



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and eighty-third session

183 EX/DR.3¹
PARIS, 12 November 2009
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Item 13 Terms of reference of the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations (...members)²

The Executive Board,

1. Recognizing the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO's programme,
2. Taking into account the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session and amended at its 31st and 34th sessions, and the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session and amended at its 28th and 29th sessions, as well as the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
 - (a) the resolutions on the application of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 29th and 30th sessions,
 - (b) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 - (c) 33 C/Resolution 92 concerning the recommendations of the ad hoc working group on relations between the three organs of UNESCO,
 - (d) 34 C/Resolution 59 concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations,
3. Decides that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
 - (a) to continue to improve its methods of work, to enhance its intellectual and ethical reflection, and to pursue its dialogue with all relevant non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat with a view to promoting the input of those organizations to the work of UNESCO;
 - (b) to examine once a year, at its spring session, matters within its mandate relating to the establishment of relations between UNESCO and non-governmental organizations as stipulated in the above-mentioned Directives, and notably to consider the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive

¹ The background of this Committee is attached to this draft resolution for the information of Board Members.
² For the period 2008-2009, the Committee had 24 members.

Board for the establishment or renewal of formal relations with international non-governmental organizations;

- (c) to ensure that the above-mentioned Directives continue to be implemented in a spirit of openness to relevant actors of the civil society, in particular in those parts of the world where civil society remains isolated or fragile;
 - (d) to examine all other questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the various arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies;
4. Further decides to grant, as appropriate, a second day of work to the NGO Committee.

D.

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

BACKGROUND

1. The Executive Board Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) was set up as an experiment in 1966, at the 72nd session of the Board (72 EX/Decision 7.4), and began to exercise its responsibilities at the 73rd session; it was chaired by Mr Paulo E. de Berrêdo Carneiro (Brazil).
2. Up to the 70th session (April-May 1965), questions concerning NGOs had been studied in advance by the Programme and External Relations Commission (previously the 'External Relations Commission'), which submitted its recommendations to the Board in its report.
3. Experience showed that the consideration of this report by the Board, particularly as regards the classification of NGOs, was a source of frequently prolonged and sometimes fruitless discussion and of undesirable arguments about certain organizations. In addition, these discussions frequently duplicated those that had taken place in the Commission.
4. Accordingly, at the 70th session, on the proposal of the Bureau, the Board decided to consider the classification of NGOs directly in plenary meeting. During the discussion on this question Mr Paulo E. de Berrêdo Carneiro, expressing his concern lest the Board again be involved in arguments of a political nature, and in order to avoid wasting time, suggested that 'the Board should set up a subcommittee or working group, consisting of some of its own members, who would be responsible between sessions for studying requests for admission that were likely to arouse controversy, obtaining documentary information on the activities of the organizations concerned, holding discussions with their responsible officers and carrying out a meticulous analysis of the contribution they make to the work of UNESCO' (70 EX/ 21, paragraph 28.1).
5. At the 71st session (September-November 1965), Mr Paulo E. de Berrêdo Carneiro submitted to the Board the following information note (71 EX/35), which was on the whole approved by the Board:

‘EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Information note by H.E. Professor P.E. de Berrêdo Carneiro (Brazil) on a proposal to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 72nd session.

1. *Terms of reference*

- (a) The function of such a working group should be to make a thorough and detailed examination of new requests for admission to consultative status and requests for changes in status, to enable the Board to act efficiently on the basis of full facts and analysis. The working group would also review the record of the ever-increasing number of organizations which have already achieved such status. The main criterion to be applied should be whether or not the organization concerned has an active and constructive contribution to make to UNESCO’s work, and whether or not it fulfils the basic conditions prescribed in the Directives to qualify for relationship with UNESCO. To accomplish this task, the Committee would have to examine all relevant documentation pertaining to organizations applying for admission, or already admitted, including any evidence presented by members of the Board regarding such status.
- (b) The Committee would have authority to make recommendations to the Board regarding the disposition of the applications before the Board, summarizing reasons for its recommendations; it could also consider matters concerning non-governmental organizations which may be referred to it by the Executive Board or the Director-General.

2. *Membership*

To be effective the Committee should be small, consisting preferably of seven (as in ECOSOC) or nine (as in the International Atomic Energy Agency) members of the Board.

3. *Voting*

All recommendations of the Committee to the Executive Board with regard to the disposition of the application for the category A and B status, or change in such status, shall be unanimous.’

6. At its 72nd session (May 1966), under item 7.4 of its agenda, ‘Formation of a Committee of the Executive Board on Non-Governmental Organizations’¹ the Board, after examining a draft submitted by Mr Paulo E. de Berrêdo Carneiro (72 EX/24 Rev.), adopted 72 EX/Decision 7.4 as follows:

‘The Executive Board,

1. *Recalling* the lengthy discussions that have taken place in the past concerning the classification of non-governmental organizations,
2. *Noting* with satisfaction the Secretariat’s efforts to provide adequate technical documentation on the activities and possible contribution of non-governmental organizations seeking admission to category A or B (consultative status),
3. *Considering* that it is necessary to create better machinery for the detailed analysis and examination of applications from non-governmental organizations seeking admission to consultative status,

1. Item included at the request of Mr Paulo E. Berrêdo Carneiro.

4. *Decides* as an experiment to set up a Committee composed of 11 members of the Executive Board, whose terms of reference and membership shall be respectively as follows:
 - (i) *Terms of reference*
 - (a) to undertake a full and detailed examination of new applications for admission to consultative status and for changes of category;
 - (b) to study all pertinent documentation on the organizations seeking admission, so that the Board may take its decisions in full knowledge of all the facts and their implications;
 - (c) to submit, in its report, the recommendations adopted by it unanimously, it being understood that the Board still has before it, in toto, the question included in its agenda and may, if it sees fit, proceed to examine all proposals on which the Committee has proffered no opinion;
 - (d) to consider any other questions regarding non-governmental organizations which the Executive Board may refer to it for an opinion.

...

In the case of the first election, members will be elected to serve until the close of the 14th session of the General Conference. The Board will thereafter elect a new Committee for a period to be determined by the Board itself;

5. *Invites* the Committee to examine, in the course of the 73rd session, requests for admission to categories A and B and to submit recommendations thereon to the Board at that session’.

1967-1968 – Chairman: Mr Paulo E. de Berrêdo Carneiro (Brazil)

7. At its 75th session (1-2 December 1966), the Board decided to re-establish a Committee (11 members), and to assign the same tasks to this Committee as to that which had been set up by 72 EX/Decision 7.4, it being agreed that the Board would reconsider the nature and duration of its terms of reference in the light of the first report submitted to it by the Committee (75 EX/Decision 5).
8. At its 76th session (April-May 1967), the Board decided to re-examine, at its 77th session, the question of continuing the Committee, and also the nature and duration of its terms of reference (76 EX/Decision 5.5-II).
9. At its 77th session (October-November 1967), the Board invited the Committee to pursue its work, and decided to modify as follows paragraph 4(i)(c) of the terms of reference of the Committee defined in 72 EX/Decision 7.4:
 - ‘(c) to submit, in its report to the Executive Board, the recommendations adopted by it unanimously and also to report the results of the discussion of questions on which unanimity was not achieved’ (77 EX/Decision 3.2).

10. At its 78th session (May-June 1968), the Board invited the Director-General 'to provide the Executive Board in its future work with both a summary of the information supplied by organizations requesting admission in categories A and B, and a critical appraisal of the contribution which these organizations already make or are in a position to make to the implementation of UNESCO's programme' (78 EX/Decision 7.9 (4)).

Thereafter it became the practice to establish the Committee at the same time as the other subsidiary bodies of the Board, at the first session of the Board held after the close of the General Conference.

1969-1970 – Chairman: Mr Manuel Alcala (Mexico)

11. 81st session (21-22 November 1968): establishment of the Committee – 12 members (81 EX/Decision 6-III).
12. 82nd session (April-May 1969): terms of reference (same responsibilities) (82 EX/Decision 5.7).
13. At its 16th session the General Conference adopted 16 C/Resolution 8, paragraphs 9 and 10 of which read as follows:
 - '9. *Requests* the Director-General to undertake investigations of all international non-governmental organizations enjoying relations with UNESCO which have branches, sections, affiliates or constituent parts in the Republic of South Africa or Southern Rhodesia or Portuguese-dominated African territories, with respect to the practice of racial discrimination or racial segregation in their policies, activities, or membership of their cooperation in any way with the apartheid policy of the Government of the Republic of South Africa; and to report thereon to the Executive Board;
 10. *Calls upon* the Executive Board to take the necessary measures, in the light of the Director-General's report, to break off, as from 31 December 1971, all relations with those international non-governmental organizations in respect of which it has not been established, to the satisfaction of the Board, that their branches, sections, affiliates or constituent parts in the Republic of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia or Portuguese-dominated African territories neither practise racial discrimination or segregation in their policies, their activities or in their membership, nor cooperate in any way with the Government of the Republic of South Africa in the latter's apartheid policy;'

1971-1972 – Chairman: Mr Tooryalay Etemadi (Afghanistan)

14. 86th session (16-18 November 1970): establishment of the Committee – 12 members (86 EX/Decision 5.3-III).
15. 87th session (April-May 1971): terms of reference (87 EX/Decision 3.2-III).

16. In pursuance of 16 C/Resolution 8, paragraphs 9 and 10, the Board, by 87 EX/Decision 3.2-III, assigned the following terms of reference to the Committee:
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Considering* the provisions adopted by the General Conference at its 16th session, in resolution 8, paragraphs 9 and 10, concerning relations with non-governmental organizations,
 2. *Being of the opinion* that the analysis of the results of the investigations undertaken by the Director-General in accordance with paragraph 9 of that resolution will entail a considerable amount of work, which should be committed to the most appropriate subsidiary body of the Board,
 3. *Decides* to entrust its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations with the preliminary study of the communications which international non-governmental organizations have already sent or will send to the Director-General in reply to the letter he has addressed to them with the object of collecting for the Executive Board any relevant information needed to carry out the investigations referred to in paragraph 9 of the above-mentioned resolution;
 4. *Invites* the Committee to meet in the period immediately preceding the 88th session of the Board and to submit to it, at that session, a report on the study which it has made, including such observations and recommendations as it considers relevant, so that the Board may take the necessary measures to give effect to paragraph 10 of 16 C/Resolution 8;
 5. *Invites* the Committee, furthermore, to continue, at the intervals laid down by the Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decisions, 15.2-II), considering the Director-General’s proposals concerning the classification of non-governmental organizations in categories A and B of relations with UNESCO, which task constitutes the permanent terms of reference of the aforesaid Committee’.

1973-1974 – Chairman: Mr Kankam Twum Barima (Ghana)

17. 91st session (22-23 November 1972): establishment of the Committee – 14 members (91 EX/Decision 7.3).
18. 92nd session (April-May 1973): terms of reference (92 EX/Decision 3.4-II):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Considering* the provisions adopted by the General Conference in 17 C/Resolution 10, paragraphs 23 and 24, concerning relations with international non-governmental organizations,
 2. *Recalling* 89 EX/Decisions, 7.5 to postpone examination of action required in paragraph 13 of 16 C/Resolution 12¹ to a further session of the Board,

1. 16 C/Resolution 12 ‘...

9. *Reiterates its hope* that the application of the principle of geographical extension in relation to the membership and activities of the international non-governmental organizations will be further developed during the coming six years;

...

13. *Requests* the Director-General to study the problems referred to in paragraph 32 of document 16 C/22 concerning:

- (a) the international non-governmental organizations’ own finances;
- (b) the association of non-governmental organizations in the execution of UNESCO’s programme by Member States;
- (c) the establishment of a procedure for consulting the Executive Board with regard to major changes in subventions which the Director-General may wish to recommend; and to present proposals thereon to the Executive Board.’

3. *Bearing in mind* the discussion at the 91st session of the Board concerning the granting of subventions in 1973 to international non-governmental organizations,
 4. *Recalling* decision 7.3 taken by the Board at its 91st session,
 5. *Invites* the Committee to make recommendations to the Executive Board for the implementation of 17 /Resolution 10.1(V), paragraphs 23 and 24;¹
 6. *Furthermore invites* the Committee to study what action has been taken in application of paragraph 9 of 16 C/Resolution 12² and to make a study of the criteria for granting subventions to international non-governmental organizations;
 7. *Confirms* that the Committee shall continue, at the intervals laid down by the Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decisions, 15.2-II), to consider the Director-General's proposals concerning the classification of non-governmental organizations in categories A and B of relations with UNESCO, which task constitutes the permanent terms of reference of the aforesaid Committee³.
19. At its 93rd session (September-October 1973), under item 6.9 of its agenda, entitled: *Question of the international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and having branches, sections or members linked with the Chiang Kai-shek clique*, the Executive Board adopted 93 EX/Decision 6.9 as follows:
- 'The Executive Board,
1. *Recalling* resolution 2758(XXVI) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 October 1971 to "restore all its rights to the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and to expel forthwith the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek from the place which they unlawfully occupy at the United Nations and in all the organizations related to it",
 2. *Recalling at the same time* that the Executive Board at its 88th session (88 EX/Decision 9) decided that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the only legitimate representative of China in UNESCO,
 3. *Observing with satisfaction* that the Director-General has already informed all international nongovernmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO of the position of the Government of the People's Republic of China on this matter,
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1. 17 C/Resolution 10.1 (v)
'(...)
 23. *Invites* the Executive Board to give its attention to the measures which certain non-governmental organizations have agreed to take, in order to assist UNESCO in its efforts to eliminate racial discrimination and apartheid;
 24. *Authorizes* the Executive Board to rescind the suspension imposed on non-governmental organizations when it is convinced that they have complied with the conditions necessary to the resumption of working relations with UNESCO.'
 2. 16 C/Resolution 12 '*...*
 9. *Reiterates its hope* that the application of the principle of geographical extension in relation to the membership and activities of the international non-governmental organizations will be further developed during the coming six years;
 - ...
 13. *Requests* the Director-General to study the problems referred to in paragraph 32 of document 16 C/22 concerning:
 - (a) the international non-governmental organizations' own finances;
 - (b) the association of non-governmental organizations in the execution of UNESCO's programme by Member States;
 - (c) the establishment of a procedure for consulting the Executive Board with regard to major changes in subventions which the Director-General may wish to recommend; and to present proposals thereon to the Executive Board.'

4. *Noting* with close attention that bodies or elements linked with Chiang Kai-shek and usurping the name of China continue to conduct illegal activities within certain international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO,
 5. *Urges* international non-governmental organizations which maintain relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or elements linked with Chiang Kai-shek participate, having illegally usurped the name of China, to take measures to exclude them immediately and to break off all relations with them;
 6. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (i) to communicate this resolution to all international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO;
 - (ii) to request the international non-governmental organizations concerned to inform him of the action they have taken to comply with the resolution;
 - (iii) to submit a report on this subject to the Executive Board at its spring session in 1974’.
20. At its 94th session (May-June 1974), in order to give effect to this decision, and on the report of its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, to which it had referred the examination of this question, the Board, by 94 EX/Decision 7.7 (4), decided:
- ‘(i) to invite the Director-General to present to the Executive Board at its 95th session a report on the further application of 93 EX/Decision 6.9;
 - (ii) to add the following item to the provisional agenda of the 18th session of the General Conference: “Question of the international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and having branches, sections or members linked with Chiang Kai-shek and illegally usurping the name of China”.’
21. At its 95th session (September-November 1974), as a follow-up to the above-mentioned decision, the Board took note of the report of the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations on ‘the further application of 93 EX/Decision 6.9’ (95 EX/Decision 8.3).

1975-1976 – Chairman: Mr N’Sougan Agblemagnon (Togo)

22. 96th session (25-27 November 1974): establishment of the Committee – 14 members (96 EX/Decision 7.3), with the following terms of reference (96 EX/Decision 8.3):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the importance of the role of the international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO in the execution of the Organization’s programme,
 2. *Recalling* that the purpose of the relations between UNESCO and the international non-governmental organizations is defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Directives,
 3. *Taking account* of the resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its 18th session concerning the survey of international non-governmental organizations having branches, sections, members or other

- elements in the Republic of South Africa or Southern Rhodesia, and concerning the question of international non-governmental organizations which maintain relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or elements linked with Chiang Kai-shek still participate, having illegally usurped the name of China,¹
4. *Decides* to establish a Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations of 14 members with the following terms of reference:
 - (a) to carry out, in accordance with the periodicity established by the Executive Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decisions, 15.2-II), studies of new applications for admission to consultative status (categories A and B) and for changes in category;
 - (b) to examine all other questions concerning international non-governmental organizations which the Executive Board may refer to it for an opinion’.

1977-1978 – Chairman: Mr Horacio J. Bustamante (Panama)

23. 101st session (1-2 December 1976): establishment of the Committee – 14 members (101 EX/Decision 7.2); terms of reference similar to the foregoing, preambular paragraph 3 being modified to read as follows (101 EX/Decision 8.3):
 - ‘3. *Taking account* of the resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its 19th session concerning the cessation of all collaboration with non-governmental organizations participating in any way in the policy of the Government of the Republic of South Africa or of Rhodesia, and concerning the question of international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and having bodies or elements linked with the Chiang clique and illegally usurping the name of China’.

1979-1980 – Chairman: Mr Walter Arthur Burke (Barbados)

24. 106th session (29-30 November 1978): establishment of the Committee – 14 members (106 EX/Decision 6.2); terms of reference similar to the foregoing, preambular paragraph 3 being modified to read as follows (106 EX/Decision 7.3):
 - ‘3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
 - (a) 19 C/Resolution 12.1: “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”;
 - (b) 20 C/Resolution 7.32 concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations,
 - (c) 20 C/Resolution 7.34 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and having branches, sections or members linked with the Chiang clique and illegally usurping the name of China.’

1. 18 C/PLEN/DR.28 and 18 C/PLEN/DR.6.

1981-1983 – Chairman: Mr Patrick K. Seddoh (Ghana)

25. 111th session (29 October 1980): establishment of the Committee – 14 members¹ (111 EX/Decision 6.2); terms of reference similar to the foregoing, preambular paragraph 3 reading as follows (111 EX/Decision 7.3):
- ‘3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
- (a) 19 C/Resolution 12.1: “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”,
 - (b) 21 C/Resolution 7/10 concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations,
 - (c) 21 C/Resolution 7/11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or individuals from Taiwan still participate in the name of China.’.

1984-1985 – Chairman: Ms Attiya Inayatullah (Pakistan)

26. 118th session (30 November-1 December 1983): establishment of the Committee – 19 members (118 EX/Decision 6.2); terms of reference similar to the foregoing, preambular paragraph 3 reading as follows (118 EX/Decision 7.3):
- ‘3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
- (a) 19 C/Resolution 12.1, “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”,
 - (b) 21 C/Resolution 7/11, concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or individuals from Taiwan still participate in the name of China,
 - (c) 22 C/Resolution 15.5, concerning the septennial report by the Executive Board on the international non-governmental organizations in categories A and B,
 - (d) the resolution concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 24th session.’.
27. Finally, at the 122nd session (1985) this Committee became a permanent Committee of the Board (see 122 EX/Decision 3.6 and 123 EX/Decision 4).

1. The Board decided at its 114th session to increase the membership of the Committee to 15 (114 EX/Decision 9.5).

1986-1987 – Chairman: Mr Doddy Achdiat Tisna Amidjaja (Indonesia)

28. 123rd session (11-12 November 1985): establishment of the Committee – 24 members (123 EX/Decision 5.5); terms of reference identical with those for 1984-1985.

1988-1989 – Chairman: Mr Siegfried Kaempf (German Democratic Republic) – 29 members

29. The Executive Board, at its 128th session (November 1987), having set up its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations, established for it the following terms of reference (128 EX/Decision 6.3):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the importance of the role the international non-governmental organizations that maintain relations with UNESCO play in the preparation and implementation of the Organization’s programme,
 2. *Recalling* that the purposes of the relations between UNESCO and international non-governmental organizations are defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the preamble to the Directives concerning UNESCO’s relations with International Non-Governmental Organizations,
 3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
 - (a) 19 C/Resolution 12.1, “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”,
 - (b) 21 C/Resolution 7/11, concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or individuals from Taiwan still participate in the name of China,
 - (c) 22 C/Resolution 15.5, concerning the septennial report by the Executive Board on the international non-governmental organizations in categories A and B,
 - (d) the resolution concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 24th session,
 4. *Decides* that the terms of reference of the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
 - (a) to carry out, at the intervals laid down by the Executive Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decision 15.2-II), studies of new applications for admission to consultative status (categories A and B) and for changes in category;
 - (b) to examine any other questions concerning international non-governmental organizations that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice;
 - (c) to study ways of improving its working methods so as to fulfil its tasks more effectively’.

1990-1991 – Chairman: Mr Kazimierz Zygulski (Poland); followed by
Mr Puniša A. Pavlovič (Yugoslavia) – 25 members

30. The Executive Board, at its 133rd session (November 1989), having set up its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations (133 EX/Decision 5.5), established for it the following terms of reference (133 EX/Decision 6.3):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the importance of the contribution made by international non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO’s programme,
 2. *Recalling* paragraphs 2 and 3 of the preamble to the Directives, concerning UNESCO’s relations with international non-governmental organizations,
 3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions of the General Conference:
 - (a) the resolution concerning the Executive Board’s sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO’s activities by international non-governmental organizations in categories A and B adopted by the General Conference at its 25th session,
 - (b) the resolution concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations in 1990 and 1991 adopted by the General Conference at its 25th session,
 - (c) 19 C/Resolution 12.1, entitled “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its task with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”,
 - (d) 21 C/Resolution 7/11, concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 4. *Decides* that the terms of reference of the Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
 - (a) to examine, at the intervals laid down by the Executive Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decision 15.2-II), new applications for admission to consultative status (categories A and B) and for changes in category;
 - (b) to carry out a study of paragraph I.1 of the Directives, with a view to adapting it to future developments in international cooperation, if necessary, and of the procedures laid down in section VI.9 of the Directives, concerning the allocation of subventions to international non-governmental organizations, with a view to ensuring the effective exercise of the respective prerogatives of the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Director-General in the matter;
 - (c) to examine any other questions concerning international non-governmental organizations that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice’.

1992-1993 – Chairperson: Mr Immanuel K. Bavu (United Republic of Tanzania) – 24 members

31. The Executive Board, at its 138th session (November 1991), having set up its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations (138 EX/Decision 5.5), established for it the following terms of reference (138 EX/Decision 6.3):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by international non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO’s programme,
 2. *Recalling* paragraphs 2 and 3 of the preamble to the Directives concerning UNESCO’s relations with international non-governmental organizations,
 3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
 - (a) the resolution concerning the Executive Board’s sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO’s activities by international non-governmental organizations in categories A and B adopted by the General Conference at its 25th session,
 - (b) the resolution concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations in 1992 and 1993 adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session (26 C/Resolution 13.2, para. 5),
 - (c) 19 C/Resolution 12.1, entitled “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”,
 - (d) 21 C/Resolution 7/11, concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 4. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
 - (a) to examine, at the intervals laid down by the Executive Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decision 15.2-II), new applications for admission to consultative status (categories A and B) and for changes in category;
 - (b) to examine, in accordance with 135 EX/Decision 6.2, the detailed proposals of the Director-General concerning the granting of subventions to international non-governmental organizations at the spring session that precedes each ordinary session of the General Conference, with a view to submitting to the General Conference a recommendation regarding the resolutions that it has to adopt on the matter;
 - (c) to take up any other questions concerning international non-governmental organizations and foundations that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice’.

1994-1995 – Chairperson: Mr Musa Hassan (Oman) – 24 members

32. The Executive Board, at its 143rd session (November 1993), having set up its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations, established for it the following terms of reference (143 EX/Decision 6.3):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by international non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO’s programme,
 2. *Recalling* paragraphs 2 and 3 of the preamble to the Directives concerning UNESCO’s relations with international non-governmental organizations,
 3. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
 - (a) the resolution concerning the Executive Board’s sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO’s activities by international non-governmental organizations in categories A and B, adopted by the General Conference at its 25th session,
 - (b) the resolutions concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th and 27th sessions,
 - (c) 19 C/Resolution 12.1, entitled “UNESCO’s contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the promotion of human rights and the elimination of colonialism and racialism; long-term programme of measures whereby UNESCO can contribute to the strengthening of peace”,
 - (d) 21 C/Resolution 7/11, concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 4. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
 - (a) to examine, at the intervals laid down by the Executive Board at its 61st session (61 EX/Decision 15.2-II), new applications for admission to consultative status (categories A and B) and for changes in category;
 - (b) to examine, in accordance with 135 EX/Decision 6.2, and within the framework of the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1996-1997 (28 C/5), the Director-General’s proposals concerning the implementation of the new arrangements for financial cooperation with non-governmental organizations, in pursuance of the relevant resolution adopted by the General Conference at its 27th session;
 - (c) to take up any other questions concerning international non-governmental organizations and foundations that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice’.

1996-1997 – Chairperson: Ms D. Morf (Switzerland) – 24 members

33. The Executive Board, at its 148th session (November 1995), having set up its Committee on International Non Governmental Organizations, established for it the following terms of reference (148 EX/Decision 6.3):

‘The Executive Board,

1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by international non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO’s programme,
2. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference:
 - (a) the resolution concerning the Executive Board’s sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO’s activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session,
 - (b) the resolution on the adoption of the new Directives concerning UNESCO’s relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at the same session,
 - (c) the resolutions concerning UNESCO’s cooperation with international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th and 27th sessions,
 - (d) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
 - (a) to consider, at intervals to be set by the Committee, the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the general reclassification of the non-governmental organizations formerly classified in categories A, B and C;
 - (b) to consider, in accordance with Article VI.1 of the new Directives, new requests for the establishment of formal relations;
 - (c) to examine all questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the new forms of cooperation with non-governmental organizations, including financial and material cooperation, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies, especially on the basis of the information and proposals to be submitted by the Director-General to the Executive Board, more particularly at its 149th session;
 - (d) to take up any other questions concerning non-governmental organizations and foundations that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice.

1998-1999 – Chairperson: Mr Nils Gunnar Nilsson (Sweden) – 24 members

34. At its 153rd session (November 1997) the Board, having established its Committee on International Non Governmental Organizations, gave it the following terms of reference (153 EX/Decision 6.3):
 1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO’s programme,
 2. *Taking into account* the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference and related decisions of the Executive Board:

- (a) the resolutions on the application of the new Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th and 29th sessions and 149 EX/Decision 7.3 (para. 3) concerning financial and material arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations,
 - (b) the resolution concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session,
 - (c) the resolutions concerning UNESCO's cooperation with foundations and similar institutions, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th, 28th and 29th sessions,
 - (d) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
- (a) to consider, at its spring sessions, the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the establishment of formal relations with non-governmental organizations;
 - (b) to examine all questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the new forms of cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies;
 - (c) to take up any other questions concerning non-governmental organizations and foundations and similar institutions that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice.

2000-2001 (158th - 161st) – Chairperson: Mr Dan Haulica (Romania) – 24 members

2001 (162nd) – Chairperson: Mr Eugen Mihaescu (Romania) – 24 members

35. At its 158th session (November 1999) the Board, having established its Committee on International Non Governmental Organizations, gave it the following terms of reference (158 EX/Decision 6.3):
- ‘The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO's programme,
 2. *Taking into account* the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session, and the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session and amended at its 28th and 29th sessions, as well as the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference and related decisions of the Executive Board:
 - (a) the resolutions on the application of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 29th and 30th sessions;

- 149 EX/Decision 7.3 and 154 EX/Decision 7.3 concerning financial and material arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and 157 EX/Decision 9.4, Part I;
- (b) the resolutions concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th and 30th sessions;
- (c) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China;
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
- (a) to consider the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the establishment of official relations with non-governmental organizations;
- (b) to elaborate, in cooperation with the Secretariat, the sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations for the period 1995-2000 for submission to the General Conference at its 31st session;
- (c) to examine all other questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the new forms of cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies;
- (d) to take up any other questions concerning non-governmental organizations that the Executive Board may refer to it for study and advice'.

2002-2003 – Chairperson: Mr Michael Abiola Omolewa (Nigeria) – 24 members

36. At its 163rd session (November 2001) the Board, having established its Committee on International Non Governmental Organizations, gave it the following terms of reference (163 EX/Decision 6.3):
- 'The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO's programme,
 2. *Taking into account* the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session and amended at its 31st session, and the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session and amended at its 28th and 29th sessions, as well as the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference and related decisions of the Executive Board:
 - (a) the resolutions on the application of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 29th and 30th sessions; 149 EX/Decision 7.3 and 154 EX/Decision 7.3 concerning financial and material arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and 157 EX/Decision 9.4, Part I;

- (b) the resolutions concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 30th and 31st sessions;
 - (c) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China;
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
- (a) to continue to improve its methods of work, to enhance its intellectual and ethical reflection, and to pursue its dialogue with all non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat;
 - (b) to consider the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the establishment or renewal of official relations with non-governmental organizations;
 - (c) to ensure that the Directives continue to be implemented in a spirit of openness to civil society, in particular in those parts of the world where civil society remains isolated or fragile;
 - (d) to examine all other questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the forms of cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies'.

2004-2005 (169th-171st) – Chairperson: Mr Darko Štrajn (Slovenia) – 24 members

2005 (172nd) – Chairperson: Mr Milan Orožen Adamič (Slovenia) – 24 members

37. At its 168th session (November 2003) the Board, having established its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations, gave it the following terms of reference (168 EX/Decision 6.3):
- 'The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO's programme,
 2. *Taking into account* the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session and amended at its 31st session, and the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session and amended at its 28th and 29th sessions, as well as the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference and related decisions of the Executive Board:
 - (a) the resolutions on the application of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 29th and 30th sessions; 149 EX/Decision 7.3 and 154 EX/Decision 7.3 concerning financial and material arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and 157 EX/Decision 9.4, Part I,

- (b) the resolutions concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 30th and 31st sessions,
 - (c) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 - (d) 32 C/Resolution 60 concerning sectoral and intersectoral strategies for cooperation with non-governmental organizations.
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
- (a) to continue to improve its methods of work, to enhance its intellectual and ethical reflection, and to pursue its dialogue with all relevant non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat;
 - (b) to consider the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the establishment or renewal of official relations with international non-governmental organizations, taking into account the objectives of the Medium-Term Strategy underlying the formulation of sectoral and intersectoral strategies for cooperation with non-governmental organizations;
 - (c) to ensure that the above-mentioned Directives continue to be implemented in a spirit of openness to relevant actors of civil society, in particular in those parts of the world where civil society remains isolated or fragile;
 - (d) to examine all other questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the various arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies'.

2006-2007 (173rd-175st) – Chairperson: Mr András Lakatos (Hungary) – 24 members

38. At its 173rd session (October 2005) the Board, having established its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations, gave it the following terms of reference (173 EX/Decision 13):
- 'The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO's programme,
 2. *Taking into account* the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session and amended at its 31st session, and the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions, adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session and amended at its 28th and 29th sessions, as well as the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference and related decisions of the Executive Board:
 - (a) the resolutions on the application of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 29th and 30th sessions;

- 149 EX/Decision 7.3 and 154 EX/Decision 7.3 concerning financial and material arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and 157 EX/Decision 9.4, Part I,
- (b) the resolutions concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 30th and 31st sessions,
 - (c) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 - (d) 32 C/Resolution 60 concerning sectoral and intersectoral strategies for cooperation with non-governmental organizations,
 - (e) 33 C/Resolution 92 concerning the recommendations of the ad hoc working group on relations between the three organs of UNESCO,
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
- (a) to continue to improve its methods of work, to enhance its intellectual and ethical reflection, and to pursue its dialogue with all relevant non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat with a view to promoting the input of those organizations to the work of UNESCO;
 - (b) to consider the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the establishment or renewal of official relations with international non-governmental organizations, taking into account the objectives of the Medium-Term Strategy, underlying the formulation of sectoral and intersectoral strategies for cooperation with non-governmental organizations;
 - (c) to ensure that the above-mentioned Directives continue to be implemented in a spirit of openness to relevant actors of the civil society, in particular in those parts of the world where civil society remains isolated or fragile;
 - (d) to examine all other questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the various arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies'.

2008-2009 – Chairperson: Mr András Lakatos (Hungary) – 24 members

39. At its 178th session (November 2007) the Board, having established its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations, gave it the following terms of reference (178 EX/Decision 13):
- 'The Executive Board,
1. *Recognizing* the important contribution made by non-governmental organizations to the preparation and implementation of UNESCO's programme,
 2. *Taking into account* the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session and amended at its 31st and 34th sessions, and the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions,

adopted by the General Conference at its 26th session and amended at its 28th and 29th sessions, as well as the following resolutions adopted by the General Conference and related decisions of the Executive Board:

- (a) the resolutions on the application of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 29th and 30th sessions; 149 EX/Decision 7.3 and 154 EX/Decision 7.3 concerning financial and material arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and 157 EX/Decision 9.4, Part I,¹
 - (b) the resolutions concerning the Executive Board's sexennial report on the contribution made to UNESCO's activities by international non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th, 30th, 31st and 34th sessions,
 - (c) 21 C/Resolution 7.11 concerning international non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with UNESCO and in which bodies or people from Taiwan are still participating in the name of China,
 - (d) 32 C/Resolution 60 concerning sectoral and intersectoral strategies for cooperation with non-governmental organizations,
 - (e) 33 C/Resolution 92 concerning the recommendations of the ad hoc working group on relations between the three organs of UNESCO,
3. *Decides* that the terms of reference of its Committee on International Non-Governmental Organizations shall be as follows:
- (a) to continue to improve its methods of work, to enhance its intellectual and ethical reflection, and to pursue its dialogue with all relevant non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat with a view to promoting the input of those organizations to the work of UNESCO;
 - (b) to examine once a year, at its spring session, matters within its mandate relating to the establishment of relations between UNESCO and non-governmental organizations as stipulated in the above-mentioned Directives, and notably to consider the proposals that the Director-General will submit to the Executive Board for the establishment or renewal of formal relations with international non-governmental organizations;
 - (c) to ensure that the above-mentioned Directives continue to be implemented in a spirit of openness to relevant actors of the civil society, in particular in those parts of the world where civil society remains isolated or fragile;
 - (d) to examine all other questions coming within the purview of the Executive Board in relation to the implementation of the various arrangements for cooperation with non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies;
4. *Further decides* to grant, as appropriate, a second day of work to the NGO Committee².

1. In accordance with the sexennial report by the Executive Board to the General Conference on the contributions made to UNESCO's activities by non-governmental organizations (2001-2006) adopted by the General Conference at its 34th session, a revised version of the financial and material arrangements for cooperation with NGOs will be submitted to the Executive Board at its 179th session.

**Members of the Committee on International
Non-Governmental Organizations
in 2008-2009**

NGO

(24 members)

Chairperson: Mr András Lakatos (Hungary)

Group I

France
Greece
Italy
Portugal

Group II

Albania
Azerbaijan
Hungary
Lithuania

Group III

Cuba
El Salvador
Jamaica
Saint Kitts and
Nevis

Group IV

China
Fiji
Philippines
Sri Lanka

Group V(a)

Benin
Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Niger
Senegal

Group V(b)

Egypt
Kuwait
Lebanon
Saudi Arabia