

General Conference

38th Session, Paris, 2015

United Nations Educational, Scientific and **Cultural Organization**

> Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация Объединенных Наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры

> منظمة الأمم المتحدة للنربية والعلم والثقافة

> > 联合国教育、 科学及文化组织

38 C/59 13 October 2015 Original: English

Item 8.2 of the provisional agenda

REQUEST FOR THE ADMISSION OF MONTSERRAT AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF UNESCO

The Director-General received from the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Rt Hon. Grant Shapps MP, a letter dated 1 September 2015, applying on behalf of Montserrat for its admission as an Associate Member of UNESCO.

The letter reads as follows:

"Dear Ms Bokova,

"The Premier of Montserrat, Donaldson Romeo, has requested the assistance of the UK Government for Montserrat to become an Associate Member of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Montserrat is a British Overseas Territory and the UK Government is responsible for the conduct of Montserrat's international relations.

The UK Government has agreed to support Montserrat's request as the Territory would like to strengthen its relationship with UNESCO. In accordance, therefore, with Article 2(3) of the Constitution of UNESCO I would like to apply for admittance of Montserrat as an Associate Member of UNESCO.

Pursuant to Rule 99, paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure of UNESCO's General Conference, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the country responsible for the external relations of Montserrat, accepts responsibility on behalf of Montserrat for the discharge of the obligations contained in the Constitution and of the financial contributions assessed by the General Conference as payable by Montserrat.

Please note that the costs arising from Montserrat's Associate Membership of UNESCO will be borne by the Government of Montserrat. I understand that the Premier of Montserrat has already written to you directly confirming the Government of Montserrat is prepared to uphold the Constitution of UNESCO and to comply with the requirements related to Associate Membership status.

I hope it will be possible to confirm Montserrat as an Associate Member of UNESCO in the upcoming General Conference in November 2015.

(Signed)

The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps MP Minister of State"

- 2. Montserrat is a territory for whose international relations the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is responsible and this application is made pursuant to a request made to the Government of the United Kingdom by Montserrat's government. The United Kingdom is a Member State of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- 3. The Director-General finds that the conditions stipulated in the relevant texts (Article II.3 of the Constitution and Rule 99.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference) have been fulfilled and that the request submitted by the United Kingdom is accordingly admissible.
- 4. Pursuant to Article II.3 of the Constitution, it is incumbent upon the General Conference to decide on the admission of Montserrat as an Associate Member. Article II.3 of the Constitution and Rule 84.1 (b) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference stipulate that a majority of two-thirds of the Members present and voting is required in such circumstances. If admitted, Montserrat would become the tenth Associate member of UNESCO.