

201st Session of the Executive Board – National Statement Germany

Mr. President of the General Conference,

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Madame Director-General,

Distinguished Delegates,

Germany welcomes the decision of 26 member states not to read out their national statements in the Plenary Session and transmits the following statement to be included in the written documentation of the 201st Executive Board meeting.

The 201st Executive Board will focus on the preparation of UNESCO's **Programme and Budget for 2018 to 2021**.

Germany welcomes the new approach to base the **39 C / 5 budget** on an integrated budget framework. We believe that the integrated budget framework will foster the **Structured Financing Dialogue** in order to successfully mobilize extrabudgetary funds.

Germany highly appreciated the continuous **consultation process** between the UNESCO secretariat, the programme sectors and Members States during the elaboration of the Programme and Budget for the period of 2018 to 2021.

The consultation process has been exemplary and has enabled Member States to genuinely join in the deliberations on the 39 C / 5 document which will guide UNESCO's work in the coming years.

The tense financial situation of UNESCO will require increasing efforts in fund-raising.

Germany considers it therefore of paramount importance that UNESCO develops an effective **fund-raising strategy** and that the activities undertaken by the different programme sectors in this regard are as transparent and harmonized with each other as possible.

The efforts should concentrate on underfinanced and understaffed programmes and projects.

Germany welcomes the focus UNESCO is placing on the implementation of the **Agenda 2030** as nine of the Sustainable Development Goals touch the very core of UNESCO's mandate.

Germany supports the leading role of UNESCO within the framework of international organizations to coordinate activities to implement **SDG 4**.

We appreciate that the Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 include important measures in the field of education, inclusivity, intercultural understanding, global citizenship and the protection of cultural property.

Germany strongly supports the activities carried out by UNESCO and its member states in the field of **Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education**.

Taking into consideration the strong emphasis UNESCO places on education as well as on intercultural dialogue, the organization can provide valuable contributions to this highly topical issue.

We welcome the objective of UNESCO's Education sector to intensify its efforts to strengthen Member States' capacities in the areas of educational policies, curricula development and teacher training.

The good performance of the category 1 **UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning** and the category 1 **UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning** should be recognized by maintaining the functional autonomy of these institutes. This should also be reflected in the respective Resolutions of the General Conference.

Germany welcomes the transparent and well balanced formulation of key achievements and expected results for **Major Programme IV, Culture** in the Programme Implementation Report. It could serve as a good practice for this exercise.

None of today's global challenges can be solved by a single player. The **intersectoral approach** of the five programme sectors of UNESCO as well as the ever increasing cooperation of different UN bodies on global issues like climate

change or support mechanisms in the event of conflict or disaster are absolutely necessary.

One of the important assets of UNESCO is its **network of Field Offices** all over the world. In order to serve Member States adequately within the scope of UNESCO's mandate, the Field Offices have to be managed and coordinated in an efficient, programme and results oriented way.

The activities of the Field Offices should be based on a country strategy which has to be regularly updated. Germany welcomes the audit of the entire network which is planned to be carried out by an External Auditor.