

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

> Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

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

Организация Объединенных Наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、 : 科学及文化组织 .

Detailed Report on the activities of the Organization in 2006-2007

**International Standards and Legal Affairs** 

## Paragraph 00603

## **International Standards and Legal Affairs**

33 C/5 Expected results	Achievements	Challenges/ Lessons learnt	Cost-effectiveness	Sustainability (Indicators or measures)	Recommendations by the Executive Board
Better protection of the Organization's rights, especially its privileges and immunities	Initiatives regarding reminders about privileges and immunities in response to legal proceedings notified to the Organization.      Contribution to protecting the name and logo of UNESCO on the conclusion of draft agreements, in particular with private partners in the framework of sponsorship arrangements and extrabudgetary funding.	LA has to maintain high-quality work with insufficient human resources, while being faced with growing numbers of requests for its services.			
Prevention of liability risks for the Organization and reduction of cases of non-compliance with its rules, regulations and procedures.	<ul> <li>Increased verification of compliance of HRM decisions with the provisions of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules with regard to disputes involving staff members.</li> <li>Monitoring of compliance with the Organization's rules and procedures governing the preparation of documents submitted to the governing bodies.</li> <li>Improvement in the drafting of a wide range of agreements concluded by the Organization with the Member States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies at the request of the programme sectors and ERC.</li> <li>Verification of the strict application of internal rules and procedures concerning the Organization's activities and staff, by providing extensive legal advice to the central services such as ADM and HRM.</li> </ul>	LA has to maintain high-quality work with insufficient human resources, while being faced with growing numbers of requests for its services.			
Finalization of texts updating the Organization's rules, regulations and procedures in order to improve its decision-making process.	Ongoing assistance to HRM to improve the formulation of administrative circulars.  Contribution to the finalization of directives concerning the use of the name, acronym, logo and Internet domain names of UNESCO.  Development of a specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific	LA has to maintain high-quality work with insufficient human resources, while being faced with growing numbers of requests for its services.			

	institutional mechanism is provided.			
	Development of framework guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States regarding the monitoring of the Organization's standard-setting texts.			
Expansion and improvement of legal advice to standard-setting and programme activities and decentralization.	<ul> <li>Extensive legal advice in particular: (i) in the preparation of various agreements; (ii) in the preparation of documents for the governing bodies and for other intergovernmental meetings under the programme; (iii) in the context of disputes with contractors.</li> <li>Extensive provision of legal advice for the establishment of UNESCO centres and institutes.</li> <li>Assistance to the Bureau of Field Coordination by providing legal advice on the conclusion of Headquarters agreements or leases for the Organization's offices.</li> <li>Contribution to the conclusion or revision of Headquarters agreements so as to ensure optimal protection of the privileges and immunities of all UNESCO's decentralized units.</li> </ul>	LA has to maintain high-quality work with insufficient human resources, while being faced with growing numbers of requests for its services.		
Draft standard-setting instruments finalized, in cooperation with the various competent sectors, and the procedures to promote the follow-up and application by the Member States of the conventions and recommendations adopted by the General Conference reinforced and harmonized	Constant legal assistance to the intergovernmental bodies responsible for monitoring conventions (in particular those for the 1972 World Heritage Convention), and including those newly-established (bodies of the 2003 intangible heritage convention and the 2005 conventions).  Assistance in identifying 11 UNESCO recommendations requiring priority monitoring.  Organization of a symposium on 60 years of standard-setting action by UNESCO.  Publication of a two-volume reference work containing the symposium's proceedings and all the standard-setting texts of the Organization in the two working languages of the Secretariat.	LA has to maintain high-quality work with insufficient human resources, while being faced with growing numbers of requests for its services.		

Updating and development of the Internet site on standard-setting instruments of UNESCO and extension of the site to other activities of the Office.	Regularly updating the list of States Parties to the conventions and the declarations and reservations to these instruments.      Creation, development and updating of new headings regarding the committees for which LA acts as the secretariat (LEG and CRE Committees of the General Conference and CR Committee of the Executive Board), the basic texts and resolutions/decisions of the governing bodies.	This involves coping with a large audience on the Internet with insufficient human resources, while maintaining the satisfactory quality of online information.		
Working tools of the Office consolidated to improve the efficiency and promptness of the advisory services and assistance which it provides.	Creation of an internal database recording all legal opinions submitted to the Executive Board since 1948.	LA is keeping up its efforts to develop technically complex search tools despite insufficient resources.		