



General Conference

38th Session, Paris, 2015

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

Commission APX

Items 5.2 and 5.8 of the agenda

apx

38 C/COM APX/DR.2¹

7 November 2015

Original: English

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Submitted by Denmark, Finland and Sweden

Item 5.2 Follow-up to the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) recommendations concerning the methods of work of UNESCO's intergovernmental bodies – Report by the External Auditor (38 C/23)

and

Item 5.8 Governance and working procedures and methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO (38 C/63)

The General Conference,

Recalling 37 C/Resolution 96, in particular the acknowledgement of the need to optimize the governance of intergovernmental programmes, committees and conventions by harnessing the potential for greater synergy, harmonization, efficiency and impact while bearing in mind requirements regarding the quality of the work and the specific mandate, constituency and functioning of individual governing bodies,

Having examined documents 38 C/23, including its annex, 197 EX/28.INF and 38 C/63,

Recalling 197 EX/Decision 28 and 44,

Reaffirming the need for a holistic and comprehensive reform of UNESCO, particularly its governing bodies, in order to ensure greater effectiveness and efficiency on the governance of the Organization,

¹ This proposal was received by the Secretariat on 7 November 2015.

Decides to establish an open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO;

Also decides that the open-ended working group will:

- convene open-ended meetings, thus allowing enhanced participation of all Member States of UNESCO;
- hold its first meeting no later than end of January 2016;
- designate its Chairperson and Vice-chairperson at its first meeting;
- define, also at its first meeting, a detailed timetable of its work as well as criteria for evaluation;
- examine the governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO on the basis particularly of the External Auditor's audit report on the governance of UNESCO as well as relevant IOS evaluations and audits as well as previous decisions and resolutions related to governance;
- develop concrete follow-up proposals to be examined by the General Conference at its 39th session;
- report to the Executive Board at the autumn session in 2017 with a view to enable the Executive Board to make its recommendations to the 39th session of the General Conference;

Requests the Director-General to start the implementation of recommendations 1, 11 and 13 of the External Auditor's report, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 197th session;

Further requests that, on an experimental basis, a two-yearly meeting of chairs and directors of Category 1 institutes in the Education Sector should be organized with structured coordination between the two sessions, in line with recommendation 6 (i) of the External Auditor's report, and followed-up by an evaluation which results should be submitted to the General Conference at its 39th session;

Invites all intergovernmental programmes, committees and organs of the conventions to inscribe, in 2016 if feasible, an item on its agenda concerning the follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor's report, to improve their governance by concrete measures, and to communicate a report on the proposals to the Chairperson of the open-ended working group;

Invites the Director-General to assist the open-ended working group by providing appropriate secretariat support;