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Organización
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

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SECOND PROTOCOL TO THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1954 FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT

COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT

Tenth Meeting
UNESCO Headquarters, Paris
10 and 11 December 2015

Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda:

Provisional suspension of the application of Rule 33 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee – proposal for its extension

This document contains the proposal to further suspend the application of Rule 33 of Committee's Rules of Procedure until the Committee decides otherwise and use of English and French as the languages for translation of the Committee's working documents and English, French and Spanish for interpretation of its deliberations

Draft decision: paragraph 6

1. At its sixth meeting, held from 14 to 16 December 2011, the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (“the Committee”) examined the document entitled "Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee" (CLT-11/CONF/211/5). It decided by its Decision 6.COM 5 (B) to suspend provisionally the application of Rule 33 of its Rules of Procedure until its tenth meeting in 2015 by using only English and French as the languages for translation of its working documents and by using only English, French and Spanish for interpretation during its deliberations.
2. In pursuance of this Decision, the Secretariat prepared all documents for the seventh (20-12 December 2012), eighth (18-19 December 2013) and ninth (18-19 December 2014) meetings of the Committee in English and French and ensured the simultaneous interpretations in English, French and Spanish during the Committee’s deliberations.
3. Suspension of the use of Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian for translation of Committee’s working documents and that of Arabic, Chinese and Russian for its deliberations enabled the Secretariat to considerably reduce its expenses. For example, in the case of the ninth meeting of the Committee (UNESCO Headquarters, 18-19 December 2014) six-language-interpretation would cost approximately 25,000 USD instead of 11,000 USD for three languages. For translation of the working documents, it would cost approximately 10,000 USD to translate all working documents into six languages, instead of 2,200 USD for two languages. Thus, the savings represent approximately 21,800 USD.
4. Furthermore, it should be noted that the working languages (for working documents and interpretation) are only in English and French for the following treaty bodies: the Subsidiary Committee of the Meeting of States Parties to the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (Rule 40.1 of its Rules of Procedure), the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value (Rule 44.1 of its Rules of Procedure), the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Rule 41.1 of its Rules of Procedure) and the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Rule 40.1 of its Rules of Procedure).
5. Finally, recommendation 1(d) of the Report of UNESCO’s Internal Oversight Service (IOS) ‘Audit of the Working Methods of Cultural Conventions’ (Document IOS/AUD/2013/06), issued in September 2013, called for the harmonization of the translation and interpretation requirements for all Culture Convention meetings and proposed to seek extra-budgetary funding for additional languages.
6. In view of the above, the Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 10.COM 2

The Committee,

1. Having considered document CLT-15/10.COM/CONF.203/2,
2. Recalling its Decision 6.COM 5 (B),
3. Acknowledges the importance of harmonizing translation and interpretation requirements for all convention meetings as provided for in recommendation 1(d) of the Audit of the Working Methods of the Culture Conventions prepared by UNESCO’s Internal Oversight Service;
4. Further acknowledges the critical situation of financial and human resources of the Secretariat;
5. Decides to further suspend the application of Rule 33 of its Rules of Procedure until it decides otherwise and to use English and French as the languages for translation of its working documents and English, French and Spanish for interpretation of its deliberations.