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Organisation
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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
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
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联合国教育、
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37 C/60

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PROCLAMATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS OF AN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

OUTLINE

Source: 192 EX/Decision 38.

Background: By 192 EX/Decision 38, the Executive Board welcomed and endorsed the recommendation of the Declaration of the United Nations' third International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development to proclaim an "International Day of Sports and Physical Activity", further invited the Director-General to support all efforts leading the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim this Day, and recommended that the General Conference adopt a resolution in this regard at its 37th session.

Purpose: This document provides additional information on Resolution A/RES/67/296 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 23 August 2013 proclaiming the *International Day of Sport for Development and Peace* to be celebrated on 6 April, and contains the proposals by the Director-General on UNESCO's contribution to this new international day.

Decision required: paragraph 9.

Background

1. The third International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development was held at the United Nations headquarters in New York on 5 and 6 June 2013. The Forum adopted a Declaration (contained in document 192 EX/38) that acknowledges and recognizes Sport and Physical Activity as a tool for social and human development issues, including education, and health among others. The Declaration also calls for the need to further strengthen the role of sport and physical activity in partnership with the United Nations system, civil society, the sport sector and other stakeholders. Recommendation No. 10 of the Declaration calls for the establishment of a United Nations International Day of Sport and Physical Activity to advocate and celebrate their contribution to education, human development, healthy lifestyles and a peaceful world.

2. Pursuant to this recommendation, at its 192th session, the Executive Board considered an item introduced by Djibouti on behalf of the Africa Group concerning the proclamation of an International Day of Sports and Physical Activity to celebrate the contribution of sports and physical activity to education, human development, healthy lifestyles and a peaceful world. By 192 EX/Decision 38, the Executive Board welcomed and endorsed the recommendation of the Declaration of the United Nations' third International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development to proclaim an "International Day of Sports and Physical Activity"; it invited the Director-General to support all efforts leading the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim this Day; and recommended that the General Conference adopt a resolution in this regard at its 37th session.

3. As outlined in 192 EX/DG.INF, the United Nations General Assembly, at its 67th session on 23 August 2013, adopted resolution A/RES/67/296 that proclaims the *International Day of Sport for Development and Peace* to be celebrated on 6 April. The resolution, *inter alia*, refers to:

- resolution A/RES/60/1 of 16 September 2005, which contains the 2005 World Summit Outcome by which it recognizes the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, underlines that sports can foster peace and development, and can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding; and
- resolution A/RES/66/2 of 19 September 2011, containing the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, in which it promotes healthy lifestyles, in particular through physical activity.

4. Resolution A/RES/67/296 is fully in keeping with the spirit of 192 EX/Decision 38. Therefore, the Director-General recommends to the General Conference that it endorse this resolution and, instead of seeking the proclamation of an International Day of Sports and Physical Activity, that the Organization cooperates with the United system, the relevant international organizations and national sports organizations, the civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector and all other relevant stakeholders to observe and raise awareness of the new *International Day of Sport for Development and Peace* to be celebrated on 6 April.

5. The choice of the date of 6 April is justified by the fact that, in 2002, at its 55th session, the Assembly of the World Health Organization, in its resolution WHA 55.23, urged Member States to celebrate a "Move for Health Day" each year to promote physical activity as essential for health and well-being. The date 6 April has been used since the year 2003 by some civil society organizations for celebrating a "World Day for Physical Activity".

6. As the United Nations' lead agency for physical education and sport, UNESCO is uniquely placed to make a significant contribution to the International Day. The General Conference, at its 20th session in 1978, established the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) and adopted the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport within the objective of "improvement of educational content, methods and techniques" and with due regard to the promotion of physical education and sport as an integral part of lifelong education. At its

33rd session in 2005, the General Conference adopted the International Convention against Doping in Sport that at this date counts 176 States Parties. Together with the Olympic Charter that codifies the fundamental principles of Olympism, the 1978 Charter and the 2005 Convention constitute the principal reference framework for national and international sport policy. UNESCO's mandate is further reinforced by the Declaration of Berlin, adopted at the 5th International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS V), held in Berlin, Germany, from 29 to 30 May 2013 (37 C/INF.14).

7. Through CIGEPS and its Permanent Consultative Council that is composed of organizations of the United Nations system and the principal civil society organizations in the field of physical education, sport and anti-doping, UNESCO has the institutional framework to assure the mobilization of Member States and national and international sport stakeholders for the International Day. In particular, the Director-General proposes that, during the period of the 37 C/5, UNESCO will use the Day for the promotion of the follow-up to MINEPS V, including the reflection of the UNESCO's International Charter of Physical Education and Sport (37 C/INF.16) and the implementation of the Declaration of Berlin.

Financial implications

8. The contribution to the promotion of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace will be part of the communication and outreach activities of the anti-doping and sport programme within document 37 C/5, and in particular within the follow-up to MINEPS V, as outlined by the Director-General in document 37 C/INF.16. The Day also offers opportunities for enhanced visibility and partnerships with the private sector and the media. It must be stressed however, that any specific activities to be carried out by UNESCO for celebrating this Day would require extrabudgetary resources in order to fully implement them.

Draft resolution

9. The General Conference may wish to adopt the following resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 192 EX/Decision 38, by which the Executive Board welcomed and endorsed the recommendation of the Declaration of the United Nations' third International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development to proclaim an "International Day of Sports and Physical Activity",
2. Welcoming that the United Nations General Assembly, at its 67th session on 23 August 2013, adopted Resolution A/RES/67/296 proclaiming the *International Day of Sport for Development and Peace* to be celebrated on 6 April,
3. Recalling resolution A/RES/67/17, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 28 November 2012, which recognizes the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development and peace,
4. Reaffirming the fundamental principles enshrined in UNESCO's International Charter of Physical Education and Sport and in the Olympic Charter,
5. Recognizing the unique potential of sport to foster social inclusion,
6. Invites the Director-General to cooperate with the United Nations' system, the relevant international organizations and national sports organizations, the civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector and all other relevant stakeholders to observe and raise awareness of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace as outlined in document 37 C/60;

7. Requests the Director-General, within document 37 C/5, to place the contribution of UNESCO to the celebration of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace within the follow-up to the fifth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS V) and the implementation of the Declaration of Berlin;
8. Stresses that any additional activities that may arise from the celebration of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace should be subject to the availability and provision of extrabudgetary funds;
9. Invites the Director-General to report to it, at its 38th session, on the implementation of this resolution.