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MEMORANDUM ON UNESCO'S STANDARD-SETTING ACTIVITY

SUMMARY

In conformity with 20 C/Resolution 32.1 of the General Conference, the Director-General submits to the General Conference the present document which provides information in tabular form, on the standard-setting activities contemplated or in progress, and on the instruments already adopted.

1. The General Conference, in 20 C/Resolution 32.1, invited the Director-General to submit to it, at each of its sessions, 'a memorandum reporting the progress of work undertaken as part of the Organization's standard-setting action, indicating the subsequent stages contemplated and supplying all available information on the use made by Member States' governments of standard-setting instruments adopted under UNESCO's auspices'.

2. The present document has been prepared pursuant to this resolution. It contains the following tables:

Table I - Draft normative instruments whose adoption is foreseen for 1991

Table II - Possible normative instruments whose adoption is envisaged for 1992-1993

Table III - Possible normative instruments whose adoption is envisaged for 1994 or later

Table IV - Application of normative instruments already adopted

Table V - List of normative instruments adopted by UNESCO, or under its auspices, or for which it is the depositary.

3. In Tables I to III a distinction has been made, where appropriate, between the three categories of UNESCO's normative instruments, namely:

- A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference
- B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations (such as declarations, charters, etc.), which are adopted by the General Conference
- C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO.

TABLE I

DRAFT NORMATIVE INSTRUMENTS WHOSE ADOPTION IS FORESEEN FOR 1991

A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Draft universal convention on the recognition of studies and qualifications in higher education (26 C/33, item 6.5 of the provisional agenda).

Draft recommendation to Member States on the safeguarding of works in the public domain (26 C/34, item 6.6 of the provisional agenda).

ACTION REQUIRED OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:

Decision to adopt, not to adopt, or postpone the adoption of the above-mentioned instruments.

B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO

Nil.

TABLE II

POSSIBLE NORMATIVE INSTRUMENTS WHOSE ADOPTION
IS ENVISAGED FOR 1992-1993

- A. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

- B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

- C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO

Nil.

TABLE IIIPOSSIBLE NORMATIVE INSTRUMENTS WHOSE ADOPTION
IS ENVISAGED FOR 1994 OR LATERA. Conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Possible international instrument to combat doping in sport (26 C/35, item 6.7 of the provisional agenda).

Possible international instrument concerning higher-education teachers (26 C/36, item 6.8 of the provisional agenda).

Possible convention concerning the status of teachers (26 C/37, item 6.9 of the provisional agenda).

Possible convention concerning education for international understanding, co-operation and peace and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms (26 C/38, item 6.10 of the provisional agenda).

Possible recommendation on the status of the artisan (26 C/5, para. 03208).

ACTION REQUIRED OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:

As concerns the above-mentioned possible instruments, 20 C/Resolution 32.1 requires that:

- (a) any proposal whose purpose is to initiate a preliminary study with a view to the international regulation of a question in the form of an international convention or a recommendation to Member States should be the subject of a draft resolution submitted to the General Conference;
- (b) having regard to the nature of the question under consideration, such a draft resolution shall specify the appropriate time-limits, with respect to the session of the Executive Board during which the preliminary study is to be examined, or the session of the General Conference during which the question of the advisability of such regulation will, if appropriate, be discussed; it might also provide for consultation of Member States for the purpose of preparing the preliminary study;
- (c) proposals calling for the drafting of a normative instrument other than an international convention or a recommendation should also take the form of a draft resolution which might specify different time-limits, depending on the case, for the different stages of its preparation; such a draft resolution might provide for prior consultation of Member States.

B. Instruments other than conventions and recommendations which are adopted by the General Conference

Nil.

C. Instruments which are adopted by international conferences of States convened by UNESCO

Nil.

TABLE IV

APPLICATION OF NORMATIVE INSTRUMENTS ALREADY ADOPTED

1. Convention on technical and vocational education
2. Recommendation on the safeguarding of traditional culture and folklore

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the initial special reports by Member States on the implementation of the Convention on technical and vocational education (26 C/29, item 6.1 of the provisional agenda) and of the Recommendation on the safeguarding of traditional culture and folklore (26 C/30, item 6.2 of the provisional agenda).

3. Convention and Recommendation against discrimination in education

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the reports of the fifth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against discrimination in education (26 C/31, item 6.3 of the provisional agenda).

4. Recommendation concerning education for international understanding, co-operation and peace and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms

At its present session the General Conference will have before it the sexennial report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Recommendation concerning education for international understanding, co-operation and peace and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms (26 C/32, item 6.4 of the provisional agenda).

ACTION REQUIRED OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:

Articles 18 and 19 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 state that:

'Article 18

The General Conference shall embody its comments on the action taken by Member States in pursuance of a convention or recommendation in one or more general reports, which the Conference shall prepare at such times as it may deem appropriate.

Article 19

The General Conference's reports on the action taken by Member States in pursuance of a convention or recommendation shall be transmitted to Member States, to the United Nations, to National Commissions, and to any other authorities specified by the General Conference'.

TABLE VLIST OF NORMATIVE INSTRUMENTS ADOPTED BY UNESCO,
OR UNDER ITS AUSPICES, OR FOR WHICH IT IS THE DEPOSITARY

A. CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

of a standard-setting nature adopted either by the General Conference
or by intergovernmental conferences convened solely by UNESCO
or jointly with other international organizations (Total: 29)

Agreement for facilitating the international circulation of visual and auditory materials of an educational, scientific and cultural character, with Protocol of Signature and model form of certificate provided for in Article IV of the above-mentioned Agreement. 10 December 1948.

Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials, with Annexes A, B, C, D and E and Protocol annexed. 17 June 1950.

Universal Copyright Convention with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and resolution concerning Article XI. 6 September 1952.

Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the application of that Convention to the works of stateless persons and refugees. 6 September 1952.

Protocol 2 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the application of that Convention to the works of certain international organizations. 6 September 1952.

Protocol 3 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention concerning the effective date of instruments of ratification or acceptance of, or accession to, that Convention. 6 September 1952.

Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. 14 May 1954.

Protocol for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. 14 May 1954.

Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications. 3 December 1958.

Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States. 3 December 1958.

Convention against Discrimination in Education. 14 December 1960.

International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations. 26 October 1961.

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. 10 December 1962.

Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. 14 November 1970.

Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris on 24 July 1971 with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and resolution concerning Article XI. 24 July 1971.

Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris on 24 July 1971 concerning the application of that Convention to works of stateless persons and refugees. 24 July 1971.

Protocol 2 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris on 24 July 1971 concerning the application of that Convention to the works of certain international organizations. 24 July 1971.

Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms. 29 October 1971.

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. 16 November 1972.

Convention relating to the Distribution of Programme-carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite. 21 May 1974.

Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. 19 July 1974.

Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials. 26 November 1976.

International Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab and European States Bordering on the Mediterranean. 17 December 1976.

Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States. 22 December 1978.

Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties and Additional Protocol. 13 December 1979.

Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region. 21 December 1979.

Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Certificates, Diplomas, Degrees and Other Academic Qualifications in Higher Education in the African States. 5 December 1981.

Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific. 16 December 1983.

Convention on Technical and Vocational Education. 10 November 1989.

B. OTHER AGREEMENTS

of a normative character for which the Organization is depositary

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. 2 February 1971.

Protocol to amend the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. 3 December 1982.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS (Total: 29)

Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations. 5 December 1956.

Recommendation concerning International Competitions in Architecture and Town Planning. 5 December 1956.

Recommendation concerning the Most Effective Means of Rendering Museums Accessible to Everyone. 14 December 1960.

Recommendation against Discrimination in Education. 14 December 1960.

Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding of the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites. 11 December 1962.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics Relating to Book Production and Periodicals. 19 November 1964.

Recommendation on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Export, Import and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. 19 November 1964.

Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. 5 October 1966.

Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property Endangered by Public or Private Works. 19 November 1968.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Library Statistics. 13 November 1970.

Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage. 16 November 1972.

Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. 19 November 1974.

Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education. 19 November 1974.

Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers. 20 November 1974.

Recommendation on the Legal Protection of Translators and Translations and the Practical Means to Improve the Status of Translators. 22 November 1976.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on Radio and Television. 22 November 1976.

Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education. 26 November 1976.

Recommendation on Participation by the People at Large in Cultural Life and their Contribution to It. 26 November 1976.

Recommendation concerning the International Exchange of Cultural Property. 26 November 1976.

Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas. 26 November 1976.

Revised Recommendation concerning International Competitions in Architecture and Town Planning. 27 November 1978.

Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics. 27 November 1978.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on Science and Technology. 27 November 1978.

Recommendation for the Protection of Movable Cultural Property. 28 November 1978.

Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist. 27 October 1980.

Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images. 27 October 1980.

Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on the Public Financing of Cultural Activities. 27 October 1980.

Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on the Production and Distribution of Books, Newspapers and Periodicals. 1 November 1985.

Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore. 15 November 1989.

D. DECLARATIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (Total: 5)

Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation. 4 November 1966.

Declaration of Guiding Principles on the Use of Satellite Broadcasting for the Free Flow of Information, the Spread of Education and Greater Cultural Exchange. 15 November 1972.

International Charter of Physical Education and Sport. 21 November 1978.

Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice. 27 November 1978.

Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racism, Apartheid and Incitement to War. 28 November 1978.