



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and eightieth session

(Paris, 30 September – 21 October 2008)*

180 EX/Decisions

PARIS, 17 November 2008

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 180th SESSION

* Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies before the plenary meetings.

All the terms used in this collection of texts to designate the person discharging duties or functions are to be interpreted as implying that men and women are equally eligible to fill any post or seat associated with the discharge of these duties and functions.

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1 Agenda and timetable of work and report of the Bureau (180 EX/1; 180 EX/2; 180 EX/INF.1 Rev.3; 180 EX/INF.4)

The Executive Board adopted the agenda and timetable of work as set out in documents 180 EX/1 and 180 EX/INF.1 Rev.3.

The Executive Board decided to refer the following items of its agenda to the commissions:

1. **Programme and External Relations Commission (PX):** items 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 20, 27, 30, 44, 47, 48, 49, 54, 57, 58, 60 and 62; and for programme-related aspects, item 21;
2. **Finance and Administrative Commission (FA):** items 6, 24*, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 and 55; and for administrative and financial aspects, item 21;

and to refer the following items to the joint meeting of the PX and FA Commissions: items 4, 5, 9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 33, 40, 43, 45, 50, 51, 52 and 61.

* The Executive Board decided to refer item 24 of its agenda to the Special Committee and to the FA Commission, and item 32 to the Special Committee and to the plenary.

The Executive Board approved the proposal by the Bureau contained in document 180 EX/2 concerning the following agenda items:

- 17 Amendments to the Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize (180 EX/17 Rev. and Corr.)
- 42 Relations with the Eurasian Economic Community (EURASEC) and draft memorandum of understanding between UNESCO and that interregional organization (180 EX/42 and Corr. (*Corr. in English only*))
- 59 Relations with the Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation (IFESCCO) and draft memorandum of understanding between UNESCO and that foundation (180 EX/59; 180 EX/INF.13)

(180 EX/SR.1)

2 Approval of the summary records of the 179th session (179 EX/SR.1-10 Rev.)

The Executive Board approved the summary records of its 179th session.

(180 EX/SR.1)

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject.

(180 EX/SR.6)

EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME

4 Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference (180 EX/4 Part I and Add.; 180 EX/4 Part II; 180 EX/INF.10; 180 EX/INF.15; 180 EX/INF.16; 180 EX/INF.19 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.20; 180 EX/INF.21 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.25; 180 EX/INF.26; 180 EX/66)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/4 Parts I and II, and 180 EX/INF.19 and Corr.,
2. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 89,
3. Welcoming the new tables in the EX/4 report on programme execution and the clear definitions provided for assessing cost-effectiveness and sustainability,
4. Further recalling requests contained in document 34 C/5 to the Director-General to report in the statutory reports on the achievement of the expected results, including information on the cost-efficient use of human and financial resources, particularly in the areas of travel, publications and contractual services, for each of the results reported, following the principles of transparency, efficiency and rationalization,
5. Noting that documents 180 EX/4 Parts I and II meet this request only partially, and that information pertaining to the cost-efficient use of human and financial resources is not available yet,
6. Considering that results-based reporting is an essential tool for ensuring the accountability of the UNESCO senior management and for the Executive Board to discharge its responsibilities concerning the execution of the programme and the preparation of the next C/5 document,
7. Invites the Director-General, in preparing future EX/4 reports, to:
 - (a) improve the overall assessment of key results by providing a more concise analysis focusing on the achievement of expected results, using the performance indicators identified in the C/5 document;
 - (b) improve the online presentation of detailed information concerning results obtained at the MLA level by limiting to a minimum all other information relative to achieved outputs and by presenting, as appropriate, information in a SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound) manner;
8. Notes with satisfaction the progress achieved in a number of main lines of action as demonstrated, *inter alia*, by the high-level attention devoted to efforts to combat illiteracy, the increased number of Member States having benefited from assistance in science policy development, enhanced inclusion of cultural components in common country programming, and the recognition gained of the media development indicators;
9. Invites the Director-General to take the necessary measures to address the challenges identified in documents 180 EX/4 Parts I and II, and 180 EX/INF.19 and Corr. with regard, *inter alia*, to the need to streamline capacity development efforts in education by concentrating on an upstream approach, teacher training, and science and technology training in Africa, the management of the World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO World Reports, and the facilitation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Director-General's report on donations and special contributions received since the beginning of the biennium and appropriated to the regular budget and the transfers made between appropriation lines, as well as the proposed transfers from Part IV to Parts I to III of the budget, in accordance with the terms of the Appropriation Resolution approved by the General Conference at its 34th session (34 C/Resolution 93, paras. 3(b), (d) and (e)), 180 EX/4 Part II and the recommendations of its Finance and Administrative Commission thereon (180 EX/67),

A

2. Notes that the Director-General has, as a consequence of these donations and special contributions, increased the appropriations to the regular budget by a total amount of \$4,145,421 as follows:

	\$
Part II.A – Major Programme I	2,210,976
Part II.A – Major Programme II	126,419
Part II.A – Major Programme III	35,082
Part II.A – Major Programme IV	786,352
Part II.A – Major Programme V	299,574
Part I.B – Direction (ODG)	21,371
Part II.C.4 – Strategic planning and programme monitoring (BSP)	439,820
Part II.C.6 – Anticipation and foresight (FOR)	2,546
Part III.A – Field Management and Coordination (indirect costs for field offices)	200,886
Part III.E – Administration (ADM)	22,395
Total	<u>4,145,421</u>

3. Expresses its appreciation to the donors listed in paragraph 8 of document 180 EX/4 Part II;

B

4. Recalling the provision of the Appropriation Resolution by virtue of which transfers between appropriation lines up to an amount of 1% of the initial appropriation may be made by the Director-General, informing the Members of the Executive Board in writing at the session following such action of the details of and reasons for such transfers,
5. Notes that the Director-General has made transfers between appropriation lines for the purpose of supporting UNESCO efforts to contribute to the preparation of United Nations common country programming exercises, as follows:

	\$
Part II.A – Major Programme I	(315,900)
Part II.A – Major Programme II	(149,700)
Part II.A – Major Programme III	(90,500)
Part II.A – Major Programme IV	(148,988)
Part II.A – Major Programme V	(118,900)
Total, Part II.A	(823,988)
Part II.C.4 – Strategic planning and programme monitoring (BSP)	823,988
Total, Part II.C	823,988

6. Recalling the provision of the Appropriation Resolution by virtue of which the Director-General is authorized, with the prior approval of the Executive Board, to make transfers from Part IV of the budget (Anticipated Cost Increases) to the relevant appropriation lines in Parts I to III for the purpose of meeting increases in staff costs,
7. Approves the transfer of \$2,080,000 from Part IV to Parts I to III of the budget to cover increases in the staff costs due to statutory factors;
8. Takes note of the revised Appropriation Table in the annex of document 180 EX/4 Part II.

(180 EX/SR.11)

5 Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions
(180 EX/5 and Add., Add.2 and Add.3 Rev.; 180 EX/INF.7; 180 EX/INF.19 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.20; 180 EX/INF.21 and Corr.; 180 EX/66)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/5 and Add. and Add.2,
2. Takes note of their content.

(180 EX/SR.11)

II

Implementation of 34 C/Resolution 47 and 179 EX/Decisions 9 and 52 relating to the Ascent to the Mughrabi Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/5 Add.3 Rev.,
2. Recalling 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/Decision, 177 EX/Decision 20, 179 EX/Decisions 9 and 52,
3. Further recalling Decisions 31 COM 7A.18 and 32 COM 7A.18 adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st (Christchurch, 2007) and 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) sessions respectively,
4. Also recalling the relevant provisions on the protection of cultural heritage including, as appropriate, the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the Hague Convention for the

Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls at the request of Jordan on the World Heritage List (1981) and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1982), and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO,

5. Reaffirming the purpose and spirit of the professional encounter at the technical level of 13 January 2008, as well as the follow-up meeting of 24 February 2008,
6. Being aware that the process for the design of the Mughrabi ascent, which allows for the taking into consideration of the proposals submitted during the professional encounter, is still under way, and that the World Heritage Centre is following closely the developments associated with this process through its Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism,
7. Being aware of the deep concerns regarding the decision taken by the Jerusalem District Planning and Construction Commission on the town planning scheme for the Mughrabi ascent,
8. Requests that, despite this decision, the process for the design of the Mughrabi ascent be inclusive of all concerned parties, in accordance with the spirit and content of previous World Heritage Committee decisions;
9. Reaffirms that no measures, unilateral or otherwise, should be taken which will affect the authenticity and integrity of the site, in accordance with the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972;
10. Reiterates the request made by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session in Decision 32 COM 7A.18 that the Israeli authorities continue the cooperation engaged with all concerned parties, in particular with Jordanian and Waqf experts;
11. Reiterates the request made by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session in Decision 32 COM 7A.18 that the World Heritage Centre organize a technical follow-up meeting at the site with all concerned parties for additional exchanges of information to enable all necessary inputs to be considered;
12. Notes with satisfaction that the follow-up meeting requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session in Decision 32 COM 7A.18 is tentatively scheduled for early November 2008;
13. Expresses its thanks to the Director-General for the action he has taken to facilitate the dialogue and professional exchanges between all the concerned parties;
14. Invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon at its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.13)

- 6 **Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the reform process** (180 EX/6 Parts I and II and Add.; 180 EX/6 Part I Add.; 180 EX/6 Part II Corr.; 180 EX/INF.19 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.20; 180 EX/INF.21 and Corr.; 180 EX/67)

I

Human resources policy

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/6 Part I,

2. Takes note of the work accomplished in the implementation of the human resources policy reform framework and of the medium- and long-term staffing strategy;
3. Requests the Director-General:
 - (a) to pursue the implementation of the human resources policy reform framework, ensuring as appropriate harmonization with the United Nations common system policies and practices;
 - (b) to pursue the implementation of the medium- and long-term staffing strategy;
 - (c) to report to it at its 182nd session and to the General Conference at its 35th session on the implementation of the human resources policy reform framework and of the medium- and long-term staffing strategy.

(180 EX/SR.11)

II

Decentralization

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/6 Part II,
2. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/208 concerning the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system,
3. Also recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/277 of 15 September 2008 on system-wide coherence (reproduced in document 180 EX/INF.16),
4. Further recalling 30 C/Resolution 83 (criteria for opening offices),
5. Referring to the statement by the “Delivering as One” pilot countries Albania, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Viet Nam, together with Malawi as from 23 May 2008,
6. Takes note of the progress achieved thus far by the Decentralization Review Task Force in considering long-term measures for strengthening the Organization’s field presence within the new context of a reformed United Nations at country level and of the preliminary guiding principles to drive the adjustments to UNESCO’s evolving decentralized system;
7. Recalling the demand in General Assembly resolution 62/208 (paras. 106-111) to strengthen the capacity of regional and subregional entities as well as inter-agency collaboration at the regional and subregional levels, as appropriate and consistent with their respective mandates, and aiming at supporting country-level development initiatives, as well as in close consultation with the governments of the countries concerned,
8. Requests the Director-General, in the framework of the planned adjustment of the decentralization system, to take all necessary measures to efficiently align UNESCO’s decentralization system with the requirements of the United Nations reform in the field, including flexible human resource mechanisms in the field (180 EX/6 Part II, para. 21(d)) and the use of UNESCO desks in the United Nations country teams (180 EX/6 Part II, para. 22(f));

9. Invites the Director-General to take into account the outcome of the intergovernmental consultations taking place in New York as these results become available;
10. Further invites the Director-General to submit to it a final report on an adjusted decentralization system and structure building on the comprehensive action plan on the implementation of the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review, at its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Education

7 Report by the Director-General on progress made with respect to education for all (EFA), including UNESCO's contribution and application of the Global Action Plan to achieve the EFA goals by 2015 (180 EX/7; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 8, 176 EX/Decision 9, 34 C/Resolution 11 and 179 EX/Decision 51,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/7,
3. Reaffirming the importance of accelerating progress towards the six Education for All (EFA) goals and other related development goals,
4. Emphasizing the importance of the key role that UNESCO continues to play in promoting education in general, and support for EFA in particular, through a series of activities leading to the Eighth Meeting of the High-Level Group on EFA scheduled for December 2008,
5. Welcoming the generous offers of the Government of Ethiopia in cooperation with the African Union to host the next meeting of the High-Level Group on EFA, and of the Government of Thailand to host the subsequent meeting, and also the generous offer of the Russian Federation to host a UNESCO world conference on early childhood care and education in Moscow in 2010,
6. Taking note of support for national efforts, notably through the preparation of UNESCO's National Education Support Strategies (UNESS) and through their contribution to existing initiatives and mechanisms such as the EFA Fast-Track Initiative and the United Nations reform process, based on the principles of the EFA Global Action Plan,
7. Taking note with concern of the discrepancy between needs and contributions and the decline in aid to basic education, early childhood care and education, and adult literacy, and the increasing gap between the pledged amount and delivery of these financial pledges from donor countries in support of EFA,
8. Bearing in mind the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012) mid-Decade review prepared by UNESCO and the fact that the United Nations Literacy Decade Fund has recently been created with the aim of advancing the goals of the Decade and of EFA,
9. Taking note with appreciation of the report by the Director-General on implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade (contained in United Nations General Assembly document A/63/172),
10. Also bearing in mind the importance of establishing close linkages with the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014),

11. Taking note of UNESCO's endeavours to engage all relevant partners in the EFA process at all levels and, in particular, to strengthen and broaden collaboration among the five EFA convening agencies,
12. Also taking note of the findings in the *EFA Global Monitoring Report* that there has been considerable progress in many developing countries since the Dakar World Education Forum, especially regarding the increase in primary school enrolment, including the improvement in sub-Saharan Africa, but noting that many countries are still far from attaining the EFA goals,
13. Encourages UNESCO to further foster effective EFA partnerships by strengthening existing mechanisms and initiatives, and to continue articulating the joint efforts of donor countries and developing countries to ensure progress towards achieving the EFA goals;
14. Also encourages UNESCO to take into consideration and utilize all possibilities, including the sharing of best practices and proven methods, provided by South-South and triangular cooperation and by early operationalization of the Special Account for South-South Cooperation in Education, to take into account the needs for well-qualified teachers in developing countries, and to consider in the 35 C/5 process the provision of additional funds for initiatives such as the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA), the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE), and for distance learning;
15. Requests the Director-General to further improve the sequencing of the launch of the *EFA Global Monitoring Report* and the meetings of the EFA Working Group and the EFA High-Level Group in order to provide sufficient time to prepare and plan the EFA High-Level Group Meeting;
16. Also requests the Director-General to improve the preparatory process for the High-Level Group Meeting by making it more transparent and inclusive and to ensure high-level participation from donor countries and other convening agencies;
17. Further requests the Director-General, preparatory to the EFA thematic debate at its 181st session, to prepare an analytical report on the results of the Eighth High-Level Group Meeting in December 2008 and other relevant meetings on EFA, on the progress achieved regarding the implementation of the Global Action Plan to achieve EFA, the UNESCO National Education Support Strategy (UNESS) process, and the involvement of UNESCO in the EFA Fast-Track Initiative, as well as the concrete initiatives undertaken by UNESCO to foster South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in the field of education;
18. Further requests the Director-General to prepare for its 182nd session a concise analytical report on the main obstacles (and their causes) to attaining the Dakar EFA goals by 2015 and outlining alternative ways of improving UNESCO's efforts to achieve the EFA objectives;
19. Further requests the Director-General to relaunch the appeal to the international community, in particular donor countries, to reduce the increasing aid gap by delivering resources for the whole cycle of education, including basic education, secondary education and higher education, as well as adult literacy and early childhood care and education for developing countries;

20. Invites Member States, especially the developed countries, international organizations and other stakeholders to contribute to the United Nations Literacy Decade Fund with a view to advancing the goals of the Decade and the EFA goals, and to strengthen their support to the Decade, in particular the three major areas which were identified by the mid-Decade review: stronger commitment, more effective delivery on the ground, and new resources for literacy.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Natural sciences

8 **Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the UNESCO plan of action concerning the decisions and declaration of the African Union Summit on science, technology and scientific research for development (January 2007)** (180 EX/8; 180 EX/68 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 56 and 177 EX/Decision 16,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/8,
3. Expresses satisfaction with the progress made and activities initiated to implement the UNESCO plan of action in support of the African Union Consolidated Plan of Action for Science and Technology, and in particular, in the area of science policy;
4. Requests the Director-General to strengthen institutional and human capacities among African Member States for the implementation of science, technology and innovation policies;
5. Also requests the Director-General to further support activities in the UNESCO plan of action that are aimed at improving science and technology in Africa, particularly science education, and to address the other components of the African Union Consolidated Plan of Action for Science and Technology, notably by ensuring that all sectors, divisions and institutes are fully committed to the process;
6. Further requests the Director-General to ensure that special attention is given to the development of the capacities of the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities, which are ultimately responsible for the implementation of the African Union Consolidated Plan of Action for Science and Technology at the regional level;
7. Urges concerned Member States to promote and intensify their collaboration with UNESCO, and African Member States to ensure coordinated and coherent implementation of the UNESCO plan of action;
8. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 182nd session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the UNESCO plan of action.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Social and human sciences

9 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of UNESCO's refined plan of action and other activities for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (180 EX/9; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 38 concerning the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
2. Further recalling 179 EX/Decision 8 by which the Executive Board welcomed UNESCO's refined plan of action for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
3. Underlining UNESCO's key role in the promotion of human rights within the scope of its mandate,
4. Notes with satisfaction the establishment of the International Centre for the Advancement of Human Rights in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
5. Taking note of the appeal by the United Nations Secretary-General for a year-long United Nations system-wide campaign to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
6. Having examined document 180 EX/9,
7. Welcomes UNESCO's contribution to the United Nations system-wide year-long campaign to commemorate this anniversary;
8. Encourages the Director-General to continue implementing UNESCO's refined plan of action in consultation with other United Nations entities, and in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in view of the role of OHCHR as coordinator of the activities of the United Nations system for the celebration of the 60th anniversary, and to conclude it with the inauguration of the International Centre for the Advancement of Human Rights in Buenos Aires, Argentina;
9. Urges all public and private institutions within the Member States, civil society (including non-governmental organizations), educational institutions and educators, National Commissions for UNESCO, and national human rights institutions to continue their contributions to the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by undertaking activities to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms;
10. Invites the Director-General to continue his efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to help ensure the implementation and completion of UNESCO's refined plan of action by the time referred to in paragraph 8 of this decision, and therefore invites Member States and other funding sources to consider making extrabudgetary contributions in this regard;
11. Further invites the Director-General to report to the General Conference at its 35th session on the 60th anniversary commemorative activities.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Culture

10 Jerusalem and the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 47 and 179 EX/Decision 9 (180 EX/10 and Add.; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 47 and 179 EX/Decision 9, as well as the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and its related Protocols, and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO on the protection of cultural heritage,
2. Affirming that nothing in the present decision, which is aimed at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, shall in any way affect the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, in particular the relevant Security Council resolutions on the legal status of Jerusalem,
3. Having examined documents 180 EX/10 and Addendum,
4. Expresses its sincere thanks to the Director-General for his sustained efforts for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, in compliance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and of the Executive Board, and reiterates its concern as to the obstacles, practices and actions, unilateral or otherwise, affecting the preservation of the distinctive character of the Old City of Jerusalem;
5. Invites the Director-General to pursue his efforts with the concerned parties for the safeguarding of the outstanding universal value of the Old City of Jerusalem;
6. Thanks the Jordanian authorities for having agreed to bear the cost of the storage fees to facilitate the delivery of the equipment for the manuscripts conservation laboratory in al-Ashrafiya Madrasa;
7. Welcomes the action taken by the Israeli authorities to facilitate the delivery of the equipment for the manuscripts conservation laboratory in al-Ashrafiya Madrasa;
8. Thanks the donor community for its contributions to the implementation of conservation, restoration and training activities in the Old City of Jerusalem, and encourages UNESCO Member States to contribute to the implementation of activities foreseen in the Action Plan for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, notably through extrabudgetary resources;
9. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 181st session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(180 EX/SR.11)

11 Report by the Director-General on a preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of a possible international standard-setting instrument for the protection of indigenous and endangered languages (180 EX/11 and Add.; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 59 and 179 EX/Decision 10,

2. Having examined documents 180 EX/11 and Add.,
3. Takes note of the action taken by the Secretariat to organize a meeting of experts tasked with assisting the Secretariat with preparing the preliminary study requested in 176 EX/Decision 59 and 179 EX/Decision 10, pending the provision of the necessary financial contribution;
4. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session the preliminary study requested in 176 EX/Decision 59 and 179 EX/Decision 10, by consulting the group of experts established to that end on the basis of balanced geographical representation, at a meeting to be held at the Organization's Headquarters, should the necessary financial contribution effectively become available in good time.

(180 EX/SR.11)

12 Report by the Director-General on the preparation of a draft declaration of principles relating to cultural objects displaced in connection with the Second World War
(180 EX/12; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 17 and 34 C/Resolution 43,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/12,
3. Invites the Director-General to convene an intergovernmental meeting of experts (category II), to be funded from extrabudgetary funds, and to be held at UNESCO Headquarters as soon as such funds are available, to explore further the possibility of arriving at a consensus recommendation on the basis of the text of the March 2007 draft of the declaration of principles relating to cultural objects displaced in connection with the Second World War;
4. Decides that participants and observers invited to such a meeting should be those listed in paragraph 5 of 174 EX/Decision 43, reproduced in the Annex to document 180 EX/12;
5. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session a report on this issue.

(180 EX/SR.11)

[13 Innovative proposals for the financing of posts at the World Heritage Centre]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda: see the footnote in document 180 EX/1.

14 The Slave Route project: assessment and prospects (180 EX/14; 180 EX/INF.23; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 35 and 172 EX/Decision 59,
2. Commending the Director-General for the efforts made to implement the Slave Route project from the very beginning,
3. Having examined document 180 EX/14, and having noted the comments and proposals therein,

4. Considering the urgent need to revitalize the Slave Route project, and the urgent need to complete the selection of the 20 experts who will constitute the new International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project so that they may meet as soon as possible,
5. Invites the Director-General to take note of the proposals contained in document 180 EX/14 and the discussions at its 180th session in this regard, and to submit them to the new scientific committee at its first meeting so that it may consider them and provide its own views thereon;
6. Also invites the Director-General to consider ways and means of:
 - (a) strengthening the Secretariat's unit in charge of managing and coordinating the Slave Route project;
 - (b) mobilizing adequate extrabudgetary funds to ensure continuous and thorough implementation of the project;
 - (c) broadening the scope of the project to include other regions which the International Scientific Committee has not yet sufficiently considered, for example the Transatlantic, Indian Ocean, Trans-American and Caribbean, and Trans-Saharan routes;
7. Further invites the Director-General, in accordance with 172 EX/Decision 59, to prepare a project document providing for a long-term involvement in research, advocacy and education for submission to it at its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Communication and information

15 Report by the Director-General on a draft strategic plan for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) as revised by the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP (180 EX/15; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 14,
2. Having examined the report by the Director-General and the draft strategic plan for the Information for All Programme contained in document 180 EX/15,
3. Recalling the importance of the role of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme in the implementation of the strategic plan for the Information for All Programme,
4. Taking into consideration UNESCO's role as one of the lead United Nations agencies participating in the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS),
5. Noting that at its fifth session in April 2008, the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme resolved to consider the future modalities of its operation at its sixth session in 2010,
6. Expresses appreciation to the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme, to the members of the Intergovernmental Council, and to the stakeholders who have contributed to the preparation of this strategic plan for the Information for All Programme for the period 2008-2013;
7. Confirms its strong commitment to the global goal of information for all;

8. Stresses that the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society should constitute the framework for the future strategic orientations of the Information for All Programme;
9. Recognizes the potential of the proposed strategic plan to contribute to the implementation of World Summit on the Information Society action lines, and to the attainment of the objectives of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4 Approved);
10. Endorses the Strategic Plan for the Information for All Programme with the proposed objectives and expected outcomes for the period 2008-2013, and takes note of information for development, information literacy, information preservation, information ethics and information accessibility as the five specific priorities of the Programme;
11. Recalls 33 C/Resolution 57 on strengthening of the Special Fund for the Information for All Programme, and again urges Member States to continue to contribute to the Special Fund;
12. Requests the Director-General to take appropriate measures in accordance with document 34 C/5 to allocate sufficient funds in the current biennium from the regular budget to provide assistance to Member States, particularly for developing countries, with the formulation of national information policy frameworks and strategies;
13. Also requests the Director-General to identify extrabudgetary funds to contribute to Special Fund for the Information for All Programme, to take appropriate measures in order to facilitate, together with the members of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme, the raising of funds for the Special Fund, both from Member States and from private sector donors, and provide adequate resources by, *inter alia*, strengthening administrative support;
14. Further requests the Director-General to take appropriate measures in order to ensure adequate coordination with the Information for All Programme and its Intergovernmental Council in planning and implementing UNESCO's regular programme relating to the Information for All Programme;
15. Invites the Director-General, when carrying out the planned evaluation of strategic programme objective 12 of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 "Enhancing universal access to information and knowledge", to include assessment of the Information for All Programme and measures undertaken to strengthen it;
16. Requests the Director-General to consider allocating, in view of the priorities of UNESCO, additional funds and staff support to the activities of the Information for All Programme in the budget proposal for the next biennium (35 C/5);
17. Further requests the Director-General to present to it at its 182nd session a progress report on the achievements of the Information for All Programme.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Intersectoral programme activities

16 Report by the Director-General on a refined UNESCO strategy for action on climate change (180 EX/16 Rev.; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 15,
2. Having considered document 180 EX/16 Rev.,

3. Invites the Director-General to focus the proposed action plan on areas where UNESCO has a clear comparative advantage and expertise and where there are special needs not covered by other agencies and organizations;
4. Also invites the Director-General to implement the above-mentioned plan in coordination with the existing networks and programmes;
5. Further invites the Director-General to further develop the contribution of social sciences in the action plan, *inter alia*, through the study of the social consequences of climate change;
6. Approves the refined UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change, as contained in the Annex to document 180 EX/16 Rev.

(180 EX/SR.11)

17 Amendments to the Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize
(180 EX/17 Rev. and Corr; 180 EX/2)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 25 C/Resolution 23 and 134 EX/Decision 4.4.1, 136 EX/Decision 5.5.2 and 144 EX/Decision 4.3.2 concerning the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize,
2. Having examined the document concerning the proposed amendments to the Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize (180 EX/17 Rev. and Corr),
3. Approves the revised General Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize as set out in Annex I to document 180 EX/17 Rev. and Corr.;
4. Takes note of the revised Financial Regulations of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize as set out in Annex II to document 180 EX/17 Rev. and Corr.

(180 EX/SR.11)

Institutes and centres

18 Report by the Director-General on a draft integrated comprehensive strategy for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) (180 EX/18; 180 EX/INF.11; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 34 C/Resolution 90,
2. Further recalling that in 34 C/Resolution 90, the General Conference authorized the Executive Board to adopt and apply the integrated comprehensive strategy on a preliminary basis taking into account the recommendations of the Executive Board thereon, and to submit the strategy to the General Conference at its 35th session for final approval,
3. Having examined document 180 EX/18 containing, in paragraph 12, the draft integrated comprehensive strategy for UNESCO's engagement with institutes and centres under its auspices (category 2),
4. Welcomes the preparation of the draft integrated comprehensive strategy proposed by the Director-General;

5. Invites Member States to submit written comments to the Director-General on the proposed draft integrated comprehensive strategy presented by the Director-General, for discussion at its 181st session;
6. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

19 Report by the Director-General on feasibility studies for the establishment of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (180 EX/19 Parts I-III; 180 EX/66)

I

Establishment of a centre for the sustainable management of water resources in the Caribbean island States in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 68,
2. Further recalling IHP-IC Resolution XVIII-3, adopted at the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in June 2008,
3. Having examined document 180 EX/19 Part I and its Annexes,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Dominican Republic to establish in its territory a centre for the sustainable management of water resources in the Caribbean island States under the auspices of UNESCO, in conformity with the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) outlined in document 33 C/19, as approved by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90, and in line with the guiding principles of the strategy for UNESCO water centres approved by the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP);
5. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 35th session, approve the establishment in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, of the centre for the sustainable management of water resources in the Caribbean island States as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in Annex II to document 180 EX/19 Part I.

II

Establishment of the International Centre for the Advancement of Human Rights as a category 2 centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the American Convention on Human Rights (1969), and other international and regional human rights instruments, as well as the UNESCO Strategy on Human Rights and the Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, both adopted by the General Conference at its 32nd session in October 2003,

2. Being aware of the importance of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and the preservation of memorial sites in order to prevent the repetition of past mistakes,
3. Taking note of 33 C/Resolution 90 concerning the establishment of international centres under the auspices of UNESCO, as well as of 34 C/Resolution 90,
4. Referring to 34 C/Resolution 37, by which the General Conference invited the Executive Board to decide on its behalf on the granting of category 2 status to the Centre and to authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Argentina establishing the Centre,
5. Having examined document 180 EX/19 Part II,
6. Decides to grant the status of category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO to the International Centre for the Advancement of Human Rights in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and to authorize the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in the Annex to document 180 EX/19 Part II.

III

Establishment of the Institute for African Culture and International Understanding at the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 42, in which the General Conference requested the Director-General to carry out a feasibility study for the establishment of an institute for African culture and international understanding as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO, as proposed by the Federal Government of Nigeria (34 C/40), and in which it authorized the Executive Board to finalize the process of the establishment of the institute and subsequently to request the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement once approved by the Executive Board,
2. Further recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 setting forth guidelines and criteria for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) and 34 C/Resolution 90 on the implementation of the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres approved in 33 C/Resolution 90,
3. Having considered document 180 EX/19 Part III,
4. Expresses its appreciation to the Government and people of Nigeria for the proposal to establish an institute for African culture and international understanding in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria;
5. Also expresses its appreciation to the Government and people of Nigeria for the establishment of the Centre for Black Culture and International Understanding (CBCIU) based in Osogbo, Osun State, which will play a major role in the functioning of the Institute, and invites all other relevant centres to join the institute, whatever their location, be it, federal, regional or international;
6. Thanks the Director-General for the conduct of the feasibility study (180 EX/19 Part III);
7. Decides to establish the Institute of African Culture and International Understanding (IACIU) as an institute under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);

8. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the Agreement contained in the annex to document 180 EX/19 Part III once the agreement between the Federal Government of Nigeria and the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library, as provided for in Articles 2 and 13 of Agreement, has been concluded.

(180 EX/SR.11)

20 Report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) on the activities of the Institute (180 EX/20; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article V.1(e) of the Statutes of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) (30 C/Resolution 44) and 177 EX/Decision 65,
2. Having examined the report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics on the activities of the Institute since October 2007 contained in document 180 EX/20,
3. Takes note of the achievements of the Institute in the past year and of the fact that financial and administrative implications clearly fall within the parameters of the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5 Approved);
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to be guided by the recommendations made by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics;
5. Invites the UNESCO Institute for Statistics Governing Board to report to it at its 182nd session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2010-2011 (35 C/5)

21 Preliminary proposals by the Director-General concerning the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5) (180 EX/21 Part I (A), (B) and (C); Part II (A) and (B); 180 EX/INF.19 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.20; 180 EX/INF.21 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.27)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered the preliminary proposals by the Director-General for priority fields of action for the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5) contained in documents 180 EX/21 Part II (A) and (B), the regional consultations with National Commissions and the summary of responses by Member States and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to the questionnaire by the Director-General contained in documents 180 EX/21 Part I (A), (B) and (C),
 2. Taking into account its discussions at its 180th session on the preparations for the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5),
- I
3. Guided by and building on the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4), its global priorities, overarching and strategic programme priorities, and its intersectoral orientation,
 4. Mindful of the current global financial crisis and its potential impact and the resultant need to allocate resources to priority programme activities and to implement programmes with utmost efficiency and effectiveness,

5. Conscious of the mandate of UNESCO to construct the defences of peace in the minds of men and to build a culture of peace, as enshrined in its Constitution and elaborated in document 34 C/4,
6. Underscoring the paramount need for UNESCO to concentrate and focus its action on its programme priorities,
7. Reaffirming the importance for UNESCO to accord priority in all its programmes and activities to the two global priorities of document 34 C/4, Africa and gender equality, and to allocate adequate resources to this end,
8. Reiterating its commitment to action in favour of least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), the disadvantaged segments of society, including indigenous people, and countries in post-conflict and post-disaster situations, to be carried out in all major programmes,
9. Resolved to respond to the needs and expectations of youth through focused and effective action by all major programmes,
10. Acknowledging the fundamental importance of South-South cooperation and triangular North-South-South cooperation for the attainment of UNESCO's overarching and strategic programme objectives, which makes it imperative for them to be introduced and applied in all major programmes,
11. Concurring with the strengthening of intersectorality and interdisciplinarity as a key comparative advantage of UNESCO in the contemporary world through intersectoral platforms and other forms of multisectoral engagement, especially at the field level,
12. Underlining the importance of promoting and implementing UNESCO's normative and standard-setting instruments in all its domains;
13. Recognizing the crucial role of upstream policy advice, institutional and human capacity-building, and monitoring of global and regional trends in the Organization's fields of competence,
14. Stressing that UNESCO's global strategies in the various priority areas must be sufficiently flexible so as to be able to respond to specific regional situations and needs,
15. Committed to UNESCO's contributions to United Nations system-wide reform efforts in response to the needs of Member States at the country level,
16. Emphasizing that UNESCO's field structure must be appropriate and able to deliver on the Organization's priorities, as pursued through the UNESCO reform process,
17. Recalling the unique role of the National Commissions as constituent elements of UNESCO and contributors to programme implementation at the national level,
18. Recognizing that UNESCO needs to reinforce and extend its partnerships in order to attain its objectives,
19. Underlining the central role of the full and refined application of the results-based management (RBM) approach to all activities, on the basis of a reduced number of well-articulated, meaningful and, to the extent possible, measurable expected results, as against document 34 C/5, and of provisions for effective monitoring and evaluation of programme performance,
20. Determined to enhance the visibility of UNESCO's action at the global, regional and national levels, especially through the effective implementation of its programmes,

II

21. Invites the Director-General to prepare the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5) bearing in mind the guidance given in this decision, and in particular section II, as regards programme priorities;

GLOBAL PRIORITIES

22. Reaffirms that the priority accorded to Africa and gender equality must be translated into action in all of UNESCO's fields of competence;

Africa

23. Emphasizes all provisions of document 34 C/4 concerning Africa, and stresses in particular that UNESCO needs to give priority and fresh impetus to its support for development efforts in Africa, aimed principally at meeting the major goals and international commitments, such as education for all (EFA), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and those of the African Union (AU), including the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which provide a common framework for concrete international action;
24. Calls for increased cooperation with the African Union, including NEPAD, and relevant subregional organizations;
25. Requests the Director-General to provide support to African Member States on a priority basis in all domains of the Organization, and to allocate adequate resources to programmes and activities which reflect the priority status of Africa;

Gender equality

26. Reiterates UNESCO's commitment to gender equality as a global priority of the Organization, to be implemented by integrating gender components in actions undertaken in all major programmes and through support for gender mainstreaming and related capacity-building, as envisaged in document 34 C/4 and the proposed Gender Equality Action Plan for 2008-2013;
27. Requests the Director-General to allocate to gender equality action adequate resources which reflect its priority status;

PRIORITIES FOR MAJOR PROGRAMMES

Major Programme I – Education

28. Underlining the fundamental role of education for the eradication of poverty, the attainment of all the Millennium Development Goals and the promotion of economic and social development,
29. Recalling the international commitments made to realize and accelerate the attainment of the six education for all (EFA) goals and the education-related Millennium Development Goals, and UNESCO's unique role in that regard,
30. Reaffirming UNESCO's commitment to continuing to promote quality education at all levels and lifelong learning, which are key to building equitable and sustainable knowledge societies,
31. Committed to the strengthening and promotion of South-South cooperation in all areas of education, and inviting Member States to contribute to the Special Account for South-South Cooperation in Education,

32. Emphasizing the important role of inclusive education, especially in the context of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
33. Reaffirming that UNESCO is uniquely positioned to pursue a holistic approach with respect to education systems and education reform, comprising early childhood care and education (ECCE), basic education, secondary education, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), higher education, literacy, teacher training and lifelong learning,
34. Acknowledging UNESCO's role in setting norms and standards and sharing best practices in education,
35. Underlining the centrality of the principles of non-discrimination and of equal opportunities in education expressed in UNESCO's Convention against Discrimination in Education, and encouraging the Director-General to pursue UNESCO's action in promoting and monitoring the exercise of the right to education,
36. Calling on the Director-General to intensify action at the global, regional and country levels by affirming UNESCO's lead role in the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012) and the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014),
37. Urging the Director-General to pursue the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) and the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA), and to seek ways of expanding them to cover other countries,
38. Recalling the key role of higher education in attaining national development objectives and developing knowledge societies in a globalizing world,
39. Underlining the need for UNESCO to continue to focus on teacher training,
40. Highlighting the increasing need to address secondary education in education systems, and to provide support for technical and vocational education and training (TVET),
41. Encouraging the Director-General to continue to support regional education networks and projects, such as those of the African Union (AU), the South-East Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), the E-9 initiative, the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRELAC), and similar initiatives,
42. Recommends that the Director-General, in drawing up document 35 C/5 for Major Programme I, take into account the programme priorities emphasized by the National Commissions during the regional consultations, by Member States in their replies to the Director-General's questionnaire on the preparation of document 35 C/5, and by Member States at the 180th session of the Executive Board, and especially the following key priorities:
 - global lead and coordination role for education for all (EFA) at all levels;
 - literacy;
 - education for sustainable development;
 - South-South cooperation in education;
 - secondary education and technical and vocational education and training (TVET);
 - adult education;
 - higher education;
 - teacher education and training, including the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA);

Major Programme II – Natural sciences

43. Recalling the important contribution of science, technology and innovation to sustainable development and the eradication of poverty,
44. Stressing the needs of Member States for assistance with the formulation and implementation of science, technology and innovation policies for sustainable development, and with the development of related capacities, including through support for the International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP), especially in Africa and small island developing States (SIDS),
45. Emphasizing the role of UNESCO's science programme in fostering dialogue, cooperation, capacity-building, and knowledge-sharing,
46. Underlining UNESCO's commitment to action on climate change, in particular by helping Member States to build and maintain the requisite knowledge base, and to mitigate the causes of climate change,
47. Acknowledging the leading work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in improving governance and fostering intergovernmental cooperation through ocean sciences and services, as well as its central role in providing authoritative scientific and technical information for evidence-based policy recommendations,
48. Emphasizing UNESCO's role in assisting countries with preparedness for and mitigation of natural and human-induced disasters, including those of a technological nature, as well as desertification, through policy advice, knowledge sharing, and education,
49. Bearing in mind that access to safe drinking water is of vital importance for achieving Millennium Development Goals 1 and 7, and underlining in this context the valuable contribution being made by UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP),
50. Underlining the need to reinforce UNESCO's leading role in the scientific aspects of freshwater research, capacity-building and education, including the important roles of the International Hydrological Programme, the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and the World Assessment Programme (WWAP),
51. Also underlining the role of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme in gaining and sharing knowledge on biodiversity and sustainability, as well as on eco-system management,
52. Mindful of UNESCO's contribution to earth observation systems, facilitating the monitoring of changes in land, water and oceans, and to research and capacity-building through the geosciences,
53. Emphasizing the paramount role of science and technology education for capacity-building in science, engineering and technology and recognizing the importance of curriculum-building, content and teaching,
54. Further emphasizing the significant contribution to be made by Major Programme II in support of education for sustainable development,
55. Underlining the importance of capacity-building and the sharing of best practices in the field of renewable and alternative energies in support of sustainable development,
56. Recommends that the Director-General, in drawing up document 35 C/5 for Major Programme II, take into account the programme priorities emphasized by the National Commissions during the regional consultations, by Member States in their replies to the Director-General's questionnaire on the preparation of document 35 C/5, and by

Member States at the 180th session of the Executive Board, and especially the following key priorities:

- strengthening the role of science for sustainable development through fostering policies and capacity-building in science, technology and innovation;
- supporting the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in improving the governance, management and protection of ocean and coastal areas;
- addressing climate change through the lead role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission in building the knowledge base and through contributions by other UNESCO scientific programmes;
- supporting the work of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in promoting the sustainable use of fresh water;
- promoting science education and teacher training;
- capacity-building in all areas of UNESCO's competence in natural sciences, including for disaster preparedness and mitigation;

Major Programme III – Social and human sciences

57. Recognizing that full enjoyment of and respect for human rights is a universally accepted principle, and that a focus on and promotion of human rights, in all of UNESCO's fields of competence, are central to the mandate of the Organization,
58. Mindful of the potential of social and human sciences to assist countries in responding to the complex challenges of globalization and of UNESCO's unique role in that respect,
59. Underlining the potential of philosophy to address contemporary challenges, as well as the promotion of philosophical dialogue and reflection and the teaching of philosophy to promote a culture of peace, taking into account UNESCO's experience in this domain,
60. Recognizing the need to contribute to the fight against racism, discrimination and xenophobia,
61. Reaffirming that one of UNESCO's overarching objectives is to address emerging social and ethical challenges, including, *inter alia*, those relating to youth, youth violence, migration and climate change,
62. Recommends that the Director-General, in drawing up document 35 C/5 for Major Programme III, take into account the programme priorities emphasized by the National Commissions during the regional consultations, by Member States in their replies to the Director-General's questionnaire on the preparation of document 35 C/5, and by Member States at the 180th session of the Executive Board, and especially the following key priorities:
 - promotion of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence, including the promotion of democracy and pluralism;
 - ethics of science and technology, especially bioethics;
 - implementation of the International Convention against Doping in Sport;
 - research-policy linkages on emerging critical social and ethical challenges;
 - management of social transformations (MOST);

Major Programme IV – Culture

63. Emphasizing the central role of culture for sustainable development and for the attainment of national development objectives and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,
64. Further emphasizing that cultural diversity forms a common heritage of humanity which must be preserved in order to serve as a force for dialogue, social cohesion, innovation and a culture of peace,
65. Acknowledging the vital role of creativity and cultural interaction, as recognized through a number of international legal principles enshrined in international UNESCO conventions in the field of culture,
66. Stressing that special attention needs to be paid to the protection of cultural heritage in danger, especially in countries in conflict, post-conflict and post-disaster situations,
67. Emphasizing the importance of the promotion and implementation of the conventions in the field of culture and the need to provide adequate human resources for the servicing of these conventions,
68. Highlighting the value of languages as symbols of identity and the reflection of various world views, and as concrete tools for communication and mutual understanding, and the importance of endangered languages,
69. Reaffirming the importance of the Slave Route project and its role in the preservation of memory for combating prejudice, developing intercultural skills, and highlighting shared values,
70. Recognizing the importance of arts education, both as a component of quality education and as a means to develop cognitive and creative capacities,
71. Underscoring the need to strengthen cultural and creative industries, notably in developing countries, with a view to fostering the emergence of local, viable markets and accessing international networks,
72. Stressing the importance of promoting community-based cultural tourism which contributes to sustainable development, notably through the preservation of cultural heritage, especially in Africa,
73. Recommends that the Director-General, in drawing up document 35 C/5 for Major Programme IV, take into account the programme priorities emphasized by the National Commissions during the regional consultations, by Member States in their replies to the Director-General's questionnaire on the preparation of document 35 C/5, and by Member States at the 180th session of the Executive Board, and especially the following key priorities:
 - the role of culture in promoting sustainable development;
 - implementation of the conventions in the field of culture, with special emphasis on the 1972, 2003 and 2005 conventions;
 - promotion of dialogue among civilizations and cultures and the fostering of a culture of peace;
 - promotion of languages and multilingualism;

Major Programme V – Communication and information

74. Emphasizing UNESCO's role in helping Member States to build inclusive knowledge societies,
75. Committed to the follow-up to the relevant action lines of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action at the global, regional and country levels,
76. Reaffirming the importance of freedom of expression as a fundamental human right and as a prerequisite for the exercise and promotion of other rights, as well as the building of inclusive knowledge societies,
77. Stressing that press freedom and freedom of information as well as the development of independent and pluralistic media are essential elements of good governance, democracy and sustainable development,
78. Underscoring the need for UNESCO to support Member States in adopting policies and building capacities to foster access to information and the development of communication, which are essential for inclusive knowledge societies, in particular through support for the Information for All Programme (IFAP), including its Strategic Plan, and the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC),
79. Underlining the importance of the multiplier effect resulting from the use of media and ICTs for the development of education, media and information literacy, the dissemination of scientific information as well as for the promotion of mutual understanding and intercultural dialogue,
80. Recommends that the Director-General, in drawing up document 35 C/5 for Major Programme V, take into account the programme priorities emphasized by the National Commissions during the regional consultations, by Member States in their replies to the Director-General's questionnaire on the preparation of document 35 C/5, and by Member States at the 180th session of the Executive Board, and especially the following key priorities:
 - promote freedom of expression and press freedom, media independence and pluralism;
 - provide access to information and knowledge through media and ICTs, including through the Information for All Programme (IFAP);
 - development of communication, especially through a strengthened International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC);
 - promote the use of media and ICTs as multipliers for action by the entire Organization, in particular for teacher training;
 - follow up the relevant action lines of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action;

Intersectoral platforms

81. Recognizes that the 12 intersectoral platforms introduced in document 34 C/5 as a new modality for programme implementation are important tools for attaining the relevant expected results of the major programmes concerned, namely:
 - Priority Africa;
 - foresight and anticipation;
 - science education;
 - HIV and AIDS;

- education for sustainable development (ESD);
- implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for SIDS;
- fostering ICT-enhanced learning;
- strengthening national research systems;
- languages and multilingualism;
- contributing to the dialogue among civilizations and cultures and a culture of peace;
- support to countries in post-conflict and disaster situations;
- UNESCO action to address climate change.

82. Invites the Director-General, in the light of the experience gained in 2008, and taking into account the discussions by the Executive Board at its 180th session, to make specific proposals in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 on action to be pursued through intersectoral platforms and on the budgets and modalities proposed for their implementation, clearly identifying their administrative and financial impact;
83. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the strategies and expected results for these intersectoral platforms and the funds earmarked for this modality under the major programmes concerned add value to the attainment of the objectives and expected results of those major programmes as included in draft document 35 C/5;
84. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the Secretariat implement the programme in an intersectoral manner through other approaches and modalities, as appropriate, including for issues such as arts education;

III

85. Invites the Director-General, in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5) which he will present to the Executive Board at its 181st session, to formulate proposed titles for the biennial sectoral priorities (BSPs) and the main lines of action (MLAs) which are action-oriented and reflect fully and clearly the principal programme priorities identified by the present decision, thereby enabling the Executive Board and its Drafting Group to conduct a full review at the 181st session.

IV

Budgetary issues

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 175 EX/Decision 21 and 34 C/Resolution 92,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/21 Part II (B),
3. Recognizing the need to make further improvements in the Organization in order to implement a results-based budgeting approach as a methodology to achieve increased budget transparency and accountability, and as a means of significantly enhancing the governance function of Member States by involving them more effectively in the programme and budget process;
4. Notes the need to maintain the overall purchasing power of the Organization in order to fulfil the main objectives and priorities established in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4 Approved);
5. Also notes that the Director-General has proposed a single budget scenario of \$671 million;

6. Invites the Director-General, when preparing the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011, to:
- (a) reinforce the resources allocated to programmes, taking into account the discussions held at the 180th session of the Executive Board regarding priorities and the need to focus on the core mandate of the Organization;
 - (b) continue to undertake effective rationalization of financial resources, in particular resources allocated to central services and parts of the budget other than Part II.A;
 - (c) identify the proposed activities and projects implemented during the current biennium that will continue to be carried out in the period 2010-2011, making the appropriate adjustments or reorientation, taking into consideration the decisions taken by the General Conference and the Executive Board in respect of the relevant findings and recommendations of the evaluation and audit reports on such activities;
 - (d) submit an indicative list of the new activities, with time-frames, under each main line of action that will be carried out to implement the proposed objectives and priorities foreseen in document 35 C/5;
 - (e) ensure that all costs associated with programme delivery, such as the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), integrated management systems, results-based management, periodic programme evaluation, Headquarters renovation and maintenance, security staff, and field offices, are clearly identified and accommodated within the regular budget in order to ensure efficient delivery of the programme and the achievement of UNESCO's objectives without affecting the priority given to the reinforcement of the resources allocated to programmes;
7. Requests the Director-General to undertake a study of the needs and challenges involved in achieving results-based budgeting in the Organization, and present the findings to the Executive Board at its 182nd session;
8. Further requests the Director-General to present draft document 35 C/5 to it at its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.12)

METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

22 Follow-up to 33 C/Resolution 92 and 34 C/Resolution 88 concerning relations between the three organs of UNESCO (180 EX/22 and Add.-Add-2; 180 EX/INF.14; 180 EX/64)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/22 and Add.-Add.2 and 180 EX/INF.14,
2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 92 and 179 EX/Decision 18, paragraphs 11 and 12,
3. Noting that in accordance with 175 EX/Decision 23, paragraph 8, joint meetings of the Programme and External Relations (PX) and Finance and Administrative (FA) Commissions have been successfully held on a trial basis since its 175th session,

4. Recognizing that as an acknowledgement of their usefulness and effectiveness, there is broad support for continuing the joint meetings,
5. Reaffirming that formal continuation of the joint meetings should not, in any way, be interpreted as a prelude to the merger of the PX and FA Commissions,
6. Decides to continue the joint meetings of the PX and FA Commissions as a formal method of work of the Executive Board, while maintaining the present structure and division of functions of the PX and FA Commissions;
7. Further decides to continue to streamline the organization of the joint meetings, refine the criteria for allocation of agenda items, and establish a procedure for the examination of agenda items at the joint meetings of the Commissions to ensure that both programmatic and external relations and financial and administrative aspects are fully considered.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/22 and 180 EX/INF.14,
2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 92, 34 C/Resolution 88 and 179 EX/Decision 18,
3. Welcomes the progress made in implementing 33 C/Resolution 92;
4. Notes that some recommendations are still under implementation;
5. Considers that recommendations 15, 18 and 22 have been appropriately implemented;
6. Decides to evaluate the experience of holding thematic debates at its 182nd session;
7. Also decides to examine the status of the remaining recommendations at its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.10)

23 Consideration by the Executive Board of the criteria for holding private meetings (180 EX/23 and Add.; 180 EX/64)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/23 and Add.,
2. Recalling recommendation 17 contained in 33 C/Resolution 92, 175 EX/Decision 23, paragraph 11, and 179 EX/Decision 18 concerning the consideration by the Executive Board of the criteria for holding private meetings,
3. Recalling the debate at its 180th session, in which it was emphasized that, as a general rule, all meetings should be public except for rare occasions requiring confidentiality,
4. Notes that the rules and practices concerning private meetings are inconsistent in some cases;
5. Invites the Chair of the Executive Board to consult with the Members of the Executive Board on the criteria for private meetings;

6. Requests the Director-General, based on the results of the consultations undertaken by the Chair of the Executive Board plus an examination of the rules and practices concerning private meetings in other United Nations agencies, to present proposals to it at its 181st session for amending the Rules of its Rules of Procedure pertaining to private meetings, particularly Rule 29 and Rule 59;
7. Encourages the Director-General and the Chair of the Executive Board to ensure that the Rules concerning the holding of private meetings are observed.

(180 EX/SR.10)

24 Consideration by the Executive Board of the criteria for the selection of agenda items to be referred to the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters, and the methods of work of the Group of Experts (180 EX/24 and Add.-Add.2; 180 EX/64; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/24 and Add.-Add.2,
2. Recalling 137 EX/Decision 8.6, 142 EX/Decision 3.1.3, 143 EX/Decision 9.1, 144 EX/Decision 6.10, 148 EX/Decision 5.7, 153 EX/Decision 5.6, 158 EX/Decision 5.6, 163 EX/Decision 5.6, 168 EX/Decision 5.6, 173 EX/Decision 10 and 178 EX/Decision 10 on the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters,
3. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 19, paragraph 6, which contains the revised terms of reference and methods of work of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters,
4. Referring to 179 EX/Decision 19, paragraph 9, in which it decided that guidelines for the criteria for the selection of agenda items to be referred to the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters and the working methods of its meetings would be further considered at its 180th session,
5. Recognizing that the request to the Director-General to clearly indicate the financial and administrative implications of every agenda item has only partly been implemented for the 180th session of the Executive Board,
6. Taking into account the clear intention of Member States to have the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters support the overall work of the Executive Board by examining from a strictly technical point of view the administrative and financial issues referred to it,

I

Agenda items to be referred to the Group of Experts

7. Requests the Director-General to further improve the information about the financial and administrative implications of every agenda item;
8. Decides that the Chair of the Executive Board, in consultation with the Chair of the Finance and Administrative Commission and the Chair of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters should refer to the Group of Experts for examination the agenda items concerning the following issues, whose technical, administrative and financial implications should be identified, closely reviewed and better evaluated to assist the Commission's work:

- (a) process and methodology for planning, programming and budgeting;
- (b) programme budget and performance assessment reports;
- (c) the Organization's accounts and accounting systems, any proposed changes to the Organization's financial regulations, interim and annual financial reports, and audited financial statements taken together with the report of the External Auditor;
- (d) the Organization's human resources policies, staff regulations, and any proposed changes thereto;
- (e) the operation of the Organization's pension and health insurance systems and proposals to reform or update them;
- (f) the Organization's efforts relating to the collection of assessed contributions and the encouragement and management of extrabudgetary contributions;
- (g) the Organization's procurement policies and its policies with regard to the hiring of contractors and the recruitment of staff;
- (h) the Organization's information management systems;
- (i) the Organization's efforts to manage and use effectively its field offices and category 1 institutes as well as the financial and administrative aspects associated with category 2 institutes/centres;
- (j) reports on the activities of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS), the External Auditor, the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), and other relevant reports;
- (k) any other administrative and financial matters that the Chairs of the Executive Board, Finance and Administrative Commission and the Group of Experts jointly decide to refer to the Group of Experts for technical examination to assist the work of the Commission;

II

Working methods of meetings

9. Also decides that the meetings of the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters should adhere to the following methods of work:
- (a) it shall be the duty and responsibility of the Chair of the Group of Experts to ensure that the experts' discussion is in line with their mandate, and to prevent any deviation therefrom;
 - (b) members of the Group of Experts and of the Secretariat with responsibility for the issues under consideration shall be given the floor at meetings of the Group of Experts;
 - (c) the floor may be given to Member State observers during discussions, but never during the examination of the report or of draft decisions unless the Chair, after consultation with the Group of Experts, so agrees;
 - (d) presentations made by members of the Secretariat to the Group of Experts should be limited to a predetermined time frame;

- (e) the length of the meetings of the Group of Experts shall be appropriately determined according to the nature of its programme of work;
- (f) the Group of Experts shall adopt its report by consensus, and submit it to the Finance and Administrative Commission for consideration. Such report shall include the questions raised by the Group of Experts, the additional information submitted by the Secretariat and, if appropriate, clearly worded and technically justified recommendations to assist the Finance and Administrative Commission in finalizing its draft decisions;
- (g) such recommendations shall be submitted to the Finance and Administrative Commission only when approved by the Group of Experts by consensus.

(180 EX/SR.11)

25 Report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium (35 C/3) (180 EX/25 and Add.; 180 EX/64)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/25 and Add.,
2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 78, 33 C/Resolution 92, 176 EX/Decision 29, 177 EX/Decision 46 Part II, 34 C/Resolution 89, 179 EX/Decision 21, and document 34 C/9 Part II,
3. Underlining the need to improve the EX/4 reports on programme execution, as requested in 34 C/Resolution 89 and 179 EX/Decision 21,
4. Recognizing that document 180 EX/4 meets this request only partially,
5. Underlining the importance of the report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium (35 C/3) for the preparation of document 35 C/5,
6. Emphasizing that the report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium (35 C/3) relies to a large extent on the ability of the Executive Board to make explicit decisions on the EX/4 reports,
7. Reiterates its invitation to the Director-General to continue improving the EX/4 reports to enable the Executive Board to prepare a substantive and meaningful report;
8. Requests the Director-General to present a preliminary draft report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium as early as possible before its 181st session;
9. Invites the Director-General, when preparing the preliminary draft, to use the guidance provided in 176 EX/Decision 29, as well as in document 34 C/9 Part II, building especially on the decisions of the Board regarding programme delivery (including financial aspects), main trends in the general policy debate, evidence-based analysis of achievements against expected results and performance indicators, and challenges and lessons learnt;
10. Decides to take that preliminary draft into consideration in the examination of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5) at its 181st session, as an experimental approach to the continued implementation of results-based management in UNESCO;

11. Further decides to consider, at its 181st session, how the report by the Executive Board on the implementation of document 34 C/5 with results achieved in the previous biennium (35 C/3) might be finalized by its 182nd session.

(180 EX/SR.10)

26 Report by the Executive Board on its own activities, including its methods of work: the format of its report to the General Conference (180 EX/26 and Add.-Add.2; 180 EX/64)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/26 and Add.-Add.2,
2. Recalling 156 EX/Decision 5.5, 30 C/Resolution 81, 33 C/Resolution 78, 33 C/Resolution 92, 177 EX/Decision 46 Part I, 179 EX/Decision 22, and document 34 C/9 Part I,
3. Emphasizing that the written report by the Executive Board on its own activities, including its methods of work, should provide a concise and objective overview of the most important elements of the Board's work in the current biennium,
4. Decides that it will consider at its 182nd session a draft report, preferably not exceeding six pages, prepared by its Chair, and, if necessary, in consultation with the Director-General;
5. Also decides to continue using the format of reporting that was used for the previous biennium (34 C/9 Parts I and II), where the Board's report on its activities and its report on the implementation of the current programme and budget with results achieved in the previous biennium were presented to the General Conference as two parts of a single document;
6. Further decides to entitle the document containing the two reports "Reports by the Executive Board on its activities and on programme implementation".

(180 EX/SR.10)

27 Report by the Director-General on evaluations completed in 2008 (180 EX/27 and Add.; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 20,
2. Having examined documents 180 EX/27 and Add., which summarize the evaluation reports that have been presented,
3. Taking note of the recommendations made by the evaluators as well as the report of the Director-General on the actions taken or to be taken to implement these recommendations,
4. Invites the Director-General to implement in a timely manner recommendations which improve the programmes and services to which they relate, and to continue to improve the quality of evaluations by implementing the UNESCO Evaluation Strategy;

5. Requests the Director-General to continue to report to it on evaluations conducted on the Organization's programme activities and on the progress made in strengthening programme management, following up evaluation recommendations for each programme evaluated, and strengthening the quality of the evaluations undertaken and their impact on the management culture of the Organization.

(180 EX/SR.11)

28 Consideration of the procedure to be followed for the nomination of the Director-General of the Organization (180 EX/PRIV.1 Rev.; 180 EX/PRIV.3; 180 EX/28)

The Executive Board, after consideration of this item, approved the procedure as set out in document 180 EX/28 as amended.

(180 EX/SR.6 and 7)

MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

29 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon (180 EX/CR/HR and Add.-Add.3; 180 EX/3 PRIV. Draft and Add. and Corr.; 180 EX/CR/2)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject in a private meeting.

Methods of work of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR): question of the participation of observers in the private meetings of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (180 EX/CR/2; 180 EX/63)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 19 C/Resolution 6.113, 19 C/Resolution 12.1 and 104 EX/Decision 3.3, on the second aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) on the examination of communications relating to cases and questions concerning the exercise of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/CR/2 as well as the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations on the matter (180 EX/63),
3. Confirms that, given the private nature of the meetings of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations, Members of the Board who are not members of the Committee refrain from attending the Committee's meetings when it is considering communications, as is the practice of the Committee;
4. Decides to take note of the improvements made by the Committee to its practice as set out in paragraph 7 of the report of the Committee (180 EX/63) and annexed to the present decision;
5. Also decides to grant to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations an extra half day at its 181st session in order to continue the examination of its methods of work.

ANNEX

Improvements in the practice of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations

(new paragraphs of document 179 EX/CR/2 in bold)

“The special character of the meetings of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR)

35. The concern for effectiveness in the search for an amicable solution means that communications are examined in the strictest confidence, in the Committee and also in the Board when it examines the report of the Committee. Nothing has ever been done to make public cases that have been considered and/or settled. Nevertheless, the Board has, on occasion, examined a communication in public meeting at the Committee’s request.

36. **Members of the Board who are not members of the Committee shall refrain from attending the Committee’s meetings when it is considering communications, in accordance with paragraph 14(c) of 104 EX/Decision 3.3. This custom, based on a well-established practice of the Board, shall be drawn to the attention of all the Members of the Board at the first session following the renewal of the membership of the Executive Board and of the Committee.**

37. **Members of the Board not members of the Committee who, exceptionally, wish to have observer status shall submit their request in writing to the Chair of the Committee, who shall transmit it to the Committee for examination. In the exceptional case when an observer is thus admitted to one of its meetings, such observer shall be present neither for the private discussions leading to a decision on a communication nor for the adoption of the decisions.”**

(180 EX/SR.9)

30 Draft amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRELAC) (180 EX/30; 180 EX/68 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 16, in which it was decided to authorize the Executive Board to approve, on a one-time provisional basis at its 179th session, taking into account the report adopted by the Second Meeting of Ministers of Education (PRELAC II), the amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRELAC) in order to facilitate the continuity of its work, and in which the General Conference requested the Executive Board to submit those amendments to the General Conference at its 35th session for final review and approval,
2. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 26 in which it invited the Director-General to prepare, as soon as possible, a revised document on the amendments to the Statutes of the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean, in consultation with the Member States of the Latin America and the Caribbean region, for approval at its 180th session,
3. Having examined document 180 EX/30,
4. Having reviewed and found acceptable the amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Regional Education Project for Latin America and the Caribbean prepared following an extensive consultation process with

the countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean group (GRULAC) as set out in the Annex to document 180 EX/30,

5. Decides to approve, on a one-time provisional basis, these amendments;
6. Also decides to submit these amendments to the General Conference at its 35th session for final review and approval.

(180 EX/SR.11)

31 Monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments (180 EX/31; 180 EX/63)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1, 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 32 C/Resolution 77, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21, 175 EX/Decision 28, 176 EX/Decision 33, 177 EX/Decision 35 Parts I and II and 34 C/Resolution 87, relating to the first aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR), which concerns the implementation of UNESCO's standard-setting instruments,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/31 and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations thereon (180 EX/63),
3. Reminds Member States that they are required to fulfil their legal obligations under Article VIII of the Constitution of UNESCO regarding periodic reports on the action taken upon conventions and recommendations;
4. Notes with satisfaction the first steps taken by the Secretariat to implement the new procedures adopted at its 177th session on the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is foreseen;
5. Invites the Director-General to ensure the implementation of this new legal framework by the programme sectors responsible for the conventions and recommendations monitored by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations;
6. Requests the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations to continue to examine this item at its 181st session, and accordingly decides to grant it an extra working day.

(180 EX/SR.9)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

32 Proposals concerning the organization of the work of the 35th session of the General Conference (180 EX/32; 180 EX/INF.3 and Corr. (*Corr. in French only*); 180 EX/INF.22; 180 EX/64)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/32,
2. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 92, 34 C/Resolution 88 and 179 EX/Decision 27,
3. Noting with appreciation the report by the President of the 34th session of the General Conference contained in 180 EX/INF.3 and its valuable inputs to ensure a more

efficient functioning of the General Conference in future, and the harmonious interaction between the three organs of UNESCO,

4. Taking note of the letter from the Director-General contained in 180 EX/INF.22,
5. Invites the Director-General to take the report into consideration and envisage incorporating those elements of the report which could beneficially be utilized in his preparation of the draft plan for the organization of the 35th session of the General Conference, to be presented at the 181st session of the Executive Board, which *inter alia*, should:
 - (a) ensure to the maximum extent possible that all documents, including timetables and agendas, are distributed as early as possible;
 - (b) propose principles for chairing the work of all commissions (speaking time, speakers' list, written amendments, etc.) and improved arrangements for preparatory assistance to the Chairs nominated;
 - (c) present a clear procedure on how draft resolutions involving more than one commission should be dealt with;
 - (d) propose the mandate and methods of work of the interdisciplinary meeting, specifying clearly its role and responsibilities;
 - (e) propose ways to improve the general policy debate;
 - (f) provide proposals to improve the organization and conduct of ministerial events, including purpose, themes, format and visibility;
 - (g) provide proposals for a more strategic and targeted planning of side events, in particular the Youth Forum and the Civil Society Forum;
 - (h) include plans for communication aimed at improving the visibility of the General Conference;
 - (i) with respect to communications with Member States on the organization of the General Conference, give timely consideration to active consultation with their National Commissions, especially in the case of Member States which do not have a Permanent Delegation at UNESCO;
 - (j) ensure strict application of the rules concerning the admissibility of draft resolutions;
6. Decides:
 - (a) to encourage Member States to propose qualified candidates to serve as Chairs and other officers of the commissions, who shall be nominated by it at its 181st session;
 - (b) to examine at its 181st and 182nd sessions, when planning the work of the General Conference, which items may be recommended for adoption without debate by the General Conference, unless otherwise requested by a Member State;

- (c) to encourage Member States to comply with the requirements to specify in draft resolutions relating to the Draft Programme and Budget the source of funding envisaged for the amendment to the draft programme by indicating what other parts of the budget should be correspondingly reduced.

(180 EX/SR.9)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

33 **Financial report and audited financial statements of UNESCO for the period ended 31 December 2007, and report by the External Auditor** (180 EX/33 Part I Rev. and Part II; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article 12.10 of the Financial Regulations,
2. Having examined documents 180 EX/33 Part I Rev. and Part II,
3. Expresses its appreciation to the External Auditor for the high standard of his work;
4. Notes the opinion of the External Auditor that the financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNESCO as at 31 December 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the two-year financial period then ended, and that they were prepared in accordance with the stated accounting policies, which were applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding financial period;
5. Also takes note of the External Auditor's view that internal oversight in the Organization should be strengthened;
6. Further takes note of the unobligated balances in Statement IV by appropriation line, and approves the expenditure as reported;
7. Invites the Director-General to report in tabular format on the implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor to the General Conference at its 35th session and to submit this report to the Executive Board at its 182nd session for prior review;
8. Further invites the Director-General to complete the ongoing inventory of works of art of UNESCO, to appraise the value of these works of art, and to include such appraisal in the notes to the Financial Statements;
9. Decides to transmit to the General Conference the report by the External Auditor and the audited financial statements of UNESCO for the period ended 31 December 2007.

(180 EX/SR.11)

34 **Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and the likely implications thereof on changes to the Financial Regulations** (180 EX/34; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 71, in which the General Conference approved the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) as the accounting standards for UNESCO with effect from 1 January 2010, and requested the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 180th session a preliminary proposal of an action plan including a timetable for the implementation of IPSAS and possible amendments required to the Financial Regulations,

2. Having examined document 180 EX/34,
3. Takes note of the work already performed by the United Nations system and UNESCO (Annexes I, II and III to document 180 EX/34), in particular with regard to the substantive technical review of the accounting standards which was conducted by UNESCO's dedicated project team, using a harmonized United Nations system-wide approach;
4. Further takes note of the shortfall of \$684,000 in the budget for the IPSAS project and of the Director-General's intention either to obtain additional funds from extrabudgetary sources or to find savings in the current biennium budget to finance the IPSAS project;
5. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session a progress report on the implementation of the action plan, including any proposed amendments to the Financial Regulations.

(180 EX/SR.11)

35 Report by the Director-General on alternative funding mechanisms for unfunded liabilities of staff benefits (180 EX/35; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 73 requesting the Director-General to undertake an actuarial study on unfunded liabilities of staff benefits and to propose alternative funding mechanisms for that purpose,
2. Recalling also United Nations General Assembly resolution 61/264 concerning the liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits,
3. Having examined document 180 EX/35,
4. Takes note of the background information provided in document 180 EX/35 and in particular the development and progress made by the United Nations in identifying sources of funding for employee benefits;
5. Also takes note of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) requirement for the Organization to recognize the employee benefits liability for the first time in its financial statements, effective 1 January 2010, and notes that this requirement applies irrespective of whether such liabilities are funded or not;
6. Acknowledges that by full recognition of this liability, the accounts of the Organization will show a significant overall negative equity;
7. Recognizes the complexity of the issue and the significant amount of liabilities, and requests the Director-General to prepare a comprehensive report which includes:
 - (a) detailed information regarding the proposals for possible funding mechanisms for UNESCO after-service health insurance scheme;
 - (b) disaggregated information in order to identify specifically the sources of the accrued after-service health insurance benefit liabilities;
8. Invites the Director-General to present the said report to it at its 184th session, in the light of the debate at the 180th session and the decisions taken in the United Nations system.

(180 EX/SR.11)

36 Report by the Director-General on the status of contributions of Member States and of payment plans (180 EX/36 and Add.; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 02 concerning all payment plans agreed upon between UNESCO and Member States in arrears with their contributions,
2. Having examined documents 180 EX/36 and Add., and having taken note of the up-to-date information provided during the debate of the Financial and Administrative Commission at its 180th session,
3. Expresses its gratitude to Member States that have paid their contributions for the year 2008 and to those which have made efforts to reduce their arrears in response to appeals;
4. Notes that the efforts made by some Member States have not been sufficient to prevent recourse to internal borrowing from October to December 2007 to supplement the resources of the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of financing the programme;
5. Recalls that the prompt payment of contributions is an obligation incumbent on Member States under the Constitution and the Financial Regulations of the Organization;
6. Strongly supports the approaches the Director-General is continuing to make to Member States with a view to obtaining timely payment of contributions;
7. Urgently appeals to those Member States that are behind with the payment of their contributions to pay their arrears without delay;
8. Urgently appeals, more specifically, to those Member States that are in arrears on payment plans to settle their outstanding instalments at the earliest possible time as well as their regular assessed contributions, bearing in mind the risk of loss of voting rights that may otherwise ensue at the 35th session of the General Conference;
9. Urges Member States, on receipt of the Director-General's request for payment of assessed contributions, to inform him, as promptly as possible, of the probable date, amount and method of payment of the forthcoming contribution in order to facilitate his management of the Organization's treasury function;
10. Notes in particular the failure of 15 Member States to pay, by the end of June 2008, the amounts due by them against payment plans approved by the General Conference for settlement of their accumulated arrears in instalments, in addition to the current year's contributions;
11. Recalls the request of the General Conference to the Director-General to report to it at thereon its 35th session;
12. Requests the Director-General to compile information on the measures or incentives put in place by other United Nations organizations to overcome the problem of arrears, and to report to it at its 182nd session on his findings thereon.

(180 EX/SR.11)

37 Report by the Director-General on the management of extrabudgetary resources and activities (180 EX/37; 180 EX/INF.5; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/33 Parts I Rev. and II, 180 EX/37 and 180 EX/INF.5,
2. Recalling 161 EX/Decision 7.4, 162 EX/Decision 7.10, 164 EX/Decision 6.3, 166 EX/Decision 8.7, 33 C/Resolution 92, 169 EX/Decision 6.7, 175 EX/Decision 36, 176 EX/Decision 43, 177 EX/Decision 51 and 34 C/Resolution 72,
3. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review requesting that “the executive boards ... ensure that core resources do not subsidize the projects undertaken through non-core/supplementary/extrabudgetary funding”,
4. Recognizing the role of extrabudgetary contributions to achieving UNESCO’s objectives, taking note of the additional programme of targeted/projected extrabudgetary activities as a first step towards more upfront and strategic programming of extrabudgetary activities, and expressing appreciation of those that are contributing to the additional programme,
5. Reaffirming that the regular budget should continue to be the bedrock of financing the core mandate of UNESCO,
6. Underlining the principles of transparency and accountability governing the use of support cost income,
7. Welcoming the specific waiver granted by the Director-General of UNESCO to the Special Account for South-South Cooperation in Education,
8. Recalling the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review, especially section II “Funding for operational activities of the United Nations development system” on the importance of predictable, non-earmarked and multi-year funding,
9. Further recalling the “Report by the External Auditor on the performance audits undertaken in the 2002-2003 biennium” (169 EX/29) which states that “... the level of extrabudgetary funds that are used to support regular budget activities and vice versa is not clear ...”,
10. Taking into account recommendation 6 of the Joint Inspection Unit report on “Support costs related to extrabudgetary activities in organizations of the United Nations system” (JIU/REP/2002/3) which states that “Executive Heads of the organizations ... should explore the possibility of including, as direct and internal project or programme costs, identifiable elements presently covered by percentage-based support-cost charges”,
11. Also recalling recommendation 8 of the Joint Inspection Unit report (JIU/REP/2002/3) on exceptional support cost rates within the context of a well-defined cost recovery policy,
12. Taking note of the lead role taken by UNESCO, in the framework of the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) Finance and Budget Network, to harmonize cost recovery policies among United Nations organizations,

13. Welcoming the Director-General's decision to introduce and implement a cost recovery policy that recognizes the principle of true cost recovery in accordance with the triennial comprehensive policy review,
14. Taking note of the Guidelines on the Cost Recovery Policy and Budgetary Aspects of Extrabudgetary Projects, and acknowledging the first efforts made in order to clearly identify the direct costs and the indirect fixed and variable costs of the extrabudgetary activities, and to include all identifiable support functions in the direct project costs,
15. Invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue his efforts to improve the delivery of extrabudgetary activities while maintaining the effectiveness of the regular programme delivery;
 - (b) to review the proposed additional programme of targeted/projected extrabudgetary activities in order to achieve further concentration on the highest strategic priorities based on realistic delivery capacity and better alignment both with UNESCO's strategic programme objectives and priorities and with the beneficiary countries' needs and priorities;
 - (c) to further develop the Guidelines on the Cost Recovery Policy and Budgetary Aspects of Extrabudgetary Projects based on a well-defined support cost measurement methodology, including clear identification and definition of costs, so that identifiable elements covered by percentage-based support-cost charges are charged as appropriate as direct costs to the projects, and the programme support costs standard rate is adjusted accordingly, and direct costs and indirect variable costs are not charged twice;
 - (d) to continue to strengthen the monitoring of the implementation of all extrabudgetary activities by including these activities in SISTER and FABS under the relevant MLAs and by regular reporting against the corresponding expected results;
 - (e) to continue efforts to establish a well-defined support cost policy;
 - (f) to present to it at its 181st session UNESCO's cost recovery policy, taking into account planned and ongoing efforts for harmonization on this issue within the United Nations system and the results of the cost measurement study that is being conducted by the Secretariat.

(180 EX/SR.11)

38 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Participation Programme and emergency assistance (180 EX/38; 180 EX/INF.6; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered documents 180 EX/38 and 180 EX/INF.6,
2. Takes note of their contents.

(180 EX/SR.11)

[39 Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda: see the footnote in document 180 EX/1.

40 Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor and performance audits 2006-2007 on UNESCO's publication activities and procurement policies and procedures (180 EX/40 Parts I and II; 180 EX/66)

I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 31(I),
2. Having examined document 180 EX/40 Part I,
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for having expedited action to implement 179 EX/Decision 31(I) and the recommendations by the External Auditor contained in document 179 EX/31 Part I "Performance audits 2006-2007: report on UNESCO's publication activities";
4. Takes note of the Publication and Distribution Plan 2008-2009 presented in the Annex to document 180 EX/40 Part I;
5. Notes that the measures taken by the Director-General and the provisions of the Publication and Distribution Plan for 2008-2009 are for the moment only partially in line with the concerns expressed by the Member States;
6. Notes in particular and with concern that the Plan does not yet include a distribution plan;
7. Invites the Director-General to subject all publication activities intended for the public to procedures which ensure relevance, quality and adequate distribution, as well as the necessary linguistic balance, through the completion, dissemination and implementation of the set of guidelines that are being prepared by the Committee on Communication and Public Information, and in doing so to make a clear distinction between publications that are for sale and those that are free of charge;
8. Also invites the Director-General to have a staff capacity evaluation undertaken by the Internal Oversight Service to assess the ability of permanent and temporary staff across the Organization to ensure quality publications and the appropriate distribution thereof, and to take the findings of this evaluation into consideration when presenting the staffing needs for document 35 C/5;
9. Further invites the Director-General to revise the Publication and Distribution Plan 2008-2009 as well as the plan that has been made available on the Intranet so that both meet all criteria of 179 EX/Decision 31(I) and to make the online plan available on the Internet;
10. Requests the Director-General to present the revised Publication and Distribution Plan 2008-2009 to it at its 181st session;
11. Invites the External Auditor to include in his regular follow-up reports the progress achieved on this matter.

II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 176 EX/Decision 39, 177 EX/Decision 53 and 179 EX/Decision 31(III),
2. Having examined document 180 EX/40 Part II,

3. Takes note of the progress made by the Director-General in the implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor and of 176 EX/Decision 39, 177 EX/Decision 53 and 179 EX/Decision 31(III);
4. Considers that the Director-General has responded to the outstanding elements of the External Auditor's report and requests the Director-General to obtain confirmation from the External Auditor that he agrees that his response is comprehensive and complete.

(180 EX/SR.11)

RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

41 Relations with international non-governmental organizations, foundations and similar institutions (180 EX/41; 180 EX/65)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 174 EX/Decision 31, 177 EX/Decision 57, 34 C/Resolution 59 and 178 EX/Decision 13, as well as United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/208 reproduced in document 179 EX/INF.11,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/41,
3. Considering that the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights under the theme "Dignity and justice for all of us" should give impetus to UNESCO's endeavours to further strengthen the human rights dimension in all its activities and consolidate a universal culture of human rights, calls for strengthened cooperation between UNESCO and NGOs with a view to better promoting and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration;
4. Stresses the importance of human rights education for promoting and safeguarding values such as peace, equality, tolerance and respect for human dignity, and with a view to achieving these goals, underlines the need to strengthen partnerships with NGOs in all learning environments;
5. Recalling the importance of access to information as a vital component for the exercise of the right to education and freedom of expression, which are essential for democracy, good governance and citizens' empowerment, emphasizes the particular contribution played by NGOs in this field;
6. Welcomes the continued efforts of the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations in the context of the revitalization and strengthening of cooperation with NGOs;
7. Encourages UNESCO to follow up the ongoing process of United Nations system-wide reform, with a view to continuing to facilitate the consultative mechanisms between civil society and the United Nations Development Group, both at the global and the country levels;
8. Requests the Director-General to ensure that UNESCO field offices facilitate the participation of National Commissions and civil society organizations in programme design and implementation in accordance with national policies and priorities;
9. Further requests the Director-General to identify extrabudgetary funds to contribute to the United Nations civil society trust fund.

(180 EX/SR.10)

42 Relations with the Eurasian Economic Community (EURASEC) and Memorandum of Understanding between UNESCO and that interregional organization (180 EX/42 and Corr. (Corr. in English only); 180 EX/2)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/42 and Corr.,
2. Approves the draft memorandum of understanding contained in Annex II to document 180 EX/42;
3. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of UNESCO.

(180 EX/SR.1)

43 Report by the Director-General concerning a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire (180 EX/43; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 52 on strengthening cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire, 34 C/Resolution 60 on the preparation of a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire, and 179 EX/Decision 38,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/43,
3. Stressing the need to continue to support the efforts of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to promote stability, reconciliation and the consolidation of peace, in particular during the current pre-electoral period,
4. Welcomes the highly consultative procedure initiated by the Director-General;
5. Requests the Director-General to identify resources under the regular programme and mobilize extrabudgetary resources to finance the implementation of priority activities, and invites the Member States to contribute to that effort;
6. Invites the Director-General to take the necessary measures to strengthen UNESCO's physical presence, in particular through a strengthened antenna;
7. Further invites the Director-General to report to it at its 181st session on progress in implementing this decision.

(180 EX/SR.11)

GENERAL MATTERS

44 Implementation of 34 C/Resolution 58 and 179 EX/Decision 39 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories (180 EX/44 and Add.; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 58 and 179 EX/Decision 39, as well as Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with regard to the right to education, Articles 4 and 94 of the Fourth Geneva Convention with regard to the denial of the right of children to education, as well as the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the

World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972) and the Hague Convention (1954) and its Additional Protocols,

2. Having examined documents 180 EX/44 and Add.,
3. Further recalling the role that UNESCO is called upon to play in order to satisfy the right to education for all, and to meet the need for Palestinians to have safe access to the education system,
4. Recalling paragraph 31 of the Medium-Term Strategy (31 C/4 Approved), defining a “road map for a revitalized UNESCO: principles of action and programming”, and paragraph 12 of 31 C/Resolution 43,
5. Committed to the safeguarding of monuments, works of art, manuscripts, books and other historical and cultural properties to be protected in the event of conflict,
6. Deeply convinced that the continuous strengthening of the reconstruction and development process in the Palestinian territories should be carried out in a context of non-violence and of mutual respect and recognition, as promoted by the objectives of the Road Map,
7. Supports the efforts made by the Director-General with a view to the implementation of 34 C/Resolution 58 and 179 EX/Decision 39, and requests him to do everything possible to ensure that they are fully implemented in the framework of the Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34 C/5 Approved);
8. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of all concerned Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to UNESCO’s action in the Palestinian territories, and appeals to them to continue assisting UNESCO in this endeavour;
9. Thanks the Director-General for the results that have been obtained in relation to the implementation of a number of current educational and cultural activities, and invites him to strengthen UNESCO’s financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian educational and cultural institutions in order to address new needs and problems resulting from recent developments;
10. Expresses its continuing concern at any actions undermining the cultural and natural heritage, and cultural and educational institutions, as well as at any impediments which prevent Palestinian and all other schoolchildren and students from being an integral part of their social fabric and from exercising fully their right to education, and calls for the observance of the provisions of 34 C/Resolution 58 and 179 EX/Decision 39;
11. Encourages the Director-General to continue to reinforce his action in favour of the reconstruction, rehabilitation and restoration of the Palestinian archaeological sites and cultural heritage;
12. Invites the Director-General to address the needs for capacity-building in all UNESCO’s fields of competence by expanding the financial assistance programme for Palestinian students both from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources, and by establishing a multi-donor trust fund benefiting Palestinian students in need;
13. Requests the Director-General to follow closely the implementation of the recommendations of the eighth meeting of the Joint UNESCO-Palestinian Authority Committee (4-5 March 2008) and to organize, as soon as possible, the ninth meeting of the Joint UNESCO-Palestinian Authority Committee;

14. Encourages Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, and expresses the hope that a just and comprehensive peace will be brought about speedily;
15. Also invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts he is making to preserve the human, social and cultural fabric of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of this decision;
 - (b) to undertake efforts to offer appropriate curricula, and to provide more grants and adequate assistance to the educational and cultural institutions of the occupied Syrian Golan;
16. Decides to include this item in its agenda at its 181st session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(180 EX/SR.11)

45 Examination by the Executive Board on the need for reviewing document 34 C/4 (Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013) and the Director-General's views and observations on this matter, and, if appropriate, preliminary proposals for amendments to document 34 C/4 (180 EX/45; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/45,
2. Takes note of its content.

(180 EX/SR.11)

46 Thematic debate: protecting indigenous and endangered languages, and the role of languages in promoting education for all (EFA) in the context of sustainable development (180 EX/INF.8; 180 EX/INF.24)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/INF.8 and 180 EX/INF.24,
2. Takes note of their content.

(180 EX/SR.3)

47 Report by the Director-General on the study concerning the proposal for the creation of a network of national authorities to support migrants who are victims of discrimination and xenophobia (180 EX/47; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/47,
2. Taking note with appreciation of the consultant's report referred to in document 180 EX/47,
3. Affirming that this initiative for the creation of a network of national authorities will contribute to strengthening UNESCO's action to combat racism, discrimination and xenophobia,

4. Bearing in mind UNESCO's integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as contained in 32 C/Resolution 28 of the General Conference,
5. Invites the Director-General to complete the feasibility review process, taking into account the discussions at the 180th session of the Executive Board, the questions in paragraph 9 of document 180 EX/47, as appropriate, as well as other relevant issues; to consult with relevant international organizations, NGOs and national entities; and to report to it at its 181st session with a view to making a final recommendation on the possible establishment of a network of national authorities against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
6. Requests the Director-General, in preparing the aforementioned report, to take into account the following:
 - (a) the possible objectives of the proposed network;
 - (b) an assessment of the potential added value of the proposed network to the activities of UNESCO and the United Nations system;
 - (c) the kind of experiences, best practices and initiatives that might be the subject of exchanges through the proposed network;
 - (d) the mechanisms of operation of the proposed network;
 - (e) the potential for cooperation between the proposed network and other existing initiatives, including the International Coalition of Cities against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Intolerance;
7. Notes that paragraph 13 of document 180 EX/47 confirms that the completion of the feasibility review process would not entail any significant costs for UNESCO;
8. Requests the Director-General, in regard to the prospective funding and execution of an independent pilot project in the Ibero-American region, to explore the possibility of creating a partnership with the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) in order to mobilize extrabudgetary funding for establishing the network when it is finally approved by the General Conference;
9. Decides to include in the agenda of its 181st session an item entitled "Network of national authorities against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance".

(180 EX/SR.11)

48 Report by the Director-General on the cultural and educational institutions in Iraq
(180 EX/48; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 64,
2. Having examined document 180 EX/48,
3. Acknowledges with appreciation the results achieved in the implementation of educational, cultural, scientific and media activities and the mobilization of substantial extrabudgetary resources to this effect;

4. Encourages the Director-General to continue giving full support to the Iraqi Government in its implementation of educational, cultural, scientific and media programmes, in particular through capacity-building activities and by addressing the most urgent humanitarian needs of populations most affected by the crisis, including displaced Iraqis;
5. Invites the Director-General to continue monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Iraq;
6. Expresses its gratitude to all donors for their substantial contribution to UNESCO's action in favour of the Iraqi people, and appeals to them to continue to assist UNESCO in its efforts to foster reconstruction and dialogue in Iraq;
7. Invites the Director-General to present a further report to it at its 182nd session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

49 Report by the Director-General on UNESCO's contribution to the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (180 EX/49 and Add.; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 179 EX/Decision 43,
2. Having examined documents 180 EX/49 and Add.,
3. Welcomes the dispatch of the high-level intersectoral mission entrusted by the Director-General with the task of devising a reinforced programme of assistance to Lebanon, and notes with satisfaction the results of the mission;
4. Invites the Director-General to report to it at its 181st session, in a separate item on its agenda, on all the progress made in devising and implementing the comprehensive programme of assistance for Lebanon's reconstruction, as identified by the intersectoral mission and finalized in cooperation with the Lebanese authorities.

(180 EX/SR.11)

50 Report by the Director-General on progress in redesigning the foresight function and on activities foreseen in the intersectoral platform for anticipation and foresight (180 EX/50; 180 EX/66)

and

51 Report by the External Auditor on the Office of Foresight (180 EX/51; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/50 and 180 EX/51,
2. Expressing appreciation for the excellent work conducted by the External Auditor on the Office of Foresight,
3. Noting with great concern the inadequate application of the internal controls, including the hiring of consultants and the use of fee contracts as well as the neglect of appropriate geographical distribution,

4. Recommends that the Director-General consider the feasibility of integrating the Office of Foresight into the Bureau of Strategic Planning, and to reflect this in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5);
5. Invites the Director-General to report to it in private meeting at its 181st session on the action taken in respect of the staff and managers concerned, as indicated in document 180 EX/51;
6. Further invites the Director-General to report to it at its 181st session on the measures taken to implement the recommendations by the External Auditor, taking into consideration the discussions held at its 180th session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

52 Report by the Director-General on UNESCO and United Nations reform with regard to the implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/208 concerning the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (180 EX/52; 180 EX/INF.15; 180 EX/INF.16; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 180 EX/52 and 180 EX/6 Part II,
2. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/208 concerning the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/277 of 15 September 2008 on system-wide coherence (reproduced in document 180 EX/INF.16),
3. Taking note of UNESCO's progress in the implementation of the relevant parts of the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system resolution (resolution 62/208),
4. Also taking note of the progress achieved thus far by the Decentralization Review Task Force in considering long-term measures for strengthening the Organization's field presence within the new context of a reformed United Nations at country level and of the guiding principles to drive the adjustments to UNESCO's evolving decentralized system,
5. Noting that an independent evaluation of the One-United Nations pilots is to be undertaken by 2010,
6. Recognizing that capacity development and ownership of national development strategies are essential for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals (resolution 62/208, para. 35),
7. Recalling resolution 62/208, especially section II on funding for operational activities of the United Nations development system,
8. Also recalling the emphasis laid in resolution 62/208 on the importance of predictable, non-earmarked and multi-year funding, and the need to obtain development results on the ground,
9. Taking note of the new accountability framework approved by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) with a view to strengthening the role, authority and coordination capacity of the Resident Coordinator,

10. Stressing that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can contribute positively to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and encouraging the further contribution of civil society in supporting national development efforts in accordance with national plans and priorities (resolution 62/208, 13th preambular paragraph),
11. Reaffirming the increased importance of South-South cooperation, as a complement to North-South cooperation, and of triangular South-South-North cooperation for development activities in the field (resolution 62/208, para. 48),
12. Calls upon donors and Member States which are in a position to do so to strengthen their support for South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, especially by mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis, and by providing technical assistance; (resolution 62/208, para. 49);
13. Encouraging the Director-General to continue the country planning documents exercise, outlining UNESCO's work in the field and its role in United Nations common country programmes and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) programming exercises,
14. Calls upon the Director-General to continue strengthening coherence and cooperation between UNESCO's programme sectors;
15. Invites the Director-General to continue his efforts within the framework of the United Nations Development Group to ensure coherence with the policies and actions of the rest of the United Nations system, taking into account the comparative advantage and the specificity of UNESCO;
16. Requests the Director-General to continue his efforts in the development of harmonized business approaches within the United Nations system (resolution 62/208, para. 121);
17. Also requests the Director-General to further support capacity-building in developing countries, in line with document 34 C/5 Approved, and to continue the implementation of resolution 62/208, drawing on the results of independent evaluation of the "Delivering as One" pilots as foreseen in resolution 62/208 and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) programming exercises, and taking fully into account national development plans and priorities of programme countries, as well as the recommendations from UNESCO and United Nations Development Group evaluations;
18. Calls upon UNESCO to support the efforts of developing countries to establish and/or maintain effective national institutions, and to support the implementation and, as necessary, the design of national strategies for capacity-building (cf. resolution 62/208, para. 35);
19. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it a report at its 181st session, explaining how the request in resolution 62/208 to plough back savings resulting from reductions in administrative and support costs into programme activities may be realized in UNESCO;
20. Further requests the Director-General to present to it at its 181st session a more proactive and forward-looking action plan on the implementation of resolution 62/208, based on an analysis of the situation, and presenting proposals for future steps, outlining the implications for the budget, the programme and the decentralization strategy;

21. Further requests the Director-General to take into account the outcome of intergovernmental work at the United Nations General Assembly concerning system-wide coherence on “Delivery as One”, on harmonization of business practices, on funding, and on governance when presenting the draft plan on the implementation of resolution 62/208.

(180 EX/SR.11)

53 Provisional list of matters to be examined by the Executive Board at its 181st session
(180 EX/INF.9)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/INF.9,
2. Takes note of its content.

(180 EX/SR.11)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

54 Establishment of the UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers (180 EX/54 and Corr.; 180 EX/INF.13; 180 EX/68 Part I)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/54 and Corr. concerning a proposal for the establishment of the “UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum prize for outstanding practice and performance in enhancing the effectiveness of teachers” intended to reward and promote outstanding practices in teacher-related activities for the enhancement of the quality of teaching and learning,
2. Considering that the educational objectives of the prize are in line with those of UNESCO, as set out in the Organization’s Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013, and in particular overarching objective 1 “Attaining quality education for all and lifelong learning”,
3. Noting that His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum has generously proposed to meet all costs relating to the participation of UNESCO in this endeavour,
4. Further noting the Financial Regulations of the Special Account for this prize, as set out in Annex II of document 180 EX/54,
5. Expresses its gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum and the Government of the United Arab Emirates for this exceptional initiative;
6. Approves the Statutes of the UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers as contained in Annex I to document 180 EX/54 and Corr.

(180 EX/SR.11)

55 Financial regulations of the Special Account for the International Fund for the Promotion of Languages and Multilingualism (180 EX/55; 180 EX/67)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article 6.7 of UNESCO’s Financial Regulations,

2. Having examined document 180 EX/55,
3. Takes note of the proposed financial regulations of the Special Account for the International Fund for the Promotion of Languages and Multilingualism;
4. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session a revised version of the financial regulations of the Special Account for the International Fund for the Promotion of Languages and Multilingualism, taking into consideration the discussions at its 180th session;
5. Also invites the Director-General to launch an appeal for contributions to the Special Account from Member States and private donors, and to report to it on progress thereon at its 181st session.

(180 EX/SR.11)

[56 This number was not attributed to an item in the agenda]

57 Establishment of the UNESCO-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences (180 EX/57; 180 EX/INF.13; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind that the Government of Equatorial Guinea proposed to establish and finance a prize entitled “the UNESCO-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences”, with a view to contributing to improving the quality of human life, whose objectives relate to the central function of UNESCO’s Major Programme II: to encourage research and the setting up and further development of networks of centres of excellence in the life sciences,
2. Noting that the proposed prize is consonant with UNESCO’s goals and policies, and is related to the goals of the Medium-Term Strategy (2008-2013), and in particular of overarching objective 2 “Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development” and its associated strategic programme objective 4 “Fostering policy and capacity-building in science and innovation”,
3. Having examined document 180 EX/57 concerning the creation of the UNESCO-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences,
4. Noting further that the proposed prize complies with the strategy and criteria for UNESCO prizes as contained in document 171 EX/19, in conformity with 171 EX/Decision 24,
5. Expresses its deep gratitude to the Government of Equatorial Guinea for this initiative, and for the generous offer of \$3 million for the regular running costs of the Prize,
6. Approves the Statutes of the UNESCO-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences, as set out in Annex I to document 180 EX/57;
7. Takes note of the Financial Regulations of the Special Account for this Prize as set out in Annex II to document 180 EX/57;
8. Encourages Member States and other donors to support this initiative to further strengthen UNESCO’s programmes in the area of research in the life sciences;
9. Requests the Director-General to establish as soon as possible the secretariat of the UNESCO-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences in the Natural Sciences Sector.

(180 EX/SR.11)

58 Rabindranath Tagore, Pablo Neruda and Aimé Césaire for a reconciled universal
(180 EX/58 Rev.2; 180 EX/INF.13; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board

1. Having examined document 180 EX/58 Rev.2, which highlights the interdisciplinary and intersectoral contents of the works of Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Pablo Neruda (1904-1973) and Aimé Césaire (1913-2008),
2. Recalling the importance of these works and the exemplary nature of their authors' commitment, in order to enhance UNESCO's efforts towards a reconciled universal,
3. Noting, in this International Year of Languages, that significant works have not been translated, including into the working languages of the United Nations or, more significantly, into other languages of national and regional importance,
4. Considering that, with the exception of the programme organized by UNESCO for the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pablo Neruda in March 2004, most, if not all, of the works of these three authors do not appear in the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works, thus making their dissemination and promotion more difficult,
5. Taking into account the awarding of the UNESCO-Toussaint Louverture Prize to Aimé Césaire, in 2004, by the international jury convened by the Director-General on the occasion of the celebration of the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition,
6. Considering that the forthcoming dates of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Rabindranath Tagore (2011) and of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Aimé Césaire (2013) provide an opportunity to enrich national and international life through the topicality of their convergent messages, highlighting the originality of each of the works, while exploring the close relations between them, for the development of a universal which matches the expectation of peoples, in particular through the strengthening of bridges between civilizations,
7. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 181st session specific proposals for the implementation of interdisciplinary and intersectoral programmes built round the work of these three authors, and encourages him to support the activities and initiatives of States and public and private institutions which so request it;
8. Also invites Member States and public and private institutions in the field to translate and publish in national languages, and to deepen awareness of the rich tangible and intangible heritage constituted by these works, in strict observance of the rights of copyright holders and their legal successors;
9. Recommends the establishment of prizes and medals bearing the name of each of these three illustrious persons;
10. Requests that favourable consideration be given to the celebration, through suitable programmes, of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Rabindranath Tagore (2011) and of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Aimé Césaire (2013).

(180 EX/SR.11)

59 Relations with the Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation (IFESCCO) and Memorandum of Understanding between UNESCO and that foundation (180 EX/59; 180 EX/2; 180 EX/INF.13)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/59,
2. Considering the desirability of establishing formal relations between UNESCO and the Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation (IFESCCO),
3. Approves the establishment of formal relations between UNESCO and the Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the Memorandum of Understanding that is contained in the Annex to document 180 EX/59.

(180 EX/SR.1)

60 Global Moral Development Programme for Sustainable World Peace (180 EX/60; 180 EX/INF.13; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/60,
2. Takes note of its content.

(180 EX/SR.11)

61 Proposal for the establishment of a cybernetwork for learning languages (180 EX/61; 180 EX/INF.13; 180 EX/66)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 180 EX/61 concerning the proposal for the establishment of a cybernetwork for learning languages, aimed at utilizing cyberspace to promote language learning and communication,
2. Considering that the proposal is in line with the purpose and content of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace,
3. Requests the Director-General to:
 - (a) convene a meeting of experts, taking into account equitable geographical distribution, in the first quarter of 2009, to study the feasibility of establishing a cyber network for learning languages, to elaborate a detailed work plan addressing the long-term sustainability of the proposed network, including budgetary implications, while considering the e-learning platforms currently made available through UNESCO, coordinated with United Nations agencies and other education institutes, and to make recommendations regarding the role and functions of the UNESCO Secretariat in the possible establishment and operation of the network;
 - (b) submit to it at its 182nd session a report on the results of the work of the experts;

4. Takes note of the willingness of the Government of China to cover all the local costs of the above meeting of experts, including the board and lodging and international travel costs of experts from developing countries;
5. Encourages Member States to contribute to this initiative.

(180 EX/SR.11)

62 The reinstallation of the Axum Obelisk: a testimony of successful cooperation between Ethiopia and Italy (180 EX/62 and Corr.; 180 EX/68 Part II)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the inscription in 1980 of the ancient town of Axum in the World Heritage List and the great importance of the site from a historical and archaeological point of view for Ethiopia,
2. Recognizing the protracted diplomatic efforts and the final agreement that have made possible the return and reinstallation of the Axum Obelisk in Ethiopia in accordance with the wishes long expressed by the Ethiopian people,
3. Noting the significant technical and organizational contribution provided by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for the implementation of this project, one of the most important achievements in the field of heritage conservation in the past decade,
4. Also noting with satisfaction that the reinstallation of the Axum Obelisk is further testimony to successful international cooperation in which UNESCO has played an important role,
5. Expresses its deep appreciation for the successful completion of the project, and congratulates Italy and Ethiopia for their exemplary cooperation.

(180 EX/SR.11)

PRIVATE MEETINGS

Announcements concerning the private meetings held on Monday 6 October and Thursday 16 October 2008

At the private meetings held on the following dates, the Executive Board considered the following items: Monday 6 October – item **3**, and Thursday 16 October – item **29**.

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board

In accordance with Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General informed the Board of the decisions taken since the 179th session regarding the appointments and extensions of contracts of staff members at grade D-1 and above whose posts come under the regular budget of the Organization. He also discussed various issues linked to personnel.

(180 EX/SR.6)

29 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon

1. The Executive Board examined the report of its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations concerning the communications received by the Organization on

the subject of cases and questions of alleged violations of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence.

2. The Executive Board, having taken note of the Committee's report, endorsed the wishes expressed therein.

(180 EX/SR.9)