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## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART II

### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN ALMATY, REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN, OF A CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL GLACIOLOGICAL CENTRE

#### SUMMARY

Following a proposal by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan to establish a Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution XVIII-3 in June 2008 welcoming the establishment of the centre. A UNESCO mission was undertaken to Kazakhstan in November 2010 as part of the evaluation of the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre.

The present document contains the main findings of the feasibility study for the proposed centre, supplemented by an annex containing such provisions of the proposed draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan concerning the centre as deviate from the model agreement (see documents 35 C/22 and Corr.). The evaluation of the centre was done in conformity with the comprehensive integrated strategy document 35 C/22 approved by the 35th session of the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103.

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraphs 5 (b) and (c).

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 14.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of Kazakhstan has proposed the establishment of a Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre located at the Institute of Geography of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Almaty, Kazakhstan as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. This document outlines the background and nature of the proposal, feasibility and foreseeable implications of the creation of the proposed centre, especially concerning benefits to Member States in the region and the centre's relevance to UNESCO's programmes. A decision from the Executive Board will be sought to continue the process to establish the centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

2. The main river system of Central Asia and the drainages of the Aral Sea are heavily dependent on snow and glacier melt in their mountain headwaters. These river systems sustain the lives and livelihoods of the people and the economic development in the region. However, as with other glaciers worldwide, the glaciers of Central Asia are experiencing a rapid decline in mass. Changes in glaciers in the Central Asian Mountains will have significant effects on the large populations of the region. It is therefore crucial to assess and monitor all aspects of the water resources in the headwaters of the rivers of Central Asia and, in particular, to monitor the changes in and consequent impacts on river regimes of the melting of snow, glacier ice and permafrost.

3. The Institute of Geography of the Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan and UNESCO organized a workshop on Assessment of Snow/Glacier and Water Resources in Asia, in November 2006, in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The meeting discussed snow and glacier retreat and its impact on water resources in Central Asia. The workshop also identified gaps in current knowledge and a need for developing a glacier monitoring system. Among the recommendations formulated by the workshop was a call for the establishment of a Central Asian Glaciological Centre under the auspices of UNESCO to foster scientific coordination and to enhance scientific understanding of the climate change impacts on glacier, snow and water resources and formulate further research needs in the region.

4. In accordance with IHP's "Strategy for water-related UNESCO category 1 and category 2 centres" (177 EX/INF.9), in March 2008, the 41st session of the Bureau of the IHP endorsed a preliminary proposal and in June 2008 the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP adopted IHP-IC Resolution XVIII-3 welcoming the establishment of the proposed centre and requesting that the proposal be submitted to UNESCO's governing bodies. The Government of Kazakhstan submitted a detailed proposal in June 2010. Following the submission of the project proposal and draft agreement, a mission was undertaken in November 2010 to assess the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre.

## CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

### Overview of the proposal

5. The proposal from the Government of the Republic of the Kazakhstan has endeavoured to address in detail the requirements specified in document 35 C/22 and contained in document 177 EX/INF.9.

(a) Objectives and functions:

The main objective of the proposed centre is to foster cooperation and improve scientific understanding of present and forecasted changes in glacier, snow and water resources in the region. The centre will promote regional research, education and capacity development to assess climate change impact on glaciers and permafrost in the runoff formation zone. The results from the scientific and research activities of the centre may provide policy advice to the countries to better manage water resources in

a sustainable way. The activities of the centre will also contribute to achieving the strategic objectives of UNESCO's IHP.

The following summarizes the overall scope of activities to be undertaken by the proposed centre:

- (i) foster scientific coordination and exchange of information among different organizations involved in monitoring of glaciers, snow and permafrost conditions in the runoff formation zone of Central Asia;
  - (ii) implement research studies to enhance scientific understanding of the climate change impacts on glacier, snow and water resources and formulate further research needs in the region;
  - (iii) promote development of regional research programmes, linking with regional and global initiatives particularly focusing on glaciology, mountain hydrology and climatology, within the framework of the IHP;
  - (iv) undertake and coordinate education efforts to build and enhance human and institutional capacity in assessing climate change impact on snow and glaciers by using advanced technologies such as satellite images and GIS;
  - (v) organize awareness-raising programmes for policy-makers at the national and regional level on the predictions and risks related to the melting of Central Asian mountain glaciers;
  - (vi) disseminate results of research undertaken through seminars, workshops, training courses, conferences and periodic publications to a wider scientific community and IHP networks.
- (b) Structure and legal status: The centre will be an independent legal entity, allowing it to formalize the financial, administrative and technical support provided by national and international institutions.

The structure of the centre is defined by the draft agreement and will involve:

- (i) Governing Board: A body in charge of supervising the centre's activities. The composition is defined in article 7 of the draft agreement;
  - (ii) Secretariat: a body in charge of executing the activities of the centre under the authority of a director appointed by the governing board;
  - (iii) The centre shall enjoy, in the territory of The Republic of Kazakhstan, the status and legal capacity necessary to exercise its functions.
- (c) Financial matters: The Government, through the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, will take necessary measures to ensure that the proposed centre receives all the financial resources necessary for its functioning.

The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan undertakes to:

- Provide funds at the rate equivalent to not less than 95 million tenge (approximately US \$650,000.00 at current exchange rates) per year to meet recurring costs and to finance programme and activities;
- Provide the centre with appropriate office space, equipment and facilities;

- Assume the entire premises maintenance and cover the cost of communications and utilities;
- Take responsibility and cover expenses of holding sessions of the Governing Board; and
- Provide the technical and administrative staff necessary for its functions which shall include the implementation of research, studies, training and publication activities, complementing the contributions from other sources.

Furthermore, the Government of Kazakhstan may require the support of UNESCO in securing additional resources from UNESCO Member States and other regional and international organizations. UNESCO will not, however, provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes.

- (d) Areas of cooperation with UNESCO: The activities of Theme 1 of the IHP VII (2008-2013) strategic plan “Adapting to the impacts of global changes on river basins and aquifer systems” coincide with many of the activities of the proposed Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre. Thus the centre will contribute to the implementation of these activities. Through the capacity development component, the centre will also make a significant contribution to Theme 5 “Water Education for Sustainable Development”, moreover, the centre could also contribute to UNESCO’s Climate Change initiative. The centre also envisages developing linkages and establishing collaborative projects with other UNESCO water-related category 1 and 2 centres. The centre may also collaborate with other relevant programmes in UNESCO.

6. Relationship between the activities of the centre and UNESCO’s objectives and programmes:

- (a) UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy (2008-2013) as set out in document 34 C/4 lists several relevant Strategic Programme Objectives (SPOs) under Overarching Objective 2 “Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development.” These include SPO 3 – “Leveraging scientific knowledge for the benefit of the environment and the management of natural resources”, and SPO 5 – “Contributing to disaster preparedness and mitigation”.
- (b) UNESCO’s involvement at the forefront of freshwater science, education and training for the benefit of the Member States represents a long-term commitment. Since 1975 UNESCO has provided the Secretariat of IHP, which is the only global intergovernmental scientific and educational programme on water resources within the United Nations system. The creation of a regional centre focusing on glacier snow and water resources thus complies with the objectives foreseen in UNESCO’s programmes on freshwater for the coming biennium and in document 34 C/4.

7. Regional or international impact of the proposed centre:

- (a) Geographically, the activities of the centre relate to all Central Asian countries;
- (b) Potential impact: The centre will create new momentum in fostering regional scientific collaboration, particularly in monitoring glaciers, snow and permafrost conditions and evaluating the implications of climate change on water resources;
- (c) Technical cooperation: Technical cooperation with other established UNESCO-related centres and networks, such as UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, can foster useful knowledge and capacity-building. Other relevant international and regional organizations and scientific NGOs can be linked through UNESCO.

8. Results expected from UNESCO's contribution:

- (a) Role of the centre in connection with the implementation of the Organization's programme: the proposed centre fits well with UNESCO's objectives in general and with those of the freshwater programme in particular. The centre can be an effective means of carrying out water activities specified in the IHP-VII plan, particularly for water resources management and climate change.
- (b) Potential impact of UNESCO's contribution on the centre's activities. The assistance of UNESCO is necessary to the centre for two reasons:
  - The catalytic function of UNESCO during the establishment and initial operation of the centre, by lending technical and organizational expertise, will contribute to the scientific excellence and sound functioning of the centre;
  - UNESCO's role as a bridge to other countries, international organizations and relevant NGOs concerned with water resources and global change is essential for a successful exposure of the centre and will contribute to its inter- and intra-regional relevance. It is unlikely that other international organizations would be able to provide a similar range of support, in order to maximize the centre's viability. In particular, UNESCO has an international freshwater scientific programme with a wide network, guidelines and vast experience on the establishment of regional centres, the required moral authority, and the convening power to make a difference on the international scene.

9. Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO: no regular financial and administrative implications are foreseen for UNESCO. UNESCO may contribute financially on an ad hoc basis to the organization of international courses and conferences held by the centre in different regions, when unequivocally contributing to the achievement of UNESCO's goals and objectives. Future foreseen administrative costs directly linked to the operation of the centre once it is established, foreseen to start in the 2012-2013 biennium, will correspond mainly to (1) liaising with the centre and coordinating with the network of UNESCO water-related centres in accordance with the IHP strategy for category 1 and category 2 water-related centres; and (2) attendance at the Governing Board meetings of the centre by the UNESCO representative. The relatively minor costs of this involvement, in line with UNESCO's 34 C/4 and the Seventh Phase of IHP, will be more than offset by the fact that the centre will be actively involved in the execution of the freshwater programmes of UNESCO with a substantial contribution from the Kazakh Government (see para. 5(c)). The centre will significantly expand UNESCO's implementation capabilities in the region.

10. Risks: The risks that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the centre would be low, in view of the official support received from the Government of Kazakhstan, and the direct linkage between the centre's activities and UNESCO's goals.

11. Summary evaluation of the proposal submitted:

- (a) The establishment of the centre is fully in line with UNESCO's objectives and programmes and the centre would contribute to the execution of the freshwater programme within the framework of IHP, while UNESCO's aegis is necessary for the centre's international standing and development.
- (b) The strong support shown by the Government of Kazakhstan for the creation of the centre is a favourable precondition, as is the commitment by the Government to meet the running and staffing needs of the centre and to confer the necessary legal personality to conduct business.

- (c) The proposed institutional structure of the centre is compatible with the guidelines of document 35 C/22. Its character as an advisory and coordinating body will allow it to use scientific and technical resources available in Kazakhstan and elsewhere.
- (d) The risks that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the centre would be low, due primarily to the strong Kazakhstan support made in providing an appropriate infrastructure, facilities and highly specialized personnel.

12. With regard to all legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the proposed centre, the draft agreement addresses these issues.

13. The Director-General welcomes the establishment of the proposed Central Asian Glaciological Centre in Kazakhstan. She recognizes that the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan is able to provide the required facilities to the proposed centre for training and research, and that the centre will result in important benefits to Member States and to institutions and professionals working in water resources and global change. Furthermore, it would be in line with the strategy for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO as presented in document 35 C/22.

#### **Draft decision proposed**

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

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103 and IHP-IC Resolution XVIII-3 adopted at the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme in June 2008,
2. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part II,
3. Welcomes the proposal of Kazakhstan to establish a Central Asian regional glaciological centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, which is in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22 and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
4. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 36th session, approve the establishment of the Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement (available on the website of the Natural Sciences Sector).

## **ANNEX**

### **PROVISIONS DEVIATING FROM THE MODEL AGREEMENT**

#### ***Article 7***

1. The Centre's activities shall be guided and coordinated by a Governing Board, renewed every five years and composed of:

- (a) a representative of the authorized state body of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of science;
- (b) representatives of Member States, which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 13, paragraph 2, below and have expressed interest in being represented on the Board;
- (c) a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO;

The following representatives will be invited as observers without the right to vote.

- (d) the Director of the Institute of Geography of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
- (e) the Director of the Centre;
- (f) representatives of any other intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations which bring in essential contribution to the budget and the activity of the Centre; the decision on their membership is made by the Governing Board.

2. The Governing Board shall:

- (a) approve the long-term and medium-term programmes of the Centre;
- (b) approve the annual work plan and budget of the Centre, including the staffing table;
- (c) examine the annual reports submitted by the director of the centre, including a biennial self-assessment of the Centre's contribution to UNESCO's programme objectives;
- (d) adopt the rules and regulations and determine the financial, administrative and personnel management procedures for the Centre in accordance with the laws of the country;
- (e) decide on the participation of regional intergovernmental organizations and international organizations in the work of the Centre and the question of their membership decided by the Governing Board, as provided for in Article 7, paragraph 1(f) under this Agreement.

#### ***Article 8***

To ensure the effective functioning of the Centre between sessions, the Governing Board may delegate necessary authority to a standing Executive Committee, whose composition will be determined by the Governing Board. The Executive Committee will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre.

### **Article 9**

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

### **Article 10**

The Director of the Centre shall:

- (1) direct the work of the Centre in conformity with the programmes and directives established by the Governing Board;
- (2) propose the draft work plan and budget to be submitted to the Governing Board for approval;
- (3) prepare the provisional agenda for the sessions of the Governing Board and submit to it any proposals that he/she may deem useful for the administration of the Centre;
- (4) prepare reports on the Centre's activities to be submitted to the Governing Board;
- (5) present the Centre in law and in all civil acts.

### **Article 12**

(Please note that this article is not deviating from the model agreement but specifies the financial commitment of the Government)

1. The Government shall provide all the resources, either financial or in-kind, needed for the administration and proper functioning of the Centre.
2. The Government through the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan:
  - (a) provide to the Centre funds at the rate equivalent to not less than 95,000,000 tenge (approximately US \$650,000 at current exchange rates) per year to meet recurring costs and to finance programme and activities;
  - (b) provide the Centre with appropriate office space, equipment and facilities and within the framework of the above-mentioned volume of annual financing;
  - (c) entirely assume the maintenance of the premises; and cover the cost of communications and utilities;



- (d) organize and cover expenses of holding sessions of the Governing Board;
- (e) make available to the Centre the administrative staff necessary for its functions which shall include the implementation of research, studies, training and publication activities, complementing the contributions from other sources.



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CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

**PART III**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN KADUNA, NIGERIA, OF A REGIONAL CENTRE  
FOR INTEGRATED RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT (RC-IRBM)**

**SUMMARY**

Following a proposal by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to establish the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM) under the auspices of UNESCO, at Kaduna in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted IHP-IC Resolution XVII-6 in July 2006 welcoming the establishment of this Centre. During 2010, a full proposal for the establishment of RC-IRBM was submitted to the Director-General by the Federal Minister of Education of Nigeria. A UNESCO mission, requested and hosted by the Nigerian Government, was undertaken during November 2010 in order to assess the feasibility of establishing the proposed Centre.

This document contains the results of the feasibility study for the proposed Centre, supplemented by an annex containing such provisions of the proposed draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria concerning the Centre as deviate from the standard model agreement (see document 35 C/22 and Corr.). The evaluation of the Centre was done in conformity with document 35 C/22 Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres, as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103.

Administrative and financial implications are covered in paragraph 9.

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

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of Nigeria has proposed the establishment of the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM) in Kaduna, Federal Republic of Nigeria, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. The draft agreement has been negotiated between UNESCO and the Government of Nigeria.

2. In his keynote address at the International Conference on “Water Security and Hydrological Extremes: Towards Sustainable Development in Africa” and at the first African Regional Consultative Meeting of the National Committees for UNESCO-IHP that took place in Abuja on 27 February 2006, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria urged UNESCO “not to leave Africa out of the initiative on establishing water-related centres worldwide as part of the implementation of a global water education and capacity-building agenda”.

3. The 17th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council (Paris, 3-7 July 2006) considered a request for the establishment of the National Water Resources Institute (NWRI) in Kaduna, Nigeria, as a regional water centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and adopted Resolution XVII-6, by which, considering the establishment of the proposed centre as an important contribution to achieving the goals of IHP, it requested the Secretariat’s assistance in preparing the documentation to be submitted to the governing bodies of UNESCO, and further requested the UNESCO IHP National Committees to support the establishment and functioning of the Centre. This resolution was followed by a national stakeholders meeting (held in Abuja in September 2009) and two regional workshops (17 September 2009 in Abuja and 17 December 2009 in Kaduna), during which the objectives and scope of the Centre was developed into a full proposal. During these consultations the decision was made to establish an autonomous Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management to be hosted by NWRI, to include other countries in the West African subregion.

4. In February 2010, the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria formally submitted a detailed proposal in conformity with the integrated comprehensive strategy for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) document 35 C/22, and the “Strategy for UNESCO’s category 1 and category 2 water-related centres adopted by the International Hydrological Programme” (177 EX/INF.9). The 44th session of the IHP Bureau further endorsed this concept and the full proposal.

5. Following a request from the Government of Nigeria, a UNESCO mission was undertaken in November 2010 by the Secretariat and Professor Abel Afouda, UNESCO Chair of the International Hydrological Programme Committee, Benin, to consider the feasibility of the proposed international centre. The main findings were as follows:

- (a) There was ample access to authorities, research institutes, universities and governmental departments of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, including with the National Water Resources Institute (NWRI); the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), other academic partners (University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and the University of Ilorin, Ilorin), and with the officials of the Federal Ministry of Education, the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, National Commission for UNESCO and National IHP Committee for Nigeria. In all meetings the strong support for the RC-IRBM under the auspices of UNESCO was evident.
- (b) The commitment of the Government of Nigeria is clearly reflected by the actions already performed and measures taken, including the designation of adequate facilities with budgeted expansion of the existing ones, suitable to accommodate the Centre.

- (c) There are good conditions to appropriately support the proposed Centre. Namely, the Government of Nigeria has already set up a structure for the proposed Centre including a director, regular research staff, office support staff and operating budget and provided buildings in Kaduna, the financial support and commitment to support the Centre's research, education and training functions.

## **CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE**

### **Overview of the proposal**

6. The RC-IRBM proposal presented by the Government of Nigeria fully addresses the requirements specified in documents 35 C/22 and 177 EX/INF.9.

7. Some of the most salient aspects of the proposal include:

(a) Objectives:

- (i) Facilitate exchange between scientific and institutional stakeholders at local, national, regional and international levels, for the implementation of the Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM), especially for river basin development authorities or organizations in West Africa;
- (ii) Conduct and promote hydroinformatics, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and economics research;
- (iii) Provide IRBM training and tertiary education facility for water professionals and practitioners in the West African region.

Functions:

- (i) Coordinate the implementation of cooperative research projects and studies with regional, federal and local authorities as well as with the private sector;
- (ii) Build and run networking for information and knowledge exchange in the West African Region;
- (iii) Organize training courses, seminars, workshops and meetings;
- (iv) Share information through publications.

(b) Structure and legal status:

The Federal Ministry of Water Resources in Nigeria is the main government agency responsible for the management and control of water resources in Nigeria. It is supported by an institutional framework comprising the river basin authorities and the NWRI. The Centre shall enjoy autonomous legal status under the same Nigerian legislation, and will be granted the legal capacity necessary to exercise its functions and to receive subventions, obtain payments for services rendered and carry out the acquisition of all means required. The structure of the Centre is in accordance with the model agreement contained in document 35 C/22 and would involve:

- (i) Governing Board: The Governing Board of the Centre will be composed of a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO; three representatives of UNESCO Member States from the Economic Community of West African States

(ECOWAS) subregion that send notification to the Centre; a representative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development as observer; Executive Director of NWRI as observer and a representative of the Government. The Governing Board will have the powers needed to perform its functions, including approval of the mid- and long-term programmes and the annual reports of the Centre.

- (ii) Secretariat: The Centre's secretariat shall consist of a Director and such staff as is necessary for the proper functioning of the Centre. The Director shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Governing Board, in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO following mutually agreed selection criteria.
- (iii) The Centre shall enjoy, on the territory of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the personality and legal capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions.
- (c) Financial matters: The Government of Nigeria will take the necessary measures to ensure that the Centre receives all the financial resources needed for its functioning.
- (d) Areas of cooperation with UNESCO: The proposal specifies the types of assistance required, namely support for the implementation of relevant international activities foreseen in UNESCO's programme and budget documents (35 C/22 and 177 EX/INF.9); and facilitation of the linkage to relevant regional and international organizations, NGOs and UNESCO Member States.
- (e) The Centre will be located at NWRI at Kaduna, Nigeria. The location has excellent facilities, and the Government has indicated it will fully support all costs for staff, operation and maintenance, research and communication functions of RC-IRBM.

8. Regional or international impact of the Centre:

- (a) Coverage: Geographically, activities of the RC-IRBM will cover intersectoral aspects in Africa especially in the West African Region comprising Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte D'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.
- (b) Potential impact: The Centre will create new momentum in the development of scientific activities, focused to study, develop and evaluate the pathways for the integrated management of Africa's freshwater resources.

9. Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO: No regular financial and administrative implications are foreseen for UNESCO. UNESCO may contribute financially on an ad hoc basis to international courses and conferences held by the Centre in different countries, when unequivocally contributing to the achievement of UNESCO's goals and objectives. Future foreseen administrative costs linked to the Centre, once it is established, include the participation of the representative of the Director-General in Government Board Meetings. These costs will be indicated within UNESCO's financial documents.

10. Risks: The risks that UNESCO would incur in granting the Centre a category 2 status, would be low, in view of the official support it has and will be receiving from the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the direct linkage between the Centre's activities and UNESCO's strategic programme objectives.

11. Summary evaluation of the proposal submitted:

- (a) the establishment of the Centre is fully in line with UNESCO's strategic programme objectives and thus the Centre would contribute to the execution of the freshwater

programme of UNESCO, while UNESCO's aegis is necessary for the Centre's international standing and development;

- (b) the strong support shown by the Government of Nigeria for the establishment of the Centre is a favourable precondition, as is the commitment by the Government to meet the running costs and staffing needs of the Centre and to confer the necessary legal personality to conduct business;
- (c) IWRM is included in the strategic plan of IHP-VII (2008-2013), as endorsed in principle by the IHP Intergovernmental Council at its 19th session during July 2010;
- (d) the proposed institutional structure of the Centre follows the criteria and guidelines of document 35 C/22, including the composition and functions of the Governing Board and the Secretariat;
- (e) in light of the above, the risks that UNESCO would incur in granting this Centre category 2 status are low.

In summary, the viability of the proposed RC-IRBM at Kaduna in the Federal Republic of Nigeria under the auspices of UNESCO is high and UNESCO's governing bodies should give it due consideration.

12. The Director-General welcomes the proposed establishment of the RC-IRBM in Nigeria, under the auspices of UNESCO. She recognizes that the Government of Nigeria is able to provide the required facilities for the proposed Centre for training and research and that the Centre will result in important benefits to Member States and to institutions and professionals working in the integrated management of the freshwater resources. Furthermore, it would be in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO as contained in document 35 C/22.

### **Action expected of the Executive Board**

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

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103 and IHP-IC Resolution XVII-6 adopted at the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme,
2. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part III,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Nigeria to establish a Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), in Nigeria, under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22 and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
4. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 36th session, approve the establishment of the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement (available on the website of the Natural Sciences Sector).

## ANNEX

### PROVISIONS OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNESCO AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA CONCERNING THE CENTRE WHICH DEVIATE FROM THE STANDARD MODEL AGREEMENT

#### **ARTICLE 1 – Interpretation**

1. In this Agreement, “UNESCO” refers to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
2. “Government” means the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
3. “Centre” means Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM).
4. “West African Region” refers to the region composed of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.

#### **ARTICLE 2 – Establishment**

The Government shall agree to take any measures that may be required for the setting up in the Federal Republic of Nigeria in year 2011, as provided for under this Agreement, of the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), hereinafter referred to as “the Centre”.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – Governing Board**

1. The Centre shall be guided and supervised by a Governing Board renewed every six years and composed of:
  - (a) a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO;
  - (b) a representative of the Government or his/her appointed representative;
  - (c) three representatives of Member States of UNESCO from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) subregion, which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 3, paragraph 2, above and have expressed interest in being represented on the Board;
  - (d) a representative of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) as a non-voting member;
  - (e) the Executive Director of the National Water Resources Institute as a non-voting member;
  - (...)

#### **ARTICLE 13 – Contribution of the Government**

(Please note that this article is not deviating from the model agreement but specifies the financial commitment of the Government)

1. The Government shall provide all the resources, either financial or in kind, needed for the administration and proper functioning of the Centre.

2. The Government undertakes to:

- (a) make available to the Centre the salaries and compensation of the Secretariat staff, including the Director, and make available to the Centre the necessary staff and provide the Centre with appropriate office space, equipment and facilities;
- (b) entirely assume the maintenance of the premises; and cover the communication, utilities plus the expenses of holding the sessions of the Governing Board; and
- (c) make available to the Centre the administrative staff necessary for the performance of its functions, which shall comprise the implementation of studies, training and publication activities, complementing the contributions from other sources.





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Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

**Executive Board**  
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**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING  
CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

**PART V**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN NAIROBI, KENYA, OF A REGIONAL  
CENTRE ON GROUNDWATER RESOURCES EDUCATION, TRAINING AND  
RESEARCH FOR EAST AFRICA**

**SUMMARY**

In response to a proposal by the Government of Kenya to establish on its territory a regional centre on groundwater resources education, training and research centre as a category 2 centre placed under the auspices of UNESCO, the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution XIX-6 in July 2010 welcoming the establishment of the centre and requesting UNESCO's assistance in preparing the necessary documentation to be submitted to UNESCO's Governing Bodies. A UNESCO mission, hosted by the Kenyan Government, was undertaken in October 2010 in order to assess the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre.

This document contains the feasibility study for the proposed centre. The feasibility study was undertaken in conformity with the comprehensive integrated strategy for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the General Conference as 35 C/Resolution 103. A draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Kenya has been prepared in conformity with the model agreement indicated in document 35 C/22 and Corr.

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraph 10.

Action expected from the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 15.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of Kenya has proposed the establishment of the Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research Centre as a category 2 centre placed under the auspices of UNESCO to provide training facilities in particular for East African experts and to organize seminars and meetings to facilitate the sharing of knowledge among African countries. This document outlines the background and nature of the proposal and the foreseeable consequences of the centre's creation. This feasibility study was undertaken to address requirements specified in the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO in conformity with 35 C/Resolution 103 and IHP's document, IHP/BUR-XL/8 rev. consolidated, concerning the evaluation of proposed water-related centres, and as a follow-up to Resolution XIX-6 (see Annex) of the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council of July 2010 endorsing the proposal for the establishment of a Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research Centre in Kenya. A decision from UNESCO's Executive Board is sought to recommend to the General Conference to approve the establishment of a centre, named "Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research Centre for East Africa" and authorizing the Director-General to sign the agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Kenya establishing the centre.

2. Groundwater management is a priority for the IHP. There is limited human capacity not only in Kenya, but in the East African region, for water resources in general and groundwater in particular. It is in this context that the Government of Kenya has proposed the establishment of the centre on its territory. Three UNESCO missions were undertaken to Kenya and Tanzania in 2009 and 2010. There was ample access to high-level authorities and institutions of the Government of Kenya. The Government of Kenya's support for the operation of the centre was clear.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

### 3. Overview of the proposal

A feasibility study has addressed the requirements specified in 35 C/Resolution 103.

### 4. Objectives and functions of the proposed centre

The proposed centre will act as a regional platform for research and training on groundwater resources. The main emphasis of the centre's work would be to conduct research, offer professional training, provide policy advice, facilitate technology transfer and promote regional cooperation and exchange of experience. The following summarizes the objectives and overall scope of activities to be undertaken by the regional centre:

- (a) promote training and research;
- (b) generate and provide scientific and technical information and support the exchange of information, in particular with regard to local scientific, technical and managerial knowledge, in the various domains of groundwater knowledge and management;
- (c) promote public outreach including to policy-makers and specific targeted audiences, through awareness-raising activities;
- (d) seek and respond to invitations for cooperation with national and international institutions and UNESCO centres and chairs;
- (e) aim at becoming an African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) focal point for groundwater resources and provide support to the AMCOW Groundwater Commission;

- (f) invite representatives of UNESCO IHP centres and chairs, of UNESCO offices and UNESCO partners to contribute to the centre's activities and provide their suggestions and inputs.

## **5. Name of the centre**

The name of the category 2 centre will be the Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research for East Africa (RCeGETREA).

## **6. Legal status**

In the territory of Kenya and within the framework of its legislation, the centre shall enjoy the legal personality and autonomous legal capacity necessary to exercise its functions, receive subsidies, obtain remunerations for services rendered, and carry out the acquisition of assets, services, and all other required means. The centre will be hosted by the Kenyan Water Institute (KEWI) in Nairobi, Kenya. According to Kenyan Law an act will be gazetted to provide the centre with the necessary autonomy, personality and legal capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions under the laws of Kenya.

The KEWI hosting the centre will offer its facilities and its cooperation. Currently, the KEWI training department has 700 students. In addition, it conducts short courses. KEWI will contribute to centre activities facilitating the cooperation between its technical staff and the centre. KEWI offers the centre sufficient facilities such as laboratories, eleven standard classrooms, some major equipment, a conference room with a capacity of 60 participants, a restaurant and residential accommodation.

## **7. Governing Board**

The centre will have a Governing Board, who will approve the budget and the programme of activities, and make the decisions necessary for the proper functioning of the centre. The Governing Board will meet annually. The Governing Board will comprise:

- the Chairperson of the Board who will be the representative of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation of Kenya;
- a representative of the Ministry of Education of Kenya;
- a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO;
- the Director of KEWI;
- a representative of the Governing Council of KEWI;
- the Chairman of the IHP Kenya National Committee;
- representatives of Member States, which have sent to the centre notification for membership and have expressed interest in being represented on the Board.

Representatives of the IHP National Committees of East Africa, which have sent to the centre and to the UNESCO IHP Bureau notification for membership, and have expressed interest in being represented on the Board, should be allowed to participate as observers at their own cost.

## **8. Advisory Scientific Board**

In order to receive the most authoritative international scientific cooperation, an advisory scientific board will be designated by the Governing Board to contribute to orient the centre's activities. It could comprise representatives from the East African Community Water-Related Institutes, IGAD, AMCOW, UNESCO category 1 and 2 water centres, the International Association of Hydrologists

and other related regional and international experts and institutions that express their wish to cooperate and provide financial contributions. The Director will invite the advisory scientific board to provide advice and suggestions where appropriate.

## **9. The Secretariat**

The Director will be nominated by the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Kenya in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO. The Director will be required to submit to UNESCO a biennial report with information on activities performed under the scope of the agreement.

## **10. Financial matters**

### **(a) Contribution of the Government of Kenya**

The Government of Kenya has committed to provide financial resources needed for the administration and proper operation of the centre. It has resolved to take immediate action after the approval of the UNESCO Executive Board to organize the establishment of the centre and has decided to provide US \$1 million for a period of four years (2011-2015) to cover the running costs of the centre and to ensure the starting of the centre's activities. The centre will seek additional financial resources for training and research from projects and partners, nationally, regionally and internationally. It is also envisaged that financing would be sought from the private sector, foundations and through a "core fund" to which participating countries and partners could make contributions.

### **(b) Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO**

UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes. However, it is understood that UNESCO may contribute to concrete activities/projects of the centre if those are deemed to be in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and as foreseen in the budget approved by UNESCO's Governing Bodies.

## **11. Area of cooperation with UNESCO**

The cooperation expected from UNESCO, once the proposed centre is established, is as follows:

- (a) provide advice in the formulation of the short-, medium- and long-term programmes of the centre;
- (b) in conformity with the relevant policies of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, assign to the centre the implementation of activities within the framework of its regular biennial budgets and programmes, particularly those appropriate to reinforce its start-up period;
- (c) encourage intergovernmental and non-governmental financial entities, as well as Member States of UNESCO, to provide financial and technical assistance and to propose appropriate projects to the centre, and facilitate contacts with other international organizations relevant to the functions of the centre;
- (d) provide the centre with IHP publications and other pertinent materials and disseminate information on the activities of the centre via the IHP website, newsletters and other mechanisms at its disposal;
- (e) participate, when appropriate, in the scientific and training meetings held by the centre.

## **12. Relationship to UNESCO's objectives and programmes**

The proposed centre would fulfil the objectives of the UNESCO IHP. More specifically, it will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of UNESCO IHP on "Managing Groundwater Systems".

## **13. Regional and international impact of the centre**

Coverage: geographically, the centre will carry out regional research projects and training courses on groundwater resources, and transboundary aquifers and their assessment in East Africa. It will provide support as a Groundwater Observatory to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in Eastern Africa, which serves Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda. It will also contribute to the East African Community (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania). The definition of the East African region at large can also be found on the UNESCO website: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/unesco-regions/>. Nevertheless, access to the activities of the centre will be open to students and experts of the entire sub-Saharan African region. Aiming at fostering South-South cooperation, the exchange of best practices between regions is also recommended.

- (a) Potential impacts: currently, a regional centre on groundwater devoted to the assessment of the status of groundwater resources at local and regional levels does not exist in the region. The centre is thus expected to contribute to the enhancement of technical and scientific cooperation and knowledge transfer in related topics at both regional and international levels.
- (b) Technical cooperation: the proposed centre will be a technical arm of the African Groundwater Commission and AMCOW. Besides this, it will develop technical cooperation with other established or proposed UNESCO institutes, centres and chairs. Cooperation with other United Nations entities including FAO and UNU is envisaged.
- (c) Role of the centre in executing the Organization's programme: the centre fits well with UNESCO's objectives in general and the freshwater programme in particular.
- (d) Potential impact of UNESCO's contribution on the centre's activities.

The assistance of UNESCO to the centre is necessary from a dual standpoint:

- (i) UNESCO's catalytic function during the nascent period of the centre is to lend its technical and organizational expertise.
- (ii) UNESCO's role as a bridge to other countries, international organizations and relevant NGOs working on sustainable groundwater resource management issues is essential for successful exposure of the centre.

## **14. Summary evaluation of the proposal submitted**

- (a) The feasibility study has shown that there is sound justification for the establishment of such a centre in Kenya. The commitment of the Kenyan Government and of the national water-related institutions to continue supporting the centre, both financially and logistically, as assessed by the UNESCO staff missions, provides a solid base for the activities of the centre in Kenya. The proposal has a clear set of objectives with well-defined modalities for achieving them. During the extensive consultative process with the pertinent governmental institutions and after the approval of the UNESCO IHP Council Member States, it has become clear that such an initiative is necessary. The proposed centre conforms with 35 C/Resolution 103. The evaluation mission considered that the establishment of the centre is fully in line with UNESCO's objectives and programmes and that the centre would contribute to the execution of the freshwater programme of UNESCO. The strong support shown by the Government of Kenya for IHP-Kenya being a member of the Bureau of the

UNESCO IHP Intergovernmental Council, is a favourable precondition. Furthermore, the Intergovernmental Council of IHP has supported the establishment of the centre through the decisions of its 19th session.

- (b) The risks that UNESCO could incur in the establishment of the centre would be low, due primarily to the strong support from the Government of Kenya in providing an appropriate infrastructure, and core funding for the centre. The above viability of the proposed centre under the auspices of UNESCO is therefore strong. The category 2 centre will be associated with UNESCO, but it is legally external to the Organization, enjoying legal and functional autonomy. Hence, UNESCO is not legally responsible for it and it shall bear neither responsibility nor liabilities of any kind, be they managerial, financial or otherwise. The agreement for the establishment of the centre will be concluded for a definite time period, not exceeding six years. The agreement may be renewed by the Director-General in light of the review of the centre's activities and its evaluation.
- (c) A draft agreement which follows the model agreement format (See documents 35 C/22 and Corr.) is available for review at [www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences). It addresses the legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the proposed centre. The draft agreement for the proposed centre has been elaborated through a process of consultation between the Kenyan Government Authorities and the UNESCO IHP Secretariat.

### **Action expected of the Executive Board**

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

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, and IHP Intergovernmental Council Resolution XIX-6 adopted at the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme in June 2010,
2. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part IV, which provides an analytical outline of the proposal to establish a regional centre on groundwater resources education, training and research for East Africa in Nairobi, Kenya as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
3. Welcoming the proposal of Kenya, to establish on its territory a regional groundwater education, training and research centre for East Africa under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/2, and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103,
4. Deeming the considerations and proposals contained in document 186 EX/14 Part IV to meet the requirements needed for UNESCO to grant its auspices to the regional centre,
5. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 36th session, approve the establishment in Nairobi, Kenya, of the Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research for East Africa as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement, (available on the website of the Natural Sciences Sector), the text of which follows the model agreement.



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**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING  
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**PART V**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN NSUKKA, NIGERIA,  
OF AN INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**SUMMARY**

This document consists of a report by the Director-General assessing the feasibility of the proposal submitted by the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the establishment of an international centre for biotechnology in Nsukka, Nigeria, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

The present document reviews the prerequisites for the establishment of the centre, and provides the scientific and institutional rationale behind the proposal of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. A Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Federal Republic of Nigeria has been prepared in conformity with the standard model agreement indicated in document 35 C/22 and Corr. (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001836/183691e.pdf>). The feasibility study was conducted in accordance with the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy (35 C/22) approved by the General Conference at its 35th session (35 C/Resolution 103).

Financial and administrative implications are covered in paragraph 11.

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 18.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. A proposal for the establishment of an international centre for biotechnology, at the University of Nigeria in Nsukka (UNN), as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO was received from the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Federal Minister of Education) in April 2008 as part of its effort to strengthen scientific cooperation in the field of biotechnology in developing countries, particularly in Africa. The Nigerian authorities requested that this item be included on the Agenda of the Executive Board at its 186th session.

2. A technical mission of UNESCO has been conducted to Abuja, capital of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and to Nsukka, the location of the proposed centre, in September 2010, to consider the feasibility of the proposed international centre. The feasibility study addresses requirements specified in the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres, contained in document 35 C/22 and approved by the General Conference at its 35th session (35 C/Resolution 103). During the fact-finding mission, visits were made to the Federal Ministry of Education, the Education Trust Fund (ETF), the National Universities Commission (NUC) and the National Root Crop Research Institute in Umudike. The main findings of the mission are available in full at [Proposed Category 2 Centre in Biotechnology – Nigeria](#).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

### Objectives and functions of the centre

3. The important contribution of biotechnology to sustainable development and improvement in quality of life are well known. It is widely acknowledged that biotechnology is a valuable tool in addressing issues related to agriculture and health, both of which are addressed by the Millennium Development Goals. However, sub-Saharan African countries still lag in their capability to exploit biotechnology processes. Public and private sector funding is low, and there is a lack of high-quality infrastructure to support advanced research and training in biotechnology. The brain drain from the region is worsening the situation.

4. The centre will provide advanced teaching and research in biotechnology with a focus on food security and tropical diseases. It will provide services, research opportunities and training in these areas, as well as contribute to developing public-private partnerships. It will serve as a centre of excellence in biotechnology research, policy and practice, providing facilities to conduct cutting-edge research in the areas of biotechnology covered by the centre. The centre will provide “banking” facilities for biological material and will develop methodologies and protocols in biotechnology including work on rapid screening of indigenous medicinal plants, mass propagation of the plant species, in vitro culture techniques and cutting edge biotechnology processes in the production and processing of food and food supplements. It will pursue the development and commercialization of new and improved technologies for food security and tropical disease control.

5. Specifically, the centre will:

- (a) **Provide state of the art laboratory facilities to enhance research** in the areas of its competence and will establish and maintain an African region culture collection facility of international standard for use of the centre and beyond. In addition, the centre will initiate joint research schemes, partnerships and projects including between the university and industry;
- (b) **Develop research for food security.** This research will focus on all areas of bio-resource use and biomass emphasizing sustainable biodiversity exploitation and conservation. Development of high yielding, drought and disease resistant varieties of traditional crops and livestock will be pursued as part of the centre’s food security



initiative. This will be implemented in synergy with the South-East Zonal Biotechnology centre located at the University of Nigeria;

- (c) **Develop tropical disease research initiatives.** The research work of the centre will equally focus on the control and eradication of diseases such as malaria, trypanosomiasis, tuberculosis and diabetes. In this context research on indigenous medicinal plants with potential therapeutic properties will be included;
- (d) **Provide training for postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows** in the areas of competence of the centre through doctoral and post doctoral research, international conferences and structured training courses. It will facilitate exchange visits for scientists from collaborating institutes in Africa and beyond;
- (e) **Develop capacity for biotechnology policy and practice** and provide policy guidance to governments in the African region. The centre will endeavour to assist governments in Africa, in collaboration with UNESCO and regional organizations, in the formulation of development strategies and biotechnology policies based on available capacity and know-how.

### Legal status

6. The centre will be a legally independent non-profit structure under the Laws of Nigeria and will pursue its activities and function as set by its governing structure without restraint. Notwithstanding its location within the campus of UNN, the centre will not be run as part of the University of Nigeria. It will however benefit from all amenities thereof, including utilities, security, staffing, other training facilities, land and other resources without loss of autonomy. It will have the status and legal capacity to contract, to institute legal proceedings, and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property.

### Governance

7. The centre will have an International Governing Board, an Academic Committee, and a Secretariat. The **International Governing Board** shall serve as the central governing, supervisory and regulatory body of the centre. This body will be responsible for maintaining the international status of the centre, for mobilizing and managing funding and have responsibility for the proper accounting of the centre's funds. It shall be the responsibility of this Board to set the medium- and long-term focus and policy thrust of the centre and approve its annual programme and priorities. The **Academic Committee** will be headed by the Executive Director. The Academic Committee will be the management team drawn from the faculty of the host University at the discretion of the Governing Board. It shall be responsible for the short term decision-making and good governance of the centre. The Academic Board shall set the short- to medium-term research focus of the centre in line with availability of funding and direction of the Governing Board. The Academic Committee will be responsible for preparation of grant applications and follow-up thereof. The **Executive Director** shall be appointed by the Governing Board through international advertisement and will be a full time employee of the centre in charge of its day-to-day running. He/she shall serve as the Executive Director for a period of five years and may be reappointed for a second term of four years, for a maximum of nine years of service.

### Financial matters

8. The Federal Government of Nigeria will fund the centre. Funding has been ensured through a Federal Government of Nigeria-Education Trust Fund (ETF) intervention fund. It is also envisaged that other sources of funding will be leveraged, such as foundations, multilateral and international agencies, public sector grants, competitive research grants, technology transfer arrangements and donations. Other collaborating institutions including universities are expected to make some in-kind contributions.

9. Funding of US \$3,000,000 has already been provided by an industrial partner, Diamond Bank PLC, for the construction of the Centre's premises. The main building comprising four fully furnished and equipped laboratories and infrastructure for teaching, seminars, ICT facilities and office space for academic and administrative staff, are nearing completion. The Centre will also benefit from a grant that the University is currently acquiring through the ETF. This grant will cover, *inter alia*, the fellowship programmes, organization of workshops, training courses, and international meetings. The Government of Nigeria will provide an annual contribution of about \$1,950,000 through the ETF and the NUC.

10. For the first year, initial staff will be drawn from and salaries covered by the University of Nigeria. Thereafter the Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Minister of Education, will cover salaries of core staff and faculty, overhead and recurrent expenses. The UNN will provide access to additional facilities and specialized laboratories at its principal campuses as well as provide utilities and municipal services, security services and experimental lands for the centre.

### **Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO**

11. UNESCO has no financial obligations or accountability for the operation and management of the centre and shall not provide financial support for any administrative or institutional purposes. UNESCO's financial contribution will be used mainly to ensure the Organization's representative attendance in formal meetings, in particular in meetings of the Governing Board of the centre.

## **III. Relation to UNESCO's objectives and programmes and expected impact of the Centre**

### **Areas of cooperation with UNESCO**

12. The Centre will cooperate with UNESCO in developing activities in the area of biotechnology education and research, and contributing to UNESCO's actions towards building national, regional and international biotechnology capacity with a priority for Africa.

### **Relation to UNESCO's objectives and programmes**

13. The activity of the Centre in the regions and at the international level will make a substantial contribution towards Strategic Programme Objective 4 of the 34 C/4 and Biennial Sectoral Priority I of the 35 C/5, both of which call on the Organization to foster "policies and capacity-building in science, technology and innovation". The Centre's activities will encompass an interdisciplinary approach to research and teaching of science that has increasingly become the basis for programme action within the context of the International Basic Sciences Programme.

14. The Centre will contribute to UNESCO's priority for Africa and its action in reinforcing intergovernmental cooperation, promoting in particular South-South and North-South-South cooperation. It will contribute to efforts to attain the objectives and vision set out in the *Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action for Africa* aiming at enabling Africa to harness and apply science, technology and related innovations to the eradication of poverty and to achieve sustainable development. The Centre will build much needed capacity in biotechnology and address the priorities specific to the region especially in terms of food security and investment in research on diseases largely affecting the African countries.

15. In the elaboration of its work, the Centre will seek to build partnerships with and collaborate with relevant UNESCO partners among these, the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World, as well as the network of UNESCO chairs and category 2 centres and other specialized institutions and networks of excellence, particularly in Africa.

16. Regional and international impact of the centre:

- (a) At the national level, cooperating institutes will include over thirty universities offering doctoral programmes in biotechnology-related research, interministerial departments and federal biotechnology agencies, in particular the National Biotechnology Development Agency, the Sheda Science and Technology Complex, the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, zonal biotechnology centres (one of which is located at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka) among others that are active in biotechnology policy-making and research.
- (b) The centre will cooperate with universities, research institutes and government agencies working in the field of biotechnology on the west coast of Africa and beyond, from where postdoctoral fellows and faculty will also be drawn. In this regard the centre will establish appropriate collaborative arrangements with the regional and international institutes involved in biotechnology research and development, such as the Federal Institute for Industrial Research in Lagos.
- (c) The host University is currently collaborating with several universities and institutes nationally and globally in the area of biotechnology and science. The centre will benefit from these valuable links in the elaboration of its work.

**Results expected from UNESCO's contribution**

17. Where appropriate UNESCO will provide technical assistance of its experts and policy advice in the specialized fields of the Centre. UNESCO will also actively promote the activities of the Centre and facilitate partnerships and cooperation with other countries in the region and assist with the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources. Equally the Organization will assist the Centre to achieve its objectives through fostering collaboration with its partners, UNESCO category 2 centres globally and other centres of excellence.

**Action expected of the Executive Board**

18. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part V,
2. Recognizing the importance of biotechnology in contributing to scientific growth and sustainable development in Africa,
3. Welcomes the proposal of Nigeria to establish an international centre for biotechnology in Nsukka, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22, and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
4. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 36th session, approve the establishment of the International Centre for Biotechnology in Nsukka, Nigeria, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.



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**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING  
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**PART VI**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN TURIN, ITALY,  
OF AN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE ON THE  
ECONOMICS OF CULTURE AND WORLD HERITAGE STUDIES**

**SUMMARY**

The present document contains the report by the Director-General assessing the feasibility of the proposal for the establishment of the International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies in Turin (Italy), as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO – in accordance with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of UNESCO institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) and with the subsequent integrated comprehensive strategy approved by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 35th session (35 C/Resolution 103), together with an annex containing such provisions of the proposed draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Italy concerning the proposed Centre as deviate from the model agreement (see documents 35 C/22 and Corr.).

The administrative and financial implications of this Proposal are set out in paragraphs 17, 18, 19 and 22 and in Articles 12 and 13 of the Annex to the present document.

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 32.

## **I. Introduction**

1. The efforts of Member States to promote the establishment of category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO represent a powerful vehicle for supporting and implementing UNESCO's programme action. The important contribution of such institutions to "strengthening the Organization's global outreach and impact" was also underlined by 35 C/Resolution 103, adopted by the General Conference at its 35th session (October 2009).

2. By welcoming "the further development of the existing World Heritage category 2 centres" (Decision 34 COM 9C), the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010), recalled that category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO can potentially assist States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in the implementation of the Strategic Objectives and of the thematic programmes of the World Heritage Committee.

## **II. Background**

3. The Government of Italy proposed the establishment of an International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies in Turin (hereinafter "the proposed Centre") to reinforce the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and its strategic programme objectives, the priorities of UNESCO's Culture Sector related to the economics of culture, the study of the impacts of culture on development and the Historic Urban Landscape initiative.

4. The proposed Centre in Turin will be established as an autonomous entity backed by several leading academic and higher education institutions. It will build on the Master's course "World Heritage at Work", taught at the University of Turin, the Turin Polytechnic School and the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO) in Turin, in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICCROM in its capacity as an advisory body organization mandated by the World Heritage Committee to oversee training within the World Heritage context and to oversee the revision of the Global Capacity Building Strategy.

5. The above-mentioned Master course "World Heritage at Work", which will serve as the starting point of the proposed Centre's approach to education and training, is also taught at the Turin School of Development, managed by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO) in partnership with sister United Nations agencies (e.g., UNESCO, ILO, WIPO Academy, UNDP, UNCITRAL) and the academic world. The Turin School of Development, hosted on the campus of the United Nations staff college managed by ITC-ILO and supported by the Government of Italy, offers postgraduate and Master programmes covering themes that are central to the mandate of key international institutions, such as sustainable development, poverty reduction and job creation, global trade, good governance, culture and the living environment.

## **III. Objectives and functions of the proposed Centre**

6. The global objective of the proposed centre in Turin is to assist UNESCO in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and its "culture and development" agenda. It places special emphasis on the management of World Heritage properties and the field of the economics of culture and urban economic development. The proposed Centre would propose its knowledge tools in the above-mentioned fields of expertise at the international level and in coordinated synergy with the existing UNESCO category 2 centres devoted to World Heritage.

7. The proposed Centre would act as a shared platform for training and research activities, exchange and share of experiences and practices, among the various academic and educational actors working in the field of the economics of culture and the management of UNESCO World Heritage properties. The Centre would serve as a high-level applied research platform for urban environment policies and activities undertaken by the Culture Sector of UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre in the framework of the Historic Urban Landscape initiative.

8. Accordingly, the proposed Centre would concentrate its activities on research and higher education on the interrelated topics of the economics of culture, the impact of culture on development, global urbanization and environmental sustainability, cultural diversity and the preservation of the identity of historic cities, and common heritage as a driver of cultural creativity and urban regeneration.

9. The Centre would deliver the aforementioned activities, in particular by:

- fostering advanced scientific research on contemporary political and economic thought with special focus on cultural, institutional and creative economics;
- encouraging the understanding, articulating and disseminating information about the important challenges and opportunities brought forward by contemporary urban development and the above-mentioned topics;
- organizing international conferences, lectures and symposia to foster international debate and to disseminate state-of-the-art research and practices on the above-mentioned topics;
- teaching higher education training courses;
- supporting the development of didactic materials, curriculum design and teacher training;
- promoting editorial activities (through publications, articles, scientific papers in the virtual and hard copy domains);
- providing related services (research, studies, consultancy and technical advice) to public and private institutions.

#### **IV. Legal status and governance of the proposed Centre**

##### *Legal status*

10. The proposed Centre will be an independent and autonomous institution and shall enjoy on the territory of Italy and according to the Italian national legislation the personality and legal capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions, in particular the ability to contract, institute legal proceedings, receive subventions, obtain payments for services rendered, acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property and to acquire all necessary means to carry out its mandate.

11. The founding partners and main supporting institutions of the proposed Centre currently are: the University of Torino, the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO), the University of Naples, the University IULM in Milan, the Domain comprising the Royal Castle and World Heritage property of “Venaria Reale”, the international research centre on the Economics of Culture “Silvia Santagata”, the research centre and service provider in cultural management “SiTi” (joint institution by the leading Italian private development foundation “Compagnia di San Paolo” and the Turin Polytechnic School). The proposed Centre is open to the participation and partnership of other leading international organizations working in the field of the economics of culture and the management of cultural development projects.

##### *Organization and structure of the Centre*

12. The governance structure of the proposed Centre will include:

- a Governing Board to guide the activities of the institute and to oversee its operations and management;

- an Executive Committee, whose members are chosen from the Governing Board, and representing the Board between its meetings;
- a Scientific and Advisory Board offering scientific and technical advice on the Centre's programmes and activities;
- a Secretariat, functioning as headquarters of the institute, which shall be composed of a Director and an operational staff required for the effective operations of the Centre.

13. The composition and functions of the entities comprising the above-indicated structure are described in detail in Articles 7-11 of the Draft Agreement annexed to this document.

14. The Governing Board shall include as a full member a representative from UNESCO. The Scientific and Advisory Board shall include representatives from the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee and from the relevant United Nations agencies and other related international organizations.

#### *Infrastructure*

15. The headquarters of the proposed Centre will be hosted in the monumental Venaria Reale castle complex, located within the Residences of the Royal House of Savoy, which were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1997. The Venaria Reale complex is a unique environmental and architectural ensemble of outstanding universal value comprising a main castle, stables and gardens (approximately 80 hectares of gardens and 80,000 square meters of buildings). The Venaria Reale is managed by a consortium made up of the Italian Ministry of Culture, the Piedmont Region and the aforementioned private foundation "Compagnia di San Paolo".

16. Moreover, in its capacity of founding partner of the proposed Centre, the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO), which hosts the training and residential facilities of the United Nations staff college and consists of 21 low-rise buildings set in ten hectares of riverside parkland in Turin (Italy), will continue to host the training and educational activities of the proposed Centre.

#### **V. Methods of financing and financial sustainability**

17. The proposed Centre will benefit from a separate budget allocated on an annual basis that will cover the costs of the facilities of the proposed Centre, including equipment, utilities, communications, secretariat staff and maintenance of infrastructure. It would also cover the costs of a certain number of regular activities as defined by the Governing Board.

18. In the initial development phase of the proposed Centre as a separate and autonomous institution, the initial annual budget of the Centre, covering the operational costs of the aforementioned training Master course "World Heritage at Work", will be ensured through an annual allocation of approximately €290,000. This allocation will be ensured primarily through the International Training Centre of ILO as founding partner of the proposed Centre and by the "Compagnia di San Paolo". This amount (calculated mainly on the basis of the budget of the academic year 2010-2011) would only cover the running costs of the training and education activities of the Centre.

19. With regard to the costs related to the above-mentioned premises, and to its equipment, utilities, services, and staff salaries, the operational and functioning costs will be covered by the founding partners, which will provide the in-kind resources needed for the proper operation of the Centre. In its initial phases, the technical and secretarial staff of the Centre will be seconded by the various founding partners. The academic staff and the faculty ensuring the scientific research and the higher education activities provided by the proposed Centre will be composed of the academic staff seconded by the founding partner academic institutions.

## **VI. Cooperation with UNESCO**

### *Contribution to UNESCO's programme priorities and strategies*

20. The proposed Centre, will draw upon its capacities as well as those of its solid and vast network to contribute to the achievement of the strategic priorities and objectives of the Culture Sector of UNESCO, in the framework of the strategic vision and programmatic framework for UNESCO's action outlined in the approved document 34 C/4 (UNESCO's Medium-term Strategy for 2008-2013).

21. Over time, the proposed Centre will closely align its mid-term and long-term strategies with the relevant Medium-Term Strategies and with the biennial priorities of the Culture Sector adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO, as well as with the Strategic Objectives and the priorities of the World Heritage Committee and its Capacity-Building Strategy.

22. In light of the "Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO" (35 C/22 and Corr.), approved by the General Conference of UNESCO (35 C/Resolution 103), UNESCO may contract the Centre to implement concrete programme activities envisaged in UNESCO's approved work plans and in accordance with existing regulations. UNESCO may also provide technical assistance for the programme activities of the Centre, in accordance with the strategic goals and objectives of UNESCO. UNESCO shall, however, have no financial obligations or accountability for the operations, management and accounting by the Centre and shall not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purpose.

### *Engagement with the proposed Centre on specific themes and areas for joint programme implementation*

23. With regard to the specific themes related to its field of expertise, the proposed Centre will define its work plans in great synergy with the strategies for engagement and interaction with category 2 centres identified periodically by UNESCO and its Culture Sector, and in the relevant areas for possible joint programme implementation, at the international level and in interaction with the relevant field offices of UNESCO as appropriate.

24. The proposed Centre will therefore share its work plans and other relevant documents setting the priorities and strategies of the Centre's activity, in a process of constant consultation with UNESCO and its programme sector.

### *Reporting*

25. In accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy by UNESCO in force, the proposed Centre will report on the implementation of its strategies, main objectives and themes, in line with the Results-Based Programming, Management and Monitoring approach (RBM). The Centre will submit annual reports providing detailed information on the activities performed under the scope of the proposed Centre as outlined in the draft agreement annexed to the present document. The reports will also highlight the possible impact on the programme results at the Main Lines of Action level, whether realized through individual action by the Centre or in joint action with other category 2 centres or through joint implementation with the Secretariat.

### *The global relevance and impact of the proposed Centre*

26. The collaboration between UNESCO and the proposed Centre is expected to enhance opportunities for greater coordination with UNESCO regional, cluster and national offices, with the World Heritage related category 2 centres working under the auspices of UNESCO and with the relevant UNESCO Chairs working in related fields of expertise.



27. The work of the Centre is expected to result in the improvement in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention with special focus on the management of World Heritage properties and of cultural resources and in the fulfilment of the specific Culture Sector strategies in the field of culture and development and of the Historic Urban Landscape initiative at the international level.

28. Drawing upon the international experience of its founding partners, which over time have matured into an excellence and worldwide-renowned reference for higher education and advanced research in its field of expertise, the activities undertaken at the international level by the proposed Centre will have significant relevance in strengthening policy advice, capacity-building and international cooperation under the auspices of UNESCO.

## **VII. Summary evaluation of the proposed institute**

29. The proposed International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies would provide a model for institutional and international cooperation built around the objectives of UNESCO. The proposed Centre would extend the resources and capacities of existing institutions working in its field of expertise. It is designed to further UNESCO's objectives for World Heritage and to create a new UNESCO-linked platform for that purpose.

30. UNESCO and its Member States and Associate Members, the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention and the international community at large could greatly benefit from the establishment of the centre as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as it would constitute an open international platform for the advanced research and higher education in its field of expertise. The high degree of commitment demonstrated by the Government of Italy in putting forward the proposal aimed at the establishment of such a Centre, which is rooted in the longstanding and fruitful cooperation with UNESCO in particular in the field of the protection and promotion of cultural heritage, is therefore to be welcomed.

31. The proposed Centre appears to meet the criteria for establishing a UNESCO category 2 institute/centre and to fulfil the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres approved by the General Conference (35 C/Resolution 103).

## **VIII. Action expected of the Executive Board**

32. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a draft decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the proposal submitted by the Government of Italy for the establishment of an institution called "International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies" under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
2. Having examined the feasibility study contained in document 186 EX/14 Part VI,
3. Welcoming the proposal of the Government of Italy, which is in line with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22 and approved by the General Conference (35 C/Resolution 103),
4. Recommends that the General Conference at its 36th session approve the establishment in Turin, Italy, of the "International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies" under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

## ANNEX

### RELEVANT PROVISIONS, ADDITIONAL TO OR VARYING FROM THOSE FORESEEN IN THE MODEL AGREEMENT

*(The provisions that are additional to or varying from those foreseen in the model agreement are highlighted in italics and bold for ease of reference)*

#### Article 1 – Definitions

1. In this Agreement, “UNESCO” refers to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
2. “Government” means the Government of Italy.
3. The “Centre” means the International Research on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage studies.
4. **“World Heritage Convention” refers to the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted by the UNESCO General Conference at its 17th session on 16 November 1972.**
5. **“Culture Sector” refers to the Culture Sector of UNESCO.**

#### Article 4 – Legal Status

1. The Centre shall be independent of UNESCO.
2. The Government of Italy shall ensure that the Centre enjoys on its territory the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity to:
  - (a) contract;
  - (b) institute legal proceedings;
  - (c) receive subventions;**
  - (d) obtain payments for services rendered,**
  - (e) acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property **and**
  - (f) acquire as necessary, the means to fulfil its mandate.**

#### Article 7 – Governing Board

1. The Centre shall be guided and overseen by a Governing Board, renewed every 4 years, and include:
  - (a) a representative of the Ministry of Culture of Italy;
  - (b) a representative of each of the Member States which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 14, paragraph 2, below;
  - (c) a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO;

- (d) a representative of the University of Turin (Italy);
- (e) a representative of the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO);
- (f) a representative of the Consortium La Venaria Reale, managing the Royal Castle and World Heritage property of Venaria Reale;
- (g) a representative of the research centre and service provider in cultural management “SiTi” (joint institution by the leading Italian private development foundation “Compagnia di San Paolo” and the Turin Polytechnic School), as observer with no right to vote;
- (h) a representative of the Research Centre on the Economics of Culture “Silvia Santagata”, as an observer with no right to vote.

2. The Governing Board shall:

- (a) approve the long-term and medium-term programmes of the Centre;
- (b) approve the annual work plan **and budget** of the Centre including staffing provisions, infrastructure requirements and operating costs;
- (c) examine the annual reports submitted by the Director of the Centre, including an **annual** self-assessment of the Centre’s contribution to UNESCO’s programme objectives;
- (d) adopt the rules and regulations and determine the financial, administrative and personnel management procedures for the Centre, in accordance with the Italian national legislation;
- (e) decide on the participation of international organizations and of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Centre
- (f) **determine the composition of the Executive Committee, and of the Scientific and Advisory Board;**
- (g) **approve the initial development strategy and working methods of the Centre;**
- (h) **convene special consultative sessions to which it shall invite, in addition to its own members, representatives of other interested Member States and international organizations in order to expand the Centre’s fundraising strategy and strengthen its capacities to draw up proposals to broaden the scope of the services provided by the Centre, and to carry out its projects and activities.**

3. The Governing Board shall meet in ordinary session at regular intervals, at least once every calendar year. It shall meet in extraordinary session if convened by its Chairperson, either on his/her own initiative or at the request of the Director-General of UNESCO, or at the request of the majority of its members.

4. The Governing Board shall adopt its own rules and procedures. For its first meeting, the applicable procedures shall be established by the Government of Italy and UNESCO.

#### **Article 8 – Executive Committee**

- 1. The Governing Board shall establish the Executive Committee, from among its members, to ensure continuity in day-to-day management of the Centre, between sessions of the Governing Board.**
- 2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson of the Governing Board, the Chairperson of the Scientific and Advisory Board, a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO and one to three members from the Governing Board to be determined by the Governing Board.**
- 3. The Director of the Centre, shall participate in the Committee as an ex-officio member without the right to vote.**

#### **Article 9 – Scientific and Advisory Board**

- 1. The Scientific and Advisory Board shall provide scientific and technical advice for planning, execution, review and monitoring of the programme of the Centre.**
- 2. The Scientific and Advisory Board shall be established by the Governing Board, which shall determine its composition from among leading personalities in academia, prominent representatives of international and national organizations and international intergovernmental organizations and world-renowned experts in the field of expertise of the Centre, as well as foremost thinkers and influential intellectuals.**
- 3. The Governing Board shall appoint the Chairperson of the Scientific and Advisory Board.**
- 4. The Director of the Centre, shall participate in the Scientific and Advisory Board as an ex-officio member.**

#### **Article 10 – Secretariat**

- 1. The Centre's Secretariat shall consist of a Director and any other staff required for the effective operations of the Centre.**
- 2. The Director shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Governing Board.**
- 3. The other members of the Secretariat may include:**
  - (a) members of UNESCO's staff who may be temporarily seconded and made available to the Centre in accordance with UNESCO's relevant regulations and rules and by the decisions of its governing bodies;**
  - (b) any person appointed by the Director of the Centre, in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Governing Board;**
  - (c) officials who are made available to the Centre by the Italian State or by other Member States of UNESCO that have notified the Centre of their wish to participate in the activities of the Centre, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 14, paragraph 2, below.**

### **Article 11 – Duties of the Director of the Centre**

**The Director of the Centre shall discharge the following duties:**

- (a) direct the work of the Centre in conformity with the programmes and directives established by the Governing Board;**
- (b) propose the draft work plan and budget to be submitted to the Governing Board for approval;**
- (c) prepare the provisional agenda for the sessions of the Governing Board, the Executive Committee and the Scientific and Advisory Board and submit to them any proposals that he/she may deem useful for the administration of the Centre;**
- (d) prepare reports on the Centre's activities to be submitted to the Governing Board and UNESCO;**
- (e) represent the Centre in law and in all civil acts;**
- (f) make decisions on technical, financial and/or administrative tools and systems, logos and standard formats to be used;**
- (g) prepare and disseminate information related to the Centre;**
- (h) communicate with any partner relevant to the Centre;**
- (i) prepare internal regulations for the Centre, for approval by the Governing Board.**

### **Article 13 – Contribution by the Government of Italy**

1. The Government of Italy, **through the relevant Italian public authorities and institutions such as local public entities and the founding universities partners of the Centre**, shall provide the necessary resources, either financially or in kind, needed for the administration and proper functioning of the Centre. In particular they shall:

- (a) make available to the Centre appropriate office space, equipment and facilities, and the premises for the Headquarters of the Centre located in the World Heritage complex of the “Venaria Reale”;**
- (b) entirely assume all costs for the maintenance of the Centre;**
- (c) contribute to the Centre in the organizational costs of the activities carried out by the Centre in accordance with its annual work plan and budget;**
- (d) make available to the Centre the academic, technical and administrative staff required for the effective performance of its functions;**
- (e) contribute to programme activities such as information dissemination and sharing, capacity-building activities, research programmes, publications and logistical support;**



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**Executive Board**  
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**186 EX/14**  
**Part VII**

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**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF  
ESTABLISHING CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

**PART VII**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN AMMAN, JORDAN,  
OF AN INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM FOR WOMEN IN THE ARTS  
AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE**

**SUMMARY**

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan proposed the establishment of the International Museum for Women in the Arts as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. In compliance with the Guidelines and Criteria for Category 2 Institutes and Centres approved in 35 C/Resolution 103, a feasibility study has been conducted regarding this proposal.

The present document contains the report by the Director-General assessing the feasibility of the proposal, together with an annex containing such provisions of the proposed draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan concerning the Centre as deviate from the model agreement (see documents 35 C/22 and Corr.).

Financial implications of this proposal are covered in paragraphs 8 and 26 and Articles IX and XI of the draft agreement.

Action expected of the Executive Board: Proposed decision in paragraph 27.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Royal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan proposes the establishment of a category 2 centre, under the auspices of UNESCO, in Amman, Jordan. This centre, hosted by the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, will be a new museum, the International Museum for Women in the Arts (hereafter "Centre"). This document outlines the background and basis of the proposal, the objectives of the Centre, the principal advantages that the Centre will provide to Member States, and the Centre's relevance to UNESCO's programmes. In accordance with 35 C/Resolution 103 and document 35 C/22, a decision is sought from the Executive Board to recommend to the General Conference the establishment of the proposed Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

## **CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE**

2. The present feasibility study was undertaken by the Secretariat based on relevant documentation provided by the Royal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan regarding the proposed establishment of the centre as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. This study endeavours to review the requirements specified in the UNESCO Guidelines and Criteria for Category 2 Institutes and Centres approved in 35 C/Resolution 103.

### **Objectives and functions of the Centre**

3. The Centre will function as an international museum dedicated to the work of women artists from around the world. Located in Jordan, the Centre itself will serve as a centre for women in the region, using art and cultural heritage as a means of expression and freedom.

4. The Centre has a mandate to promote culture, the arts, women, education, gender equality, and to improve intercultural dialogue. The museum will focus largely on education, with an emphasis on programmes for girls.

### **Legal status and governance**

5. The Centre will have an autonomous legal personality with the capacity necessary to exercise its functions pursuant to the laws of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

6. The Centre shall be guided and overseen by a Board of Trustees renewed every three years and shall include:

- (a) a representative of the Government, or his/her appointed representative;
- (b) representatives of Member States, which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 10, paragraph 2, of the agreement attached, and have expressed interest in being represented on the Board;
- (c) a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO.

7. The Board of Trustees will conduct a worldwide search for both a Director and Curator for the Centre. The preliminary staffing estimate is between 8 and 37 positions, with a recommendation of 22 positions. The Centre's capacity-building work is expected to permit a number of interns from around the world to complement the Centre's staff.

### **Financial arrangements**

8. As specified in the Request for Action letter submitted by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, addressed to the Director-General, dated 30 December 2010, "the Government of Jordan, as host, in conjunction with the International Museum of Women in the Arts Foundation, and other

international donors from both the public and private sector will renovate the building, as well as provide the necessary support for the museum's operation and administration." "Additional financial support has been received by the United States Government, and further financial support will be received in conjunction with financing from UNESCO Member States, the Foundation for the International Museum for Women in the Arts, and a number of private foundations, companies and individuals to ensure the necessary establishment, administration and proper function of the Centre." Under Jordanian law, the Centre "will have the right to get financial support from other sources for purposes provided by statute. ... The Government of [the Hashemite Kingdom of] Jordan will take all appropriate measures, in accordance with its prevailing laws and regulations, to ensure that the IMWA structure and governance functions as required for category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO. The Government of [the Hashemite Kingdom of] Jordan will, in conjunction with international partners and donors, provide resources, financial or in kind, needed for the administration and proper operation of the Centre. All funding sources shall respect UNESCO's ethical values. UNESCO will provide no financial support to the Centre."

### **Proposed activities/operations and projected impact**

9. The Centre will house a permanent collection of art comprising works by the world's leading women artists, and showcase women artists from the region. Its collection will be accessible worldwide via the Internet, which will highlight current exhibits and provide teaching tools for students in UNESCO's official languages. In addition to inherent educational and recreational functions, the Centre will also host and organize conferences promoting peace through art, regionally and internationally.

10. Art and cultural heritage: The Centre's principal activities will aim to preserve and promote the work of women artists from around the world, ensuring that women's cultural heritage is protected for posterity. The Centre will host museum administrators, artists, curators, and others from around the world, in order to share in, and develop their expertise. The Centre will be involved in capacity-building in many areas.

11. Peace through art: Another chief activity will be the advancement of peace through art. Art will be used to open dialogue, encourage the discovery of other cultures and highlight shared creative forces that unite all people as human beings.

12. Free expression: The Centre will offer women and girls the chance to expand their own artistic skills with a range of programmes. Using various vehicles of artistic expression (e.g. painting, sculpting, performing arts, fashion, multimedia-based art), the Centre will offer women artists the opportunity to express themselves freely through their creations.

13. Women's empowerment and gender equality: The Centre will also serve as a source of inspiration, highlighting the capacity of women to create and build with equal autonomy, and on equal footing, in relation to men, while raising awareness that improved education and economic opportunity are attainable realities providing the basis for gender equality.

14. Goodwill ambassadors: The Chairperson of the Centre's Board of Trustees and one of its founding members are UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors. Both are working to involve more UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors in the Centre project, as each Ambassador can make a positive contribution in support of UNESCO's mandate, most notably with regard to intercultural dialogue.

### **Regional and global scope of activities**

15. International representation: the Centre will maintain extensive professional contacts with international museums, research institutions, private foundations and experts. In its first phase, it is envisaged that the Centre's exhibits will be loaned from museums from around the world, bringing together some of the finest examples of art created by women artists. Highlighting the world's



foremost women artists in this way will strengthen and solidify global ties between leading museums and curators.

16. International outreach and dissemination: Relying on modern technology, the Centre will reach audiences around the world in the six official languages of UNESCO. The Centre will provide traditional museum services of study, research, conservation, museum management training, and capacity-building to a global audience. Regional events and conferences linked to the Centre's activities will take place in the five geographic regions. As part of its peace through art educational activities, the Centre will link classrooms of children across the world to share in art appreciation. By opening the world to the creations of women artists via the Internet, the Centre will provide a forum for discussion and an online marketplace for handicrafts and artwork created by women from around the world.

### **Areas of cooperation with UNESCO**

17. As described above, the Centre will contribute to a wide range of UNESCO's strategic objectives and programme priorities through its activities, most notably as regards the alignment of the Centre's objectives with UNESCO's global priority concerning gender equality in cultural heritage policies. The Centre will also collaborate with UNESCO's Amman Field Office regarding UNESCO events in the areas of the Centre's activities, and will seek to promote temporary staff exchanges with UNESCO, other international and regional organizations and Member States to promote knowledge-sharing.

18. The Centre will use UNESCO's name and logo in accordance with the conditions and procedures established by UNESCO.

19. UNESCO and the Centre will sign an agreement between the two entities, defining the terms and conditions, rights and obligations, and other issues governing their proposed collaboration. UNESCO will also provide methodological support in the development of the Centre's prospective and biennial plans to ensure consistency between UNESCO's mandate and the Centre's mission and future activities.

### **Current state of establishment**

20. Her Majesty, Queen Rania, of Jordan, has provided a building for the Centre at the entrance to the renovated al-Abdali quarter. The Centre will thus become the showpiece of a vibrant new area in Amman. The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, as host, with the International Museum for Women in the Arts Foundation, the United Nations Foundation, and other international donors, will renovate the building and provide the necessary support for the Centre's operation and administration.

21. Engineers and architects specialized in museum planning are finalizing draft renovation plans for the building. The ground-breaking is expected to begin by summer 2011. The total area will be over 1,400 square metres and will include exhibit space, visitor service areas, education facilities, conference rooms, curatorial offices, collection storage, administrative offices, and building service facilities.

### **SUMMARY EVALUATION OF THE SUBMITTED PROPOSAL**

22. Based upon a review of the Centre's proposed activities and its strategic programme priorities and objectives, it may be concluded that the activities of the Centre will improve dialogue among cultures, increase freedom of expression, and empower women and girls through the use of art, education, and culture. It is expected that the Centre will be provided with the building, technical support, qualified staff, funding, and international political support to meet its objectives and functions.

23. With the proposed enabling technologies, the Centre's scope of impact will be global as well as regional. As there are no other international museums in the region specifically dedicated to women in the arts, there is no risk of redundancy. And, as such, the Centre will serve as a source for regional and global cultural policy advice, a centre for capacity-building, and a hub for South-South cultural cooperation both within the region and abroad.

24. In the future, the Centre will interact with museums in the region, major international museums, and principal museums within Jordan such as, for example, the similarly focused National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. in order to achieve complementarity.

25. In addition to the specific involvement detailed in the review, UNESCO is asked to lend its technical and organizational expertise in the Centre's preliminary phases. UNESCO's role should also be to assist in bridging Member States, governmental and non-governmental organizations and international experts, as possible, in order to maximize the Centre's impact.

26. As proposed by the Government of Jordan, UNESCO will not provide any financial support to the Centre.

### **Action expected**

27. In light of the above proposal, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part VII,
2. Aware of the importance of international cooperation for the creation of an international museum specifically devoted to women in the arts, with a focus on arts education geared to intercultural dialogue, freedom of expression, and empowerment of women, with the goal of promoting peace through art,
3. Taking note of the observations and conclusions of the feasibility study,
4. Welcomes the proposal by Jordan to establish an international museum for women in the arts, in Amman, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22, and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
5. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 36th session, approve the establishment of the International Museum for Women in the Arts, in Amman, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

## ANNEX

### PROVISIONS DEVIATING FROM THE MODEL AGREEMENT OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNESCO AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN CONCERNING THE CENTRE

#### Article 1 – Definitions

1. In this Agreement, “UNESCO” refers to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;
2. “Centre” means the International Museum of Women in the Arts;
3. “Government” means the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;
4. “The Agreement” means this contract; and
5. “The Parties” means UNESCO and the Government.

#### Article 2 – Establishment

The Government shall agree to take, in the course of 2011-2012, any measures that may be required for the setting up at Amman, Jordan, of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as provided for under this Agreement.

[...]

#### Article 4 – Legal status

[...]

4.2 The Government shall ensure that the Centre enjoys within its territory the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity:

to contract;

to institute legal proceedings;

to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property; and

to receive financial support from other resources for purposes provided by statute: by voluntary contributions, donations, endowments, and devised property.

#### Article 5 – Constitutive Act

The Board of Trustees shall adopt a constitutive act of the Centre, which must include provisions describing precisely:

[...]

### Article 6 – Functions/objectives

The objectives of the Centre shall be to:

- function as an international museum dedicated to the work of women artists from around the world.
- serve as a centre for women in the region, using art and cultural heritage as a means of expression and freedom.
- to promote culture, the arts, women, education, gender equality, and to improve intercultural dialogue.
- to focus largely on education, with an emphasis on programmes for girls.

### Article 7 – Board of Trustees

1. The Centre shall be guided and overseen by a Board of Trustees renewed every three years and include:

[...]

### Article 9 – Contribution by the Government

[...]

2. The Government undertakes to:

- (a) make available to the Centre the proposed building located in the al-Abdali quarter of Amman, Jordan; and
- (b) entirely assume the responsibility for the operation and administration of the Centre, and all construction and renovation work required for the completion of the Centre's physical establishment located at the proposed site in the al-Abdali quarter of Amman; and

*[Model Agreement Article 9 subsection (c) omitted]*

- (c) make available to the Centre the administrative staff necessary for the performance of its functions, which shall comprise a director and a minimum of 8 permanent staff necessary for its operation.

[...]

### Article 15 – Duration

This Agreement is concluded for a period of three years as from its entry into force, and shall be deemed renewed unless otherwise expressly denounced by either Party as provided for in Article 16.

### Article 16 – Denunciation

[...]

2. The denunciation shall take effect within 30 days following receipt of the notification sent by one of the contracting parties to the other.

[...]

### **Article 18 – Settlement of disputes**

1. Any dispute between UNESCO and the Government concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement, if not settled by negotiation or any other appropriate method agreed to by the Parties, shall be submitted for final decision to an arbitration tribunal composed of three members, one of whom shall be appointed by a representative of the Government, another by the Director-General of UNESCO, and a third, who shall preside over the tribunal, shall be chosen by the first two. If the two arbitrators cannot agree on the choice of a third, the appointment shall be made by the President of the International Court of Justice.
2. The Tribunal's decision shall be final.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have signed this Agreement,

DONE in six copies in English, on [...]



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and eighty-sixth session

# 186 EX/14

## Part VIII

PARIS, 8 April 2011  
Original: English

Item 14 of the provisional agenda

## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

### PART VIII

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN REYKJAVIK, ICELAND OF AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CENTRE

##### SUMMARY

In February 2009, the Minister of Education, Science and Culture of Iceland informed the Director-General about her country's intention to establish in Reykjavik, under the auspices of UNESCO, a category 2 centre in the domain of language. Following further consultations, the Director-General received a formal request for action on 25 May 2009.

In July 2009, UNESCO carried out a technical mission in Reykjavik to ensure follow-up of the request. Further negotiations were conducted over the following 18 months, culminating in a second technical mission carried out in January 2011.

This document, prepared as a result of the above-mentioned process, reviews the prerequisites for the establishment of the centre and outlines the arguments in favour of Iceland's proposal. It is substantiated by an annex containing such provisions of the proposed draft agreement between UNESCO and Iceland concerning the centre as deviate from the model agreement (see documents 35 C/22 and Corr.). Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraph 12.

Action expected of the Executive Board: Decision proposed in paragraph 15.

## Introduction

1. On 17 February 2009, the Minister of Education, Science and Culture of Iceland sent a letter to the Director-General of UNESCO informing that Iceland would seek category 2 status, under UNESCO's auspices, for a centre to be established in Reykjavik. In his response, the Director-General expressed his readiness to carry out a feasibility study after receiving a formal request for action, which was delivered in May 2009. In July 2009, UNESCO organized a technical mission with the view to begin the process of the feasibility study.

2. As some questions were still pending after the completion of this mission, negotiations were conducted with the different Icelandic partners and between UNESCO and the Icelandic Government from August 2009 to December 2010; a second technical mission was carried out in January 2011. The present document (initially expected to be ready for submission to the Executive Board at its 184th session, in accordance with 182 EX/Decision 20 (IX)) summarizes the outcomes of this process by reviewing the prerequisites and arguments for the establishment of the centre.

3. Icelandic society is particularly aware of the role of language in the preservation and promotion of culture. The Icelandic language has changed little since the thirteenth century, and today's speakers can still understand the original sagas written some eight hundred years ago. Translation from foreign languages has always been a fundamental part of the country's literary production. Similarly, foreign languages instruction has always been a major part of Icelandic education and still is, so that multilingualism – through the knowledge of foreign languages – is considered a cornerstone of Icelandic identity. Ms Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, President of Iceland from 1980 to 1996 and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Languages since 1998, is an internationally acknowledged advocate for a linguistically diverse and peaceful world. She has inspired and strongly supports the present proposal for the creation of a category 2 centre in the domain of language under the auspices of UNESCO.

4. The UNESCO missions (June 2009 and January 2011) studied the objectives, scope, structure, legal status and financial arrangements proposed for the centre, as well as areas of cooperation with UNESCO, its regional and international impact, and the results expected from UNESCO's contribution. This report is based on the requests for action received from Iceland, on the information and documents received during the missions and during the negotiations between the different stakeholders concerned (including the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Iceland, the Icelandic National Commission to UNESCO, the University of Iceland, experts and the UNESCO Secretariat).

5. Between August 2009 and January 2011, the Government of Iceland elaborated its proposal and draft agreement. The agreement fulfils the programmatic requirements specified in the Guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, although it diverges in some points from the standard model agreement proposed in attachment 2 of document 35 C/22 (see in Annex).

## Aspects of the proposal

6. Article 7 of the draft agreement defines the following **objectives**:
- (a) to promote multilingualism in order to further understanding, exchange and respect between cultures and nations;
  - (b) to raise awareness of the importance of language as a core element of the cultural heritage of humanity;
  - (c) to contribute to the preservation of languages;

- (d) to function as a clearing house in the fields of multilingualism and linguistic diversity for decision-makers, experts and the public at large;
- (e) to promote translation and translation studies in order to enhance the enjoyment of cultural diversity and intercultural understanding;
- (f) to contribute to worldwide monitoring of the implementation of language policies and language planning in the field of mother tongue based multilingualism;
- (g) to promote research and education in second and foreign language studies and cultures;
- (h) to support and promote research into the role of the mother language as a human right;
- (i) to promote observation, analysis and statistics of translation flows.

7. Article 7 of the draft agreement also includes the following **functions** of the centre:

- (a) to work on and encourage the preservation of languages by upholding and supporting digital archives for languages of the world;
- (b) to support language vitalization and create a “planetarium of languages” – a combination of a real and virtual reality museum on the languages of the world with exhibitions to be experienced both on location and on the Internet;
- (c) to promote and disseminate research of languages and cultures as an element of cultural heritage of humanity by supporting research chairs for outstanding scholars, also from the developing countries;
- (e) to provide a forum and facilities for international doctoral students and academics, especially from the developing countries;
- (f) to devise and make available worldwide strategies and methods in support of endangered and indigenous languages through research projects, conferences and publications;
- (g) to support outstanding research in the field of language policy and politics;
- (h) to provide facilities and expertise for research projects and disseminate results with a special view to the objectives of the centre;
- (i) to delineate how native language visions and focused language policy can enhance literacy and education through the means of research projects and dissemination of knowledge;
- (j) to develop an international discussion platform;
- (k) to collaborate with all relevant UNESCO programmes, in particular in the field of language acquisition, pedagogy and translation flow observations, like the Index Translationum (International Translation Bibliography).

8. The formal name proposed for the centre is “Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding”. The centre shall be an autonomous institution. It should be noted however that the centre, being a part of the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages at the University of Iceland, will not have full administrative and legal autonomy, nor its own personality and legal capacity, as foreseen in Articles 4 and 5 of the Model Agreement in document 35 C/22. The Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute, apart from teaching and investigating



numerous languages including all languages taught in Icelandic educational institutions and the cultures associated with them, focuses on second and foreign language teaching methodologies, language acquisition, translation studies, comparative linguistics, lexicography, literature and intercultural communication. The Institute has many contacts and partners at the regional and global levels and has organized several international conferences related to the main focus of the intended centre.

9. The Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding will be at the service of Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO that, given their common interest in its objectives, desire to cooperate with the centre.

10. The Government shall ensure that the centre enjoys, in accordance with Icelandic law and regulations and within its territory, the programmatic autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and that the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages at the University of Iceland will have the capacity to contract, to institute legal proceedings and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property on behalf of the centre.

11. A governing board consisting of a representative of Government (Ministry of Education and Culture), a representative of the Icelandic National Commission to UNESCO, three representatives of the University of Iceland, a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO and one representative for each of the up to three Member States which will have sent to the centre notification for membership, shall examine and adopt the medium- and long-term programmes and the draft work plans and budgets of the centre. The Chair of the governing board shall also appoint the Director of the centre.

12. In the framework of its functional autonomy (within the limits described in paragraph 8 above) the centre will have its own programme, budget and staff, to be approved by its governing board and determined by the objectives of the centre. By signing the agreement, the Government – through the budget of the University of Iceland – will undertake (i) to provide the administrative staff necessary for the performance of the centre's functions, as well as suitable premises, and (ii) to pay the centre an annual financial contribution of US \$150,000 in 2011. The Centre is expected to be fully functioning in the course of the year 2012.

### **Feasibility**

13. It is apparent from an examination of the documents and the information received during the meetings and discussions held during the mission that the proposal of Iceland is realistic, timely and feasible. In addition:

- (a) The authorities of Iceland support the proposed centre, and allocate resources in it; they are also determined to call upon experts and other actors of civil society to help the centre to flourish and to ensure that it plays a major role at the heart of a global network. The authorities have already begun to inform the main linguistic institutions in the world of their intentions.
- (b) The skills, experience and commitment of a large number of Icelandic institutions, organizations and individuals appear to ensure that, as far as Iceland is concerned, the centre will be able to duly perform the functions listed in paragraph 7 above, thereby contributing to UNESCO's strategic programme objectives relating to languages and multilingualism and, more in general, to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.
- (c) The objectives proposed for the centre are in line with UNESCO's strategies and objectives in the domain of intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity and, more

specifically, in the field of multilingualism and linguistic diversity.<sup>1</sup> The centre might also contribute to UNESCO's objectives by engaging in policy-advice and activities concerning multilingual education. Finally, the centre's envisaged involvement with translation and translation studies fits in well with the emphasis placed on the role of languages and translation in intercultural dialogue.

- (d) Besides promoting several objectives and priorities of UNESCO's programme, the centre might also serve as a key platform for the promotion and implementation of languages and multilingualism, especially given that the centre is meant to devote particular attention to partnerships and the role of civil society.
- (e) The centre would be the first such institution to act in favour of languages and multilingualism, thus paving the way for other institutions and centres in different regions that will then cover complementary aspects of language policy issues. The Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages has already established cooperation with several institutions, e.g. Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures, SOAS – The School of Oriental and African Studies at University of London, Linguamón – House of Languages, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Department of Linguistics and Philology at Uppsala University and CARLA – Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition at University of Minnesota. The centre will strengthen this cooperation and gradually expand it to more institutions. Any proposals from relevant institutions worldwide are welcome.
- (f) Although the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Icelandic authorities diverges in some points from the standard model agreement proposed in attachment 2 of document 35 C/22 and Corr., the Icelandic authorities assured the Secretariat that these differences do not imply programme and policy differences from what 35 C/Resolution 103 intends to achieve. In this context, the agreement fully satisfies the programme requirements spelled out in 35 C/Resolution 103 and document 35 C/22 and Corr.

14. The points listed above clearly indicate the viability of the centre proposed by the Icelandic authorities, and the benefits it may bring to UNESCO and to Iceland itself. The Director-General therefore welcomes the proposed establishment in Iceland of an International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

### **Action expected of the Executive Board**

15. In the light of the foregoing, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part VIII providing the basic outline of the proposal to establish a Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding in Reykjavik, Iceland, under the auspices of UNESCO,
2. Aware of the importance of international and regional cooperation for the promotion and development of linguistic diversity and multilingualism;
3. Takes note of the observations and conclusions of this feasibility study;

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<sup>1</sup> See for instance 34 C/4, Box 9: "UNESCO will, on the one hand, demonstrate the contribution of linguistic diversity and multilingualism to development, and, on the other hand, its value for dialogue, social cohesion and peace."

4. Deeming the considerations and proposals contained therein to be such as to meet the programmatic and qualitative requirements needed for the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
5. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Iceland;
6. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 36th session, approve the establishment, in Iceland, of the Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

## ANNEX

### PROVISIONS DEVIATING FROM THE MODEL AGREEMENT

#### ***Article 3 – Participation***

1. The Centre will be at the service of Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO that, by their common interest in the objectives of the Centre, desire to cooperate with the Centre.
2. Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO wishing to participate in the Centre's activities, as provided for under this Agreement, shall send to the Centre notification to this effect. The director shall inform the parties to the agreement and other Member States of the receipt of such notifications.

#### ***Article 5 – Legal Status***

2. The Centre shall be a part of the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages at the University of Iceland. The Government shall ensure that the Centre enjoys in accordance with Icelandic law and regulations and within its territory the programmatic autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and that the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages at the University of Iceland will have the capacity to contract, to institute legal proceedings and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property on behalf of the Centre.

#### ***Article 6 – Constitutive Act***

The constitutive act of the Centre must include provisions describing precisely:

- (a) the legal status granted to the Centre within the national legal system and the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages at the University of Iceland that will have the capacity necessary to receive subventions, obtain payments for services rendered and carry out the acquisition of all means required on behalf of the Centre.
- (...)

#### ***Article 13 – Contribution of the Government***

(Please note that this Article is not deviating from the model agreement but specifies the financial commitment of the Government)

1. The Government through the University shall provide all the resources, either financial or in kind, needed for the administration and proper functioning of the Centre.
2. The Centre shall for financing of the operating costs draw upon funds through the University budget as approved by the Parliament. The University will provide suitable premises for the Centre, make available the administrative staff necessary for the performance of its functions and pay an annual financial contribution, the amount of which shall be US \$150,000 in 2011.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and eighty-sixth session

# 186 EX/14

## Part IX

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Item 14 of the provisional agenda

### REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

#### PART IX

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS, OF AN INTERNATIONAL GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENT CENTRE (IGRAC)

##### SUMMARY

The General Conference at its 34th session approved the establishment of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) in response to a proposal by the Government of the Netherlands to establish it on its territory as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. However, due to the restructuring of the national institutions responsible for the water sector, the agreement was not signed.

This document contains the new version of the feasibility study for the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), prepared in close cooperation with the Government of the Netherlands, and revised in accordance with the new national institutional situation and in conformity with the comprehensive integrated strategy approved by the General Conference at its 35th session in 35 C/Resolution 103 and supplemented by an annex containing such provisions concerning the centre as deviate from the model agreement (see documents 35 C/22 and Corr.). The points that diverge from the standard model agreement have been formulated by the Government of the Netherlands in agreement with the UNESCO Secretariat. These differences do not imply policy differences from what 35 C/Resolution 103 intends to achieve. In this context, the agreement fully satisfies the programme requirements spelled out in 35 C/Resolution 103 and document 35 C/22 and Corr.

It also outlines that the centre will be established as a non-profit foundation under the Dutch law in Delft and will enjoy the legal and functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities.

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraph 11.

Action expected from Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 16.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Conference at its 34th session approved the establishment of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) in response to a proposal by the Government of the Netherlands to establish it on its territory as a category 2 centre placed under the auspices of UNESCO hosted by the Netherlands organization for applied scientific research, TNO. However due to the restructuring of the national institutions responsible for the water sector the agreement was not signed. This document contains the new version of the feasibility study, prepared in close cooperation with the Government of the Netherlands, and revised in accordance with the new national institutional situation and in conformity with the Comprehensive Integrated Strategy approved by the General Conference at its 35th session in 35 C/Resolution 103. The draft Agreement is available on the Natural Sciences website: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/ihp/water-centres/>. It also outlines the change in the status of the centre that will be established as a non-profit foundation under Dutch law and will enjoy within the territory of the Netherlands the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity.

2. The conception of IGRAC was an initiative of UNESCO and WMO on the occasion of the "Fifth International Conference on Hydrology" in February 1999. Studies on aquifer systems and hydrogeology are components of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP). Hence, WMO and the UNESCO Intergovernmental Council of the IHP have recognized the need for the establishment of an international centre on groundwater resources. Since 2003 the Government of the Netherlands had put the IGRAC Centre programme into operation aimed at supporting UNESCO IHP and WMO programmes and being of benefit to the entire international groundwater community. In 2003, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between TNO and WMO and the Centre started to work under the auspices of this United Nations organization with the aim of fully integrating UNESCO IHP's network of category 2 centres. In the present situation the Centre is hosted by a Dutch independent research organization for matters related to water, soil and subsurface, Deltares (former-TNO) located in Utrecht, the Netherlands. From 2003 to 2010 the Centre was financially supported by the Dutch interministerial programme "Partners for Water".

3. At the beginning of 2011 the Government of the Netherlands confirmed to UNESCO that it will provide to the Centre a total annual subsidy of €500,000 per year for a period of five years starting in January 2011.

4. A decision from UNESCO's Executive Board will be sought approving the revised agreement of the Centre and authorizing the Director-General to sign the agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Netherlands.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

### 5. Overview of the proposal

The feasibility study addresses requirements specified in the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO contained in document 35 C/22, approved by the 35th session of the General Conference (35 C/Resolution 103) and of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme concerning the evaluation of proposed water-related centres, and as a follow-up of Resolution XIV-11 of the IHP Intergovernmental Council endorsing the proposal for the establishment of the Centre.

### 6. Objectives and functions of the proposed Centre

- (a) The overall objective of the Centre is to improve knowledge on groundwater resources of the world with the aim to fully include groundwater in the assessment of freshwater

resources and enhance the conjunctive and sustainable utilization of both groundwater and surface water.

(b) Specific long-term objectives are to:

- (i) develop standard procedures for collection and processing of comparable basic data on the aquifer systems of the world;
- (ii) compile metadata information leading to the creation of a global information system for groundwater assessment accessible by Internet and a website;
- (iii) support UNESCO IHP National Committee and UNWWAP activities and promote data compilation at regional and global level;
- (iv) increase public awareness of groundwater resources sustainable use, including technical support in the area of media communication.

(c) Functions:

The functions of the Centre emphasize the pursuit of groundwater resources sustainable development and management through the development of an information system, the networking of scientists at international level and the transfer of information and knowledge. The Centre will contribute to the execution of UNESCO's programmes through the setting up of a groundwater information system. It will also contribute to technical cooperation among developing countries. In order to avoid unnecessary duplication of work and to ensure that UNESCO priorities are addressed, all the initiatives of the Centre will be coordinated with the UNESCO IHP Secretariat and the other UNESCO category 2 and category 1 centres operating in the framework of the IHP.

## 7. Name of the Centre

The name of the category 2 centre will be: International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC).

## 8. Legal Status

The Centre will be independent of UNESCO and it will be established in the Netherlands as a non-profit foundation under Dutch law. It will enjoy, within the territory of the Netherlands, the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity necessary for the exercise for its function. In particular, it will be able to contract, to institute legal proceedings and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property.

## 9. Governing Board

(a) The Centre will have a Governing Board that will comprise:

- (i) the representative of the Government who will be the Chairperson of the Governing Board;
- (ii) two representatives of UNESCO, including a representative of the UNESCO category 1 centre IHE;
- (iii) representatives of Member States, which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, have expressed interest in being represented on the Board and that wish to contribute substantially to the activities of the Centre who will participate on their own costs;

- (iv) representatives from international agencies that can contribute to the activities of the Centre.
- (b) The Governing Board shall:
- (i) approve the long-term and medium-term programmes of the Centre;
  - (ii) approve the annual work plan of the Centre, including the staffing table;
  - (iii) examine the annual reports submitted by the Director of the Centre, including a biennial self-assessment of the Centre's contribution to UNESCO's programme objectives;
  - (iv) adopt the rules and regulations and determine the financial, administrative and personnel management procedures for the Centre in accordance with the laws of the country;
  - (v) decide on the participation of regional intergovernmental organizations and international organizations in the work of the Centre;
  - (vi) the Governing Board shall meet in ordinary session once every calendar year; it shall meet in extraordinary session if convened by its Chairperson, either on his or her own initiative or at the request of the Director-General of UNESCO or of the majority of its members;
  - (vii) the Governing Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure;
  - (viii) the Director of the Centre can only be appointed with prior approval of the Governing Board.

#### 10. **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

The TAC will provide technical advice to the Governing Board. The TAC will be comprised of no more than 12 experts that may include international experts, representatives from other UNESCO category 2 centres, representatives of other governmental, non-governmental, regional and/or international institutions, international associations, as well as representatives of other United Nations organizations. The TAC will be chaired by the Director of the Centre. The TAC will be invited by the Director of the Centre on an ad hoc basis and in consultation with the Governing Board.

#### 11. **Financial matters**

- (a) Contribution of the Government of the Netherlands

The Government has made available its financial support from 1 January 2011 in order to secure in a short delay the effective installation of the Centre, and will take any measures that may be required for the establishment and operation of the Centre as a non-profit foundation on the territory of the Netherlands in Delft. It will provide a total annual subsidy of €500,000 per year for a period of five years to ascertain the provision of the core funding needed for to cover the costs of the premises, administration and functioning of the Centre.

- (b) The premises of the Centre will be rented and located close to the UNESCO category 1 centre on Water Education-IHE in Delft, Netherlands.
- (c) Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO



UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes. However it is understood that UNESCO may contribute to concrete activities/projects of the Centre if those are deemed to be in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and as foreseen in the budget approved by UNESCO's Governing Bodies.

## 12. **Area of cooperation with UNESCO**

The cooperation expected from UNESCO once the proposed Centre is established is as follows:

- (a) providing advice in the formulation of the short-, middle- and long-term period programmes of the Centre;
- (b) facilitating contact with intergovernmental and non-governmental as well as with Member States of UNESCO;
- (c) providing the Centre with IHP publications and other pertinent materials and disseminating information on the activities of the Centre via the IHP website, newsletters and other mechanisms at its disposal;
- (d) participating, when appropriate, in the scientific and training meetings held by the Centre.

## 13. **Relationship to UNESCO's objectives and programmes**

The objectives and programmes of the proposed Centre would contribute to fulfilling the objectives of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme.

## 14. **Proposal concerning the establishment in Delft, the Netherlands, of the regional and international impact of the Centre**

- (a) Coverage: Geographically, the Centre will carry out international research projects on groundwater resources of the world;
- (b) Impact: Currently, an international scientific institution on groundwater resources devoted to the assessment of the status of the resources at global level does not exist. The Centre is thus expected to contribute to enhance technical and scientific cooperation and knowledge transfer in groundwater resources related topics at both regional and international levels. The Centre will contribute to the implementation of a groundwater resources data base system, accessible in a preliminary format through the Centre's website and which will also become available through a link with the UNESCO IHP webpage. The Centre will act as facilitator and catalyst of UNESCO IHP activities and will contribute to the UNWWAP and to the United Nations World Water Development Report (UNWWDR);
- (c) Technical cooperation: the main objective of the Centre will be to establish technical cooperation with UNESCO Member States and IHP National Committees in particular those in developing countries. Close cooperation with the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education will be established as well as with other institutes and centres being part of UNESCO or placed under its auspices. Cooperation with other entities of the United Nations including WMO, FAO, UNU, UNECE, and GEF is envisaged;
- (d) Role of the Centre in executing the Organization's programme: the Centre fits well with UNESCO's objectives in general and the freshwater programme in particular;
- (e) Potential impact of UNESCO's contribution on the Centre's activities: the assistance of UNESCO to the Centre is necessary to facilitate contacts with other countries, international organizations and relevant NGOs working on sustainable groundwater

resource management issues and is essential for the successful international exposure of the Centre.

**15. Summary evaluation of the proposal submitted:**

- (a) From the previous paragraphs it is clear that the Centre will have a central role in implementing activities related to UNESCO's programme. The wish to participate in the activities of the centre expressed by several Dutch scientific institutions, the extensive consultative process with institutions of the Netherlands and the approval of the UNESCO IHP Intergovernmental Council, provide a solid base for the long-term activities of the Centre.
- (b) The risks that UNESCO could incur in the establishment of the Centre would be low, due, primarily to the strong commitment and financial support of the Government of the Netherlands. The category 2 centre will be associated with UNESCO, but it is legally outside the jurisdiction of the Organization. Hence, UNESCO is not legally responsible for it and it shall bear neither responsibility nor liabilities of any kind, be they managerial, financial or otherwise. The agreement for the establishment of the centre will be concluded for four years. The agreement may be renewed with mutual agreement of the founding parties in light of the review of the Centre's activities and its evaluation.
- (c) A revised draft agreement that addresses the legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the proposed Centre has been elaborated through a process of consultation between the Government of the Netherlands and the UNESCO Secretariat. The agreement includes some items specific to the establishment of the Centre in the Netherlands. The points that diverge from the standard model agreement are listed in attachment and have been specified by the Government of the Netherlands in agreement with the UNESCO Secretariat. These differences do not imply policy differences from what 35 C/Resolution 103 intends to achieve. In this context, the agreement fully satisfies the programme requirements spelled out in 35 C/Resolution 103 and document 35 C/22 and Corr.

**16. Action expected of the Executive Board**

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

The Executive Board,

- 1. Recalling the decision of the General Conference at its 34th session to establish the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) as a category 2 centre under UNESCO's auspices, in response to the proposal by the Government of the Netherlands (34 C/Resolution 26),
- 2. Noting that due to the restructuring of the national institutions responsible for the water sector, the Agreement was not signed,
- 3. Having examined document 186 EX/14 Part IX and its Annex,
- 4. Recalling the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under UNESCO's auspices approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103,
- 5. Taking note of Resolution XIV-11 of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in June 2000,

6. Deeming the considerations and proposals contained in document 186 EX/14 Part IX to be such as to meet the requirements needed for UNESCO to grant its auspices to the International Centre, in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22 and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103,
7. Approves the establishment in Delft, Netherlands, of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) under the auspices of UNESCO as a category 2 centre; and
8. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement (available on the website of the Natural Sciences Sector).

## **ANNEX**

### **PROVISIONS DEVIATING FROM THE MODEL AGREEMENT**

The draft agreement addresses the legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the proposed Centre. It has been elaborated through a process of consultation between the Government of the Netherlands and the UNESCO Secretariat. The agreement includes some items specific to the establishment of the Centre in the Netherlands. The points that diverge from the standard model agreement have been formulated by the Government of the Netherlands in agreement with the UNESCO Secretariat. These differences do not imply policy differences from what 35 C/Resolution 103 intends to achieve. In this context, the agreement fully satisfies the programme requirements spelled out in 35 C/Resolution 103 and document 35 C/22 and Corr.

#### **Article 7 – Governing Board**

3. The Governing Board shall be composed of:
- The representative of the Government who will be the Chairperson of the Governing Board;
  - Two representatives of UNESCO, including a representative of the UNESCO category 1 centre, the UNESCO IHE Institute for Water Education;
  - Representatives of Member States having notified the Centre in accordance with Article 10, paragraph 2 and having expressed interest in being represented on the Board and substantially contributing to the activities of the Centre;
  - Representatives from international agencies that are able to contribute to the activities of the Centre.

#### **Article 8 – UNESCO's contribution**

2. UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes. However it is understood that UNESCO may contribute to concrete activities or projects of the Centre if those are deemed to be in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and as foreseen in the budget approved by UNESCO Governing Bodies.

3. UNESCO may provide assistance to the Centre by:
- (a) providing advice in the formulation of the short-, middle- and long-term programmes of the Centre;
  - (b) in conformity with the relevant policies of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, assigning to the Centre the implementation of activities within the framework of its regular biennial budgets and programmes, particularly those appropriate to reinforce its start-up period;
  - (c) encouraging intergovernmental and non-governmental financial entities, as well as Member States of UNESCO, to provide financial and technical assistance and to propose appropriate projects to the Centre, and by facilitating contacts with other international organizations relevant to the functions of the Centre;
  - (d) providing the Centre with IHP publications and other pertinent materials and disseminating information on the activities of the Centre via the IHP website, newsletters and other mechanisms at its disposal;

- (e) participating, when appropriate, in the scientific and training meetings held by the Centre.

#### **Article 14 – Territorial application**

With respect to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, this Agreement shall apply to the European part of the Netherlands.

#### **Article 19 – Settlement of disputes**

1. Any dispute between UNESCO and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement, if not settled by negotiation or any other appropriate method agreed by the parties within three months after one party giving notice to the other party, shall be submitted for final decision to an Arbitral Tribunal. The Tribunal shall be composed of three members, one appointed each by the Government and UNESCO and one, who will act as the President of the Tribunal, chosen jointly by the members so appointed. If either the Government or UNESCO does not appoint the member to be appointed by it within one month of the date of the notice referred to above, the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration shall, upon request by the other party, appoint the relevant member within a further one month period. If the President of the Arbitral Tribunal has not been chosen within one month of the second member of the Arbitral Tribunal being appointed, the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration shall, upon request by either party, appoint the President within a further one month period. The language of the arbitration will be English.