

as of 23 January 2017

## **Sub-Group 2: Structure, composition and methods of work of UNESCO's International and Intergovernmental Bodies (IIBs)**

### Co-Chairs' Note

#### **Background**

General Conference resolution 38 C/ 101 recalls “the need to optimize the governance of intergovernmental programmes, committees and conventions by harnessing the potential for greater synergy, harmonization, efficiency and impact while bearing in mind requirements regarding the quality of the work and the specific mandate, constituency and functioning of individual governing bodies.”

General Conference resolution 38 C/ 101 also “invites all intergovernmental programmes, committees and organs of the conventions to inscribe, in 2016 if feasible, an item on their agenda concerning the follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor’s report...to improve their governance by concrete measures, and report on their proposals to the Chairperson of the open-ended working group.”

In this regard, the President of the General Conference requested the Chairs of all IIBs to submit their reports, in accordance with the request of the General Conference. The Co-Chairs likewise developed a questionnaire that was sent to all IIB Secretariats, to provide basic information and a common framework for analysis that could facilitate discussions in the Sub-Group. Member States are thus invited to examine the responses of the various IIBs.

#### **Organization of debate and proposals/ methodology**

Given the broad scope of the draft agenda of Sub-Group 2 and limited time, it is suggested that Member States focus their debate and proposals on the following cross-cutting issues/ themes, as identified during the meeting of the Working Group held on 1 April 2016, inter alia:

- Efficiency (mandate, composition, structure, rules of procedure, methods of work)
- Harmonization (of methods of work, rules of procedure, reporting, role of Bureaux, transparency)
- Alignment with C/5 and overarching priorities of UNESCO (impact and results, including in relation to Agenda 2030)
- Coherence, coordination and synergies (within and across programme sectors, with other UNESCO Governing Bodies, other entities)
- Best practices and cost reductions

#### **Objectives**

Through a holistic approach:

- Generate feedback to the IIBs on their responses.
- Develop concrete proposals to help enhance governance of the IIBs.
- Promote synergies and harmonization.