



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

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ITH/10/3.GA/CONF.201/11
Paris, 22 April 2010
Original: French

**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING
OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Third Session
UNESCO Headquarters, Room II
22-24 June 2010**

**Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda:
Examination of the issue of an upper limit of seats in the Committee
by electoral group**

Decision required: paragraph 6

1. At its first session (27-29 June 2006), the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage adopted its Rules of Procedure. In accordance with [Rule 13.2 \(ii\)](#) of the Rules of Procedure, the 24 seats on the Committee shall be distributed among electoral groups in proportion to the number of States Parties from each electoral group. The General Assembly decided that after such distribution, at least three seats would be attributed to each electoral group, but left open the possibility that a subparagraph might be added to Rule 13.2 establishing an upper limit for the number of seats to be attributed to each of the electoral groups on the Intergovernmental Committee. The General Assembly had then decided to consider the issue anew at its subsequent session and specified that the decision on the matter would be adopted by simple majority (Resolution [1.GA 3](#)).
2. At its subsequent session, on 9 November 2006 (first extraordinary session), the General Assembly once again decided to examine the issue of an upper limit at its subsequent session, reiterating that if a decision were taken on the matter, it should be adopted by simple majority (Resolution [1.EXT.GA 3](#)).
3. At the second session of the General Assembly (16-19 June 2008), there were 93 States Parties to the Convention. Under the terms of its Resolution [2.GA 9B](#), the Assembly decided to examine the issue of an upper limit at its subsequent session, specifying that if a decision were taken on the matter, it should be adopted by simple majority, and that the issue should be included in the agenda and examined before the elections of the Committee. The proportional distribution of the 24 seats per electoral group in proportion to the number of States Parties could be established as follows:

Electoral group	States Parties	% of total	Seats
I	11	11.83%	2.83
II	16	17.20%	4.12
III	20	21.50%	5.16
IV	13	13.98%	3.35
V(a)	21	22.58%	5.41
V(b)	12	12.90%	3.1
Total	93	100%	24

4. As at 24 June 2010, there are 123 States Parties to the Convention and the distribution of seats per electoral group in proportion to the number of States Parties may be established as follows:

Electoral group	States Parties	% of total	Seats
I	15	12.20%	2.93
II	21	17.07%	4.10
III	25	20.33%	4.88
IV	21	17.07%	4.10
V(a)	26	21.14%	5.07
V(b)	15	12.20%	2.93
Total	123	100%	24

5. The figures in the table above show that all electoral groups have at least three seats after distributing the seats in proportion to the number of States Parties in each electoral group. The General Assembly may wish to decide that the Rules of Procedure as adopted at its first session are adequate to ensure equitable geographical representation and may therefore wish to conclude its consideration of the desirability of setting an upper limit to the number of seats per electoral group.

6. The General Assembly may wish to adopt the following resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 3.GA 11

Option 1

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined document ITH/10/3.GA/CONF.201/11,
2. Recalling [Article 6](#) of the Convention,
3. Further recalling its Resolutions [1.GA 3](#), [1.EXT.GA 3](#) and [2.GA 9B](#) as well as [Rule 13](#) of its Rules of Procedure,
4. Observes that Rule 13 of its Rules of Procedure as it stands adequately addresses the need to ensure equitable geographical representation;
5. Decides not to establish an upper limit to the number of States Members of each electoral group for the purpose of the election of members of the Committee and, accordingly, not to amend Rule 13.2 of its Rules of Procedure.

Option 2

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined document ITH/10/3.GA/CONF.201/11,
2. Recalling [Article 6](#) of the Convention,
3. Further recalling its Resolutions [1.GA 3](#), [1.EXT.GA 3](#) and [2.GA 9B](#) as well as [Rule 13](#) of its Rules of Procedure,
4. Decides to limit to [...] the number of States Members of each electoral group for the purpose of the election of members of the Committee, and to amend Rule 13.2 of its Rules of Procedure: “13.2 (iii): No electoral group may be attributed more than [...] seats”.