



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and seventy-ninth session

(Paris, 1-17 April 2008)*

179 EX/Decisions

PARIS, 16 May 2008

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 179th 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.

CONTENTS

Page

1	Agenda and timetable of work and report of the Bureau	1
2	Approval of the summary records of the 177th and 178th sessions	1
3	Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board	1
EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME		1
4	Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Programme and Budget (33 C/5) and on results achieved in the previous biennium (2006-2007) (Draft 35 C/3)	1
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	3
Education		5
6	United Nations University: report by the Council of the University and the Director-General's comments thereon	5
Natural sciences		6
7	Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an international centre on space technologies for cultural and natural heritage in Beijing, China, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO	6
Social and human sciences		6
8	Report by the Director-General on the progress of the commemorative activities and the review of the implementation of UNESCO's plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights	6
Culture		11
9	Jerusalem and the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 47 and 177 EX/Decisions 19 and 20	11
10	Report by the Director-General on a preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of a possible international standard-setting instrument for the protection of indigenous and endangered languages, including a study of the outcomes from the programmes implemented by UNESCO related to this issue	13
[11	Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study 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]	13
12	Evaluation of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation and renewal of category 2 centre status	13
[13	Innovative proposals for the financing of core function posts at the World Heritage Centre]	14

Communication and information	14
14 Report by the Director-General on the strategic plan for the Information for All Programme	14
Intersectoral programme activities	14
15 Report by the Director-General on a draft UNESCO strategy for action on climate change	14
16 Report by the Director-General on the development and management of intersectoral platforms	15
[17 Draft amendments to the General Regulations and Financial Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize]	19
METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION	19
18 Follow-up to 33 C/Resolution 92 concerning relations between the three organs of UNESCO	19
19 Review by the Executive Board of the methods of work and the terms of reference of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters.....	20
20 Report by the Director-General on evaluations completed during the 2006-2007 biennium	21
21 Report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium (35 C/3).....	22
22 Report by the Executive Board on its own activities, including its methods of work: the format of its reporting to the General Conference	23
MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS	23
23 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	23
24 Report of the seventh meeting of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education	23
25 Proposal by the Director-General for the preparation of a revised recommendation concerning the safeguarding and contemporary role of historic areas	24
26 Draft amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRELAC)	24
GENERAL CONFERENCE	25
27 Organization of the work of the 35th session of the General Conference	25
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS	25
28 Report by the Director-General on the budgetary situation of the Organization for 2006-2007 (33 C/5) at the closure of accounts as at 31 December 2007 (unaudited), budget adjustments arising from donations and special contributions received, and management chart for programme execution in 2006-2007 (No. 41) based on the closed accounts (unaudited)	25

29	Financial Regulations of Special Accounts	26
30	Comments by the Director-General on the implementation of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) strategy in 2006-2007: annual report 2007	27
31	Follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor and performance audits	27
32	Annual report (2007) by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC): report by the Director-General	30
33	Report by the Director-General on the use of consultant and fee contracts by the Secretariat	30
34	Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex	31
	RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	33
35	Relations with international non-governmental organizations, foundations and similar institutions	33
36	Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) of interest to UNESCO and the status of implementation of approved/accepted recommendations of Joint Inspection Unit reports	34
37	Report by the Director-General on the proposed revised criteria and procedure for consideration of the proposals by Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated	34
38	Proposals by the Director-General concerning a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire	35
	GENERAL MATTERS	35
39	Implementation of 34 C/Resolution 58 and 177 EX/Decision 62 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories	35
40	Report by the Director-General on the updating of the evaluation of the anticipation and foresight programme	37
41	Proposals by the Executive Board on the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 1 concerning recommendations for the rolling Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) and the future procedure for consideration by the General Conference regarding the Draft Medium-Term Strategies of UNESCO	37
42	Report by the Director-General on UNESCO and United Nations reform, in particular efforts and challenges with respect to United Nations system-wide coherence	38
43	Report by the Director-General on UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon	40
	ADDITIONAL ITEMS	40
44	Proposal for the establishment in China of an Asia-Pacific regional centre for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO	40

45	Invitations to the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI)	41
46	Proposal for the establishment in the Republic of Korea of an intangible cultural heritage centre for the Asia and the Pacific region, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO	42
47	Proposal for the proclamation by the United Nations of 2011 as an international year of chemistry	42
48	Follow-up to the Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity (Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 3-4 September 2007)	43
49	A UNESCO strategy for technical and vocational education and training (TVET)	44
50	Progress on the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF)	45
51	Progress report by the Director-General on the application of the Global Action Plan to achieve the EFA goals by 2015	45
52	Report by the Director-General on the 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	47
53	Provisional list of matters to be examined by the Executive Board at its 180th session	47
	PRIVATE MEETINGS	47
	Announcements concerning the private meetings held on Monday 7 April and Wednesday 16 April 2008	47

1 Agenda and timetable of work and report of the Bureau (179 EX/1; 179 EX/2; 179 EX/INF.1; 179 EX/INF.5)

The Executive Board adopted the agenda and timetable of work as set out in documents 179 EX/1 and 179 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 6, 9, 14, 15, 20, 25, 26, 37, 39, 43, 47, 48, 50, 51 and 52; and for programme-related aspects, items 4 and 5;
2. **Finance and Administrative Commission (FA):** items 19, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33 and 34; and for administrative and financial aspects, items 4 and 5;

and to refer the following items to the joint meeting of the PX and FA Commissions: items 7, 8, 10, 12, 16, 31, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 49.

The Executive Board approved the proposal by the Bureau contained in document 179 EX/2 concerning the following agenda item:

- 45 Invitations to the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI) (179 EX/45 and Add.)

(179 EX/SR.1)

2 Approval of the summary records of the 177th and 178th sessions (177 EX/SR.1-11 and Corr. and 178 EX/SR.1-2)

The Executive Board approved the summary records of its 177th and 178th sessions.

(179 EX/SR.1)

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (179 EX/PRIV.1 and Add.)

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

(179 EX/SR.5)

EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME

4 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Programme and Budget (33 C/5) and on results achieved in the previous biennium (2006-2007) (Draft 35 C/3) (179 EX/4 – Draft 35 C/3 (*Rev. in English only*); 179 EX/4 Add.; 179 EX/INF.8; 179 EX/INF.9; 179 EX/INF.10; 179 EX/INF.13; 179 EX/INF.16; 179 EX/INF.17; 179 EX/INF.18; 179 EX/58; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 92 and 34 C/Resolution 89,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/4 – Draft 35 C/3 (*Rev. in English only*),
3. Recalling that the commitment to the results-based management (RBM) approach, taking into account both the qualitative and quantitative dimensions of the activities, is vital for programme planning, delivery and monitoring,

4. Recognizing that document 179 EX/4 – Draft 35 C/3 (*Rev. in English only*) is part of the ongoing strengthening of the report by the Director-General on the performance of the programme in previous biennia,
5. Welcoming the quick response by the Director-General to 34 C/Resolution 89, in particular the presentation in tabular form of results achieved against C/5 expected results for each main line of action (MLA), and his continued efforts to align the previously separate statutory C/3 and EX/4 reports at the end of the biennium,
6. Noting that document 179 EX/4 – Draft 35 C/3 (*Rev. in English only*) attempts to capture salient parameters for assessing the programme performance of the Organization, and that the process adopted has highlighted the scope for further improvements of the C/3 document as a governance tool,
7. Also noting that, as a consequence of the reduction in the number of MLAs, the budgetary information in SISTER 2 for Member States may not be sufficient,
8. Further noting the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) finding that there is a challenge in verifying achievements relating to UNESCO's objectives in the area of capacity-building,
9. Further noting the Internal Oversight Service finding that there is a need to develop an approach for assessing the achievement of the objectives in the Medium-Term Strategy,
10. Welcomes the achievements made during the 2006-2007 biennium, which demonstrate that UNESCO continues to fulfil roles and furnish essential services to tackle challenges in all its fields of competence;
11. Underlines, however, that there is still room for improvements regarding programme performance and the results-based management of the Organization;
12. Invites the Director-General to find the best means to overcome the challenges relating to results-based management, including results attainment and cost-effectiveness, as identified in paragraphs 102 to 125 of document 179 EX/4;
13. Welcomes the Director-General's intention to use document 179 EX/4 – Draft 35 C/3 (*Rev. in English only*), as well as documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5, in preparation for future key programming documents of the Organization, specifically the next Draft Programme and Budget (35 C/5);
14. Urges the Director-General to continue improving the C/3 and EX/4 reports according to the guidelines in 34 C/Resolution 89, ensuring a more coherent and consistent report, and paying special attention to the need for reporting on outcomes and on cost-effectiveness, and to the need for a functional programme monitoring system to include feedback from stakeholders regarding the value of UNESCO's activities;
15. Requests the Director-General to provide easier access to SISTER 2, and to hold appropriate training sessions for the Permanent Delegations on a regular basis;
16. Also requests the Director-General to provide Member States, at their request, with information on the implementation of specific programme components addressed in the expected results of the main lines of action.

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
(179 EX/5 Part I and Part II (*Rev. in English only*); 179 EX/5 Add.; 179 EX/INF.3; 179 EX/INF.4 Rev.; 179 EX/INF.8; 179 EX/INF.9; 179 EX/INF.10; 179 EX/58; 179 EX/59)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 162 EX/Decision 3.1.2, in which it noted the proposal of the Director-General to limit the use of appointments of limited duration (ALDs) to posts financed from extrabudgetary funds,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/5 Add.,
3. Endorses the Director-General's proposal to use regular programme funds, on an exceptional basis, for an appointment of limited duration contract to fill the established post of the Ethics Officer.

II

Follow-up to the Fourth International Conference on Environmental Education

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 19 on further promotion of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) and the inspirational work of the Earth Charter, as well as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
2. Recalling also 175 EX/Decision 55 and 177 EX/Decision 9,
3. Taking note with satisfaction of the positive outcome of the Fourth International Conference on Environmental Education entitled "Environmental Education towards a Sustainable Future: Partners for the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" sponsored by UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Government of India, held in Ahmedabad, India, from 24 to 28 November 2007,
4. Noting that the Conference adopted the Ahmedabad Declaration 2007: A Call to Action (179 EX/INF.4 Rev.),
5. Noting further that the Ahmedabad vision presented in the Ahmedabad Declaration is based on the conviction that through education, human lifestyles can be achieved which support ecological integrity, economic justice, sustainable livelihoods and respect for all life, and also noting the close interlinkage in all societies between humankind and nature,
6. Considering in that context that the Ahmedabad Declaration called upon the United Nations system and governments worldwide to support environmental education and develop sound education for sustainable development policy frameworks, and urged commitment to their implementation,
7. Noting that education for sustainable development is essential in the quest for a vision and alternative models for a sustainable future as well as for forging strong international partnerships, in particular, North-South-South and South-South partnerships,

8. Underlining the message by Mahatma Gandhi (“My life is my message”) in the context of the need to search vigorously, with creativity and imagination, for a change in values in order to achieve sustainable living,
9. Also underlining the interlinkage between research, environmental education and education for sustainable development, and the important role played by UNESCO in this regard as the lead agency responsible for promoting the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and its International Implementation Scheme, and bearing in mind the growing momentum for education for sustainable development,
10. Welcoming the convening of the International Forum on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Dialogue 2008 organized by Japan, as well as the forthcoming UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development to be held in 2009 in Germany,
11. Congratulates UNESCO on its actions to ensure the success of the Fourth International Conference on Environmental Education, in close cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the Government of India;
12. Invites UNESCO Member States to support and ensure the follow-up to the Ahmedabad Declaration by developing sound education for sustainable development policy frameworks, and to commit themselves to their implementation;
13. Requests the Director-General, in the framework of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, to highlight measures to be taken by UNESCO for implementation and follow-up to the Ahmedabad Declaration;
14. Invites the Director-General to take all necessary measures, in consultation with other United Nations agencies concerned for the wide dissemination of the Ahmedabad Declaration;
15. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 180th session a progress report on the implementation of this decision.

III

Implementation of 177 EX/Decision 72 on the situation of Iraqi refugee pupils and students in the Syrian Arab Republic

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 72,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/5,
3. Thanks the Director-General for the efforts that he has made, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of the Syrian Arab Republic and UNICEF, and for the practical steps taken, following his recent visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, on behalf of Iraqi refugee pupils and students;
4. Encourages the Director-General of UNESCO to continue to make the necessary efforts on behalf of Iraqi refugee pupils and students in the Syrian Arab Republic;
5. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session an interim report on the steps taken in this regard.

Education

6 United Nations University: report by the Council of the University and the Director-General's comments thereon (179 EX/6 Rev.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 129 EX/Decision 5.2.1,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/6 Rev.,
3. Recognizing the key role of the United Nations University (UNU) as a bridge between the international academic community and the United Nations,
4. Further recognizing the excellent quality of the relationship that has developed between the United Nations University and UNESCO over the years,
5. Expresses its satisfaction at the development of the programme and activities of the United Nations University;
6. Expresses its appreciation of the increased active participation of the United Nations University in the programme and activities of UNESCO, particularly the UNESCO-United Nations University Chair and UNITWIN programmes and world conferences on higher education and research and the sciences;
7. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Japan for the financial and intellectual support that it gives to the United Nations University;
8. Also expresses its gratitude to the Member States in which the research and training centres are located for their financial and intellectual support;
9. Thanks the governments and organizations that have contributed to the University's funds-in-trust, and have provided support for the research and training centres and programmes, and invites Member States to join in these efforts;
10. Congratulates the former Rector, Hans Van Ginkel, on his exceptional dedication and leadership during his term of office;
11. Expresses its full support to the newly appointed Rector of the United Nations University, Professor Dr Konrad Osterwalder;
12. Stresses the need for increased collaboration between UNESCO and the United Nations University in areas of joint expertise and competence, including the promotion of synergies and a clear division of labour with a view to avoiding overlap;
13. Invites the Director-General and the Rector of the United Nations University, to present to the Executive Board, at its 181st session, a plan of possible joint activities taking into account, *inter alia*, UNESCO's priorities, to be carried out in the 2010-2011 biennium;
14. Also invites the Director-General to inform it, at its 180th session, of progress on cooperation with the United Nations University as part of his report on programme implementation (item 4);
15. Further invites the United Nations University to support a more equitable distribution of the presence and activities of the United Nations University institutes and research and training centres in developing countries, in particular in Africa;

16. Finally invites the Director-General to communicate the terms of this decision to the Chair of the Council of the United Nations University and to the new Rector.

(179 EX/SR.10)

Natural sciences

7 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study for the establishment of an international centre on space technologies for cultural and natural heritage in Beijing, China, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (179 EX/7; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/7 and its annex,
2. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of China to establish an international centre on space technologies for cultural and natural heritage in Beijing, China, 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;
3. Encourages the Director-General to further strengthen the partnership between UNESCO and the Chinese Academy of Sciences through the continuation of implementation of joint activities, pending the establishment of the centre as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
4. Requests the Director-General, in conformity with Article 16 of the Model Agreement contained in Annex II to 33 C/Resolution 90, to conduct an evaluation before any renewal of the agreement to be concluded between the Government of China and UNESCO takes effect, and to share the results of such an evaluation with the Executive Board for its review;
5. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 35th session, approve the establishment of the international centre on space technologies for cultural and natural heritage in Beijing, China, under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of China contained in the annex to document 179 EX/7.

(179 EX/SR.9)

Social and human sciences

8 Report by the Director-General on the progress of the commemorative activities and the review of the implementation of UNESCO's plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (179 EX/8; 179 EX/INF.7 Rev.; 179 EX/INF.14; 179 EX/54; 179 EX/57)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 38 concerning the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
2. Further recalling UNESCO's key role in the promotion of human rights,

3. Taking note of the appeal of the United Nations Secretary-General for a year-long United Nations system-wide campaign to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
4. Having examined document 179 EX/8, the Annex of which contains UNESCO's refined plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
5. Welcomes UNESCO's refined plan of action, annexed hereto;
6. Urges all public and private institutions within the Member States, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and educators, National Commissions for UNESCO, as well as human rights institutions to contribute to the commemoration of the 60th anniversary by undertaking activities to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms;
7. Requests the Director-General to continue implementing UNESCO's refined plan of action, as annexed hereto, in consultation with other United Nations entities, and in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in view of its role as coordinator of the activities of the United Nations system in the field of human rights;
8. Invites the Director-General to seek extrabudgetary resources to ensure the implementation of that plan, and also invites Member States and other funding sources to consider making extrabudgetary contributions in this regard;
9. Further invites the Director-General to report to it at its 180th session on the 60th anniversary commemorative activities.

ANNEX

UNESCO's refined plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

PART I

Principal activities directed at the further advancement of the rights within UNESCO's competence

Title of activity	Provisional dates and venue	Sector/Bureau responsible	Financing source
The right to education and human rights education			
48th session of the International Conference on Education on the theme "Inclusive education: The way of the future"	25-28 November 2008 Geneva, Switzerland	ED	Within regular Programme and Budget (34 C/5)
A stronger human rights perspective to be integrated into the Conference with emphasis on the enjoyment of the right to education and the promotion of human rights education		ED, SHS	Within regular Programme and Budget (34 C/5)

Title of activity	Provisional dates and venue	Sector/Bureau responsible	Financing source
The right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to seek, receive and impart information			
World Press Freedom Day 2008 – Award of the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano Press Freedom Prize; and World Press Freedom Day conference on the freedom of the press and the "Access to information and the empowerment of people"	3 May 2008 Maputo, Mozambique	CI CI	Within regular Programme and Budget (34 C/5)
High-level symposium on freedom of expression, including an exhibition on safety of journalists and press freedom	28 October 2008 UNESCO Headquarters	CI	Subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources
The right to take part in cultural life, and The right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications			
Round table on Human Rights in Science and Culture (Article 27 of the UDHR and Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)	November 2008, UNESCO Headquarters	Joint responsibility of SHS, SC and CLT	Subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources
Protection of human rights within UNESCO's competence			
The 61st annual conference of Non-Governmental Organizations associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI/NGO) on the theme: "A celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" Special event in the framework of the 61st annual DPI/NGO conference: Testimonies and presentation of the UNESCO human rights procedure set out in 104 EX/Decision 3.3 of the Executive Board: cases examined by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) from 1978 to 1988, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 30th anniversary of the procedure	3-5 September 2008 UNESCO Headquarters	ERC in cooperation with SHS, BPI and ADM LA	Extrabudgetary resources Within regular Programme and Budget (34 C/5)

PART II
**A series of round tables on pressing human rights issues
and emerging ethical and social challenges
within the mandate of UNESCO**

Title of activity	Provisional dates and venue	Sector/Bureau responsible	Financing source
Theme: (to be proposed by Member States and other interested partners)			
<p>A series of round tables to be organized both at UNESCO Headquarters and in various regions by interested partners. Their main purpose will be to promote reflection on specific responsibilities and competence of UNESCO with regard to human rights, as well as on emerging ethical and social challenges in the context of UNESCO's core mandates.</p> <p>The UNESCO Secretariat could provide technical assistance. Member States and other partners interested in organizing such events are invited to submit detailed proposals to the Director-General explaining the content and format of such meetings.</p>	<p>UNESCO Headquarters or in Member States</p> <p>(dates and venue to be proposed by the organizers)</p>		<p>All expenses relating to the organization of these events will be covered by the organizers</p>

PART III
**Awareness-raising activities to transmit the message
of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

Title of activity	Provisional dates and venue	Sector/Bureau responsible	Financing source
<p>Translation and dissemination of the text of the Universal Declaration in cooperation with OHCHR, into at least an additional 120 languages, if possible, as well as of UNESCO human rights educational materials in indigenous and other languages in various regions, targeting especially youth and indigenous peoples. Various formats will be used, such as posters, brochures, a "Passport to Dignity", etc.</p> <p>The details of this activity will be determined in cooperation with different regional groups.</p>	<p>Throughout 2008 and beyond</p>	<p>SHS in cooperation with programme sectors and central services, as well as interested field offices</p>	<p>Subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources. Potential donors could include UNESCO Member States (through extrabudgetary contributions); private sector institutions; NGOs; international regional organizations; and other international, regional or local donors. If projected costs prove initially to be too high, the goal could be halved to 60 languages, 10 for each of the six geographic regions.</p>
<p>Public event (possibly in cooperation with the host country)</p>	<p>10 December 2008 (possibly at UNESCO Headquarters)</p>	<p>SHS in cooperation with BPI/PCE and other interested programme sectors</p>	<p>Subject to extraordinary resources</p>

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
2. Confirming the Preamble to the Universal Declaration, according to which Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
3. Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,
4. Stressing the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, which all highlighted the importance of human rights in the work of the United Nations system,
5. Emphasizing UNESCO's contributions to the celebration of the 40th and 50th anniversaries of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1988 and 1998 and to the conduct of the activities outlined in the respective plans of action,
6. Taking into account document 34 C/59 relating to the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
7. Having examined document 179 EX/8 relating to the report by the Director-General on UNESCO's refined plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
8. Notes with satisfaction the consultations held on the plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
9. Requests the Director-General to provide the necessary intellectual support for the holding in Colombia of a regional human rights conference on the subject of the contribution of communication to the development of a culture of human rights and to the strengthening of education in this field;
10. Further requests the Director-General to mobilize the intellectual and human resources needed to organize this event in a satisfactory manner, it being understood that the conference's logistical expenses will be covered by the host country;
11. Invites the Director-General to request financial or other contributions from Member States, international organizations and other bodies, to help to defray the costs of the aforementioned regional conference;
12. Requests the Director-General to submit to it a report thereon at its 181st session.

III

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 19 C/Resolution 6.113 and 19 C/Resolution 12.1, and also 104 EX/Decision 3.3, for whose implementation the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations is responsible,

2. Also recalling 34 C/Resolution 38 concerning the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
3. Further recalling UNESCO's key role in the promotion of human rights,
4. Having examined document 179 EX/8, which contains UNESCO's refined plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations thereon (179 EX/54),
5. Decides that the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the procedure laid down in 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and hold a special meeting at the 180th session of the Executive Board;
6. Also decides to grant the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations an extra half working day at the 180th session in order to hold the celebration referred to in paragraph 5 of this decision;
7. Urges the Director-General to explore the possibility of securing extrabudgetary resources for that celebration.

(179 EX/SR.7, 179 EX/SR.9)

Culture

9 Jerusalem and the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 47 and 177 EX/Decisions 19 and 20 (179 EX/9 and Add.; 179 EX/59)

I

Implementation of 34 C/Resolution 47 and 177 EX/Decision 19

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 47 and 177 EX/Decision 19, 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 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 179 EX/9 and Add.,
4. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for his sustained efforts for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, in compliance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and the Executive Board, and reiterates its concern as to the obstacles and practices affecting the preservation of the distinctive character 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. Thanks the Leventis Foundation for its generous contribution to the restoration of the Greek Orthodox Church of Saint John Prodromos, and encourages UNESCO Member States to contribute to the implementation of activities foreseen in the Action Plan for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, notably through extrabudgetary resources;
7. Decides to include this item in the agenda of the 180th session of the Executive Board and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

II

Implementation of 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/Decision, 176 EX/Decision 20 and 177 EX/Decision 20

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 179 EX/9 and Add.,
2. Recalling 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/Decision, 176 EX/Decision 20 and 177 EX/Decision 20,
3. Further recalling decision 31 COM 7.A.18 adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 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;
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. Expresses its gratitude to the Director-General for the positive action he took to ensure the holding of the professional encounter at the technical level on 13 January 2008, as well as the follow-up meeting of 24 February 2008, between Israeli, Jordanian and Waqf experts, with the involvement of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property and the International Council on Monuments and Sites, to discuss the detailed proposals for the proposed final design of the Mughrabi ascent, prior to any final decision;
7. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for the action he has taken to ensure the noble mission entrusted to UNESCO in safeguarding, preserving and restoring World Heritage properties for the benefit of humanity and future generations;
8. Invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(179 EX/SR.10)

10 Report by the Director-General on a preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of a possible international standard-setting instrument for the protection of indigenous and endangered languages, including a study of the outcomes from the programmes implemented by UNESCO related to this issue (179 EX/10; 179 EX/INF.6 and Corr.; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 59,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/10,
3. Reiterating the need to preserve and safeguard languages as vehicles of peoples' identity and cultural heritage,
4. Takes note of the basic outline for discussion contained in document 179 EX/INF.6 and Corr. as a contribution towards preparation of a preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of a possible international standard-setting instrument for the protection of indigenous and endangered languages;
5. Invites the Director-General, in conformity with 176 EX/Decision 59, to convene, as soon as the necessary extrabudgetary funds have been raised, a meeting of experts from different regions, including representatives of indigenous peoples, in consultation, as appropriate, with Member States, and to submit the results of that meeting to the Executive Board at its 180th session;
6. Acknowledges the generous proposal of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to contribute financially to the meeting of experts on indigenous and endangered languages;
7. Requests the Director-General to submit to it for decision at its 181st session the preliminary study requested in 176 EX/Decision 59.

(179 EX/SR.9)

[11 Report by the Director-General on the feasibility study 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]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda: see the footnote in document 179 EX/1.

12 Evaluation of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation and renewal of category 2 centre status (179 EX/12; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 166 EX/Decision 3.4.4 and 32 C/Resolution 36,
2. Taking into account 33 C/Resolution 90,
3. Having examined document 179 EX/12,
4. Notes the evaluation carried out on the Nordic World Heritage Foundation;
5. Confirms that the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF) has performed satisfactorily as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;

6. Decides to renew the granting of the status of a category 2 centre to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation;
7. Authorizes the Director-General, for this purpose, to conclude with the Government of Norway the Agreement contained in the Annex to document 179 EX/12, with the text of the Agreement amended to include provisions which ensure that an external evaluation is conducted in conjunction with any future renewals of the Agreement, and that the Executive Board has an opportunity to review the renewal before it takes effect; the country concerned is encouraged to bear the cost of the evaluation.

(179 EX/SR.9)

[13 Innovative proposals for the financing of core function posts at the World Heritage Centre]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda: see the footnote in document 179 EX/1.

Communication and information

14 Report by the Director-General on the strategic plan for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) (179 EX/14 and Add.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 26,
2. Takes note of the results of the fifth session of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) Council, contained in document 179 EX/14 Add.;
3. Invites the Director-General to submit to it for its consideration at the 180th session a draft strategic plan, as revised by the Information for All Programme Council.

(179 EX/SR.10)

Intersectoral programme activities

15 Report by the Director-General on a draft UNESCO strategy for action on climate change (179 EX/15; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered document 179 EX/15, which contains in Annex I the UNESCO draft strategy for action on climate change,
2. Welcomes the elaboration of this draft strategy within the core mandates of UNESCO;
3. Notes that the draft strategy responds to the overarching and strategic programme objectives of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4), and also addresses the two global priorities of document 34 C/4, Africa and gender equality, as well as the priority groups of small island developing States and least developed countries, and other vulnerable and excluded groups;
4. Emphasizes that UNESCO's core contributions to address climate change rest on two principal pillars:
 - (a) the sound and unbiased generation, dissemination and use of data, information and research concerning climate change (the knowledge base), in close

partnership with Member States, the other competent organizations of the United Nations country teams, and other relevant stakeholders, such as bilateral development partners, NGOs and civil society;

- (b) the application of holistic and integrated approaches in the use of educational tools, specific sectoral measures, and public awareness activities;
- 5. Recommends that the Director-General foster collaboration and an intersectoral approach among the intergovernmental science programmes of UNESCO as a knowledge base on climate change, and further promote education for sustainable development as a key element with which to address climate change;
- 6. Further emphasizes that the strategy should be aimed at helping Member States to build and maintain the requisite knowledge base, and to adopt measures for adapting to the impacts of climate change, contributing to the mitigation of its causes, and strengthening sustainable development;
- 7. Approves hereby in principle the overall terms of the UNESCO strategy for action on climate change, as contained in Annex I of document 179 EX/15;
- 8. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 180th session a strategy which has been refined in the light of the discussions during the 179th session of the Executive Board;
- 9. Also requests the Director-General to draw up a detailed plan of action, taking into account the debate at the 179th session of the Executive Board, showing, for each strategic objective, the activities planned, resources to be mobilized, expected results and performance indicators and timetable for implementation, for submission to it at its 181st session;
- 10. Invites the Director-General to specify in the strategy the actions planned for Africa and small island developing States, as UNESCO priorities;
- 11. Further requests the Director-General to report to it at each autumn session on the progress made and results achieved in the implementation of the UNESCO strategy.

(179 EX/SR.10)

16 Report by the Director-General on the development and management of intersectoral platforms (179 EX/16; 179 EX/57)

I

The Executive Board,

- 1. Reiterating that intersectoral and interdisciplinary action is one of the comparative advantages of UNESCO, when responding to contemporary problems of today's world in UNESCO's fields of competence,
- 2. Recalling that the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4), with its overarching objectives and strategic programme objectives, is built on a strong intersectoral vision and approach,
- 3. Also recalling 177 EX/Decision 25 (I), in which it recommended that the Director-General be requested to report regularly, beginning with the 179th session, on the management and implementation of the various intersectoral platforms envisaged for the implementation of the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5), and which was endorsed by the General Conference when adopting document 34 C/5,

4. Having considered document 179 EX/16,
5. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the document and its contents;
6. Invites the Director-General to give priority consideration to Africa and gender equality in each intersectoral platform;
7. Also invites the Director-General to ensure the most effective management of the platforms by reconsidering the organizational structure in order to ensure an intersectoral and interdisciplinary approach in UNESCO's programmes of work;
8. Requests the Director-General to convene an information meeting for Permanent Delegations on intersectoral platforms before its 180th session;
9. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session an interim report on the implementation and follow-up of the intersectoral platforms, including, *inter alia*, a precise definition of the role of the various players and the relations between them.

II

Extension of the African continental shelf

The Executive Board,

1. Considering Resolution XXIV-3 on "The Past, Present and Future of Africa within the IOC Programmes" adopted by the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Assembly at its 24th session, recommending that the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission ensure the implementation of the resolutions and decisions taken in favour of Africa (30 C/5, para. 02240),
2. Also considering Article 76 in Part VI "Continental shelf" of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,
3. Recalling the role of the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and the collaboration between the latter and the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission,
4. Taking into account the existence of the special Trust Fund established by United Nations General Assembly resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000 to assist developing countries and small island developing States in the preparation of their dossiers with a view to the submission of requests for the extension of the limits of their continental shelf,
5. Recalling the Director-General's message at the Eighth Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, devoted to the themes of "Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development" and "Climate Change in Africa", a message stressing, among other things, the importance for the countries concerned of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
6. Also recalling the plan of action concerning UNESCO's participation in the implementation of the decisions and Declaration by the African Union Summit on Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development (January 2007) approved by the Executive Board at its 177th session, and including among its expected results IOC assistance to African States in the preparation of their submissions to extend their continental shelves,

7. Emphasizing that the UNESCO General Conference at its 34th session adopted a Programme and Budget which, *inter alia*, stresses the need to increase support for programmes for the integrated management of coastal zones, applications of remote sensing for water resources and climate change, and for strengthening the Framework for Action of the Global Ocean Observing System in Africa (GOOS-AFRICA),
8. Further recalling Assembly/AU/Decision 179 taken at the Summit of Heads of State of the African Union in February 2008 on the extension of the African continental shelf and climate change, which “calls on the specialized agencies of the United Nations system to provide the coastal Member States all the assistance required to conduct the necessary studies for submitting applications for the extension of their continental shelf”,
9. Aware of the major issues relating to the preservation of ecosystems and the integrated management of marine and coastal resources for the sustainable development of Africa,
10. Concerned at the imminence of the deadline of 12 May 2009 for the deposit of dossiers for the extension of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,
11. Congratulates the Director-General on his efforts to strengthen the Organization’s support for Africa;
12. Invites the Director-General to take all appropriate measures to ensure that UNESCO and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission implement IOC Resolution XXIV-3, and also strengthen their assistance in support of the African Member States concerned in order to speed up the process of study, formulation and submission of requests for the extension of the limits of their continental shelf, within the time limit required, in close conjunction with the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as with the NEPAD Programme for Coastal and Marine Environment;
13. Requests the Director-General to address this issue in the relevant intersectoral platforms, and to report to it thereon at its 181st session.

III

Inclusion of the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) in the intersectoral platforms on Africa and education for sustainable development

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 28 C/Resolution 2.4 of the General Conference of UNESCO (1995) and the Seville Strategy for Biosphere Reserves which confirmed the importance of biosphere reserves for the conservation of biodiversity, and the N’Sele Declaration (Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1991) which set out the main lines of an action programme on environmental education and the implementation of pilot projects on research and training,
2. Stressing that the future of humanity depends, in particular, on education and public awareness-raising geared to environmental protection and sound management of biosphere reserves,

3. Considering that climate change currently affecting the world is linked in particular to the poor management of biodiversity,
4. Commending UNESCO and its international partners on the implementation of a project in support of the establishment and operation of the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the country with the largest expanse of tropical forest in Africa,
5. Recognizing that the forests of Africa constitute the world's second largest area of tropical forest (second world biosphere reserve) and that they should be better managed,
6. Bearing in mind the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Algiers, 1968, and Maputo, 2008) which advocates the sound management of forest resources, guarantor of a country's sustainable development for the greatest good of its people,
7. Bearing in mind that the establishment of the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) is enshrined in special recommendation No. 4 of the Regional Seminar in N'Sele on "African tropical forests – a heritage to be protected urgently" (Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1991),
8. Considering the suggestions of the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) at its eighteenth session held at UNESCO Headquarters (Paris, 25-29 October 2004) that guidance be given on the Secretariat's initiative aimed at networking ERAIFT-DRC with the world's three major tropical forest regions, namely the Amazon, the Congo Basin and South-East Asia (Indonesia and Malaysia),
9. Drawing on the agreement in principle to establish a transboundary biosphere reserve signed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda at the time of the meeting of the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) (Madrid, 4-9 February 2008),
10. Taking into account the content of the Memorandum signed on 10 September 2005 by UNESCO and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo regarding the establishment of the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT),
11. Referring to the spirit of assistance of Project PNUD/ZAI/97001/01/13 "Support for the establishment and operation of the Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests (ERAIFT)",
12. Considering that the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) has, since its establishment, had the operational status of a UNESCO-MAB project,
13. Further considering that the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) is the only institution in sub-Saharan Africa specializing in the integrated management of tropical forests and lands,
14. Taking into account the importance of the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) in the management and safeguarding of the world ecosystem in general and the African ecosystem in particular,

15. Considering the satisfactory and promising results obtained by the School in its 10 years of operation,
16. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 25 (I), in which it recommended that the Director-General be requested to report regularly, as from the 179th session, on the development and implementation of the various intersectoral platforms envisaged for the execution of the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5), and which was endorsed by the General Conference when it adopted document 34 C/5,
17. Having examined document 179 EX/16,
18. Requests the Director-General to consider ways and means of associating the work of the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) more closely to UNESCO's action to promote the training of African specialists in the management of forests and natural resources in sub-Saharan Africa, in particular by giving consideration to the inclusion of ERAIFT in the "Priority Africa: coordinating and monitoring the plan of action to benefit Africa" and the "Education for Sustainable Development" intersectoral platforms;
19. Invites the Director-General to report to it on this matter at its 181st session.

(179 EX/SR.9)

[17 Draft amendments to the General Regulations and Financial Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda: see the footnote in document 179 EX/1.

METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

18 Follow-up to 33 C/Resolution 92 concerning relations between the three organs of UNESCO (179 EX/18; 179 EX/55)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 92 and 34 C/Resolution 88,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/18 and its annex,
3. Welcomes the steady progress made thus far in implementing 33 C/Resolution 92;
4. Notes that a number of decisions and recommendations in 33 C/Resolution 92 have not been fully implemented, and decides to continue implementing the outstanding recommendations;
5. Requests the Director-General to update the status of implementation regarding the recommendations in 33 C/Resolution 92, taking into account the views and observations expressed in this session, and to present to it an updated report at its 180th session;
6. Considers that the implementation of recommendation 13 is in progress as part of the Executive Board's preparation of its report on the implementation of the Programme and Budget (34 C/5) and the results achieved in the previous biennium;
7. Recognizes that steady progress has been made in the implementation of recommendations 14, 15 and 16, especially regarding the annotation of the agenda,

enhanced interactive dialogue between the Member States and the Director-General, and the preparation of the thematic debates;

8. Considers that recommendation 19 has been appropriately implemented;
9. Decides to consider at its 180th session how recommendations 7, 8 and 10 of 33 C/Resolution 92 may be implemented when discussing the organization of the 35th session of the General Conference;
10. Also decides, in follow-up to recommendation 17, to include an agenda item at its 180th session with a view to formally determining the criteria for holding private meetings;
11. Also recognizes that joint meetings of the PX and FA Commissions have been held since the 2006-2007 biennium on an experimental basis, and further decides to undertake an evaluation of the experience of such joint meetings at its 180th session, in implementation of recommendation 18;
12. Invites Member States to submit their views on the joint meeting, and also requests the Director-General to consolidate them in a summary report to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 180th session for its consideration.

(179 EX/SR.7)

19 Review by the Executive Board of the methods of work and the terms of reference of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters (179 EX/19 and Add. and Add. Corr. and Add.2; 179 EX/55; 179 EX/58)

The Executive Board,

1. Referring to 178 EX/Decision 10,
2. Recalling 137 EX/Decision 8.6, 142 EX/Decision 3.1.3, 143 EX/Decision 9.1, 144 EX/Decision 6.10, 148 EX/Decision 5.7, 153 EX/Decision 5.6, 158 EX/Decision 5.6, 163 EX/Decision 5.6, 168 EX/Decision 5.6 and 173 EX/Decision 10 on the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters,
3. Having considered the work of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters, and believing that it can continue to make important contributions to the overall work of the Executive Board by examining from a strictly technical point of view the financial and administrative aspects of documents that may require such examination,
4. Having examined documents 179 EX/19 and Add. and Add. Corr. and Add.2,
5. Considering the importance of improving the efficiency and the methods of work of the Finance and Administrative Commission,
6. Decides that the terms of reference and the methods of work of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters shall be as follows:
 - (a) to assist the work of the Finance and Administrative Commission through the provision of strictly technical advice;
 - (b) to examine from a strictly technical point of view the administrative and financial issues referred to it by the Chair of the Finance and Administrative Commission and the Chair of the Group of Experts, and to report its findings, and, if

appropriate, propose alternative, clearly labelled and technically justified drafting suggestions to the Finance and Administrative Commission;

- (c) to refrain from entering into policy discussions or offering policy observations in the conduct or reporting of its work;
7. Also decides that the Group of Experts shall normally meet one week before each of the sessions of the Executive Board, and that its reports shall be made available three working days before the Finance and Administrative Commission begins its deliberations;
 8. Encourages the Director-General to provide appropriate assistance to the Group of Experts;
 9. Further decides that guidelines for the criteria for the selection of agenda items to be referred to the Group of Experts and the working methods of its meetings will be further considered at the 180th session of the Executive Board;
 10. Finally decides that the agenda items to be referred to the Group of Experts for the 180th session of the Executive Board be determined well in advance through consultations between the Chairs of the Executive Board, the Finance and Administrative Commission and the Group of Experts for Financial and Administrative Matters;
 11. Renews its decision to finance, from the budget of the Executive Board, the expenses of the Group of Experts, including, where necessary, reasonable travel costs and subsistence allowances for experts not resident in Paris and whose expenses are not borne by their respective governments;
 12. Invites Member States, in this regard, to take the necessary steps to facilitate the participation of their experts in the meetings of the Group of Experts;
 13. Requests the Director-General to clearly indicate the financial and administrative implications on every agenda item, with a view to facilitating the work of the Executive Board, including the Finance and Administrative Commission and the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative matters.

(179 EX/SR.8, 179 EX/SR.9)

20 Report by the Director-General on evaluations completed during the 2006-2007 biennium (179 EX/20 and Corr.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 26,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/20, which summarizes the evaluation reports that have been presented,
3. Acknowledges the generous contributions of the Italian Government for the further development of the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), with the move of its Secretariat to Perugia;
4. Also acknowledges the support of the Belgian Government for the opening of the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) project office in Oostende;

5. Further acknowledges the generous contributions of the Japanese Government for promoting the development of the World Water Assessment Programme, including external evaluations;
6. Taking note of the recommendations by the evaluators as well as the report by the Director-General on the actions taken or to be taken to implement these recommendations,
7. Invites the Director-General to implement, in a timely manner, recommendations which improve the programmes and services to which they relate, and to continue to improve the quality of evaluations by implementing the UNESCO Evaluation Strategy;
8. Requests the Director-General to continue to report to it on evaluations conducted on the Organization's programme activities, on the progress made in strengthening programme management, in the follow-up to evaluation recommendations for each programme evaluated, and in strengthening the quality of the evaluations undertaken and their impact on the management culture of the Organization.

(179 EX/SR.10)

21 Report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium (35 C/3) (179 EX/21; 179 EX/55)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 78 (para. 4), 33 C/Resolution 92 (recommendation 13), 34 C/Resolution 89 and 177 EX/Decision 46 (II),
2. Having examined document 179 EX/21,
3. Invites the Director-General to continue implementing 34 C/Resolution 89, and to present the necessary information, particularly the future EX/4 documents, within the specified times, to enable the preparation of the Executive Board's report to the General Conference;
4. Also invites the Director-General to include in his report (EX/4) presentations in tabular format of the results achieved against the expected results and performance indicators (EX/4 against C/5);
5. Decides:
 - (a) to further develop the methodology for preparing such a report;
 - (b) to consider the establishment of a drafting group at the 180th session of the Executive Board to prepare a preliminary report according to the guidelines established in 34 C/Resolution 89;
 - (c) to consider the methods of work of the drafting group at its 180th session;
 - (d) to make every effort to prepare such a report as early as possible so that it may be reflected in the negotiation process of document 35 C/5 in a timely manner;
6. Further invites the Director-General to continue assisting the Executive Board in this endeavour.

(179 EX/SR.7)

22 Report by the Executive Board on its own activities, including its methods of work: the format of its reporting to the General Conference (179 EX/22; 179 EX/55)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 30 C/Resolution 81, 156 EX/Decision 5.5 and 177 EX/Decision 46 (I),
2. Considering the requests of the General Conference for improved reporting (33 C/Resolution 78 and 33 C/Resolution 92),
3. Recognizing that this is an ongoing process, and that document 34 C/9 Part I constitutes an initial model for the report by the Executive Board on its own activities, including its methods of work,
4. Having examined document 179 EX/22,
5. Decides to review at its 180th session the concrete processes to be adopted for completing the report, taking into account the process of preparing the Executive Board's report on programme implementation.

(179 EX/SR.7)

MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

23 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 (179 EX/CR/HR and Add.-Add.3; 179 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.

(179 EX/SR.7)

24 Report of the seventh meeting of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education (179 EX/24; 179 EX/54)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 162 EX/Decision 5.4, 171 EX/Decision 27 and 177 EX/Decision 37,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/24,
3. Expresses its appreciation of the work of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education, and the activities of the Secretariat of the Joint Expert Group in promoting the right to education;
4. Recognizes the key importance of the theme the Joint Expert Group addressed at its seventh meeting, especially in relation to effective follow-up to education for all (EFA);
5. Invites Member States to promote action to ensure non-discrimination and equal opportunities in education, in law and in fact, so as to meet the continuing challenges they face to fulfil their commitments and international obligations in this field;
6. Requests the Director-General to consider, for follow-up action, the suggestions and recommendations of the Joint Expert Group contained in document 179 EX/24, in particular those relating to assistance with the preparation of reports, especially with a view to enhancing advocacy and visibility and securing a considerable improvement in monitoring procedures and practices;

7. Recognizes that greater emphasis needs to be placed on action at the national level on universalizing access to quality education for all, and to that end, requests UNESCO's Secretariat to emphasize wider access to education for promoting the full exercise of the right to education, especially in the context of the forthcoming International Conference on Education (November 2008);
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, with emphasis on existing normative texts promoting inclusive approaches to education;
9. Requests the Joint Expert Group to report to it at its 181st session.

(179 EX/SR.7)

25 Proposal by the Director-General for the preparation of a revised recommendation concerning the safeguarding and contemporary role of historic areas (179 EX/25; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/25,
3. Taking into consideration new approaches being developed on the conservation of historic urban landscapes,
4. Noting World Heritage Committee Decision 29 COM 5D adopted at its session in Durban in 2005, in which it recommended that the General Conference adopt a new Recommendation to complement and update the existing ones on this issue,
5. Welcoming the fact that the World Heritage Committee will examine this issue at its forthcoming session (Quebec, 2008),
6. Referring to the Rules of Procedure concerning Recommendations to Member States and International Conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,
7. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session a full preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of this issue.

(179 EX/SR.10)

26 Draft amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRELAC) (179 EX/26; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 16,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/26,
3. Takes note with concern that the content of document 179 EX/26 does not reflect the decisions taken by the ministers of education at the Second Intergovernmental Regional Committee meeting of the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRELAC), which took place in Buenos Aires in March 2007;

4. Requests the Director-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that the work of the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean is not affected as a result of the delay in approving the Statutes until its 180th session;
5. Invites the Director-General to prepare, as soon as possible, a revised document on the amendments to the Statutes of the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean, in consultation with the Member States of the Latin America and the Caribbean region, for approval at its 180th session;
6. Also invites the Director-General to inscribe this item on the agenda of the 35th session of the General Conference, to be debated and adopted.

(179 EX/SR.10)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

27 **Organization of the work of the 35th session of the General Conference** (179 EX/27; 179 EX/55)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the desire of the Executive Board, at its 178th session, to hold discussions on this matter early in the biennium,
2. Also recalling 33 C/Resolution 92 and 34 C/Resolution 88,
3. Noting the comments made by Member States concerning the organization and conduct of the 34th session of the General Conference,
4. Taking note of the ongoing discussions in the informal working group of the President of the General Conference in this regard,
5. Bearing in mind the need for the Executive Board, at its 180th session, to give clear guidance for the organization and conduct of the 35th session of the General Conference,
6. Having examined document 179 EX/27,
7. Decides to discuss the organization of the work of the 35th session of the General Conference at its 180th session, taking into account 33 C/Resolution 92 as well as proposals from the informal working group of the President of the General Conference, as appropriate.

(179 EX/SR.8)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

28 **Report by the Director-General on the budgetary situation of the Organization for 2006-2007 (33 C/5) at the closure of accounts as at 31 December 2007 (unaudited), budget adjustments arising from donations and special contributions received, and management chart for programme execution in 2006-2007 (No. 41) based on the closed accounts (unaudited)** (179 EX/28 and Corr.; 179 EX/58)

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, in accordance with the terms of the Appropriation Resolution approved by the General Conference at its 33rd session (33 C/Resolution 96, para. 1(b)), documents 179 EX/28 and Corr. and the recommendations of its Finance and Administrative Commission thereon (179 EX/58),

2. Takes note that the Director-General has, as a consequence of these donations and special contributions, increased the appropriations to the regular budget for 2006-2007 by a total amount of **\$1,449,699** as follows:

	\$
Part II.A – Major Programme I	284,512
Part II.A – Major Programme II	258,093
Part II.A – Major Programme III	27,586
Part II.A – Major Programme IV	362,067
Part II.A – Major Programme V	113,269
Part II.C – Programme related services (BSP)	150,000
Part II.C – Anticipation and foresight (FOR)	4,968
Part III – Support for programme execution (indirect costs for field offices)	219,220
Part III – Support for programme execution (ERC)	29,984
Total	1,449,699

3. Expresses its appreciation to the donors listed in paragraph 24 of document 179 EX/28;
4. Takes note of the revised Appropriation Table in Annex IV of document 179 EX/28;
5. Also having examined the Director-General's report on the budgetary situation of the Organization for 2006-2007 at the closure of accounts (179 EX/28 and Corr.),
6. Takes note of the budgetary situation of the Organization in respect of the 2006-2007 regular budget (33 C/5) at the closure of accounts as at 31 December 2007.

(179 EX/SR.9)

29 Financial Regulations of Special Accounts (179 EX/29; 179 EX/58)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article 6.7 of UNESCO's Financial Regulations,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/29,
3. Takes note of the Financial Regulations of the following special accounts presented in document 179 EX/29:
 - (a) Special Account for the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport;
 - (b) Special Account for the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
 - (c) Special Account for the International Fund for Cultural Diversity;
 - (d) Special Account for South-South Cooperation in Education;
 - (e) Special Account for the Strengthening of UNESCO's Infrastructure and its Programme in Pursuit of its Mission in the Fields of the Organization's Competence;
 - (f) Special Account for Language Training.

(179 EX/SR.9)

30 Comments by the Director-General on the implementation of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) strategy in 2006-2007: annual report 2007 (179 EX/30; 179 EX/58)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 160 EX/Decision 6.5 and 164 EX/Decision 6.10,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/30,
3. Takes note of the contributions made by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) to improving the management of the Organization as part of its ongoing reform;
4. Takes note with serious concern that a significant percentage of recommendations remain outstanding;
5. Also takes note of the further actions that need to be taken by the Secretariat to improve the culture of learning, the culture of responsibility and accountability, and governance of the oversight functions;
6. Welcomes the Director-General's initiatives to convene the Oversight Advisory Committee;
7. Requests the Director-General to ensure that all the Internal Oversight Service audit recommendations, in particular the outstanding recommendations, are fully implemented within a reasonable time frame, and to report to it on the progress made;
8. Further requests the Director-General to report to it on the implementation of this decision at its 180th session.

(179 EX/SR.9)

31 Follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor and performance audits (179 EX/31 Part I and Corr., Part II and Part III and Corr.; 179 EX/57)

I

Performance audit 2006-2007 on UNESCO's publication activities

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/31 Part I and Corr. – Performance audits 2006-2007, "Report on UNESCO's publication activities" presented by the External Auditor,
2. Recalling the Directives on UNESCO's Publications Policy, approved by the General Conference at its 19th session (19 C/Resolution 6.51),
3. Considering that publication activities are important tools for performing the functions of UNESCO and increasing its visibility, and that they are a means of fostering "cooperation among the nations in all branches of intellectual activity" and of promoting multilingualism,
4. Deeply disturbed by the inappropriate and unauthorized destruction of a large volume of historical and literary works published by UNESCO, without carrying out any kind of consultations with Member States in order to determine the fate or alternatives for the distribution of these works,

5. Expresses its profound appreciation to the External Auditor for the excellent report presented and for the recommendations included therein;
6. Expresses its concern at the deficiencies reported by the External Auditor regarding the Organization's "publications policy", which dangerously undermine the coherence of UNESCO's image and performance internationally and its role as a "clearing house of ideas";
7. Urges the Director-General to implement the External Auditor's recommendations as soon as possible, and in particular:
 - (a) to establish a transparent publications and distribution policy which introduces proper quality control, promotion, monitoring and evaluation;
 - (b) to establish a decision-making and coordination mechanism to ensure the implementation of the publications and distribution policy, including the possible re-establishment of the Publications Board;
8. Invites the Director-General to explore more cost-efficient ways of conducting publication activities, including the use of new ICT tools;
9. Takes note of the Director-General's intention to clarify the facts concerning the destruction of the publications, identify the chain of responsibility, and take all measures necessary to ensure that such a situation never occurs again;
10. Requests the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at the spring session immediately following each General Conference, and in line with the budget approved, a publications and distribution plan with a preliminary list of the publications planned for the biennium, which could be updated by the Director-General and submitted to the Executive Board at subsequent sessions;
11. Also requests the Director-General to make the plan available online (and to provide printed copies on request to Member States) at the beginning of the biennium including the following information concerning the publications on the preliminary list:
 - (a) the intended purpose and the demand;
 - (b) the target readership and expected impact;
 - (c) the estimated printing costs;
12. Further requests the Director-General to invite the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) to include in its audit plans on a regular basis a selection of individual publications from Headquarters and field offices;
13. Finally requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 180th session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the External Auditor's recommendations, as well as on the follow-up to this decision, together with a publications and distribution plan for 2008-2009.

II

Performance audit 2006-2007 on staff rotation policy

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/31 Part I – Performance audits 2006-2007, “Report on the implementation of the staff rotation policy and on staff movement in the framework of the reform process” presented by the External Auditor,
2. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 6, 34 C/Resolution 66 2A(b)(ii) and DG/Note/08/09,
3. Expressing its appreciation to the External Auditor for the above-mentioned report,
4. Welcomes the comments of the Director-General on the External Auditor’s report and his acceptance of the recommendations;
5. Reaffirming that staff rotation is a key element within the organization’s decentralization policy,
6. Also reaffirming that an appointment to an international professional post includes acceptance of geographical mobility,
7. Requests the Director-General to implement the External Auditor’s recommendations;
8. Strongly supports the introduction by the Director-General of a policy of mandatory rotation for all international staff as from 1 October 2008;
9. Also requests the Director-General to take the appropriate steps to encourage and facilitate inter-agency mobility within the United Nations system, as well as mobility between and within duty stations;
10. Invites the Director-General to present to it at its 181st session a strategy for the implementation of the mandatory rotation scheme and a possible short-term mobility scheme with a view to meeting needs in the field, including an overview of the financial implications and cost-effectiveness, as well as staff counselling and communication mechanisms.

III

UNESCO’s procurement policies and procedures

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/31 Part II “Report on UNESCO’s procurement policies and procedures” presented by the External Auditor,
2. Expresses its appreciation to the External Auditor for the excellent report and for the recommendations made;
3. Thanks the Director-General for all the efforts to implement the External Auditor’s recommendations made in 2007 and contained in document 176 EX/39;
4. Urges the Director-General to ensure that all of the outstanding elements of the External Auditor’s report as contained in document 176 EX/39 are implemented as a matter of urgency, particularly on the question of the independence of the

Administrative Officers in terms of their reporting lines and their operational tasks, as well as the harmonization of administrative structures across sectors;

5. Invites the Director-General to consider additional measures to strengthen control surrounding procurement actions for amounts below \$100,000;
6. Requests the Director-General to finalize and publish the career path opportunities for the Administrative Officers as indicated in paragraph 5(b) of document 179 EX/31 Part II;
7. Further requests the Director-General to report to it on the implementation of this decision at its 180th session.

IV

UNESCO Office in Brasilia

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/31 Part III and Corr.,
2. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 19,
3. Acknowledges the steady progress made in the implementation of the Plan for the Reorientation of the Brasilia Office;
4. Requests the Director-General to implement all the recommendations of the External Auditor;
5. Requests the External Auditor to continue reporting on the implementation of recommendations in its follow-up report.

(179 EX/SR.9)

32 Annual report (2007) by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC): report by the Director-General (179 EX/32 and Add.; 179 EX/58)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 114 EX/Decision 8.5, 22 C/Resolution 37 and 176 EX/Decision 41,
2. Having examined documents 179 EX/32 and Add.,
3. Takes note of their contents and of General Assembly resolution 62/227;
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to ensure UNESCO's participation in the work of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) and to take due account of the results of its work.

(179 EX/SR.9)

33 Report by the Director-General on the use of consultant and fee contracts by the Secretariat (179 EX/33; 179 EX/58)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 35 and 176 EX/Decision 42,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/33,

3. Takes note of the data and analyses presented in the document and further recalls the need to achieve a wider geographical distribution and gender balance in the hiring of consultants where there is an equal level of competence among consultants from the different geographical regions;
4. Notes that the development of a new consultant roster is almost completed;
5. Requests the Director-General to make the new online application tool for consultants being prepared by the Secretariat available and accessible online;
6. Also requests the Director-General to finalize the revised policy on consultants;
7. Further requests the Director-General to make available online the information on contracts awarded and consultants appointed;
8. Recalling that consultant and fee contracts should not be used for functions for which there is a continuing need in the Organization except in cases where services have been outsourced with the approval of the Director-General, who shall keep the Executive Board informed,
9. Invites the External Auditor to include consultant and fee contracts in his planned comprehensive audit of temporary contracts, taking into account all the key aspects of the debate in the Executive Board, as well as the best practices in other United Nations organs, and to pay particular attention to persons hired under different types of contracts;
10. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session his next report on the use of consultant and fee contracts.

(179 EX/SR.9)

34 Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex (179 EX/34; 179 EX/58)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 74, 172 EX/Decision 40, 174 EX/Decision 29, 175 EX/Decision 38, 176 EX/Decision 44, 177 EX/Decision 55 and 34 C/Resolution 85,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/34,
3. Acknowledges the progress achieved in managing the UNESCO complex and the implementation of the Belmont Plan, and notes with concern the fact that, due to a number of technical, organizational and administrative factors, the completion of the renovation plan will encounter additional delays and involve additional costs of €2.2 million;
4. Invites the External Auditor to establish the reasons for the cost overruns on the Fontenoy site, and to confirm that all the contracts were awarded within the existing procedures;
5. Notes that under the present circumstances, the conclusion of the Director-General and the Headquarters Committee is that there is no feasible option for ensuring the financing of the Miollis/Bonvin site renovation unless Member States decide on a specific allocation of the necessary funds through assessed contributions;
6. Also notes the significant progress achieved in regard to security at Headquarters;

7. Further notes the difficulties encountered by the Organization's Security Service in fulfilling its tasks satisfactorily, continuously and in all circumstances;
8. Takes note of the revised rental scale for offices in the Miollis building (Annex IV of document 179 EX/34) to be effective as from 1 January 2009, subject to yearly adjustments based on the inflation rate;
9. Recalls that further adjustments of the base scale, beyond yearly adjustments based on the inflation rate, must be examined by the Headquarters Committee and by the Executive Board, taking into account the information provided by the Director-General on the running, maintenance and conservation costs of the Miollis premises, with a view to ensuring full cost recovery, while respecting the non-commercial nature of the Organization;
10. Takes note of the decision by the Headquarters Committee to continue, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to review the situation of the Headquarters Utilization Fund, and in particular to examine the expenditures and the Financial Regulations of the Fund;
11. Also takes note of the request by the Headquarters Committee not to exceed the current level of running and maintenance costs for the Miollis building (staff costs, utilities, maintenance contracts and taxes) having regard to future rationalizations;
12. Further takes note of the decision by the Headquarters Committee to authorize the Director-General, starting from 1 January 2009, to transfer from the Headquarters Utilization Fund to the Special Account for the Restoration and Improvement of Headquarters, sub-account Miollis, all income from letting offices in Miollis above and beyond the running and maintenance costs, with a view to financing long-term maintenance and conservation of the Miollis building and installations;
13. Invites the Headquarters Committee to reconsider its decision referred to in paragraph 12 above and to authorize the Director-General to create, within the Headquarters Utilization Fund, a sub-account Miollis for all income related to the Miollis building, with a view to financing the running, maintenance and conservation costs of that building;
14. Invites the Director-General to present to it options for adequate resources, including extrabudgetary resources, to cover the additional costs of €2.2 million related to the Fontenoy Headquarters Renovation Plan, without negatively affecting the budget for programmes, and urges him to take all necessary steps to control costs under that Renovation Plan;
15. Requests the Director-General to:
 - (a) provide a list of works (by building) which – according to document 32 C/INF.8 – have been carried out on the Miollis/Bonvin site thus far;
 - (b) present an updated Renovation Plan for the Miollis/Bonvin site, as well as a long-term conservation plan (covering several years), dividing the works into phases, buildings and degree of urgency;
 - (c) study possible options to rationalize the running costs of the Miollis/Bonvin site;
16. Further invites the Director-General to identify the human and financial resources that may permit compliance within the standards applicable in the area of security, and to take the necessary steps, as a matter of urgency, to remedy the shortcomings noted in document 179 EX/34;

17. Reiterates its request to the Director-General to invite the Permanent Delegations occupying offices at Headquarters that are in arrears to settle their debt and to apply all necessary measures arising from the contracts for the letting of office space to Permanent Delegations, including the allocation, on the basis of transparent procedures, of those offices to delegations regularly discharging their contractual obligations, and to keep it informed as regards the progress in recovering arrears;
18. Also reiterates the invitation to Member States to make voluntary contributions for the restoration and improvement of Headquarters;
19. Requests the Director-General to report to it on the implementation of this decision at its 180th session.

(179 EX/SR.9)

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

35 Relations with international non-governmental organizations, foundations and similar institutions (179 EX/35; 179 EX/56)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 31, 177 EX/Decision 57, 178 EX/Decision 13 and 34 C/Resolution 59,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/35,
3. Welcomes the continued efforts made by the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations in the context of the revitalization and strengthening of cooperation with NGOs following the recommendations made in the sexennial report;
4. Emphasizes the key role that the NGOs can play in raising awareness among the wider public and implementing the projects of the Alliance of Civilizations, within the framework of its collaboration with UNESCO, *inter alia* by the establishment of partnerships conducive to the strengthening of intercultural dialogue;
5. Encourages the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations and the Secretariat to take measures to facilitate the participation of NGOs from developing countries in the future work of the Committee;
6. Recalls, to this end, the considerable potential that free, independent and pluralistic media have to foster dialogue and mutual understanding;
7. Recognizes the role played by the NGOs in contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights, and underscores the responsible role that NGOs play in promoting UNESCO's mandate and its main lines of action, and in increasing its visibility;
8. Takes note of the Director-General's decisions concerning the admission to operational relations of the organizations listed in Annex I of document 179 EX/35;
9. Decides to admit to formal associate relations the Union of International Associations (UIA);
10. Further decides to renew formal associate relations and formal consultative relations with the non-governmental organizations listed in Annex III of document 179 EX/35;

11. Takes note of the Director-General's decisions concerning the renewal of official relations with the four foundations listed in Annex III of document 179 EX/35.

(179 EX/SR.7)

36 Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) of interest to UNESCO and the status of implementation of approved/accepted recommendations of Joint Inspection Unit reports (179 EX/36; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 169 EX/Decision 7.3 and 176 EX/Decision 48,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/36, containing the comments by the Director-General and the status of implementation of recommendations contained in previous Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) reports,
3. Thanks the Joint Inspection Unit for its reports: JIU/REP/2006/6 and Corr.1 "Results-based management in the United Nations in the context of the reform process", JIU/REP/2007/1 "Voluntary contributions in the United Nations system organizations: impact on programme delivery and resource mobilization strategies", JIU/REP/2007/2 "United Nations system staff medical coverage", JIU/REP/2007/4 "Age structure of human resources in the organizations of the United Nations system" and JIU/REP/2007/6 "Knowledge management in the United Nations system";
4. Requests the Director-General to ensure follow-up to the implementation of approved/accepted recommendations contained in the Joint Inspection Unit reports, and to report to it at its 180th session on the status of implementation of those recommendations.

(179 EX/SR.9)

37 Report by the Director-General on the proposed revised criteria and procedure for consideration of the proposals by Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated (179 EX/37; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/37,
2. Approves the amendment to the criteria for consideration of proposals by Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated as proposed in this document, while adding the following criterion:
 - (g) *Requests relating to works of the intangible heritage – which comprise oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, social practices and rituals and festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, and traditional craftsmanship – will not be taken into consideration since they cannot be dated in time;*
3. Encourages Member States of all regions to make proposals with a view to improving geographical distribution and gender balance and to be more selective in making these proposals in order to enhance the quality, the representativeness and the visibility of this programme.

(179 EX/SR.10)

38 Proposals by the Director-General concerning a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire (179 EX/38; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 51 relating to strengthening cooperation with the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire and 34 C/Resolution 60 on the preparation of a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/38,
3. Emphasizing the need to continue supporting the efforts of the Ivorian Government to promote stability, reconciliation and the consolidation of peace, in particular in the fields of education, science, culture and communication,
4. Takes note of the preliminary activities planned as part of the implementation of the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5);
5. Approves the evolving and dynamic strategy proposed, and thanks the Director-General for the mobilization under way and for the initiatives already taken, in particular the dispatch of missions to assess and identify preliminary priority needs;
6. Also takes note of the Director-General's decision to send a high-level multidisciplinary and intersectoral mission shortly to Côte d'Ivoire to meet the Ivorian authorities and to re-specify the priorities for an overall framework programme;
7. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 180th session the announced detailed overall framework support programme and a monitoring report on the implementation of this decision.

(179 EX/SR.9)

GENERAL MATTERS

39 Implementation of 34 C/Resolution 58 and 177 EX/Decision 62 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories (179 EX/39 and Add.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 58 and 177 EX/Decision 62, 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 179 EX/39 and Add.,
3. Also 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. Further recalling paragraph 31 of the Medium-Term Strategy (31 C/4 Approved), defining a "roadmap 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 conflict,

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 roadmap,
7. Supports the efforts made by the Director-General with a view to the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 58 and 177 EX/Decision 62, and requests him to do everything possible to ensure that they are fully implemented in the framework of the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 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 34 C/Resolution 58 and 177 EX/Decision 62;
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 by establishing a multi-donor trust fund benefiting Palestinian students in need;
13. Requests the Director-General to follow closely the implementation of the recommendations of the eighth meeting of the Joint UNESCO-Palestinian Authority Committee (4-5 March 2008), and to organize, as soon as possible, the ninth meeting of the Joint UNESCO-Palestinian Authority Committee;
14. Encourages Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, and expresses the hope that a just and comprehensive peace will be brought about speedily;
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 the agenda of the Executive Board at its 180th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

40 Report by the Director-General on the updating of the evaluation of the anticipation and foresight programme (179 EX/40; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling document 175 EX/23 and 175 EX/Decision 23, as well as document 161 EX/45,
2. Also recalling 34 C/Resolution 54 (VI) and the related debate at the 34th session of the General Conference,
3. Having examined the update of the evaluation of the anticipation and foresight programme contained in document 179 EX/40,
4. Further recalling that the evaluation recommended that UNESCO redesign the foresight function,
5. Welcomes the establishment of an intersectoral platform for anticipation and foresight, as requested by the General Conference at its 34th session;
6. Emphasizes that the foresight activities must be conceived and designed in close cooperation with the major programmes and in accordance with their needs, ensuring the value added of these activities;
7. Recommends that priority should be given to such long-term programmatic needs, paying more attention to the expectations of Member States, in particular the dissemination of findings and conclusions from conferences;
8. Invites the Director-General to report to it on the progress in redesigning the foresight function at its 180th session, as well as on the activities foreseen in the intersectoral platform for anticipation and foresight;
9. Invites the External Auditor to include in his scheduled financial and performance audit of the Office of Foresight:
 - (a) information on human and financial resources used for the elaboration of the *UNESCO World Report: Towards Knowledge Societies* during the 31 C/4 period;
 - (b) an impact assessment of all foresight publications mentioned in documents 175 EX/23 and 179 EX/40.

(179 EX/SR.9)

41 Proposals by the Executive Board on the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 1 concerning recommendations for the rolling Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) and the future procedure for consideration by the General Conference regarding the Draft Medium-Term Strategies of UNESCO (179 EX/41; 179 EX/55)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 1, in which it was decided that the Medium-Term Strategy should be a rolling strategy, and that it should be reviewed by the General Conference at its 35th session,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/41 and its annexes,

3. Reaffirming that 34 C/Resolution 1, which refers to the Medium-Term Strategy as a rolling strategy, should not be interpreted as requiring automatic initiation of a procedure for reviewing the Medium-Term Strategy at every biennium, but that the amendment of the Medium-Term Strategy should be referred to the General Conference only when circumstances, emerging challenges or developments at the global, regional and national levels pertaining to the Organization's fields of competence so demand,
4. Decides to consider, at its 180th session, whether there is a need to review document 34 C/4, and if so, to establish a procedure for its revision;
5. Invites the Director-General to present to it his views and observations, at its 180th session, on the need to review document 34 C/4, and if appropriate, preliminary proposals for amendments thereto.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 1, requesting the Executive Board to submit a pertinent proposal for the future procedure for the General Conference's consideration of the C/4 document,
2. Recommends that for the General Conference's consideration of future C/4 strategies, a transparent process be established, allowing for proposals by all Member States and a debate by the General Conference;
3. Further recommends that in the preparation of future C/4 strategies, guidance be provided by the Director-General in his consultations with Member States on the need to focus on new challenges and core priorities.

(179 EX/SR.8)

42 **Report by the Director-General on UNESCO and United Nations reform, in particular efforts and challenges with respect to United Nations system-wide coherence** (179 EX/42; 179 EX/INF.11; 179 EX/57)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 179 EX/42 and 179 EX/INF.11,
2. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/208 concerning the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,
3. Takes note of the letter addressed by the United Nations Secretary-General to all the members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) on 6 March 2008;
4. Takes note with satisfaction of the contribution made by UNESCO to United Nations reform processes, and in particular to the "Delivering as One" processes at the request of the governments concerned;
5. Welcomes the measures taken by the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's country-level activities and capacities with a view to assisting governments in pursuing their national development priorities and attaining the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

6. Also welcomes the measures taken by the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's country-level activities and capacities, helping to foster domestic ownership and leadership of the programme, building capacity, responding to national priorities and supporting the achievement of national as well as the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;
7. Commends the Director-General on his proactive role in coordinating activities and joint action with other specialized agencies and in establishing a constructive relationship with United Nations funds and programmes;
8. Requests the Director-General to continue strengthening UNESCO's involvement in country-level programming activities, as well as in their implementation, particularly through interdisciplinary activities and intersectoral platforms at the country level;
9. Encourages Member States in the spirit of inclusiveness to include the representatives of the National Commissions on the government teams, as appropriate, in the process of country-level programming exercises in the United Nations system;
10. Further requests the Director-General to present to it at its 180th session a strategy and plan for the implementation of the relevant parts of the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review resolution, taking into account the above-mentioned letter from the United Nations Secretary-General to all United Nations chief executives.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling document 34 C/11 on the recommendations by the Executive Board on the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013,
2. Bearing in mind 175 EX/Decision 21, paragraph 30, which strongly underlines the paramount need to promote gender equality through action in all of UNESCO's domains, in line with the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome document,
3. Noting that the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) and the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5) have accorded priority to the pursuit of gender equality, through capacity-building for gender mainstreaming, in all of UNESCO's areas of competence,
4. Underlining that the United Nations reform agenda contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome document calls for enhanced action both at the system level and in each United Nations agency to support women's rights, women's empowerment and gender equality,
5. Noting with satisfaction that particular attention will be paid to the pursuit of two mutually reinforcing objectives: ensuring full implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy in all major programmes, and of gender-specific programmes in which the needs of women and men are addressed, especially at the country level,
6. Reaffirming that gender equality is a fundamental human right, a commonly shared value and a necessary condition for the achievement of the internationally agreed development objectives, including all Millennium Development Goals,
7. Having examined documents 179 EX/42 and 179 EX/INF.11,
8. Invites the Director-General to present to the General Conference at future sessions a stand-alone report on the actions carried out by the Organization as a contribution to

the promotion of women's empowerment and gender equality, describing the progress made and the experience and results obtained, as well as the amount of expenditure, by the programme sectors in line with the Gender Equality Action Plan for 2008-2013 and on contributions to gender equality in the context of common country programming exercises;

9. Also invites the Director-General:

- (a) to intensify his efforts to ensure that the interests of women and men are equally promoted in the planning and implementation of all UNESCO programmes;
- (b) to give full support to the programmes relating to women's empowerment and gender equality;
- (c) to submit regular reports to the General Conference on the results of his efforts.

(179 EX/SR.9)

43 Report by the Director-General on UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (179 EX/43 and Corr. (*French only*); 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling document 177 EX/Decision 63,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/43,
3. Takes note of the progress made by UNESCO in contributing to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon, and invites the Director-General to intensify his efforts as circumstances on the ground permit;
4. Also invites the Director-General to report to it at its 180th session, in a separate item on its agenda, on the progress made in implementing the programmes of assistance to be identified and developed, in cooperation with the Lebanese authorities, by the forthcoming intersectoral mission to Lebanon.

(179 EX/SR.10)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

44 Proposal for the establishment in China of an Asia-Pacific regional centre for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (179 EX/44; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90,
2. Further recalling Article 19.2 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, in which States Parties "recognize that the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage is of general interest to humanity, and to that end undertake to cooperate at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels",
3. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of China for the establishment in China of an Asia-Pacific regional centre for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,

4. Having examined document 179 EX/44,
5. Considering that the establishment of the centre might enhance capacity-building and safeguarding activities in countries in the region,
6. Noting that two Member States, namely China and the Republic of Korea, have submitted proposals to the Executive Board at its 179th session for the establishment of regional category 2 centres for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Asia and the Pacific,
7. Requests the Director-General to carry out a feasibility study on the proposed category 2 centre in line with the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session (33 C/Resolution 90), and to present to it, if possible at its 180th session, the results of the study, indicating clearly the specializations of both centres.

(179 EX/SR.9)

45 Invitations to the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI)
(179 EX/45 and Add.; 179 EX/2)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 5 and 175 EX/Decision 9,
2. Having examined documents 179 EX/45 and Add.,
3. Decides:
 - (a) that invitations to participate in the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education with the right to vote will be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO;
 - (b) that invitations to send observers to the Conference will be sent to the States mentioned in paragraph 6 of document 179 EX/45, which are not members of UNESCO but are members of another organization of the United Nations system, and to any other State that becomes a member of the organizations of the United Nations system before the opening date of the Conference;
 - (c) that an invitation to send observers to the Conference will be sent to Palestine, as mentioned in paragraph 7 of document 179 EX/45;
 - (d) that invitations to send representatives to the Conference will be sent to the organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements and which are listed in paragraph 8 of document 179 EX/45;
 - (e) that invitations to send observers to the Conference will be sent to the organizations, foundations, international aid agencies and similar institutions listed in paragraph 10 of document 179 EX/45 and in its addendum;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to send out any other invitations he may deem useful for advancing the work of the Conference, notifying the Executive Board thereof.

(179 EX/SR.1)

46 Proposal for the establishment in the Republic of Korea of an intangible cultural heritage centre for the Asia and the Pacific region, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (179 EX/46; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90,
2. Further recalling Article 19.2 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, in which States Parties “recognize that the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage is of general interest to humanity, and to that end undertake to cooperate at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels”,
3. Having examined document 179 EX/46,
4. Welcoming the proposal by the Government of the Republic of Korea for the establishment in the Republic of Korea of an intangible cultural heritage centre for the Asia and the Pacific region, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
5. Considering that the establishment of the Centre might enhance capacity-building and safeguarding activities in countries in the region,
6. Noting that two Member States, namely China and the Republic of Korea, have submitted proposals to the Executive Board at its 179th session for the establishment of regional category 2 centres for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Asia and the Pacific,
7. Requests the Director-General to carry out a feasibility study on the proposed category 2 centre in line with the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) adopted by the General Conference at its 33rd session (33 C/Resolution 90), and to present to it, if possible at its 180th session, the results of the study, indicating clearly the specializations of both centres.

(179 EX/SR.9)

47 Proposal for the proclamation by the United Nations of 2011 as an international year of chemistry (179 EX/47 and Add. Rev.; 179 EX/INF.7 Rev.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Recognizing that human understanding of the material nature of the world is grounded in a knowledge of chemistry,
2. Stressing that education in and about chemistry is critical to addressing challenges such as global climate change, to providing sustainable sources of clean water, food and energy, and to maintaining a wholesome environment for the well-being of all people,
3. Considering that the science and application of chemistry produces medicines, fuels, metals, and virtually all other manufactured products,
4. Taking note of the ongoing United Nations initiatives in industrial best practices,
5. Aware that the year 2011 provides an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of women to science on the one hundredth anniversary of the award of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Maria Skłodowska-Curie,

6. Being further aware that the year 2011 provides an opportunity to highlight the need for international scientific collaboration on the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the International Association of Chemical Societies,
7. Having examined documents 179 EX/47 and Add. Rev.,
8. Welcomes the unanimous resolution of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), at its 2007 Council meeting, to have 2011 proclaimed as the international year of chemistry, and to play a lead role in coordinating and promoting chemistry activities at the national and regional levels around the world;
9. Invites the Director-General to support all efforts to have the United Nations General Assembly proclaim 2011 the international year of chemistry;
10. Recommends that the General Conference adopt, at its 35th session, a resolution on this subject.

(179 EX/SR.10)

48 Follow-up to the Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity (Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 3-4 September 2007) (179 EX/48 and Add. and Add. Corr.; 179 EX/59)

**Decision on follow-up to General Assembly resolution 62/155
on “Human rights and cultural diversity”**

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 179 EX/48 and Add. and Add. Corr.,
2. Welcoming and referring to General Assembly resolution 62/155 on “Human rights and cultural diversity”,
3. Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all its articles, and also reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,
4. Noting that the refined Action Plan for the commemoration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is contained in document 179 EX/8, and underlining in this context the relevance of General Assembly resolution 62/155 and the importance in this context of the theme of human rights and cultural diversity for the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
5. Requests the Director-General to report on UNESCO’s activities on human rights and cultural diversity, through the Executive Board, in order to contribute to the Secretary-General’s report on this subject to be presented at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

(179 EX/SR.10)

49 A UNESCO strategy for technical and vocational education and training (TVET)
(179 EX/49 and Add.; 179 EX/INF.7 Rev.; 179 EX/57)

The Executive Board,

1. Referring to documents 34 C/4 and 34 C/5, which identify quality technical and vocational education and training (TVET) as well as access thereto as an integral part of UNESCO's education mandate,
2. Noting that the progress achieved in primary school enrolment worldwide as outlined in the *EFA Global Monitoring Report 2008*, requires significant progress in access to quality TVET for the increasing number of young people that complete primary education,
3. Reiterating that TVET is an integral part of education for all (EFA) and of education for sustainable development, and recalling in this context the recent partnership meeting in Bangkok with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and private partners, and the Second Decade of Education for Africa, which identifies TVET as one of the seven areas of focus,
4. Underlining that globalization requires people to develop knowledge and vocational and technical skills which enhance employment opportunities, which help them to develop entrepreneurial capacities and raise their productivity on a continuous basis, and hence that TVET institutions should not only provide initial opportunities, but increasingly provide lifelong training,
5. Recalling that TVET will be a priority for UNESCO's action in Africa as well as an important element in the development of educational policies and management in small island developing States and in post-conflict and post-disaster situations as outlined in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4),
6. Emphasizing the need for a holistic UNESCO strategy for TVET aimed at a well coordinated and integrated approach by Headquarters, UNESCO institutes and centres such as the UNESCO International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (UNEVOC), the UNESCO European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES), the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL), and the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), as well as the UNESCO field offices,
7. Requests the Director-General to elaborate, on the basis of document 34 C/4, a succinct and operable strategy to support TVET in the Member States, based on the needs defined by the governments of the Member States concerned, which promotes cooperation with other development partners in a coherent manner at the country level;
8. Invites the Director-General in so doing to place due emphasis on:
 - (a) the scope of TVET in the context of UNESCO's mandate and work;
 - (b) fields of action for UNESCO and expected outcomes;
 - (c) vital aspects of TVET such as access, quality in terms of relevance and coherence, development of qualifications and competencies, entrepreneurial capacities, social responsibility and other aspects. Support activities should be designed to promote effective participation by women, and to meet their specific training needs;

- (d) the roles of the different units of UNESCO involved in TVET and the division of labour between these units in view of ensuring complementarity and effectiveness;
 - (e) the development of country-specific needs assessment in cooperation with other relevant international organizations, NGOs and the private sector (such as chambers of commerce, employers' associations and trade unions), taking into account formal and informal sector needs;
 - (f) the promotion through TVET of employment opportunities, self-employment, and micro-entrepreneurship at the country level by contributing to consultations, coordination and cooperation with relevant institutions, NGOs and other entities active in the fields of micro-financing and other forms of start-up capital;
 - (g) integration of TVET into Common Country Assessments (CCAs) and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), as well as into joint programming in pilot countries;
 - (h) information on and dissemination of best practices through South-South cooperation and North-South-South cooperation;
 - (i) identifying best practices for the integration of TVET into secondary education;
9. Requests the Director-General to present an outline of this strategy to it at its 180th session, and to submit the draft strategy to it at its 181st session;
10. Further requests the Director-General to incorporate relevant elements of TVET, where appropriate, into UNESCO's world conferences on education in 2008-2009, and to align them with the specific themes of those conferences.

(179 EX/SR.9)

50 Progress on the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) (179 EX/50; 179 EX/INF.7 Rev.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 179 EX/50 and 179 EX/INF.7 Rev.,
2. Takes note of their content.

(179 EX/SR.10)

51 Progress report by the Director-General on the application of the Global Action Plan to achieve the EFA goals by 2015 (179 EX/51; 179 EX/INF.12; 179 EX/59)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 9,
2. Having examined document 179 EX/51,
3. Reaffirming the importance of accelerating progress towards the six education for all (EFA) goals and other related international development goals,

4. Recalling UNESCO's role as the international coordinating agency for EFA and the Global Action Plan (GAP) as a framework for multilateral coordination within the context of existing development assistance coordination mechanisms,
5. Welcomes the progress made in applying the principles of the Global Action Plan at the country level to pursue the EFA goals through mechanisms such as the EFA Fast Track Initiative;
6. Encourages the full application of the Global Action Plan and its ancillary tool, the UNESCO National Education Support Strategy (UNESS), by United Nations country teams in the "Delivering as One" pilot countries, the 2008 and 2009 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) roll-out countries and countries requesting the United Nations system to provide assistance along the lines of the "Delivering as One" principles;
7. Requests the Director-General to take further steps to promote the harmonization and alignment of multilateral assistance and support of EFA, such as promoting national leadership, capacity development, communication and advocacy, resource mobilization, and effective use of aid for EFA through existing mechanisms, especially in those countries that are lagging behind in achieving EFA, and to include a report on these steps in the analytical and results-based report on progress with respect to education for all and UNESCO's contribution thereto to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 180th session, and to the General Conference at its 35th session;
8. Invites the Director-General to include in the report to the Executive Board, at its 180th session, an analysis of:
 - (a) the implications of the findings of the *EFA Global Monitoring Report* for UNESCO's efforts to promote/attain the EFA goals;
 - (b) UNESCO's global coordination role, including the functioning of the High-Level Group;
 - (c) the Global Action Plan as a tool for improved EFA coordination.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 179 EX/51 and 179 EX/INF.12,
2. Taking note of the Bali Declaration of the E-9 countries, which emphasizes the importance of teacher education and of South-South and triangular North-South-South cooperation,
3. Stresses the importance of developing evidence-based teacher-related policies, including teacher education and training, in the context of achieving the EFA goals;
4. Invites the Director-General to take the necessary measures to promote development and dissemination of innovative approaches to teacher development to meet the emerging education challenges of the twenty-first century;
5. Requests the Director-General to develop regional and subregional projects, and collaborative research and studies, with particular regard to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and open and distance learning for teacher training;

6. Encourages Member States to contribute to the UNESCO South-South Cooperation Education Fund;
7. Further requests the Director-General to facilitate the cooperation between the E-9 countries and other countries of the South, and partners from the North, as well as other multilateral partners;
8. Invites the Director-General to present to it, at its 180th session, a report containing analytical data on the implementation of the Global Action Plan.

(179 EX/SR.10)

52 Report by the Director-General on the 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 (179 EX/52; 179 EX/9 and Add.; 179 EX/59)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 179 EX/52 and 179 EX/9 and Add.,
2. Takes note of their contents and also of 179 EX/Decision 9 under item 9 of the agenda of the 179th session.

(179 EX/SR.10)

53 Provisional list of matters to be examined by the Executive Board at its 180th session

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 179 EX/INF.15,
2. Takes note of its contents.

(179 EX/SR.10)

PRIVATE MEETINGS

Announcements concerning the private meetings held on Monday 7 April and Wednesday 16 April 2008

At the private meetings held on the following dates, the Executive Board considered the following items: Monday 7 April – item **3**; Wednesday 16 April – item **23**.

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (179 EX/PRIV.1 and Add.)

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 177th 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 from the sector reforms.

(179 EX/SR.5)

23 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.

(179 EX/SR.7)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and seventy-ninth session

(Paris, 1-17 April 2008)*

179 EX/Decisions Corr.

PARIS, 11 June 2008
English, Spanish and Russian only

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 179th SESSION CORRIGENDUM

179 EX/Decision 46 – Proposal for the establishment in the Republic of Korea of an intangible cultural heritage centre for the Asia and the Pacific region, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (179 EX/46; 179 EX/57)

Replace paragraph 6 with the following text:

6. Noting that two Member States, namely the Republic of Korea and China, have submitted proposals to the Executive Board at its 179th session for the establishment of regional category 2 centres for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Asia and the Pacific,

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