



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and ninety-ninth session

# 199 EX/10 Rev.

PARIS, 14 March 2016

Original: English

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

## **CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES RENEWAL AND REVIEW OF CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES**

### **International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP)**

#### **SUMMARY**

The present document informs the Board on the outcome of the evaluation on the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) in the Republic of Korea, carried out by UNESCO in 2015 in conformity with the revised Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (37 C/Resolution 93). As conclusion, it proposes to renew the designation of the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (Category 2).

Action expected of the Executive Board: Proposed decision in paragraph 13.



## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Conference approved the establishment of the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP), as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (35 C/Resolution 51). Subsequent to the approval of the General Conference, an agreement concerning the establishment of the Centre was signed between the Government of the Republic of Korea and UNESCO on 25 June 2010 for a period of six years from the date of entry into force of the Agreement. The agreement entered into force on 30 September 2010.

2. In conformity with the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for category 2 institutes and centres adopted by the General Conference (37 C/Resolution 93), an independent evaluation of the Centre was carried out in 2015, which was fully financed by the Republic of Korea. The main aim of the review was to assess the Centre's performance with respect to its objectives and functions, as specified in the agreement between UNESCO and the Korean Government, and its contribution to UNESCO's Strategic Programme Objectives and programme priorities, in order to allow an informed decision on whether the current category 2 status should be renewed and the corresponding new agreement signed.

## II. EVALUATION

3. The evaluation has reported the following major findings and challenges regarding the activities and management of the Centre:

4. The evaluation finds that the ICHCAP action is effective in enhancing the visibility of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia and Pacific Region; in disseminating information related to intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in the region, and in building a network of cooperation. Yet, the Centre should improve its actions in building information sharing mechanisms which are respectful of the principles of the 2003 Convention and serving to enhance the visibility of ICH and the Convention. The Centre should also build and strengthen networks of practitioners, bearers as well as communities and NGOs active in the field of ICH.

5. Regarding the structure and efficiency of the Centre, the management structure of ICHCAP is composed of a Governing Board and an Executive Committee, assisted by the Secretariat of the Centre. The Governing Board meets once a year and approves work plans and long-term and mid-term programme. The review revealed potential conflicts of interest in the composition and functioning of the Governing Board, such as the representativeness of some stakeholders.

6. In regard to these findings, the evaluation recommends to add an Advisory Committee including NGO representatives, a non-governmental representative from each subregion and experts that will provide advice on the information and networking mission of ICHCAP. This would help ICHCAP define and follow a clear strategy consistent with UNESCO's Strategic Programme Objectives.

7. The report further recommends that ICHCAP and UNESCO have more regular, bilateral, transparent communication channelled through the representative of the Director-General at the Governing Board of the Centre. Regarding collaboration with UNESCO field offices, the action of ICHCAP is generally appreciated, although it emerged that many activities are generally project-based and should be more strategically planned.

8. As for the effectiveness of information and networking, the evaluation revealed that stakeholders generally appreciate the action of ICHCAP and that, during the last six years, ICHCAP has built important collaborations with several countries of the Asia-Pacific Region.

9. The evaluation has identified key strengths of ICHCAP, such as the strong support of the Korean Government, the dedication and professionalism of the staff and the successful impact of

several activities in the Asia-Pacific region. Nevertheless, the Centre should address a number of challenges in order to better align its action to UNESCO's Strategic Programme Objectives and the 2003 Convention. For instance, measures should be taken to improve bilateral communication and coordination between ICHCAP and UNESCO and between ICHCAP and the other regional category 2 centres. Recently, some important efforts have been undertaken in this direction. Moreover, ICHCAP being fully financed by the Cultural Heritage Administration of the Republic of Korea, it functions according to the rules defined for Korean administrations, whilst at the same time its action should contribute to UNESCO's objectives and expected results.

10. The evaluation concludes that, considering its short life, ICHCAP has become an important point of reference in the Asia-Pacific Region for information and networking and most Member States are satisfied with its activities. Therefore, it recommends the renewal of the Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Korea. However, the evaluation also recommends that, if the Agreement is renewed, the missions of ICHCAP should be clarified, some ICHCAP practices should change and the Agreement should be amended accordingly.

### **Recommendation**

11. A draft agreement has been drawn up taking into account the recommendations of the evaluation report in consultation with the Korean Government. It contains a few deviations, as compared to the model agreement, in the Governing Board (Article 7) and additional articles to define the roles and duties of the Executive Committee, the Secretariat, and the Director (Articles 8, 9 and 10) which are shown in the Annex to the present document.

12. In conformity with the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy, and based upon the results of the evaluation, the Director-General recommends that the Executive Board renew the designation of the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). The online version of the draft agreement as well as the evaluation report are available for consultation at the following webpage of the Culture Sector: [www.unesco.org/culture/partnerships/category-2-centres](http://www.unesco.org/culture/partnerships/category-2-centres).

### **Proposed decision**

13. In light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 51 and 37 C/Resolution 93,
2. Taking into account document 37 C/18 Part I and the attachments thereto,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/10, and its annex,
4. Takes note of the Director-General's recommendation that the designation under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) be renewed for the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP), the Republic of Korea;
5. Encourages the Government of the Republic of Korea to ensure ICHCAP's enhanced contribution to the implementation of the Strategic Programme Objectives and priorities of UNESCO and in particular of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
6. Invites both the Government of the Republic of Korea and the ICHCAP to implement the recommendations made by the evaluation report;

7. Further notes the deviations of the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Korea from the model agreement for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
8. Decides to renew the designation of the ICHCAP as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO; and
9. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

## ANNEX

### PROVISIONS DEVIATING FROM THE MODEL AGREEMENT

#### Article 7 Governing Board

1. The Centre shall be guided and supervised by a Governing Board renewed every two years and composed of:

- (a) the Administrator of CHA or his/her appointed representative, who shall be the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Governing Board;
- (b) two representatives of the Government of the Republic of Korea;
- (c) up to five representatives of the Member States of UNESCO making a substantial contribution to the Centre and to the field of ICH, which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 13, paragraph 2, and have expressed interest in being represented on the Board, while ensuring, as far as possible, equitable geographical representation;
- (d) a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO;
- (e) a representative of the National Commission for UNESCO of the Republic of Korea and one other associated and cooperative organization of the Republic of Korea;
- (f) up to two representatives of any other intergovernmental organizations or non-governmental organizations, which can be accorded a seat by the decision of the Governing Board.

The Director of the Centre shall participate in the Governing Board as a non-voting member.

2. The Governing Board shall:

- (a) elect members of the Executive Committee;
- (b) approve the long-term and medium-term programmes of the Centre;
- (c) approve the annual work plan and budget of the Centre, including the staffing table;
- (d) examine the annual reports submitted by the Director of the Centre, including the biennial self-assessment report of the Centre's contribution to UNESCO's programmes objectives;
- (e) examine the periodic independent audit reports of the financial statements of the Centre and monitor the provision of such accounting records necessary for the preparation of financial statements;
- (f) issue the rules and regulations and determine the financial, administrative and personnel management procedures of the Centre;
- (g) decide on the participation of regional intergovernmental organizations and international organizations in the work of the Centre.

...

## **Article 8 Executive Committee**

In order to ensure the effective running of the Centre between sessions, the Governing Board may delegate to a standing Executive Committee, whose membership it determines, such powers as it deems necessary.

## **Article 9 Secretariat**

1. The Centre's secretariat shall consist of a Director and such staff as are necessary for the proper functioning of the Centre.
2. The Director shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Governing Board in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO.
3. The other members of the secretariat may comprise:
  - (a) any person appointed by the Director, in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Governing Board;
  - (b) government officials who are made available to the Centre, as provided by government regulations;
  - (c) members of UNESCO's staff who are temporarily seconded and made available to the Centre, as provided for by UNESCO's regulations and by the decisions of its governing bodies.

## **Article 10 Duties of the Director**

The Director shall discharge the following duties:

- (a) direct the work of the Centre in conformity with the programmes and directives established by the Governing Board;
- (b) propose all the working documents of the Governing Board, including the draft work plan and budget, to UNESCO at least six weeks before the Governing Board meeting. UNESCO will provide feedback within two weeks of receiving them. Finally, the Centre will submit to the Governing Board a final version of those documents at least two weeks before the meeting;
- (c) prepare the provisional agenda for the sessions of the Governing Board and submit to it any proposals that he/she may deem useful for the administration of the Centre;
- (d) prepare reports on the Centre's activities to be submitted to the Governing Board, including as described in the above Article 7-2 (d) and (e);
- (e) represent the Centre in law and in all civil acts.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and ninety-ninth session

# 199 EX/10 Add.

PARIS, 31 March 2016

Original: English

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### RENEWAL AND REVIEW OF CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

#### ADDENDUM

#### **International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management, at Itaipú Binacional, in Brazil and Paraguay**

#### SUMMARY

The present document informs the Board on the deviations in the draft agreements regarding the establishment of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics (CIH) for Integrated Water Resources Management under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) at Itaipú Binacional, in Brazil and Paraguay, from the model agreement contained in the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (37 C/18 Part I and attachments) which was approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93.

Action expected of the Executive Board: Proposed decision in paragraph 8.



## BACKGROUND

1. Further to joint activities developed in 2005, and following 174 EX/Decision 11 of the Executive Board a Memorandum of Understanding on water sciences technical cooperation was signed in 2006 between UNESCO and Itaipú Binacional. Concerned Member States further submitted a common proposal for the establishment of an International Centre on Hydroinformatics (CIH) for Integrated Water Resources Management at Itaipú Binacional under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

2. Itaipú Binacional, the hosting organization, is a binational public enterprise having a corporate character, established by a bilateral agreement between the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay, with its own legal status. One of the objectives of Itaipú Binacional is to promote and to strengthen hemispherical, regional and international cooperation. Besides being an important electrical power producer in South America and in the world, Itaipú Binacional has one of the most complete regional environmental programmes, in which community participation is remarkable. Itaipú Binacional contributes to the conservation and protection of the “Santa María” biodiversity zone of Iguaçu National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

3. Following the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) (Resolution IHP-IGC XVII-4) and of the Executive Board of UNESCO (177 EX/Decision 66), the General Conference of UNESCO approved at its 34th session, in 2007, the establishment of this Centre and authorized the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement (34 C/Resolution 30).

4. In accordance with provision H.3 of the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (37 C/18 Part I and attachments), which was approved by the General Conference at its 37th session (37 C/Resolution 93), UNESCO undertook, in consultation with the concerned Member States, the review of the draft agreement endorsed by the General Conference (34 C/Resolution 30) with a view to bringing it into conformity with the present strategy for category 2 entities; with the Natural Sciences Sector strategy for cooperation with category 2 institutes and centres, and with the IHP strategy for category 2 water-related institutions.

5. As a result, two agreements regarding the establishment of CIH under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) have been drafted, which online versions are available for consultation at the dedicated webpage of the Natural Sciences Sector.

## PROVISIONS DEVIATING FROM THE STRATEGY

6. The draft agreements present several deviations from the model agreement provided in the present strategy for category 2 entities (37 C/18 Part I, Attachment 2). The following deviations listed hereunder for the consideration of the Executive Board are concerned:

- (a) Two separate agreements are proposed for the signature following the intention of the concerned Member States: one tripartite agreement between UNESCO and the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay defining the terms and conditions, rights and obligations, and other pertinent issues regarding CIH; and another agreement between UNESCO and Itaipú Binacional, the host organization for CIH, delineating the respective responsibilities and undertakings.
- (b) Article 2 of the model agreement states that the Government of the concerned Member States shall agree to take the necessary measures for the setting up the institute/centre. However, in Article 1 of the draft agreement with Itaipú Binacional the responsibility for the establishment of CIH belongs to Itaipú Binacional, and the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay will assist Itaipú Binacional in taking measures to establish and operate CIH (Article 3 of the tripartite draft agreement),



- (c) Articles 4 and 5 of the model agreement states (*inter alia*) that the Institute/Center should have the functional autonomy and the legal capacity to exercise its functions within the concerned territories; whereas article 2 of the draft agreement with Itaipú Binacional indicates CIH as an integral part of its host organization, which itself is a bi-national entity established by Brazil and Paraguay. CIH would have the legal status and capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions in accordance with the laws, regulations, and policies of Brazil and Paraguay and, in particular, the capacity to contract and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property through Itaipú Binacional. This, however, is providing to CIH the necessary operational capabilities within the existing legal and institutional setup of Itaipú Binacional,
- (d) Article 7 of the model agreement states that a governing body must be foreseen to guide and oversee each category 2 institute/centre, However, article 5 of the draft agreement with Itaipú Binacional foresees the establishment of an Advisory Board which will only provide technical and other forms of advices to the Governing Board of Itaipú Binacional, to ensure strategic and programmatic management of CIH. It will include:
- the two General Directors or their appointed representative of Itaipú Binacional, who will act as the co-chairpersons of the Advisory Board as representatives of the two Governments;
  - a representative from Itaipú Binacional designated by the Brazilian Director-General of Itaipú;
  - a representative from Itaipú Binacional designated by the Paraguayan Director-General of Itaipú;
  - up to three representatives of Member States and/or Associate Member States of UNESCO from Latin America and the Caribbean;
  - the Director of CIH who shall act as an observer, and
  - a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO,
- (e) In deviation with the Article 9 of the model agreement concerning the contribution of the concerned Member State(s) to the category 2 entities, the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay will not provide directly all the resources, financial or in kind, needed for the administration and proper functioning of CIH, but shall endeavor to monitor through Itaipú Binacional the securement of the necessary resources, as stated in article 7 of the draft tripartite agreement. It is Itaipú Binacional which undertakes to provide all such contribution, as stated in article 6 of the draft agreement between UNESCO and Itaipú Binacional.

7. The Executive Board is invited to take a decision on the signature of the above draft agreements, including their deviations from the model agreement for category 2 institutes and centres (37 C/18 Part I, Attachment 2).

### **Proposed decision**

8. In the light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Resolution IHP-IGC XVII-4, 34 C/Resolution 30 and 37 C/Resolution 93,

2. Further recalling document 37 C/18 Part I and the attachments thereto,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/10 Add.,
4. Takes note that UNESCO is seeking to promote international cooperation through the designation of the International Centre on Hydro-Informatics (CIH) for Integrated Water Resources Managements under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
5. Further takes note that the Government of Brazil and the Government of Paraguay, as well as the Itaipú Binacional, fully support the designation of CIH as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
6. Encourages the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay, as well as Itaipú Binacional to ensure the enhanced contribution of CIH to the implementation of the strategic programme objectives and priorities of UNESCO and to the pursuit of the international agenda for sustainable development, as well as to the promotion of South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation;
7. Further notes the deviations of the draft agreements between UNESCO and the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay, and between UNESCO and Itaipú Binacional, host organization of CIH, from the model agreement contained in the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (37 C/18 Part I and the attachments), as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
8. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the above mentioned agreements concerning the establishment of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics (CIH) for Integrated Water Resources Management at Itaipú Binacional, in Brazil and Paraguay, under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and ninety-ninth session

# 199 EX/10 Add.2

PARIS, 7 April 2016

Original: English

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### RENEWAL AND REVIEW OF CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

#### ADDENDUM 2

#### **Extension of the UNESCO category 2 centre International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC)**

#### SUMMARY

Pursuant to 37 C/Resolution 93, this document reports on the key results of the review of the activities and the contribution to the strategic programme objectives of the Organization of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO located in the Netherlands.

Based on the results of the review, and in accordance with the Integrated comprehensive strategy for the establishment and operation of centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by 37 C/Resolution 93, continuation of this centre as a category 2 centre is proposed.

Action expected of the Executive Board: Proposed decision in paragraph 11.

1. In 34 C/Resolution 26, the General Conference of UNESCO approved the establishment in the Netherlands of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). The corresponding agreement was signed between UNESCO and the Government of the Netherlands on 15 November 2011, and entered into force on 10 August 2012, following its ratification by the Parliament of the concerned Member State. This agreement will come to term on 10 August 2016 and is subject to renewal.



2. The Kingdom of the Netherlands has already confirmed to make available to the Centre starting from 11 August 2016, an annual subsidy of €400,000 (four hundred thousand euros) per year for a period corresponding to the duration of the renewal agreement to be signed with UNESCO.

3. The UNESCO Division of Water Sciences, in cooperation with IOS, finalized on 25 February 2016 the review of the activities of the Centre and of its contribution to the strategic programme objectives of the Organization. The review was undertaken in compliance with the guidelines of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (37 C/18 Part I and the attachments thereto).

4. The aim of the review was to provide an objective assessment of the activities of the Centre to support an informed decision by the Executive Board as to whether or not to renew to IGRAC the category 2 status and to authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement. The online version of the review report is available for consultation on the webpage of the UNESCO Natural Sciences Sector.

5. The review was conducted by an international expert on hydrogeology and groundwater resources management under the coordination of the Division of Water Sciences. The expert also examined the financial situation, the results achieved by scientific projects, the quality of the publications and the communication strategy of the Centre.

6. The review of the Centre acknowledges the Centre's unique value to UNESCO-IHP and to UN-Water. During 2012-2015 the Centre has succeeded in projecting a clear "brand identity" and gaining recognition internationally for groundwater assessment, and it has built a remarkable international platform for scientific exchange about groundwater resources.

7. Considering the positive review of the contribution provided by IGRAC to the UNESCO-IHP programme, in recognition of the strategic importance of groundwater monitoring and assessment globally, and the potential to further develop the Centre's capacity, the review recommended that IGRAC's status as a UNESCO category 2 centre be renewed.

8. As the first category 2 centre on hydrology, groundwater resources and transboundary aquifers, IGRAC has effectively fulfilled its objectives as expected for UNESCO's Natural Sciences centres. The review also recommended that the Centre: (a) continue to develop hydrogeological research and make efforts to continue to collect and compile groundwater data globally, (b) continue to collaborate with international organizations related to groundwater resources, (c) further develop the database and information management systems, and (d) align IGRAC's Medium-Term Strategy with the Medium-Term Strategy of UNESCO (37 C/4).

9. In accordance with the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (document 37 C/18 Part I), the approval of the Executive Board is required for the renewals of category 2 status under the auspices of UNESCO. To that end, a draft renewal agreement is being drawn up in compliance with the model agreement, and in consultation with the Kingdom of the Netherlands to be presented to the Executive Board at its 200th session.

10. It is subsequently recommended to extend the Centre's agreement from 10 August 2016 until 22 August 2017 in order to enable the signature of the renewal agreement and its entry into force.

#### **Proposed draft decision**

11. In light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 26 and 37 C/Resolution 93,

2. Taking into account document 37 C/18 Part I and its attachments,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/10 Add.2,
4. Considering the recommendation of the renewal review of the Centre that the designation of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), based in the Netherlands, under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), be renewed,
5. Confirms that the IGRAC has performed its activities satisfactorily, in contributing to the strategic programme objectives of the Organization;
6. Welcomes the strong commitment of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to ensure the financial sustainability of the activities of IGRAC;
7. Notes that it will be invited to approve the renewal of the category 2 status to IGRAC at its 200th session, when the draft renewal agreement will be presented;
8. Also notes the Director-General's recommendation to extend the existing agreement from 10 August 2016 until 22 August 2017 in order to enable the signature of the renewal agreement and its entry into force;
9. Authorizes the Director-General to extend the current agreement regarding the Centre until 22 August 2017, subject to its decision at its 200th session.