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Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
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DRAFT RESOLUTION

Submitted by PHILIPPINES

Co-sponsored by OMAN

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Media and Information Literacy Recommendations

The General Conference,

Recognizing that the achievement of UNESCO's vision of Knowledge Societies is dependent on moving beyond ICT infrastructure and access to building the capacity of all citizens to participate actively and effectively in emerging knowledge societies,

Noting that the IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations were endorsed by the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) during its seventh session,

Noting the Philippines' Chairmanship of IFAP Bureau's Working Group for Information Literacy,

Recognizing that Media and Information Literacy is essential for lifelong learning and is a prerequisite for sustainable development,

Further recognizing that Media and Information Literacy is a means for achieving the goal of universal and equitable access to information and knowledge,

Commends IFLA for its efforts in developing the Media and Information Literacy Recommendations;

Invites Member States to endorse the Media and Information Literacy Recommendations;

Further invites Member States to take the Media and Information Literacy Recommendations into consideration during the planning of future strategies, policies, and initiatives on education, lifelong learning, literacy, and other areas which will contribute to building a Knowledge Society.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. The *IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations* outline the actions that all stakeholders can take to promote media and information literacy at all levels of society and to work towards the goal of universal and equitable access and effective use of information and knowledge, which has become more and more challenging as new information and communication technologies (ICTs) proliferate. Media and Information Literacy brings together a combined set of competencies (knowledge, skills, and attitudes) necessary for life and work in an inclusive society. Stakeholders include governments, private sector, civil society and international organizations, and individuals in their roles as educators, librarians, curators, archivists, information and media professionals, economic and government policy-makers and administrators, and leaders in business, industry, and non-governmental sectors.
2. The *IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations* build on companion international documents, including the Prague Declaration, “Towards an Information Literate Society” (2003); the Alexandria Declaration, “Beacons of the Information Society” (2005); the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (2005); the Manila Asia Pacific Information Network (APIN) Action Plan on Information Access and Media and Information Literacy (2010), the Fez Declaration on Media & Information Literacy (2011); the Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy (2012); and the Framework and Action Plan for the Global Alliance for Partnerships on MIL (2013).
3. The *Recommendations* were prepared by the Information Literacy Section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), in collaboration with media and information literacy experts from around the world, and were endorsed by the IFLA Governing Board on 7 December 2011. At its 7th session (2 April 2012), the UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) Intergovernmental Council endorsed the *Recommendations* and recommended its submission to the 37th session of UNESCO’s General Conference for its consideration and possible adoption (*Final Report*, Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP, 21st meeting, 28 February 2013).
4. IFLA has a long history of partnership with UNESCO, and continues to work with UNESCO to build human resource and institutional capacity for Knowledge Societies. These capacity-building efforts include providing the media and information literacy competencies for citizens, delivering training for teachers and media and information specialists, strengthening the role of libraries and librarians, developing guidelines for national policies, creating MIL resources and establishing clearinghouses for global sharing of materials and best practices, and working to develop Media and Information Literacy Indicators to measure the attainment of these competencies at both national and individual levels.
5. The *IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations* can provide the vital foundation for ensuring that all citizens have the skills and capabilities to participate equitably in the Knowledge Societies by outlining actions for multi-stakeholder collaborations between governments, private sector and civil society organizations, librarians, educators and other stakeholders in developed and developing countries.

Appendix

IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations

In order to survive and develop, make decisions, and solve problems in every facet of life - personal, social, educational, and professional, individuals, communities, and nations need information about themselves as well as their physical and their social environments. This information is available via three processes: observation and experimentation, conversation (with other persons), and consultation (with memory institutions). The competence to do this effectively and efficiently is called Media and Information Literacy.

Media and Information Literacy consists of the knowledge, the attitudes, and the sum of the skills needed to know when and what information is needed; where and how to obtain that information; how to evaluate it critically and organise it once it is found; and how to use it in an ethical way. The concept extends beyond communication and information technologies to encompass learning, critical thinking, and interpretative skills across and beyond professional and educational boundaries. Media and Information Literacy includes all types of information resources: oral, print, and digital.

Media and Information Literacy is a new emerging field of human rights in an increasingly digital, interdependent, and global world, and promotes greater social inclusion. It can bridge the gap between the information rich and the information poor. Media and Information Literacy empowers and endows individuals with knowledge of the functions of the media and information systems and the conditions under which these functions are performed. Media and Information Literacy is closely related to Lifelong Learning. Lifelong Learning enables individuals, communities, and nations to attain their goals and to take advantage of emerging opportunities in the evolving global environment for the shared benefit of all individuals, not just a few. It assists them and their institutions and organisations to meet their technological, economic, and social challenges, to redress disadvantages, and to advance every individual's well-being.

Under the umbrella of the developing information/knowledge society at all levels - local, regional, national, and international, we urge governments and intergovernmental organizations as well as private institutions and organisations to pursue policies and programmes that advocate for and promote Media and Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning for all. In so doing, they will provide the vital foundation for fulfilling the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the World Summit on the Information Society.

In particular, IFLA recommends that governments and organisations to do the following:

- Commission research on the state of Media and Information Literacy and produce reports, using the Media and Information Literacy indicators as a base, so that experts, educators, and practitioners are able to design effective initiatives;
- Support professional development for education, library, information, archive, and health and human services personnel in the principles and practices of Media and Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning;
- Embed Media and Information Literacy education in all Lifelong Learning curricula;
- Recognise Media and Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning as key elements for the development of generic capabilities which must be demonstrated for accreditation of all education and training programmes;
- Include Media and Information Literacy in the core and continuing education of information professionals, educators, economic and government policy-makers and administrators, as well as in the practice of advisors to the business, industry and agriculture sectors;

- Implement Media and Information Literacy programmes to increase the employability and entrepreneurial capacities of women and disadvantaged groups, including migrants, the underemployed and the unemployed; and,
- Support thematic meetings which will facilitate the acquisition of Media and Information and Lifelong Learning strategies within specific regions, sectors, and population groups.

Endorsed by the Governing Board of IFLA, at its meeting in Den Haag, The Netherlands, 7 December 2011

Endorsed by the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) at its 7th session in Paris, 2 April 2012