inviting Member States and international non-governmental organizations to participate in the development of Auroville as an international cultural township,
5. Conscious therefore of the broad range of activities undertaken by governments, National Commissions for UNESCO, and international non-governmental organizations to promote the development of Auroville as an important international cultural programme,
6. Recognizing the value of such civilizing experiences as an invaluable and integral part of the commonly shared human experience,
7. Also recognizing that Auroville is a successful and unique model project, proving the capacity of an international community, after 40 years of existence, to continue to live up to its initial founding ideals of peace and international harmony and within the spirit of mutual respect and understanding, tolerance, dialogue, cultural diversity, quality education and sustainable development which are also UNESCO's own values and principles, as well as some of its major priorities,
8. Noting that 28 February 2008 will mark the 40th anniversary of the setting up of Auroville project,
9. Invites the Director-General to reinforce the association of UNESCO, and in particular its Culture Sector, with Auroville in the context of the commemorative activities for its 40th anniversary.

(177 EX/SR.10)

71 Creation of a network of national authorities to support migrants who are victims of discrimination and xenophobia (177 EX/71; 177 EX/INF.11; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part III)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 164 EX/Decision 3.4.2 adopted in April 2002, which invited the Director-General to develop “an integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance”,
2. Taking into account the integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance adopted by the General Conference at its 32nd session in 2003,
3. Recalling the establishment of Coalitions of Cities against Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia on three continents, and the adoption of their respective 10-point Plans of Action,
4. Noting the results of the 16th Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 3 to 5 November 2006, the theme of which was “Migration and Development”, as well as the Final Declaration of the first Ibero-American Forum of Local Authorities, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 25 to 27 October 2006,
5. Also noting the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1990, which has been in force since 2003,
6. Aware that in the twenty-first century, mobility and migration, whether within States or across borders, voluntary or involuntary, is a reality for a growing number of persons,

7. Affirming that both countries of emigration and countries of immigration would benefit if intending migrants were better informed about their potential legal rights in the event that they are victims of discrimination or xenophobia, as well as about their duty to comply with the requirements of the destination country, and once migrants have arrived in the destination country, about the means of ensuring that their rights are respected,
8. Invites the Director-General, within the existing framework of the International Coalition of Cities against Racism to undertake a study to assess the proposal in document 177 EX/71 “Creation of a network of national authorities to support migrants who are victims of discrimination and xenophobia”;
9. Further invites the Director-General to present to it the results of the study at its 180th session, including administrative and financial implications, and within the context of UNESCO’s programmes and its strategic objectives on issues relating to discrimination and xenophobia, as adopted in document 34 C/5;
10. Encourages Member States to share with UNESCO information regarding the possible creation of a network of national authorities in this regard.

(177 EX/SR.10)

72 Situation of Iraqi refugee pupils and students in the Syrian Arab Republic (177 EX/72; 177 EX/INF.11; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 177 EX/72,
2. Recalling UNESCO’s education for all (EFA) goals and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) concerning education and teaching to be achieved by 2015,
3. Expressing its concern over the high and growing numbers of Iraqi refugee pupils and students in the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of the situation in Iraq, and over the financial, social and structural consequences arising therefrom, which no State can bear alone without adversely affecting its economic, social and educational planning capacities,
4. Commending the efforts of the Syrian Arab Republic to alleviate the suffering of Iraqi refugee pupils and students by endeavouring to integrate them into its schools and universities and by meeting their basic needs,
5. Requests the Director-General:
 - (a) to dispatch a mission to examine and assess the situation of these pupils and students in order to find ways of meeting their needs in cooperation and coordination with the educational authorities of the Syrian Arab Republic concerned;
 - (b) to continue consultations and ensure appropriate coordination with relevant United Nations agencies with a mandate for assisting refugees, as well as with the Iraqi Government;
 - (c) to submit a report, closely coordinated with the UNHCR and UNICEF appeals, containing the results of its consultations and recommendations and practical measures aimed at mobilizing the international community to provide the necessary urgent assistance to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in support of its efforts to meet the needs of the Iraqi pupils and students for the current academic year;

6. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 179th session, and requests the Director-General to submit to it an interim report on this matter.

(177 EX/SR.10)

73 Celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
(177 EX/73; 177 EX/78; 177 EX/79 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recognizing the utmost importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for the promotion and exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
2. Underlining the significance of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for giving new impetus to international and national efforts aimed at ensuring universal respect for and enjoyment of all human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social – and fundamental freedoms, recognizing that all human rights are equal and mutually reinforcing,
3. Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,
4. Also recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the 2005 World Summit Outcome document, which underscored the importance of human rights for the work of the United Nations system,
5. Emphasizing the specific responsibilities and competence of UNESCO with regard to human rights, as well as its reflection on emerging human rights in the context of UNESCO's core mandates,
6. Affirming UNESCO's key role in the promotion of human rights, including *inter alia* human rights education,
7. Further recalling UNESCO's contribution to the celebration of the 40th and 50th anniversaries of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1988 and 1998,
8. Having considered document 177 EX/73,
9. Urges all public and private institutions within the Member States, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and educators, as well as National Commissions and human rights institutions, to contribute to the celebration of the 60th anniversary by undertaking activities in order to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms;
10. Requests the Director-General, in the light of the proposals of Member States, and in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to submit to the General Conference at its 34th session a draft plan of action, a timetable and a cost estimate for the celebration by UNESCO of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
11. Invites the Director-General to take the appropriate steps to implement the plan of action as approved by the General Conference, further invites the Director-General to seek extrabudgetary resources to support implementation of that plan, and invites Member States to consider making extrabudgetary contributions in this regard.

(177 EX/SR.10)

PRIVATE MEETINGS

Announcements concerning the private meetings held on Monday 1 October and Wednesday 10 October 2007

At the private meetings held on the following dates, the Executive Board considered the following items: Monday 1 October – item **3**; Wednesday 10 October 2007 – item **32**.

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (177 EX/PRIV.1)

In accordance with Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General informed the Board of the decisions taken since the 176th session regarding the appointments and extensions of contracts of staff members at grade D-1 and above whose posts come under the regular budget of the Organization. He also discussed various issues arising out of the sector reforms.

32 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon

1. The Executive Board examined the report of its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations concerning the communications received by the Organization on the subject of cases and questions of alleged violations of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence.
2. The Executive Board, having taken note of the Committee's report, endorsed the wishes expressed therein.

(177 EX/SR.5; 177 EX/SR.7)