

Hundred and sixty-fourth Session

164 EX/10
PARIS, 24 May 2002
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**DRAFT DECISIONS RECOMMENDED
BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

1. The Special Committee of the Executive Board held four meetings on 15 and 16 May 2002, with Ms Lil Despradel (Dominican Republic) in the chair. Pursuant to Rule 16.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Committee elected the representative of Peru as its temporary Chairperson.

2. The Committee examined the following agenda items:

Item	Title
4.1	Methods of work of the Executive Board
6.9	Progress Report on the situation in the Brasilia Office
6.10	Comments by the Director-General on the Internal Oversight Service's (IOS) activities in 2001 and strategy for 2002-2003
8.5	Comments by the Director-General on the External Evaluation reports submitted in the 2000-2001 biennium

4.1 Methods of work of the Executive Board

3. After considering this item, the Special Committee decided to recommend to the Executive Board that it adopt the following draft decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 164 EX/22,
2. Welcomes the initiative taken by its Chairperson concerning the reform of its methods of work;
3. Invites its Chairperson, in consultation with the Director-General, to draw inspiration from the suggestions and guidelines given below, in relation to the preparation and organization of future sessions:

Changes in the methods of work of the Executive Board

(a) Dates, frequency and length of the sessions:

- (i) Starting dates of sessions: mid-April and early October;

(b) General policy debate:

- (i) Need to ensure that the Director-General's report on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference is distributed sufficiently in advance;
- (ii) Facilitation of dialogue between Board Members and the Director-General (establishment of a format that enables Members to react to the Director-General's statements); strengthening the system of questions and answers;
- (iii) Measures to ensure follow-up to Board decisions;

(c) Thematic debate:

- (i) Structuring of the debate so that a distinctive Board vision can emerge, and practical steps to give concrete expression to this vision;
- (ii) Qualified speakers representative of geographical and cultural diversity;
- (iii) Themes related to the fields of competence of UNESCO;

(d) Reopening discussions and discussion of the same items in different bodies:

- (i) More scrupulous respect for the prevailing provisions of the Rules of Procedure concerning the adoption in plenary meetings of the recommendations of the subsidiary bodies;
- (ii) Avoidance, as far as possible, of joint meetings of commissions;

(e) Other issues:

- (i) Reduction in the number of items on the agenda;
- (ii) Regrouping of items so as to align the timetable of work with the structure of the C/5 document;
- (iii) Application of the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board concerning the role of the Bureau in the preparation of the Board's sessions;
- (iv) Reduction in the volume of documentation;
- (v) Imperative need to respect statutory deadlines for the distribution of documents;
- (vi) Need to reform the methods of work of the commissions and other subsidiary bodies.

6.9 Progress report on the situation in the Brasilia Office (evaluation aspects)

4. After considering this item, the Special Committee took note of the content of documents 164 EX/34 and 164 EX/INF.3.

6.10 Comments by the Director-General on the Internal Oversight Service's (IOS) activities in 2001 and strategy for 2002-2003

5. After considering this item, the Special Committee decided to recommend to the Executive Board that it adopt the following draft decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 164 EX/35 and Add. and Corr.,
2. Recalling 160 EX/Decision 6.5, notes that the report on the activities of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) is presented to the Executive Board by the Director-General along with his comments,
3. Takes note with appreciation of the progress made by IOS in the audit activities undertaken in 2001 and welcomes the proposed strategy for 2002-2003;
4. Encourages the Director-General to ensure that the human resource requirements of IOS are met from the regular budget;
5. Takes note of the preliminary ideas on key priorities and principles of evaluation contained in document 164 EX/35 and requests further elaboration of “UNESCO’s evaluation strategy” to be presented by the Director-General to the Board at its 165th session.

8.5 Comments by the Director-General on the External Evaluation reports submitted in the 2000-2001 biennium

6. After considering this item, the Special Committee decided to recommend to the Executive Board that it adopt the following draft decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 164 EX/46,
2. Appreciative of the evaluations that have been presented to it therein,
3. Taking note of the recommendations made by the evaluators as well as the report of the Director-General on the implementation of those recommendations,
4. Bearing in mind the constraints that have tended to hamper the production of the type of evaluation reports requested by the Executive Board, particularly those highlighted in the concluding remarks of the Director-General in Part II of the present document,
5. Invites the Director-General to implement in the appropriate manner those recommendations that he judges to be necessary to improve the programmes to which they relate, bearing in mind the new organizational logic of results-based management and reporting;

6. Requests the Director-General to take necessary steps to reform the evaluation process in UNESCO and present to it at its 165th session a strategy paper for evaluation in the Organization;
7. Further requests the Director-General to continue to report periodically to the Executive Board on evaluations that are carried out on the Organization's programme activities and on the progress made in the follow-up to evaluation recommendations.
8. Invites the Director-General, within the framework of the evaluation of the World Solar Programme, to encourage greater popularization of the experience acquired in all the world's regions.