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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE APPLICATION OF RULE 59 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

SUMMARY

In accordance with Rule 59.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General presents herein a report on proposed structural adjustments in the Culture Sector (CLT), the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS), the Education Sector (ED) and the Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP). These proposed adjustments support continued efforts towards achieving synergies and efficiency gains and enhancing intersectoral collaboration and programme delivery in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

These proposed adjustments fall within the respective US \$507 million expenditure plans for 2014/2015 and within the draft US \$518 million expenditure plans for 2016/2017, to be approved by the General Conference at its 38th session.

A. Culture Sector (CLT):

Reorganization of the Cultural Heritage Protection Treaties Section, Division for Heritage (CLT/HER):

1. The Section for Cultural Heritage Protection Treaties in the Division for Heritage of the Culture Sector is currently responsible for the managements of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols, the 1970 Convention on the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Objects; and the 2001 Convention on Underwater Cultural Heritage. The Section is also responsible for the preparation of a new draft Recommendation on Museums mandated by the General Conference at its 37th session.
2. In view of the increasing demands on the Culture Conventions and the recommendations of the IOS Evaluation of the 1970 Convention in particular, it was concluded that it is no longer either practical or efficient to continue to lead and promote these five normative instruments in one unit, hence it was decided to reorganize and strengthen resources within available budget envelopes in order to create two smaller more focused Sections.
3. The first Section which would continue to be known as the ***Cultural Heritage Protection Treaties Section*** will be headed by a P-5 Chief with a direct reporting line to the Director (D-2) of the Division for Heritage. The Section will be responsible for the implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and its 1954 and 1999 Protocols, as well as the 2001 Convention on Underwater Cultural Heritage.
4. Work on the implementation of the 1970 Convention and museums would form a new Section called ***Movable Heritage and Museums Section***. This Section will be headed by P-5 Chief with a direct reporting line to the Director (D-2) of the Division for Heritage and will also assume the function of Secretary to the 1970 Convention, and oversee the implementation of projects in relation to the Recommendation on Museums expected to be adopted by the General Conference at its 38th session.

B. Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS):

Strengthening of the Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue in the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS):

Proposed transfer of the History and Memory for Dialogue Section, Division for Heritage from Culture Sector to the Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue in the Social and Human Sciences Sector

5. Given the close complementarity between the History and Memory for Dialogue programme and the Intercultural Dialogue programme which is managed by the SHS Sector, the feasibility of transferring the History and Memory for Dialogue Section from the CLT Division for Heritage to the Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue in SHS was examined. Consultations with key stakeholders including the Africa Group, GRULAC and the Africa Department have led to the conclusion the desirability of bringing these two work streams within the same Sector in order to strengthen the coherence and the impact of these activities. These programmes will henceforth be placed in the Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue of SHS.
6. The ***History and Memory for Dialogue Section*** – headed by a P-5 Chief – is responsible for managing the Slave Route Project in close cooperation with field offices, as well as the Pedagogical Use of the *General History of Africa* project, the elaboration of the ninth volume of the *General History of Africa*, the Cross-reading of the General and Regional Histories, the Silk Road Online Platform and the UNESCO' Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture.
7. The Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue includes the newly-established ***Section for Intercultural Dialogue*** – headed by a P-5 Chief – and is responsible for managing the implementation of the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures

(2013-2022) and its related Action Plan (document 194 EX/10). It coordinates focused, dialogue-based initiatives in education, culture, the sciences, communication and information and functions as a catalyst for inter-agency collaboration within the United Nations system and other partnerships on culture of peace and intercultural and interfaith dialogue. Clear orientations will be given in order to avoid duplication and enhance complementarity between the two Sections.

8. This transfer will enhance intersectoral collaboration and create closer programmatic synergies between SHS and CLT, notably with regard to UNESCO's responses to ongoing conflicts, which involve heritage, history and identity. It will boost the Organization's activities on intercultural dialogue in Africa and give additional depth to the SHS programme outreach in the broader continent. Most importantly, it will consolidate linkages with the SHS mandates in human rights advocacy, with emphasis on the fight against racism and xenophobia; on youth, as a cross-cutting constituency; and on harnessing the power of social transformation.

C. Education Sector (ED):

9. The Education Sector is now preparing its support to Member States in the implementation of the Education 2030 Agenda and the proposed adjustments to the structure of the Sector reflect what UNESCO intends to do to in dealing with this significant challenge.

10. In order to facilitate this process, the current EFA Team will be converted into an operational Division called ***Division for Education 2030 Support and Coordination***. It will facilitate UNESCO's role in: (1) leading coordination and partnership building; (2) monitoring progress towards the achievement of the SDG 4/Education 2030 targets; and (3) supporting its implementation particularly through capacity development. Given the centrality of teachers in reaching SDG 4, a new and strengthened ***Section for Teachers Development*** will be set up which will also serve as the Secretariat of the International Teachers Task Force.

11. The ***Global Education Monitoring Report Team***, as an independent team reporting directly to the ADG, will continue playing its role as the key monitoring and review vehicle guiding all relevant stakeholders in implementing the SDG 4 goal and targets, as mandated by the Education 2030 Framework for Action.

12. The Division for Teaching, Learning and Content will be renamed as the ***Division for Inclusion, Peace and Sustainable Development***. In order to further consolidate the work on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Global Citizenship Education (GCED) given their vital importance and strong demand from Member States will be merged in one Section since there are obvious synergies between the two. Gender Equality remains a top priority. A new Section ***on Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality*** will be created which will lead and coordinate the Sector's activities in this crucial important subject area.

13. The ***Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems*** will remain unchanged and continue to be in charge of providing support to Member States in areas like education policy, TVET, Literacy and ICT.

14. The ***Executive Office*** will continue to be the management arm for ADG in implementing the Sector's programme and to ensure proper coordination among Headquarters Division, the seven category 1 ED institutes and all field offices. In addition to Programme, Budget, Human Resources and Knowledge/Communication management, the EO Office will have a ***Desk for Education in Emergencies*** in view of the need for quick decision-making and the often high political profile of emergency responses.

D. Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP):

15. Further to the decision to downgrade the post of Assistant Director-General for Strategic Planning to that of Director (D-2) of the Bureau of Strategic Planning (cf. DG/Note/15/22) announced on 15 September 2015, some adjustments to the structure of the Bureau will be made in order to make its work and internal management more efficient and effective.

16. The existing structure of two Divisions in BSP will be abolished and the Director of BSP will directly supervise **four Sections** undertaking the existing functions of BSP respectively: (1) **strategic planning, monitoring and reporting**; (2) **budget and risk management**; (3) **mobilizing bilateral government funding resources**; and, (4) **mobilizing multilateral and private funding resources**.

17. A Deputy Director (D-1) will assist the Director of BSP in leading the above-mentioned Sections' work of content while directly supervising a Section to undertake the **coordination of UNESCO's participation and contribution to the United Nations system inter-agency activities** at global, regional and national level including HLCP and UNDG. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the coordination of the Organization's work in this field has to be strengthened.

18. To strengthen the support and service provided to the operation of the Organization's field network, the function of field support will be transferred from BSP and will report directly to the Director-General. To that effect, a **Team for Field Operation and Support** will be set up and will be headed by a Director (D-1).

19. The proposed adjustments do not make any radical changes to the current BSP structure. The new arrangement, however, reduced the levels of management with a flatter structure while emphasizing the teamwork. It entrusts clear responsibilities and accountabilities to the four Chiefs of Section.