

Hundred and seventy-second session

172 EX/2
PARIS, 13 September 2005
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Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**REPORT BY THE BUREAU ON QUESTIONS
THAT DO NOT APPEAR TO REQUIRE DEBATE**

After examination of the provisional agenda for the 172nd session, it would appear that the following items may be defined as questions which, in accordance with Rule 14, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, do not appear to require debate.

In conformity with the same rule, however, it is still open to any Member to “request a discussion of any item for which the Bureau has recommended adoption of decisions without discussion”; “in that case, the item mentioned shall be discussed by the Board”.

Item 46 of the provisional agenda

**RELATIONS WITH THE COMMON MARKET
FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (COMESA)
AND DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN UNESCO AND THAT ORGANIZATION (172 EX/43)**

Proposed draft decision

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind the provisions of Article XI, paragraph 1, of the UNESCO Constitution,
2. Having examined document 172 EX/43,
3. Noting with satisfaction the state of cooperation existing between the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and UNESCO,
4. Considering the desirability of establishing official relations between UNESCO and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA),
5. Approves the draft memorandum of understanding contained in Annex III of the above-mentioned document;

6. Notes that the Secretary-General of that organization has approved the text of the draft memorandum of understanding;
7. Authorizes the Director-General to establish formal relations with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and to sign the memorandum of understanding and cooperation on behalf of UNESCO, which is set out in the annex to this decision.

ANNEX III

DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE

COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (COMESA)

AND THE

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (hereinafter referred to as COMESA) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (hereinafter referred to as UNESCO),

Considering that COMESA was established in order, *inter alia*, to give effect to the desire of its Member States for economic, cultural, political and social integration in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Treaty establishing the COMESA, to promote peace, stability and security in the COMESA region, and to foster joint efforts in the region to secure the integration of its States and its peoples,

Considering, that UNESCO has a constitutional mission to advance, through the educational, the scientific, and the cultural relations of the peoples of the world, the objectives of international peace and of the common welfare of humankind for which the United Nations was established and which its Charter proclaims,

Desirous of coordinating their respective efforts in pursuit of the goals which are shared between them, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Treaty of COMESA and the Constitution of UNESCO,

Having regard to 172 EX/Decision ..., adopted by the Executive Board of UNESCO at its 172nd session,

Having regard to the Treaty of COMESA on Article 181 which stipulates that COMESA shall accord special importance to cooperation with the United Nations system,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

Cooperation

1. UNESCO and COMESA shall establish between them mutual cooperation ties through the bodies competent for that purpose.

2. Such cooperation shall encompass any matter pertaining to the field of education, science, culture and communication concerning such similar tasks and activities as both organizations may pursue.

Article II

Consultation

1. The competent bodies of both organizations shall consult each other regularly on all matters mentioned in Article I which are of common interest.

2. When circumstances so require, both organizations shall hold special consultations in order to determine the most appropriate means of optimizing the effectiveness of their respective activities in fields of common interest.

3. COMESA shall inform UNESCO of any of its programme activities which may be of interest to the Member States of UNESCO. COMESA shall study any proposal submitted to it by UNESCO in such areas with a view to coordinating efforts between the two organizations.

4. UNESCO shall inform COMESA of any of its programme activities which may be of interest to the Member States of COMESA. UNESCO shall study any proposal submitted to it by COMESA in such areas with a view to coordinating efforts between the two organizations.

Article III

Reciprocal representation

1. UNESCO may invite COMESA to attend as observer the General Conference of UNESCO and meetings of the Executive Board whenever matters of common interest are discussed.

2. COMESA may invite UNESCO to attend as observer the Policy Organs Meetings and the Summit of the Heads of State and Government whenever matters of common interest are discussed.

3. Appropriate arrangements shall be made by agreement between the Secretary-General of COMESA and the Director-General of UNESCO to ensure the reciprocal representation of COMESA and UNESCO at other meetings convened under their respective auspices and which deal with matters of interests to the other organizations.

Article IV

Joint COMESA/UNESCO Commissions

1. COMESA and UNESCO may refer to a joint commission any matter of common interest which may be deemed appropriate for reference thereto.

2. Any joint commission of this kind shall be composed of representatives appointed by both organizations, individually, the number to be appointed by each being determined by agreement between them.

3. The joint commission shall meet every two years and whenever deemed appropriate or necessary by both organizations. The reports of the joint commission shall be communicated to the Secretary-General of COMESA and to the Director-General of UNESCO.

Article V

Exchange of information and documents

Subject to such measures as may be necessary to protect the confidentiality of particular documents, UNESCO and COMESA shall exchange information and documents on all matters recognized by both organizations as being of common interest.

Article VI

Execution of the Memorandum of Understanding

The Secretary-General of COMESA and the Director-General of UNESCO shall, for the purpose of executing this Memorandum of Understanding, enter into any such additional arrangements as may prove desirable, in the light of experience.

Article VII

Review and termination

1. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual written consent of both parties.
2. Either of the parties may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving six months' written notice to the other party. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be without prejudice to the normal execution and completion of any projects or programmes under way.

Article VIII

Entry into force

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon approval by the respective competent organs of both organizations and signature by the Secretary-General of COMESA and the Director-General of UNESCO.

This Memorandum of Understanding is produced in two original texts in the English language, both being equally authentic.

Done in _____ on _____

For the United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Director-General

Koïchiro Matsuura

For the Common Market for Eastern
and Southern Africa

The Secretary-General

Erastus J.O. Mwencha

Item 58 of the provisional agenda**DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL RULES GOVERNING
THE UNESCO PRIZE FOR PEACE EDUCATION (172 EX/52)****Proposed draft decision**

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 110 EX/Decision 5.2.4 whereby it approved the General Rules governing the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education and took note of its Financial Regulations,
2. Taking account of 171 EX/Decision 24,
3. Having examined document 172 EX/52,
4. Approves the proposed amendments to Rule 6, subparagraphs 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4, of the General Rules governing the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education, as set out in the annex to this decision.

ANNEX**AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL RULES GOVERNING
THE UNESCO PRIZE FOR PEACE EDUCATION**

The proposed amendments are highlighted in the text below.

Rule 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education is to promote all forms of action designed to “construct the defences of peace in the minds of men” by rewarding a particularly outstanding example of activity designed to alert public opinion and mobilize the conscience of humankind in the cause of peace, in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Charter (31 C/4: General theme – UNESCO contributing to peace and human development in an era of globalization through education, the sciences, culture and communication; Strategic objective 2 – Education: Improving the quality of education through the diversification of contents and methods and the promotion of universally shared values; Strategic objective 4 – Sciences: Promoting principles and ethical norms to guide scientific and technological development and social transformation. 32 C/5: Principal priorities ED: Education for All (EFA); other priorities or areas not within the principal priority of the Social and Human Sciences Sector).

Rule 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “UNESCO Prize for Peace Education”.

2.2 *Amount covering a one-time award:* The Prize shall be funded by interest earned from the donation of one million United States dollars made to UNESCO in 1980 by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation (now known as the Nippon Foundation).

2.3 All funds received and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in a special interest-bearing account for the Prize (see Financial Regulations).

2.4 The operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities, shall be fully covered by the interest earned from the donation made by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation. To this end, the Director-General shall determine a mandatory overhead cost amount to be applied and charged against the funds in the Special Account, which is to be established under the Financial Regulations for the Prize.

2.5 The Prize shall be awarded every two years, or once every UNESCO biennium, initially for four biennia.

2.6 The Prize shall be worth approximately \$60,000; the exact amount shall be determined every two years, taking into account the interest earned on the funds.

2.7 The amount of a prize not awarded in any given biennium may be awarded to another winner the following biennium. The Prize shall not be divided save in exceptional circumstances. If there are two prizewinners the amount of the prize may be equally divided.

2.8 The sum of one million United States dollars donated by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation has been placed in a UNESCO Special Account, and only the annual interest shall be used to finance the Prize and the activities of the jury entrusted with awarding it. The duration of the award of the Prize is indeterminate. Should UNESCO decide no longer to award the Prize, the balance of the funds shall be returned to the Foundation.

Rule 3 – Conditions/qualifications of candidates

3.1 Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to alerting public opinion and mobilizing the consciences of humankind in the cause of peace. Candidates shall have distinguished themselves through outstanding action, carried out in accordance with the spirit of UNESCO and the United Nations Charter, extending over several years and confirmed by international public opinion, in the fields of:

- the mobilization of consciences in the cause of peace;
- the implementation, at international or regional level, of programmes of activity designed to strengthen peace education by enlisting the support of public opinion;
- the launching of important activities contributing to the strengthening of peace;
- educational action to promote human rights and international understanding;
- the alerting of public opinion to the problems of peace through the media and other effective channels;
- any other activity recognized as essential to constructing the defences of peace in people's minds.

3.2 Prizes may be conferred upon an individual, a group of individuals or an organization.

3.3 The prizewinner shall not be subject to any discrimination whatsoever on the grounds of nationality, religion, race, gender or age.

Rule 4 – Designation of the prizewinners

The prizewinner/s shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of a proposal made to him/her by an international jury.

Rule 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist of five independent members, representing different regions of the world and both genders, appointed by the Director-General for a period of six years (three Prizes). They shall be eligible for re-election. Representatives and alternatives of Members of the Executive Board may not serve as jurors. Jurors involved in a real or potential conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from further deliberations or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the Jury on legitimate grounds.

5.2 The Jury shall elect its own Chair and Deputy Chair. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive allowances for travel and accommodation, where required. A quorum of three jurors present will be required for jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by the Jury shall be English and French.

5.3 The Jury shall conduct its business and deliberations in conformity with these Statutes, and shall be assisted in the performance of its task by a member of the UNESCO Secretariat designated by the Director-General. Decisions shall be taken by consensus to the extent possible, and otherwise by secret ballot until a simple majority is obtained. A member shall not take part in a vote concerning a nomination from his or her country.

5.4 The Jury shall meet once every two years, within three months following the closing date for the submission of nominations, to make its recommendations to the Director-General for the selection of the year's prizewinner.

5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment of nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO following its meeting at Headquarters every two years.

5.6 The members of the Jury shall serve as the "International Commission for Peace in the Minds of Men", which may undertake any other form of activity in the way of study, research and the promotion of public awareness in the field of peace education as defined in Rule 1 of the present Rules.

5.7 In addition to the work carried out by the "International Commission for Peace in the Minds of Men", UNESCO shall encourage any activity in the Member States designed to strengthen action for peace education in all civil societies.

5.8 In the same perspective and in accordance with the programme and budget adopted for the biennium, UNESCO shall organize international meetings designed to publicize the most significant activities related to the thinking and culture of peace. These conferences might coincide, in particular, with each prize-giving ceremony, and be held at UNESCO Headquarters or in a country in the various regions of the world.

Rule 6 – Nomination of candidates

6.1 The Director-General shall officially invite the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations maintaining formal consultative relations with the Organization and active in a field covered by the Prize, eminent persons qualified in the opinion of the Director-General, in addition to any persons and civil society organizations working in the perspective of the thinking and culture of peace in the world and considered suitable, to submit nominations of an individual, a group of individuals or an organization to the Secretariat of the Prize at a date to be specified in each case.

6.2 The Director-General shall also take all necessary steps to encourage an increased number of nominations, in particular by calling upon all persons and civil society organizations working in the perspective of the thinking and culture of peace in the world.

6.3 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, or by non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO, and eminent persons qualified in the opinion of the Director-General, in addition to any persons and civil society organizations working in the perspective of the thinking and culture of peace in the world and considered suitable nominees. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

6.4 The Director-General of UNESCO shall encourage Member States, in addition to any other qualified “nominator”, to submit nominations duly justified on the basis of the goals and objectives clearly defined in the General Rules governing the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education. In particular, each nomination must be accompanied by a letter, signed by the nominee or by the authorities of the nominating institution, to the Jury of the Prize and including, in English or in French, *inter alia*:

- (a) a description of the nominee’s background and achievements;
- (b) a summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;
- (c) precise arguments as to the relevance of the nomination vis-à-vis the requirements of a thinking and culture of peace, in the light of world events at the time of the nomination.

Any nomination not accompanied by such a letter shall be deemed unacceptable by the Secretariat of the Prize.

6.5 The Secretariat of the Prize shall be authorized to bring to the Jury’s attention any nominations failing to meet all the criteria set forth in the General Rules.

6.6 The closing date for the submission of nominations shall be fixed by the Director-General every two years.

Rule 7 – Procedure for the awarding of the Prize

7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for the purpose in Paris on 21 September, on the occasion of the International Day of Peace. UNESCO shall present to the prizewinner/s a cheque for the amount of the Prize, together with a diploma and the *Olive Tree* statuette, designed for UNESCO by Spanish sculptor Apel.les Fenosa. UNESCO shall officially announce the name/s of the prizewinner/s.

7.2 If a work being rewarded has been produced by two persons, the Prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a prize amount be divided between more than two persons.

7.3 The prizewinner/s shall, if possible, give a lecture on a subject relevant to the work for which the Prize has been awarded. Such a lecture shall be organized during or in connection with the prize ceremony. The lecture shall be published by UNESCO.

7.4 The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for the Prize. If, however, a prizewinner dies before he or she has received it, the Prize may be presented posthumously (*it shall be awarded to relatives or an institution*).

7.5 Should a prizewinner decline the Prize, the Jury shall submit a new proposal to the Director-General.

Rule 8 – Sunset clause – mandatory renewal of the Prize

8.1 After a period of six years, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donor will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and take a decision as to its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO of the results of this review.

8.2 In case of termination of the Prize, any unspent balance of funds shall be returned to the Nippon Foundation, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Prize.

Rule 9 – Appeals

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO with regard to the award of the Prize. Proposals received for the award of the Prize may not be divulged.

Rule 10 – Amendments to the Statutes of the Prize

Any amendment to the present Statutes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

Item 63 of the provisional agenda

PROCLAMATION OF 2008 AS A UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH (172 EX/57)

Proposed draft decision

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 57 which “invites the Director-General to support all efforts leading to the United Nations General Assembly proclaiming 2007 the ‘International Year of Planet Earth’”,
2. Having examined document 172 EX/57,
3. Noting that, due to technical reasons, 2008 is now the preferred date,
4. Decides to amend para. 5 of 171 EX/Decision 57 to read: “Invites the Director-General to support all efforts leading to the United Nations General Assembly proclaiming 2008 the ‘International Year of Planet Earth’”;
5. Recommends that the General Conference at its 33rd session adopt a resolution on this subject.