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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE

**MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Second session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room IV
1 to 3 December 2009

Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda:
**Accreditation of Non-Governmental Organizations for cooperation with the Scientific
and Technical Advisory Body**

Decision required : paragraph 4 and amendment of the
Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body

1. In its first session and by Resolution 5/MSP 1 the Meeting of States Parties established a Scientific and Technical Advisory Body to the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (hereinafter “the Advisory Body”) according to Article 23.4 of the Convention. According to Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of this body, it “shall consult and collaborate with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) having activities related to the scope of the Convention, namely ICUCH, as well as other competent NGOs accredited by the Meeting of States Parties”.
2. The possibility to consult with other Intergovernmental Organizations has not been included in this paragraph. As, however, several Intergovernmental Organizations have activities related to the scope of the Convention, for instance the United Nations and its Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the International Seabed Authority or the International Maritime organization, it might be advisable to include the possibility of consultation with such organizations by amending Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body;
3. It should also be noted that no criteria for the accreditation of NGOs have yet been established. Accreditation criteria have however been detailed in the draft Operational Guidelines proposed by the Secretariat under Item 5 of the Agenda and the Secretariat has informed relevant NGOs of the possibility to apply for accreditation and several applications have been received.
4. The Meeting of States Parties may consider to adopt the following resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 6 / MSP 2

The Meeting of States Parties, in its second session,

1. *Wishing to include Intergovernmental Organizations among the organizations which the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body to the Meeting of State Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage may consult and with which it may cooperate;*

2. Having examined the applications for accreditation by the Meeting of States Parties, as received by the Secretariat from NGOs and as set out in the Annex of document UCH/09/2.MSP/220/6 ;
3. Having examined Chapter V of the Draft Operational Guidelines referring to the cooperation of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body with NGOs, as set out in document UCH/09/2.MSP/220/5 ;
4. Decides to amend Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body as follows:

“The Advisory Body shall consult and collaborate with

- i. Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) having activities related to the scope of the Convention; and*
- ii. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) having activities related to the scope of the Convention, namely ICUCH, as well as other competent NGOs accredited by the Meeting of State Parties.”*

5. Also decides

Option 1: *not to accredit any organization under Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body, until the criteria for accreditation have been adopted in the Operational Guidelines of the Convention;*

Option 2:

to provisionally accredit the following non-governmental organizations to be consulted by and to collaborate with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body to the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage until the adoption of the criteria for accreditation under Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of that Body have been adopted:

a.)

b.)

c.)

Option 3:

To accredit the following non-governmental organizations to be consulted by and to collaborate with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body to the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage until the adoption of the criteria for accreditation under Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of that Body:

a.)

b.)

c.)

ANNEX

APPLICATIONS FOR ACCREDITATION BY THE MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

1. ACUA - Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology
2. AIMA – Australian Institute for Maritime Archeology
3. ADMAT - Anglo Danish Maritime Archaeological Team
4. DEGUWA – Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Unterwasserarchäologie e.V.
5. IKUWA - Internationale Konferenz für Unterwasserarchäologie
6. JNAPC - Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee
7. NAS – Nautical Archeology Society
8. SHA – Society for Historical Archaeology

** Please note that ICUCH - The ICOMOS International Committee on the Underwater Cultural Heritage, is already listed in Article 1 (e) of the Statutes of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body and that it was assumed that it does not need to apply for accreditation.*