



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and ninetieth session

# 190 EX/18

## Part I

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## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### PART I

#### SUMMARY

Pursuant to 35 C/Resolution 103, 186 EX/Decision 14, and 189 EX/Decision 16, this document provides information on the progress that has been achieved in operationalizing the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (35 C/22 and Corr.), and implementing the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service's (IOS) joint audit and evaluation of the management framework for category 2 institutes and centres, completed in December 2011 (the main conclusions of this report were published in the 2011 Annual Report of IOS, document 189 EX/16). It also provides a set of specific recommendations on how the network of category 2 institutes and centres could be strengthened so as to utilize it as a reliable, low cost means of pursuing UNESCO's core programmatic objectives, while at the same time reducing the financial and administrative impact on the Organization's limited resources.

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 24.

## Introduction

1. There are currently 81 category 2 institutes/centres across 58 countries that have been approved by UNESCO's General Conference. These institutes/centres serve in their fields of specialization as international or regional centres and poles of expertise/excellence to provide technical assistance and services to Member States, cooperation partners and also to the network of UNESCO field offices. In this context, the category 2 institutes/centres are expected to contribute directly to achieving the Strategic Programme Objectives or programme priorities and themes of the Organization, in the context of implementing the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for the Category 2 Institutes and Centres, as approved by the General Conference in its 35 C/Resolution 103 (based on document 35 C/22 and Corr.).

2. Category 2 institutes/centres are not legally part of the Organization, but are associated with it through formal arrangements approved by the General Conference. They constitute an important resource for UNESCO, particularly in expanding and amplifying the Organization's programmatic support to Member States at the country level.

3. The number of category 2 institutes/centres has grown significantly in recent years, with over half approved during the past four years. While this rapidly expanding network attests to Member States' enthusiasm and commitment to contributing through this modality to the achievement of UNESCO's work, its management also places an increasing strain on UNESCO's financial, administrative and human resources. This comes at a time when the Organization is facing a severe budgetary crisis and is striving to realize efficiency gains.

4. As noted in the IOS report on the Review of the Management Framework for UNESCO Category 2 Institutes and Centres (189 EX/16) and the report of the biennial mapping conducted by the Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP) (189 EX/INF.5), a number of institutes and centres have proven to be catalytic in delivering high-quality work at the country level. These reports found that the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (35 C/22 and Corr.) provided a sound framework for engaging with this network, but that a further improved operationalization of the strategy was needed to maximize the potential of the network and to minimize the risks associated with its rapid expansion.

5. The present document provides information on the progress achieved since the 189th session of the Executive Board with a view to strengthening the operationalization of the strategy, as per the recommendations contained in the IOS report. It further suggests a set of specific recommendations for consideration by the Executive Board.

### Designation of a global coordination focal point for category 2 institutes and centres

6. As stipulated in the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (35 C/22 and Corr.), the Director-General designated BSP as the global coordination focal point for all issues pertaining to category 2 institutes and centres. As such, BSP is responsible *inter alia* for (i) conducting a biennial mapping of all category 2 institutes and centres; (ii) providing backstopping to the Programme sectors in developing sectoral strategies on how to engage and interact with category 2 institutes and centres on specific themes; (iii) developing and maintaining a central database for all category 2 entities; (iv) providing information to interested Member States on what constitutes a category 2 institute or centre and how they are created and managed; and v) implementing a global comprehensive communications plan for category 2 institutes and centres.

### Biennial mapping of all category 2 institutes and centres

7. BSP conducted a biennial mapping exercise for the 2010-2011 biennium of all 81 category 2 institutes and centres, drawing on information provided by sectoral focal points in liaison with the directors and staff of category 2 institutes and centres. This mapping, which followed the format set out in 35 C/Resolution 103 and in 186 EX/Decision 14, included information on the designated

sector focal point for each institute and centre; the thematic specialization and geographic coverage of all category 2 institutes and centres; information on the contribution of each entity to UNESCO's programme results at the MLA level; information on all costs incurred as a result of interaction with category 2 centres and institutes; and the identification of best practices in promoting South-South, North-South and North-South-South triangular cooperation. The results of this mapping were presented to the 189th session of UNESCO's Executive Board in 189 EX/INF.5 and the detailed fact sheets for each and every institute and centre were made available on UNESCO's global category 2 website at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/bureau-of-strategic-planning/resources/category-2-institutes/>.

8. This mapping exercise showed that the category 2 institutes and centres can be a significant resource for the Organization, particularly in delivering UNESCO's programmes at the country level, as particularly evidenced by the well performing water and science-related centres and institutes, as well as those dealing with cultural heritage. However, the mapping also found that not all of the 81 approved institutes and centres were fully operational and that not all were in full alignment with the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (35 C/22 and Corr.), particularly those that were approved before the adoption of the new strategy and its model agreement. In addition, it was found that the increasing financial, administrative and human resource costs associated with the growing number of category 2 institutes/centres needed to be reviewed with a view to limiting the impact on the regular budget of UNESCO. Such costs include, among others, conducting feasibility studies for proposed category 2 entities, participation of UNESCO staff in category 2 governing boards, liaising and engaging with a burgeoning number of institutes and centres, and conducting the review assessments of institutes/centres prior to the renewal of agreements. In some cases, such costs are already voluntarily borne by a category 2 centre or the host Member State concerned.

#### **Establishment of a Review Committee**

9. To better assess the risks and opportunities associated with category 2 institutes and centres, IOS had recommended in its audit and evaluation report that BSP establish a Review Committee with all Programme Sector Assistant Director-Generals (ADGs) and senior management from IOS and the Office of Legal Affairs (LA) to:

- (a) provide guidelines for an improved screening of proposals and feasibility studies for category 2 institutes/centres;
- (b) coordinate the renewal review assessment process so as to ensure the continued relevance of all category 2 institutes and centres and to identify the criteria and procedures for the renewal of agreements, and to provide guidance to sector focal points for measures to be taken concerning institutes/centres that are not fully operational;
- (c) provide a platform for sectors to discuss common issues and share experiences;
- (d) provide recommendations to the Director-General on how to refine and improve the operationalization of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy.

10. The Review Committee met twice, on 11 July and 17 August 2012 and had in between also discussions by correspondence. The results of these meetings are reflected in the section below with pertinent recommendations for consideration by the Executive Board.

#### **Screening of initial proposals and feasibility studies**

11. The Review Committee adopted a guidance note on the screening process for submissions received from Member States proposing to establish a category 2 institute or centre and the

specific steps and criteria to be followed, including the conduct of a feasibility study. This note is included in the Annex to this document.

### **Review assessment and renewal of category 2 status**

12. The Review Committee also endorsed a guidance note concerning the process and criteria for conducting a review renewal assessment of a category 2 institute or centre to determine whether an agreement should be renewed, and under what conditions. This house-wide guidance piece responds to Recommendation 6 of the IOS report and is included in document 190 EX/INF.16. It specifies the criteria to be fulfilled and the information to be provided by institutes/centres for consideration of the renewal of an agreement. As indicated in A.3.2 of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy, the results of these reviews, including the endorsement or rejection to renew an existing agreement, will be reported by the Director-General in her report to the Executive Board on the Execution of the Programme (EX/4 and C/3 documents) as well as in reports to subsidiary bodies, as outlined in sector strategies. The approval of the Executive Board will be required before the Director-General can renew an agreement. As this procedure is not clearly specified in the current integrated comprehensive strategy, the Review Committee considers it desirable to modify Article 15 of the model agreement to remove automatic renewal of institutes/centres in perpetuity and to make an explicit reference to the criteria and procedures contained in document 190 EX/INF.16. In addition, the Review Committee also suggests a modification to Article 16 of the Model Agreement and to A.4 of the Strategy so that in case the result of a renewal review assessment recommends that the agreement not be renewed, the Executive Board would be authorized to denounce an agreement instead of waiting for a resolution from the General Conference. The Executive Board may wish to make a pertinent recommendation to the General Conference on these two issues.

13. The Review Committee also discussed the potential impact of the new programming cycle, including the Organization's next Medium-Term Strategy (37 C/4) now covering eight years, and the Organization's Programme and Budget (37 C/5), now covering four years for the Programme part on the duration of a category 2 agreement. In general, the Review Committee felt that 4 years might be a suitable period, as all institutes/centres and agreements could then be aligned with the new four-year Programme part of future C/5 documents, thereby facilitating the monitoring and reporting of activities by institutes/centres. However, the Committee ultimately felt that the current six-year period, as envisaged in the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy, would still be preferable, taking into account the delays normally encountered for the signature and entry into force of agreements approved by the General Conference, in line with Article 14 of the Standard Model Agreement, and the evaluation and assessment period required that has provided to stretch between six and 12 months.

### **Costs of engagement with category 2 institutes/centres**

14. The Review Committee also discussed the cost implications for UNESCO of engaging with category 2 entities and the network as a whole. While UNESCO is not required to provide direct funding to category 2 institutes/centres, there are nevertheless costs implications. As indicated in the strategy in E.1.2, these costs are related to the preparation of feasibility studies, and the participation of a staff member acting as the representative of the Director-General in the annual meetings of the governing body of a category 2 institute/centre. In addition to the direct costs, there may also be considerable staff time involved as well as costs associated with liaising and engaging with the growing number of institutes and centres. The cost of networking might be somewhat contained through the use of low-cost communications mechanisms. Lastly, the costs of conducting assessments and reviews of institutes/centres before the renewal of agreements will also have to be taken into account, including the possible engagement of consultants.

15. To reduce the financial burden on the Organization's limited resources, Member States or individual institutes/centres could be invited to fund voluntarily the full cost to UNESCO of feasibility studies, UNESCO participation in institute/centre governing body meetings and for all renewal

review assessments. The Executive Board may wish to recommend to the General Conference a modification to E.1.2 of the current integrated comprehensive strategy, whereby this burden sharing by Member States would become obligatory.

### **Sector strategies to strengthen the management, coordination, and engagement with category 2 institutes and centres**

16. The Review Committee examined and endorsed the specific sector strategies that had been developed with backstopping from BSP, in line with Recommendation 1 of the IOS report. These strategies provide information on how sectors coordinate, manage and engage with the institutes/centres under their purview. Sector strategies map institutes' and centres' specific functions and contributions to sectoral programmatic objectives in a particular thematic area, such as cultural heritage or hydrology, or for an entire sector. The strategies also set out how the institutes/centres complement one another, network among each other and coordinate with UNESCO Headquarters and field offices. In addition, the strategies also help to identify where an institute/centre may or may not be needed, either geographically or thematically, thus enabling the Secretariat to better screen proposals. They also provide information on the various communication mechanisms that have been established to increase the exchange of information with and among category 2 institutes/centres. All sector strategies are available on UNESCO's global category 2 website at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/bureau-of-strategic-planning/resources/category-2-institutes/>.

17. The Review Committee agreed that all sector strategies shall be routinely updated in line with UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and its Programme and Budget (C/5) cycles, and where appropriate, be developed in consultation with the relevant UNESCO subsidiary bodies (such as the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) Council or the World Heritage Committee).

### **Promoting networking with and among institutes/centres**

18. The Review Committee also discussed practices and approaches on how to promote networking among institutes/centres focusing on similar issues. The annual or biennial consultation meetings that have been held by IHP-, education- and culture-related category 2 institutes and centres were considered as good practice, as they allowed for thematically related institutes/centres to share their work and to explore possibilities on how to enhance cooperation among the institutes/centres and with the UNESCO family. Considering the Organization's current financial difficulties, the Review Committee agreed that category 2 institutes/centres should be invited to take responsibility for hosting and financing any such consultation meetings.

19. The Education Sector provided information on its efforts to increase the communication flow with all ED-related institutes and centres, UNESCO Headquarters and field offices/regional bureaux by disseminating the centres' biannual newsletter, including the centres' representatives in a dedicated mailing list, and creating a workspace within the Sector's Intranet site. This allows staff members and partners to exchange information on activities, discuss common issues and explore opportunities for further collaboration. The Review Committee agreed to recommend that all sectors should follow a similar approach in order to increase the two-way communication with category 2 institutes/centres using such low-cost methods.

### **Monitoring, Reporting and Transparency**

20. Building on the examples of IHP and the World Heritage Centre in developing easy templates for the Directors of category 2 institutes and centres to report on their activities, the Review Committee agreed that all sector focal points should develop a similar biennial reporting mechanism, and that all reports would be posted online by the time of the 37th session of the General Conference. In addition, these reports shall also be shared with the relevant intergovernmental committees, such as IHP and the World Heritage Committee.

21. There was also agreement that information regarding the contribution of all category 2 institutes/centres towards UNESCO's expected results should be included in UNESCO's System of Information on Strategies, Tasks and the Evaluation of Results (SISTER). It was further agreed that this information should be included in UNESCO's statutory reports (EX/4 and C/3).

22. In line with IOS Recommendation 5, BSP has developed a comprehensive global category 2 website to enhance the visibility of the category 2 institutes and centres, and to strengthen the monitoring of the network. This website provides information on all category 2 institutes and centres that have been approved by the General Conference, their related fact sheets, focal points and other strategic documents, including the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy (35 C/22 and Corr.). Work is under way with the category 2 sector focal points to further expand this database to include all feasibility studies, institute/centre signed agreements, biennial institute/centre activity reports, and renewal review reports, and all other pertinent documents by the end of 2012. A number of sectors, including ED, SC, CLT, and CI have already developed specific webpages on their relevant category 2 networks with this information, which is hyperlinked-linked with BSP's global website.

### **Recommendations**

23. The Review Committee noted that while the current Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (35 C/22 and Corr.) does provide a solid basis for the governance of the network as whole, a number of amendments to the strategy and to the related model agreement may need to be considered by the Executive Board for recommendation to the General Conference so as to further strengthen the management of the network and overcome current weaknesses by introducing:

- a clause into the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy which requires all institutes/centres to comply with relevant sector strategies;
- a modification of model agreement Article 15 and Article 16 of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy which would remove the possibility of an automatic renewal of institutes/centres in perpetuity, and would specify that the renewal or denunciation of an agreement would have to be decided by the Executive Board based on the results of the renewal assessment;
- Accordingly, in line with the above, A.4 of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy would have to be modified to the effect that the denunciation of an agreement due to a negative renewal review assessment would be incumbent upon the Executive Board;
- a clause which requires all institutes/centres to provide regular and consistent reporting to UNESCO's governing bodies on their contribution to achieve UNESCO's strategic programme objectives through UNESCO's statutory reports (EX/4 and C/3) and through submission of biennial reports;
- a revision of provision E.1.2 stating that Member States or individual institutes/centres should fund the full cost to UNESCO of feasibility studies, UNESCO participation in institute or centre governing bodies, renewal review assessments, and any annual coordination meetings.

### **Proposed draft decision**

24. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103 by which the General Conference adopted an integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, as set out in documents 35 C/22 and Corr., and also recalling 189 EX/Decision 16,
2. Having examined documents 190 EX/18 Part I and 190 EX/INF.16,
3. Aware that the network of category 2 institutes and centres has significant potential to contribute to the achievement of UNESCO's strategic programme objectives, particularly at the country level, and that the present management framework for category 2 institutes/centres (35 C/22 and Corr.) sets clear overall boundaries and principles for engagement,
4. Acknowledges that maintaining and coordinating the category 2 network has cost implications for the Organization pertaining to staff time and regular programme resources and that measures are needed to reduce these costs;
5. Thanks the Director-General for the work to improve the implementation of the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (35 C/22 and Corr.) in line with the recommendations contained in the Internal Oversight Service's joint audit and evaluation of the management framework for category 2 institutes;
6. Agrees to recommend that the General Conference, at its 37th session, amend the current integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres so as to further strengthen category 2 status renewal procedures, improve alignment of category 2 institutes/centres' operations with UNESCO's results-based management approach and sectoral strategies; strengthen the monitoring and reporting requirements of the network, and reduce the cost to UNESCO of maintaining this network in terms of human and financial resources, as set out in paragraph 23 of document 190 EX/18 Part I;
7. Endorses the guidance notes included in the annex to document 190 EX/18 Part I and in document 190 EX/INF.16, and requests the Director-General to apply them accordingly;
8. Further requests the Director-General to report to it at its 191st session on the results of the renewal reviews undertaken.

## ANNEX

### **GUIDANCE NOTE FOR APPLYING THE INTEGRATED COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES**

1. Once the Director-General receives a written proposal from a Member State or Member States for designation of a category 2 institute or centre, she will assess it based on the information provided in consultation with the relevant Assistant Director-General and determine whether a feasibility study should be undertaken by the relevant Programme Sector.
2. Should the Director-General decide that a feasibility study shall be undertaken, the concerned Member State(s) shall be invited to consider covering all related costs to prepare such a feasibility study, or to identify other extrabudgetary sources to cover these costs, in light of the Organization's constrained resources.
3. Where an intergovernmental or subsidiary body exists, such body shall be invited to review the proposal in order to determine if it fits within the relevant framework and sectoral strategy provide a recommendation to the Director-General as to whether a feasibility study should be conducted.
4. Each feasibility study shall provide the following information to allow the Director-General to properly ascertain whether it meets the requirements specified in 35 C/22 and Corr.:
  - (a) A clear programmatic linkage between the activities of the institute or centre, the Organization's purposes as set forth in its Constitution and, the strategic programme objectives and the programme priorities of UNESCO;
  - (b) The scope of the activities of the proposed institute/centre and its ability and capacity of the institute/centre to realize its objectives;
  - (c) The global, regional, subregional or interregional relevance and impact (actual or potential) of an institute or centre, and any complementarity between its activities and those of other existing institutes or centres with similar focus; the contribution that it is expected to make in delivering policy advice and capacity-building to Member States and to promote South-South cooperation; and the contribution and role to be provided by UNESCO in that connection;
  - (d) The eventual complementarity and redundancy of a proposed institute/centre with other category 2 entities or with other similar institutions created and operated by other United Nations system organizations;
  - (e) The likely impact of the engagement with the proposed institute/centre on the capacity of the UNESCO Secretariat to undertake effective coordination with this and other category 2 institutes/centres;
  - (f) The financial sustainability of the institute/centre.
5. Once the feasibility study, which must include a draft agreement and a draft decision for the Executive Board, has been reviewed and approved through the appropriate internal Secretariat channels, it will be inscribed on the agenda of the Executive Board at the request of the Director-General.
6. Any deviation from the model agreement, as contained in the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy (35 C/22 and Corr.), must be explicitly spelled out in the feasibility study.



7. The Executive Board shall then examine the feasibility study and the draft agreement, and based thereon make an appropriate recommendation to the General Conference.

8. The recommendation by the Executive Board shall then be considered by the General Conference, which will decide on the establishment of an institute or centre under UNESCO's auspices (category 2) in a specific resolution, and authorize the Director-General to conclude an agreement between UNESCO and the government(s) concerned.



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# Executive Board

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## Part II

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### CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

#### PART II

### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA OF A REGIONAL CENTRE FOR QUALITY AND EXCELLENCE IN K-12 EDUCATION

#### SUMMARY

Following a proposal by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to establish a Regional Centre for Quality and Excellence in K-12 Education as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, a technical mission was undertaken in February 2012 to assess its feasibility. The evaluation of the proposal to establish a Centre was carried out in conformity with the criteria outlined in 35 C/Resolution 103, concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO.

This document has been prepared pursuant to the mission. It reviews the prerequisites for the establishment of the Centre, and provides the rationale for Saudi Arabia's proposal.

Financial and administrative implications are covered in paragraph 5.

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 9.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The EFA goal pertaining to equitable provision of quality education and effective learning opportunities for all (Goal 6) is clearly off-track, as many countries are still struggling with low education and inequitable quality as well as ineffective learning. Even more importantly, high quality education and effective learning are pre-requisites for the attainment of all other EFA goals. Evidence shows that poor quality and ineffective learning actually undermines the progress made in expanding access. This is manifest in high repetition rates, high dropout rates and the large number of learners who leave school not having acquired the skills and competencies commensurate with their educational attainment. The Arab States, and even those with high per capita income, are no exception to this global challenge. The proposed Centre presents a timely response in the region, but also carries learning potential for other regions.

2. As a neutral broker of knowledge, UNESCO encourages and supports global, regional and national efforts to address the education quality and learning effectiveness challenge using context-suitable policies, strategies, methodologies and approaches. At the same time, UNESCO has developed a General Education Quality Analysis/Diagnosis Framework (GEQAF) that is adaptable to all contexts whose range covers the K-12.<sup>1</sup>

3. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has proposed the establishment of a Regional Centre for Quality and Excellence in K-12 Education (provisional title) under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), hereinafter referred to as the "Centre". The proposal for the Centre is based on the conviction that Arab States are committed to improving their K-12 education systems, and on the recognition that lessons from the experience of other countries can provide useful ideas and adaptable interventions for the region. At the same time, lessons from the region and from the operations of the Centre can equally benefit other regions.

4. This document outlines and analyses the background, scope, feasibility and foreseeable implications of the creation of the proposed Centre, especially with regard to benefits to Member States in the Arab region and the Centre's relevance to UNESCO's programmes

## OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL

5. The proposal submitted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has endeavoured to follow the guidelines and criteria outlined in the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (35 C/Resolution 103) in a two-phase process, with the related draft agreement foreseen to be presented at a subsequent session of the Executive Board. Since the feasibility study was carried out, certain improvements were suggested and UNESCO has provided technical advice on the way forward.

- (a) **Objectives:** The Centre aims to enable Member States in the Arab region to strengthen the capacity of their education systems to equitably deliver quality education services to all K-12 learners and to effectively facilitate their learning. The Centre will use, among its instruments: appropriate policies, plans, systems approaches and knowledge-sharing mechanisms.
- (b) **Functions:** The Centre will organize its activities according to five major categories: (1) research and development; (2) training and capacity-building; (3) systems and quality assurance approaches; (4) recognition of performance and of excellence among educators and learners; and (5) the creation, management and dissemination of knowledge on systems approaches to improving education quality and learning effectiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> Kindergarten to grade 12 (equivalent of last year of upper secondary education)

- (c) **Legal status and structure:** The Centre will enjoy the personality and legal capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions as a public institution established under national legislation. Under the authority of the Ministry of Education, the centre will have autonomy to create and implement its own programmes and activities. The Institute shall function under the auspices of UNESCO, but will be independent of UNESCO. UNESCO will not be legally responsible for the Institute, nor bear any responsibilities or liabilities of any kind, be they managerial, financial or otherwise.

**Its structure will involve:**

- (i) **Governing Board:** a body in charge of guiding, supervising and monitoring the Centre's financial and thematic activities as well as matters of policy, direction and priorities. The activities of the Centre will be planned and supervised by the Governing Board.
- (ii) **Executive Committee:** an expert body to be set up by the Governing Board.
- (iii) **Secretariat:** a body in charge of running the operations of the Centre.
- (d) **Financial matters:** The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will cover the costs of the facilities of the Centre, including equipment, utilities, communications, secretariat staff and maintenance of infrastructure, mission costs arising from UNESCO membership on the governing board of the Centre, and costs for evaluations related to the process of renewal of agreements.
- (e) **Areas of cooperation with UNESCO**
- (i) The Centre hopes to support UNESCO in its effort to develop the quality of K-12 education in Arab countries, and provide assistance to Arab ministries of education in developing quality and effective K-12 education systems. The centre will serve as a hub for K-12 education expertise in the Arab States and contribute to UNESCO's work in addressing the human resource needs of the region. Its activities aim to develop, share and apply applicable ideas and best practices in K-12 education.
- (ii) The Centre requests UNESCO to provide technical support required for a technically-sound establishment and sustainability of the Centre, including through staff exchanges and secondment; assist the Centre with establishing linkages with other institutions and agencies; and include the Centre in various programmes implemented by UNESCO which are beneficial to both.

**REGIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL IMPACT OF THE CENTRE**

6. At the time of the proposal submission, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia indicated having received support from Member States of the Arab region.

- (a) The Centre will strive for regional impact by assisting countries of the Arab region in their efforts to attain and sustain quality education and effective learning for all, by making available all its programmes to Member States of the region. The Centre's knowledge dissemination functions will also positively impact other Regions.
- (b) The Centre will serve as a clearing house in the region for the transfer of experience, knowledge and promising practices in K-12 education.

## FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

7. In accordance with 35 C/Resolution 103, UNESCO shall not provide financial support for administrative or programmatic purposes. Future foreseen administrative costs for UNESCO linked to the operation of the Centre, if established as a category 2 centre, will be related to liaising with the Centre to provide technical assistance, as needed, and enabling coordination between networks of related institutions and agencies.

## SUMMARY EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED:

8. Supporting Member States in the Arab region in their implementation of quality systems in K-12 education is critically important for achieving education for all. The proposal for the establishment of a Regional Centre for Quality and Excellence in K-12 Education in Saudi Arabia as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO satisfactorily meets the principles as outlined in 35 C/Resolution 103.

## PROPOSED DECISION:

9. In light of the foregoing, the Executive Board may wish to consider the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part II containing a proposal for the establishment in Saudi Arabia of a regional centre for quality and excellence in K-12 (kindergarten, primary and secondary) education as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
2. Considering the deep interest of Saudi Arabia in accelerating the process for the establishment of the proposed centre,
3. Welcomes the proposal of Saudi Arabia to establish a regional centre for quality and excellence as a UNESCO category 2 centre;
4. Requests Saudi Arabia to continue to work closely with UNESCO to ensure a technically-sound establishment of the proposed centre, as well as to elaborate on its financial commitment and the programme scope, orientation and modes of operation of the proposed centre;
5. Encourages the Director-General to continue cooperating closely with Saudi Arabia to finalize the draft agreement between Saudi Arabia and UNESCO, and invites her to submit it to the Board at its 191st session.



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Educational, Scientific and  
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# Executive Board

Hundred and ninetieth session

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## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### PART III

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN BELGRADE, SERBIA, OF A CENTRE FOR WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

##### SUMMARY

Following a proposal by the Government of the Republic of Serbia to establish a “Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change” Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in Belgrade, Serbia, the forty-sixth session of the Bureau of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (30 May-1 June 2011) endorsed the proposal. At the request of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, a UNESCO mission was undertaken to Serbia in July 2011 as part of the evaluation of the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre. The 187th session of the Executive Board considered the proposed centre. The 36th session of the General Conference in 2011 authorized the 190th session of the Executive Board to decide in case of a favourable decision to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO and also authorized the Director-General to sign the agreement. The twentieth session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council in June 2012 endorsed the proposal.

The present document contains the completed and the main findings of the feasibility study for the proposed centre. A draft agreement (available on the Natural Sciences Sector website) has been drawn up between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Serbia in accordance with the model agreement contained in documents 35 C/22 and Corr. The evaluation of the Centre was done in conformity with the comprehensive integrated strategy document 35 C/22 and Corr. approved by the 35th session of the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103.

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraphs 5 (b) and (c).

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 12.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Government of Serbia has proposed the establishment of a “Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change” Centre located at the “Jaroslav Cerni” Institute for the Development of Water Resources, Belgrade, Serbia, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. This document outlines the background and nature of the proposal, feasibility and foreseeable implications of the creation of the proposed Centre, especially concerning benefits to Member States in the region and the Centre’s relevance to UNESCO’s programmes. The 36th session of the General Conference in 2011 has authorized the 190th session of the Executive Board in 2012 to decide in case of a favourable decision to establish the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO. The General Conference at its 36th session has also authorized the Director-General to sign the agreement (36 C/Resolution 29).

2. The Government of Serbia submitted a detailed proposal in March 2011. In accordance with IHP’s “Strategy for water-related UNESCO category 1 and category 2 centres” (177 EX/INF.9), in May 2011 the forty-sixth session of the Bureau of the IHP endorsed the preliminary proposal welcoming the establishment of the proposed centre and requesting that the proposal be submitted to UNESCO’s governing bodies. Following the submission of the project proposal a mission was undertaken in July 2011 to assess the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre. The twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP in 2012 has endorsed the proposed centre and requested the IHP secretariat to prepare the necessary documents to be submitted to the 190th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO (IGC IHP Resolution XX-7).

## **CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE**

### **Overview of the proposal**

3. The proposal from the Government of the Republic of the Serbia has endeavoured to address in detail the requirements specified in document 35 C/22 and Corr..

#### **a. Objectives and functions:**

The main objective of the proposed centre is to foster cooperation and improve scientific understanding of sustainable water resource management and adaptation to climate change. The Centre will promote regional research, education and capacity development to assess climate change impact on water resources. The results from the scientific and research activities of the Centre may provide policy advice to the countries to better manage water resources under the climate change threat and in a sustainable way. The activities of the centre will also contribute to achieving the strategic objectives of UNESCO’s IHP.

The following summarizes the overall scope of activities to be undertaken by the proposed centre.

1. foster scientific cooperation and exchange of information among different organizations involved in sustainable water resources management and the development of adaptation strategies due to climate change in collaboration with partner institutions in Serbia and in South-East Europe;
2. disseminate, generate and provide scientific and technical information on water resources management issues for the formulation of sound policies leading to sustainable and integrated water resources management at the local, national, regional and global levels;
3. evaluate implications of global change and develop adaptation strategies through the design of new indicators;
4. promote development of regional research programs, linking with regional and global initiatives, particularly focusing on the problem of sustainable water resources

management under climate change conditions, within the framework of the relevant ongoing UNESCO initiatives, in particular the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), Water Chairs and Centers;

5. undertake effective capacity-building activities at institutional and professional levels to enhance human and institutional capacity in assessing the impact of global change on water resources management by using advanced methods and technologies including indicators which describe the impact of global change on water resources;
6. organize an awareness raising programme for various audiences like policy-makers and the general public at the national and regional level on the adaptation strategies to climate change impact on sustainable water resources management;
7. disseminate results of research undertaken through seminars, workshops, training courses, conferences and periodic publications to the wider scientific community and IHP networks.

b. Structure and legal status: The Centre will be an independent legal entity, allowing it to formalize the financial, administrative and technical support provided by national and international institutions.

The structure of the Centre is defined by the draft Agreement (available on the Natural Sciences Sector website) and will involve:

1. Governing Board: A body in charge of supervising the Centre's activities. The composition is defined in Article 7 of the draft agreement;
2. Secretariat: a body in charge of executing the activities of the centre under the authority of a Director appointed by the Governing Board;
3. The Centre shall enjoy, in the territory of The Republic of Serbia, the autonomous status and legal capacity necessary to exercise its functions.

c. Financial matters: The Government shall provide the needed financial resources for the administration and proper functioning of the Centre from the budget of the Republic of Serbia, through the Ministry responsible for Science, the Ministry responsible for Water Management, the Ministry responsible for Environment, as well as through the "Jaroslav Cerni" Institute for the Development of Water Resources, namely to:

- provide the Centre with appropriate office space, equipment and facilities;
- entirely assume the maintenance of the premises; and cover the cost of communications and utilities;
- organize and cover expenses of holding sessions of the Governing Board;
- make available to the Centre the administrative staff necessary for its functions which shall include the implementation of research, studies, training and publication activities, complementing the contributions from other sources.

It is reported that negotiations are ongoing with other Ministries in order to assure additional resources. Furthermore, the Government of Serbia may require the support of UNESCO in securing additional resources from UNESCO Member States and other regional and international organizations. UNESCO will not, however, provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes.



d. Areas of cooperation with UNESCO: The activities of theme 1 of the IHP VII (2008-2013) strategic plan “Adapting to the impacts of global changes on river basins and aquifer systems” coincide with many of the activities of the proposed Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change Centre. Thus, the Centre will contribute to the implementation of these activities. Through the capacity development component, the Centre will also make a significant contribution to theme 5 “Water Education for Sustainable Development”; moreover, the Centre could also contribute to UNESCO’s Climate Change initiative. The Centre also envisages developing linkages and establishing collaborative projects with other UNESCO water-related category 1 and 2 Centres, and Water Chairs. The Centre may also collaborate with other relevant programmes in UNESCO.

4. Relationship between the activities of the Centre and UNESCO’s objectives and programmes:

- (a) UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy (2008-2013) as set out in document 34 C/4 lists several relevant Strategic Programme Objectives (SPO) under Overarching Objective 2 “Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development”. These include SPO 3: “Leveraging scientific knowledge for the benefit of the environment and the management of natural resources”, and SPO 5: “Contributing to disaster preparedness and mitigation”.
- (b) UNESCO’s involvement at the forefront of freshwater science, education and training for the benefit of the Member States represents a long-term commitment. Since 1975 UNESCO has provided the Secretariat of IHP, which is the only global intergovernmental scientific and educational programme on freshwater resources within the United Nations system. The creation of a regional centre focusing on water for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change thus complies with the objectives foreseen in UNESCO’s programmes on freshwater for the coming biennium and document 34 C/4.

5. Regional or international impact of the proposed Centre:

- (a) Geographically, the activities of the centre relate to all South-East European countries.
- (b) Potential impact: The centre will create new momentum in fostering regional scientific collaboration, particularly in hydrological extremes, groundwater, integrated water resource management, and evaluating the implications of climate change on water resources.
- (c) Technical cooperation: Technical cooperation with other established UNESCO-related centres and networks, such as UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, can foster useful knowledge and capacity-building. Other relevant international and regional organizations and scientific NGOs can be linked through UNESCO.

6. Results expected from UNESCO’s contribution:

- (a) Role of the centre in connection with the implementation of the Organization’s programme: the proposed centre fits well with UNESCO’s objectives in general and with those of the freshwater programme in particular. The centre can be an effective means of carrying out water activities specified in the IHP-VII plan, particularly for water resources management and adaptation to global changes.
- (b) Potential impact of UNESCO’s contribution to the Centre’s activities. The assistance of UNESCO is necessary to the Centre for two reasons:

- The catalytic function of UNESCO during the establishment and initial operation of the Centre, by lending technical and organizational expertise, will contribute to the scientific excellence and sound functioning of the Centre;
- UNESCO's role as a bridge to other countries, international organizations and relevant NGOs concerned with sustainable water resources and global change is essential for a successful exposure of the Centre and will contribute to its inter- and intra-regional relevance. It is unlikely that other international organizations would be able to provide a similar range of support, in order to maximize the Centre's viability. In particular, UNESCO has an international freshwater scientific programme with a wide network, guidelines and vast experience on the establishment of regional centres, the required moral authority, and the convening power to make a difference on the international scene.

7. Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO: no regular financial and administrative implications are foreseen for UNESCO. UNESCO may contribute financially on an *ad hoc* basis to the organization of international courses and conferences held by the Centre in different regions, when unequivocally contributing to the achievement of UNESCO's goals and objectives. Future foreseen administrative costs directly linked to the operation of the centre once it is established, foreseen to start in the 2012-2013 biennium, will correspond mainly to liaising with the Centre and coordinating with the network of UNESCO water-related Centre's in accordance with the IHP strategy for category 1 and category 2 water-related Centre's. The relatively minor costs of this involvement, in line with UNESCO's 34 C/4 and the Seventh Phase of IHP, will be more than offset by the fact that the Centre will be actively involved in the execution of the freshwater programmes of UNESCO with a substantial contribution from the Serbian Government (see para. 5(c)). The Centre will significantly expand UNESCO's implementation capabilities in the region.

8. Risks: The risks that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the Centre would be low, in view of the official support received from the Government of Serbia, and the direct linkage between the Centre's activities and UNESCO's goals.

9. Summary evaluation of the proposal submitted:

- (a) The establishment of the Centre is fully in line with UNESCO's objectives and programmes and the Centre would contribute to the execution of the freshwater programme within the framework of IHP, while UNESCO's aegis is necessary for the Centre's international standing and development.
- (b) The strong support shown by the Government of Serbia, for the creation of the Centre is a favourable precondition, as is the commitment by the Government to meet the running and staffing needs of the Centre and to confer the necessary legal personality to conduct business.
- (c) In particular, strong support is shown by the "Jaroslav Cerni" Institute for the Development of Water Resources.
- (d) The proposed institutional structure of the Centre is in conformity with the guidelines of document 35 C/22 and Corr.. Its character as an advisory and coordinating body will allow it to use scientific and technical resources available in Serbia and elsewhere.
- (e) The risks that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the Centre would be low, due primarily to the strong Serbian support made in providing an appropriate infrastructure, facilities and highly specialized personnel.

10. With regard to all legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the proposed Centre, the draft Agreement addresses these issues.

11. The Director-General welcomes the establishment of the proposed Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change Centre in Serbia. She recognizes that the Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Forestry and Water Management and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Serbia, are able to provide the required facilities to the proposed Centre for training and research and that the Centre will result in important benefits to Member States and to institutions and professionals working in water resources management and adaptation to global change. Furthermore, it would be in line with the strategy for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO as presented in document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103.

### **Proposed draft decision**

12. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 36 C/Resolution 29,
2. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part III,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Republic of Serbia to establish a Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, at the “Jaroslav Cerni” Institute for the Development of Water Resources, in Belgrade, Serbia, which is in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Annex to document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
4. Takes note of the endorsement of the IHP Intergovernmental Council through IGC Resolution XX-7;
5. Approves the establishment of the “Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change” Centre under the auspices of UNESCO at the “Jaroslav Cerni” Institute for the Development of Water Resources, in Belgrade, Serbia, and authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement (available on the Natural Sciences Sector website).



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

Hundred and ninetieth session

# 190 EX/18

## Part IV

PARIS, 13 August 2012  
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### CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

#### PART IV

### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN SKOPJE, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, OF AN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SEISMOLOGY (IZIIS) AT STS CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY SS

#### SUMMARY

This document consists of a report by the Director-General assessing the feasibility of the proposal submitted by the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for the establishment of the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO. This document outlines the background and nature of the proposal and the foreseeable consequences of the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" acceptance as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO. The feasibility study and the proposed draft agreement are in conformity with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment of UNESCO institutes under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the Comprehensive Integrated Strategy (35 C/22 and Corr.) approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103 at its 35th session. The agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia concerning the institute is available on page <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/priority-areas/disaster-preparedness-and-mitigation/>.

Annex I of this document presents the main results of the feasibility study undertaken in May 2012; Annex II refers to the historical relations between UNESCO and the proposed institute and their developments; Annex III concerns financial information provided by the proposed institute; Annex IV lists the universities, research institutes and government agencies with whom the proposed institute has already usual and frequent cooperation and with whom cooperation is being negotiated or foreseen at regional and international level.

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraph 19.

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 31.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has proposed the establishment of the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, as a category 2 institute placed under the auspices of UNESCO focused on Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation.
2. During a visit to UNESCO in November 2011, the President of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mr Gjorge Ivanov, reiterated to UNESCO's Director-General, Ms Irina Bokova, his country's keen interest to make IZIS a UNESCO category 2 institute. He provided the Director-General with an extensive explanation of the background and the potential of IZIS and pointed out that, if accepted under such a category, IZIS could serve the entire region under UNESCO's auspices.
3. On 23 December 2011, the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia formally submitted a detailed proposal in conformity with the integrated comprehensive strategy for the establishment and functioning of category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO contained in document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference at its 35th session (35 C/Resolution 103).
4. Based on this detailed prospectus the Director-General undertook the required feasibility study to corroborate the information provided and assess the Institute's specific scope, objectives, strategies and networking with other institutions from UNESCO's vantage point.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED INSTITUTE

### Overview of the proposal

5. This feasibility study addresses the requirements specified in document 35 C/22 and Corr.

### Objectives and functions of the proposed category 2 institute

6. Since its establishment in 1965, IZIS has been putting significant efforts into disaster risk reduction. Its strategic programme priority is protection of human lives, technological systems and other property, as well as reduction of physical and economic damage to the socio-economic systems against earthquakes and other natural disasters. All the activities are in the domain of mitigation, preparedness and readiness, providing a consistent legislation, professional human resources and other capacity for sustainable development. Its cooperation with the Government and its agencies for crisis management, with international academic and scientific communities and organizations, along with the media, highly contributes to building a culture of resilience.
7. The proposed institute will act as an international and regional platform for research and training on disaster preparedness and mitigation resources. The main emphasis of the institute's work would be to conduct research, offer professional training, provide policy advice, facilitate technology transfer and promote international and regional cooperation and exchange of experience. The following summarizes the objectives and overall scope of activities to be undertaken by the proposed institute:
  - (i) research and development in main fields of earthquake engineering and engineering seismology to contribute to better understanding of the risk posed by earthquakes;
  - (ii) assistance to the governments in the design of policies mitigating disaster risk and impact – performing (*inter alia*) activities such as seismic monitoring and disaster forecast, post disaster needs assessment, damage surveys, post-disaster reconnaissance missions, assessment of physical, functional and economic losses; assessment of social effects of disasters and planning of measures and activities for

disaster response, recovery, re-development and seismic protection of disaster stricken regions;

- (iii) education – second and third cycle of international higher education for obtaining master and doctoral degrees in the field of earthquake engineering;
- (iv) training to provide transfer of knowledge in the area of earthquake engineering including to young academics and professionals from developing countries;
- (v) development, implementation and improvement of technical regulations, standards and codes;
- (vi) laboratory and field testing to define the technical basis for earthquake risk reduction – development of experimental methods and techniques for investigating the performance of structures exposed to earthquakes, explosions, wind, etc.
- (vii) promotion of risk prevention culture and community awareness through organization of workshops, seminars, debates and other events, as well as through publications. The Institute has been hosting several international conferences. An important example of this was the preparation, hosting and development of the Fourteenth European Conference on Earthquake Engineering, held in Ohrid, 2010. Around 1,000 participants from all over the world attended this important meeting.
- (viii) providing services – consultancy, expert studies, technical advices, etc.;
- (ix) participation in international and regional partnerships and networks devoted to the collection and dissemination of relevant information and knowledge on hazard, vulnerabilities, risk mitigation capacities and climate change.

8. IZIIS' objectives and function are realized by its own highly qualified and educated human resources and with up to date research infrastructure.

#### **Name of the institute**

9. The name of the category 2 institute will be as follows: International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" – Category 2 Institute under the auspices of UNESCO.

#### **Existing legal status**

10. The public scientific Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIIS was established in 1965 by the University Council of the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" (resolution no. 01-2/1 dated 27.05.1965) for the purpose of organizing scientific research and training in the field of earthquake engineering and engineering seismology. Further information concerning the establishment of the Institute and its historical development could be found in the Annex II.

11. IZIIS shall be independent of UNESCO. IZIIS enjoys, within the territory of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity: (1) to contract; (2) to institute legal procedures; (3) to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property; (4) to receive subventions; (5) to obtain payments for services rendered; and (6) to acquire all necessary means to carry out its functions.

## **Governing Board**

12. The proposed institute IZIS shall be guided and overseen by a Governing Board. The Governing Board shall meet at ordinary sessions at regular intervals at least once a year. The Governing Board will be renewed every four [4] years and comprise:

- (i) a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO;
- (ii) a representative of each Member State, which has sent to the institute notification for membership, in accordance with the stipulations of Article 10, paragraph 2 of documents 35 C/22 and Corr, and has expressed interest in being represented on the Board. A maximum number of four Member States would be accepted to be part in the Governing Board;
- (iii) two representatives of the State Universities;
- (iv) a representative of the Academy of Science and Arts;
- (v) five representatives of IZIS.

13. The main functions of the Governing Board shall be to:

- (i) Approve the long-term and medium-term programmes of the institute;
- (ii) Approve the annual work plan of the institute budget, including the staffing provisions, infrastructure requirements and operating costs;
- (iii) Examine the annual reports submitted by the director of the institute, including a biennial self-assessment of the Institute's contribution to UNESCO's programme objectives;
- (iv) Adopt the rules and regulations and determine the financial, administrative and personnel management procedures for the institute in accordance with the laws of the country;
- (v) Decide on the participation of regional intergovernmental organizations and international organizations in the work of the institute and the question of their membership decided by the Governing Board, as provided for in Article 7, paragraph 2 (e) of the model agreement contained in 35 C/22 and Corr;
- (vi) Appoint the director of IZIS;
- (vii) Approve the development strategy and working methods of the institute.

14. The other governance organization forms under the Governing Board will be established in accordance with the national legislation.

15. The Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has confirmed to UNESCO that it will take the necessary measures that are required for the transformation of IZIS into a UNESCO category 2 institute such as: (1) the adaptation of the IZIS' legal status, and, (2) through additional financial contribution.

## **Financial matters**

16. Currently, IZIS disposes with the existing facilities (offices and laboratories) housed in four buildings, equipment for research, teaching, training, seminars and ICT facilities. The Institute's staff (80 employees) involves researchers, technicians and administration.

17. IZIIS's activities, staff salaries, premises maintenance and operational and functional costs are covered by:

- (i) the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia through the annual programmes of the Ministry of Education and Science;
- (ii) the rendered services; and,
- (iii) through projects financed by national and international institutions.

18. Due to the establishment of IZIIS as a UNESCO category 2 institute, the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is prepared to cover the additional costs resulting from additional activities (Annex III).

### **Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO**

19. UNESCO has no financial obligations or accountability for the operation and management of the institute and shall not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes. UNESCO's financial contribution will be used to ensure the Organization's representative attendance in formal meetings, in particular in meeting of the Governing Board of the institute.

20. However, it is understood that UNESCO may contribute to concrete activities/projects of the institute if those are deemed to be in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and as foreseen in the budget approved by UNESCO's Governing Bodies.

## **III. RELATION WITH UNESCO AND ITS OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMMES**

### **Areas of cooperation with UNESCO**

21. The institute will cooperate with UNESCO in developing activities in the area of disaster risk reduction (DRR), education and research for DRR, and contributing to UNESCO's actions towards building national, regional and international DRR.

### **Relation to UNESCO's objectives and programmes**

22. The proposed institute will assist UNESCO in the implementation of several programme objectives, in particular those within the framework of Major Programme II, Natural Sciences and Overarching objective 2: Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development.

23. Special emphasis is put on the implementation of the two following UNESCO strategic programme objectives:

- (i) contributing to disaster preparedness and mitigation – (SPO5); and
- (ii) fostering policies and capacity-building in science, technology and innovation. (SPO4).

24. The proposed institute will also contribute to UNESCO's Intersectoral efforts on science education for natural disaster reduction, which promote the integration and education of disaster risk reduction into high school curricula in countries prone to natural hazards.

25. The third objective of the proposed institute is fully consistent with UNESCO's efforts to attain quality education for all through capacity building and education in the basic and applied sciences – to fill a gap in education and training in earthquake engineering and engineering seismology. This objective is closely related to Major Programme I, Education – Overarching objective 1 (Attaining quality education for all and lifelong learning), SPO2: Development policies, capacities



and tools for quality education for all and lifelong learning as well as promoting education for sustainable development.

26. The fourth IZIS's objective is closely related to Major Programme 4: Culture, which contributes to the programmes of UNESCO World Heritage Centre and to the efforts of the Organization in the implementation of its World Heritage Convention, especially in the area concerning integrated approaches for earthquake protection of monuments and historical buildings.

27. IZIS as a proposed UNESCO institute of category 2 would act as a platform for research, education and training activities, exchange of knowledge and best practices among various academic and educational institutions in the field of earthquake engineering and engineering seismology. It would serve as a high-level institute for disaster preparedness and mitigation fully consonant with UNESCO's priorities for contribution to disaster resilience through scientific knowledge, education, information and public awareness.

28. IZIS will contribute in the implementation of UNESCO strategic programme objectives in synergy with other UNESCO international programmes and platforms, such as the International Platform for Reducing Earthquake Disaster (UNESCO-IPRED), the Reducing Earthquake Losses in the Extended Mediterranean Region (RELEMR) programme, the Reducing Earthquake Losses in the North Asian Region (RELNAR) programme, the Reducing Earthquake Losses in the Central Asian Region (RELCAR) programme, and, the Reducing Earthquake Losses in the South Asian Region (RELSAR) programme.

### **International and regional impact of the institute**

29. The proposed institute will act as an international and regional platform for research and training on disaster preparedness and mitigation resources. The institute will cooperate with universities, research institutes and government agencies working in the field of disaster risk reduction at national, regional and International level. In this regard, the institute will continue establishing appropriate collaborative arrangements with the regional and international institutes involved in disaster risk reduction research and development. Information concerning the universities, research institutes and government agencies with whom the institute has already usual and frequent cooperation and with whom cooperation is being negotiated at regional and international level is attached in Annex IV.

### **Results expected from UNESCO's contribution**

30. Where appropriate, UNESCO will provide the technical assistance of its experts and policy advice in the specialized fields of the institute. UNESCO will also actively promote the activities of the institute and facilitate partnerships and cooperation with other countries in the region and assist with the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources. The Organization will also assist the institute in achieving its objectives through fostering collaboration with its partners, UNESCO category 2 centres globally and other centres and institutes of excellence.

### **Proposed draft decision**

31. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part IV and its Annexes,
2. Welcomes the proposal of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to establish the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", as a category 2 institute under the auspices of

UNESCO, which is in line with the Comprehensive Integrated Strategy (35 C/22 and Corr.) approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;

3. Recommends that the General Conference at its 37th session approve the establishment of the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIS, University “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” in Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as a category 2 institute, under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement..

## **ANNEX I**

### **MAIN RESULTS OF THE FEASIBILITY STUDY UNDERTAKEN IN MAY 2012**

1. The feasibility study shows that there is sound justification for the establishment of the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO.
2. The risks that UNESCO could incur in the establishment of the proposed institute as a category 2 institute would be low, due primarily to the strong support and commitment of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Government – both financially and logistically –, as it has been stated by the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia President, and secondly due to the historical links between UNESCO and the proposed institute.
3. The proposed activities of the institute are of great interest to UNESCO and are consistent with the Organization's mandate to promote scientific research, education and training as a driver for development. This proposal is also in line with the UNESCO's Strategic Programme Objectives in the Organization's Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 which include a distinct objective on "Contributing to Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation".
4. During the extensive consultative process with IZIIS, it has become clear that such an initiative is timely and will contribute to strengthen the understanding of the risks posed by earthquakes in the region and worldwide, and, would help fill a gap for research and training in engineering sciences, especially in disaster risk reduction.
5. The above viability of the proposed institute under the auspices of UNESCO is therefore strong. The category 2 institute will be associated with UNESCO, but it is legally external to the Organization, enjoying legal and functional autonomy. Hence, UNESCO is not legally responsible for it and it shall bear neither responsibility nor liabilities of any kind, be they managerial, financial or otherwise.

## ANNEX II

### ESTABLISHMENT AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS OF THE INSTITUTE OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SEISMOLOGY

1. In the early hours of 26 July 1963, Skopje was struck by a major earthquake, causing substantial humanitarian and economic losses. More than 1,070 citizens perished and the direct economic losses were estimated in about 1.8 points of the GDPs. On 14 October of the same year, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously resolved to comply with the Yugoslav Government's request and appeal for "technical assistance in meeting the destroyed city's long-term needs".
2. The unifying element of all national and international activities for the repair and reconstruction of Skopje was the establishment of an International Consultative Board, jointly appointed by the United Nations and the Government of Yugoslavia. At its first meeting held in Skopje from 26 to 31 March 1964, the Board highlighted the need for a national institution aiming at education, training and research in the field of earthquake engineering and engineering seismology.
3. The University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" of Skopje established an Initiative Council in charge of defining the goals and future activities of such a national institution and preparing the installation of a specialized institute in the University. The terms of reference were the following:
  - (i) to organize scientific research in engineering seismology, earthquake engineering and related fields;
  - (ii) to organize postgraduate studies for the degree of master of technical sciences in earthquake engineering and engineering seismology;
  - (iii) to establish an international cooperation oriented towards the exchange of knowledge and experience;
  - (iv) to provide professional assistance for the repair and reconstruction of Skopje.
4. As at that time the Institute had no staff trained in the appropriate fields, it was also recommended to provide international assistance to the Institute and more precisely:
  - (i) to engage a number of scientists from leading institutions in the world for giving lectures at the postgraduate level and assisting in organizing scientific research and studies;
  - (ii) to provide means for training and education of the Institute staff abroad in centres specializing in the appropriate fields;
  - (iii) to provide the basic equipment for research and educational activities.
5. A working group of Yugoslav and international experts was convened by UNESCO. According to its proposals, the International Consultative Board took the following resolutions:
  - (i) The Institute of Seismology and Engineering Seismology should be established as an independent scientific institution within the University of Skopje (later the name was changed to "Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology").
  - (ii) The Institute should direct its activities, in a first stage, towards research related to the reconstruction of Skopje and towards education and training of engineers in the field of earthquake resistant design and construction.

- (iii) The Institute should gradually extend its activities over the whole of Yugoslavia and abroad and thus assume an international character.
- (iv) The Institute should commence its activities in the first half of 1965.

6. Based on the recommendations of this Board, the decisions of the Government and the Authorities of the City of Skopje and with the extensive support of UNESCO, the Institute of Earthquake Engineering, Engineering Seismology and Urban Planning, (presently the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology, IZIIS, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius") was established on 26 August 1965.

7. The creation and the development of the IZIIS was largely helped by an important assistance of UNDP and UNESCO provided from the date of the creation of the Institute to 1982, through four national projects with a total UNDP input of about US \$1,100,000. UNESCO acted as Executing Agency for UNDP in these projects.

8. The Institute commenced its work with a staff of 10 and was housed in a small prefabricated building, with no laboratory equipment nor equipment for performing analytical investigations. In 1968, it moved into one wing of the Civil Engineering Faculty building, and the staff increased to about 20. The purchase of a computer created favourable conditions for performing more complex analytical research.

9. The initial mandates of the Institute at the time of its creation were to:

- (i) assist and supervise the post-earthquake reconstruction and development of the destroyed city of Skopje;
- (ii) provide continuous research in the field of seismology and earthquake engineering for qualitative and quantitative understanding of the region seismic environment;
- (iii) develop and adopt seismic design code and related standards and procedures indispensable for reconstructing the city of Skopje;
- (iv) assure permanent acquisition of seismological and other relevant data and their implementation in the process of design and town planning;
- (v) develop, through regular master degree studies, training of professionals to improve planning and design transferring up-to-date methods, procedures and know-how in the field.

10. Later in 1973, the Institute with its own efforts and funds started the construction of a Dynamic Testing Laboratory and a materials testing floor, with the equipment for quasi-static tests and a one-component seismic shaking-table. The staff increased to fifty, including 25 professional engineers or scientists. A strong-motion laboratory was also organized with a network of over 100 instruments for seismic strong-motion recording, covering the whole of Yugoslavia. A laboratory for geophysical and microtremor measurements was also installed.

11. The many earthquakes which occurred in Yugoslavia and neighbouring countries in the period from 1969 to 1979 led to a continuous increase in the Institute staff and equipment, including a new computer system. In November 1980, the Institute moved into new premises and is now housed in buildings with a total area of about 8,000 sq.m. In 1985, the staff reached 130, among which 16 university professors, 25 senior researchers, 40 junior research engineers and 15 technicians. The total value of the installed equipment has been estimated at US \$5 million.

12. The organization of a regular two-year postgraduate course commenced in 1965. In the beginning the lectures were given only by international experts engaged by UNESCO and by

professors from the Institute, with periodical engagement of professors from other departments of Skopje University.

13. Following the recommendations and conclusions of the International Consultative Board, the Institute paid special attention to international cooperation and has established a permanent exchange of knowledge and experience with other leading scientific and educational institutions throughout the world.

14. In document 125 EX/INF.7 entitled "Impact of Activities Implemented by UNESCO at National and Regional Level" submitted to the 125th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO, UNESCO assistance during the establishment and development of the Institute was described as being of significant importance for the following reasons:

- (i) Earthquake engineering as a scientific discipline was not included in educational or research programmes in Yugoslavia before the establishment of this Institute. This means that, during the first years, the young scientists initiated work in this field, while it was developed at a significantly higher level in other countries in the world. Without the assigned international experts, it would have been difficult to achieve the high level of the postgraduate course in the Institute.
- (ii) Through the educational process in which the Institute staff was gradually engaged, their continuous education, training and improvement of experience were also achieved.
- (iii) The international experts transferred their knowledge and experience in research methods, so that at the later stage the Institute staff could independently carry out the scientific projects financed by the Former Yugoslav Government or other national or international organizations. The international experts constantly increased the level of education and research in the Institute by transferring the latest scientific achievement in the world.
- (iv) The training and specialization of the young Institute scientists was directed towards education and acquainting with the activities and research programmes of leading institutions in the world. The contacts of the Institute's young staff during their specialization abroad with the experts of the different countries were continued and developed. This resulted in close scientific co-operation on joint research projects.
- (v) UNESCO funds allotted to equipment were used to create a basis for further development of the Institute. A great part of the purchased equipment was used in the educational programmes carried out in the Institute.

## ANNEX III

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE INSTITUTE OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SEISMOLOGY

Income from account	Average amount for the last five year period		Year									
			2011		2010		2009		2008		2007	
	denars	eur	denars	eur	denars	eur	denars	eur	denars	eur	denars	eur
Own income	61,400,276	998,378	62,433,657	1,015,181	55,664,892	905,120	62,288,025	1,012,813	56,217,767	914,110	70,397,040	1,144,667
Income from government	18,774,932	305,283	19,862,461	322,967	20,697,682	336,548	19,746,124	321,075	18,728,593	304,530	14,839,802	241,298
Total	80,175,209	1,303,662	82,296,118	1,338,148	76,362,574	1,241,668	82,034,149	1,333,889	74,946,360	1,218,640	85,236,842	1,385,965

Note: In the total income, the participation of the Government ranges from 241,298 eur. to 336,548 euros, or 305,283 per annum on the average.

Enclosed please find the original documents used for the derivation of the above data (Profit and Loss Account)

Considering the extended functions of the Institute with its establishment as a UNESCO institute of category 2, we have officially applied at the RM Government for increase of its participation in our income by additional 200.000 euros per annum.

## ANNEX IV

### LIST OF UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH INSTITUTES AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH WHOM THE INSTITUTE OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SEISMOLOGY HAS ALREADY USUAL AND FREQUENT COOPERATION AND WITH WHOM COOPERATION IS BEING NEGOTIATED OR FORESEEN AT REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

#### A. COOPERATION THAT HAS BEEN REALIZED SO FAR:

##### UNIVERSITIES:

##### At regional level:

1. University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering, Ljubljana, Slovenia
2. University of Maribor , Slovenia
3. Bulgarian Academy of Science, Sofia, Bulgaria
4. University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, UACEG, Sofia, Bulgaria
5. Polytechnic University of Tirana, Civil Engineering Faculty, Tirana, Albania
6. University of Patras, Greece
7. Aristotelio Panepistimio Thessalonikis, Greece
8. National Technical University of Athens, Greece
9. University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science, Department of Geophysics, Zagreb, Croatia
10. University of Osijek, Croatia
11. University of Novi Sad, Serbia
12. University of Nish, Serbia;
13. University of Belgrade, Serbia
14. University of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro;
15. University of Banja Luka, Serb Republic, Bosnia and Herzegovina
16. University of Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina
17. Technical University "Gheorghe Asachi", Iasi, Romania

##### At International level:

1. University of Trieste, Department of Earth Science, Trieste, Italy
2. University La Sapienza, DiSG, Rome, Italy
3. Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Napoli, Italy
4. Università degli Studi di Trento, Italy
5. University of Pavia, Italy
6. University of Padova, Italy
7. University of Ruhr, Bochum, Germany
8. RWTH Aachen University (Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen), Aachen , Germany
9. Universität Kassel, Germany
10. University of Stuttgart, Germany
11. Universität Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany
12. University of Humboldt, Berlin, Germany
13. University of Geneva, Switzerland
14. Technical University of Istanbul, Turkey
15. Bogazici University, Turkey
16. Middle East Technical University, Turkey
17. Academy of Science-Slovakia
18. Department of Civil Engineering, Imperial College, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
19. University of Bath, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



20. University of Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
21. University of Oxford, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
22. University of Utrecht, The Netherlands
23. University of Southern California, United States of America
24. UE Berkeley, California, United States of America
25. University of Illinois, United States of America
26. University of Stanford, United States of America
27. National Autonomous University of Mexico, Institute of Engineering, Mexico City, Mexico
28. The University of Tokyo, Japan
29. University of Dalian, PR China
30. Université Laval, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada
31. Tsukuba University, Tsukuba, Japan;
32. University of Kyoto, Japan
33. Sendai University, Sendai, Japan
34. International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology IIEES, Tehran, Iran
35. University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar, Pakistan
36. Rajasthan Institute of Engineering & Technology, Bhankrota, Jaipur

#### **RESEARCH INSTITUTES:**

1. Joint Research Centre – European Laboratory for Structural Assessment – ELSA, Ispra, Italy
2. European Centre for Training and Research in Earthquake Engineering EUCENTRE Pavia, Italy
3. Earthquake Planning and Protection Organization, EPPO, Agiou Georgiou 5, Patriarchika Pylaias, 5535 Thessaloniki, Greece
4. Commission of the European Communities. Directorate General Joint Research Centre. JRC, Belgium
5. International Research Institute of Stavanger, Norway
6. Earthquake Engineering Research Centre – EERC, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Bristol, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
7. The Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil (LNEC), Lisbon, Portugal
8. Centro Europeo di Formazione e Ricerca in Ingegneria Sismica, Italy
9. Institut Français des Sciences et Technologies des Transports, de L'Aménagement et des Réseaux, France
10. The Getty Conservation Institute, GCI, United States of America
11. Institute of Engineering Mechanics, CEA, Harbin, China
12. National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics, (NRIAG), Helwan, Egypt
13. National Earthquake Engineering Center, Algeria

#### **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:**

1. Institute of Engineering Mechanics, China Earthquake Administration, China (MoU)
2. Abu Dhabi Municipality, Town Planning Sector, Spatial Data Division, UAE
3. Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst (DAAD), Germany, (under DYNET SEEFORM Stability Pact Project)
4. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague; Cultural, Education and Research Department, The Netherlands
5. Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique et aux Énergies Alternatives, France
6. Council of Europe Development Bank, CEB, Paris, France
7. Royal Observatory of Belgium, Bruxelles, Belgium
8. National Earthquake Engineering Center, Algeria
9. National Institute of Meteorology, Tunis, Tunisia
10. Scientific Research Council, Building Research Center, Baghdad, Iraq

11. Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia, Department of Seismology and Geology, Slovenia
12. Ministry of Energy and Mining, Prishtina, Kosovo
13. Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency, Kosovo

#### **INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

1. International Committee for Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)
2. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)
3. European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement

#### **B. POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION:**

1. Resonance Ingenieurs-Conseils SA, 21 rue Jacques Grosselin, CH-1227 Carouge (Geneva), Switzerland
2. University of Basilicata – DiSGG, Campus Macchia Romana, 85100 - Potenza, Italy
3. Arsenal Research, Giefinggasse 2, 1210 Wien, Austria
4. Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Avda. Camillo Jose Cela s/n, 13071 Ciudad Real, Spain
5. CEA, Centre de Cadarache, DTAP/SCP, 13107 Saint-Paul-Lez-Durance, FRANCE
6. Instituto Superior Tecnico, Engenharia Civil, Av.Rovisco Pais, 1096 Lisboa Codex, Portugal
7. Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Ingegneria Strutturale, Piazza Leonarda da Vinci 32, 20133 Milano, Italy
8. Earthquake and Forensic Seismology and Geomagnetism Programme, British Geological Survey, Murchison House, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3LA, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
9. National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention, Japan
10. Indian Institute of Technology, India
11. National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering, Taiwan
12. Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
13. Russian National Committee for Earthquake Engineering, Russia



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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# Executive Board

Hundred and ninetieth session

# 190 EX/18 Part IV Corr.

PARIS, 20 September 2012  
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Item 18 of the provisional agenda

## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### PART IV

#### **PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN SKOPJE, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, OF AN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SEISMOLOGY (IZIIS) AT STS CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY SS**

### CORRIGENDUM

In Annex IV, in the list of Government Agencies, points 12 and 13 should read as follows:

12. Ministry of Energy and Mining, Pristina, United Nations administered territory of Kosovo
13. Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency, United Nations administered territory of Kosovo.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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# Executive Board

Hundred and ninetieth session

# 190 EX/18

## Part V

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### CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

#### PART V

### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY, OF A REGIONAL CENTRE FOR GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

#### SUMMARY

In response to a proposal by the Government of Uruguay to establish on its territory a regional centre for groundwater management for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) as a category 2 centre placed under the auspices of UNESCO, the 20th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution IHP/IC-XX-6 in June 2012 endorsing the establishment of the proposed centre. The UNESCO Division of Water Sciences and the UNESCO Office in Montevideo, together with the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment (MVOTMA) in Montevideo, Uruguay, coordinated a feasibility study for the proposed Centre.

The present document reviews the prerequisites for the scientific and institutional rationale behind the proposal of the Uruguayan Government. The feasibility study was conducted in accordance with the comprehensive Integrated Strategy (35 C/22) approved by the General Conference at its 35th session (35 C/Resolution 103). A Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Uruguay has been prepared through a process of consultations between the Government of Uruguay and the UNESCO Secretariat in conformity with the standard model agreement indicated in document 35 C/22 and is available on page <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/ihp/water-centres/>

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraph 9.

Action expected from Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 11.

## INTRODUCTION

1. In response to a proposal by the Government of Uruguay to establish on its territory a regional centre for groundwater management for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) as a category 2 centre placed under the auspices of UNESCO, the 20th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP) adopted Resolution IHP/IC-XX-6 in June 2012 endorsing the establishment of the proposed centre. Considering the importance of the establishment of a regional centre on groundwater resources management, the National Committees and Focal Points of the UNESCO-IHP Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region at their 9th Meeting, held in the Dominican Republic, June 2011, approved a resolution in support of the establishment of the regional centre (Resolution No. IHP/LAC IX-03).

2. The Ambassador Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Uruguay to UNESCO confirmed to the UNESCO Director-General in March 2011 the intention of the Government of Uruguay to establish on its territory a regional centre for groundwater management for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) as a category 2 centre placed under the auspices of UNESCO. The UNESCO office in Montevideo organized several meetings with the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment (MVOTMA) in Montevideo, Uruguay to evaluate the feasibility of the proposed Centre. The representative of the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment (MVOTMA) of Uruguay confirmed the intention of the Government of Uruguay to establish the Centre to the UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences during her mission to Uruguay in April 2012. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, Mr Luis Almagro, during his intervention at the opening session of the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Consultation on Groundwater Governance held in Montevideo in April 2012, confirmed the intention of the Government to establish the Centre. The participants of the Regional Consultation on Groundwater Governance organized by UNESCO also expressed their support for the establishment of the Centre.

3. A technical mission of the UNESCO office in Montevideo was undertaken to visit the location of the proposed Centre, in June 2012. The feasibility study was conducted by the UNESCO Secretariat in consultation with the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment (MVOTMA) of Uruguay and other relevant Uruguayan authorities in accordance with the comprehensive Integrated Strategy (35 C/22) approved by the General Conference at its 35th session (35 C/Resolution 103). A Draft Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Uruguay has been prepared through a process of consultations between the Government of Uruguay and the UNESCO-IHP Secretariat in conformity with the standard model agreement indicated in document 35 C/22.

4. The creation of a regional centre for groundwater management for the LAC region would serve not only to bring together technical capacity in Uruguay and those of other countries in the region, but also support regional coordination on the management of groundwater resources. The Constitution of the Republic on water issues states that “for the sustainable management of water resources shared with other States coordination strategies and international cooperation should be promoted”. The Government of Uruguay, through the enactment of Law No. 18610 (National Water Policy), considers as a guiding principle the promotion of the sustainable management of water resources and preservation of the hydrological cycle, in solidarity with future generations that constitute matters of general interest. Uruguay is strategically positioned in the Cuenca del Plata (De la Plata Basin), whose rivers, the Paraguay, the Parana and the Uruguay, make up one fifth of South America’s river capacity. The location has provided the country and its people with an identity and a profile that is open to regional and international relations. Its size, population and culture have meant there is both a desire to integrate as well as a will to service the LAC region.

5. Uruguay, together with Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, were pioneers in the decision to jointly protect the Guarani Aquifer System (GAS). Uruguay has also been an active member of the UNESCO/OAS Transboundary Aquifers Resources Management (ISARM) of the Americas Programme since its initiation.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

The proposal submitted by Uruguay can be summarized as follows:

### Objectives and functions of the proposed Centre

6. The proposed Centre will provide facilities and opportunities for advanced research on aquifer systems and groundwater resources management for scientists from Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) countries. The purpose of the Centre is two-fold: to strengthen national capacity in support of the sustainable management of aquifers in the country, and to address the needs and requirements jointly identified with other countries of the region by working in mutual cooperation. The objectives and programmes of the proposed Centre would contribute to fulfilling the objectives of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme. Geographically, the Centre will carry out regional research projects on groundwater resources management. It will work in close coordination with the Secretariat of the IHP at the national, regional and international level, with the aim of providing complementary expertise for the implementation of groundwater initiatives. It will also interact with IHP National Committees and Focal Points with the aim of providing assistance in its area of expertise. The Centre will also work in coordination with the regional and international UNESCO Centres and UNESCO Chairs working in related topics. The Centre shall execute and implement project proposals on groundwater management at national and regional level. Specifically the functions of the Centre shall be to:

- (a) assist and train experts from various disciplines, both from Uruguay and the LAC countries, in developing instruments and in implementing integration and management activities, taking into consideration the groundwater systems and their links to surface water and climate.
- (b) support the implementation of the Strategic Action Program defined by the countries concerned for the protection and sustainable development of the Guarani Aquifer System (GAS), as well as other activities agreed by these same countries.
- (c) work closely with the network of National Committees and Focal Points of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme for the LAC, as well as with other category 2 centres possessing areas of common interest in the region, and beyond. Link and integrate to the Centre existing national groundwater research, education, and management programmes, and promote its articulation and mutual cooperation. Find synergies in water issues with UNESCO Chairs in the LAC region.
- (d) contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the ISARM Americas programme by promoting knowledge on transboundary groundwater resources and collaborating among the countries that share them, in order to have a global vision of the resources and to achieve consensus in the scientific, environmental, institutional, socio-economic and legal areas.
- (e) promote other UNESCO initiatives, such as the Programme "From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential" (PccP). The Centre will also be linked to other UNESCO initiatives of interest in accordance with its objectives, as stated in the Agreement.

### Legal status

7. The Centre shall be independent of UNESCO and established under the responsibility of the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment (MVOTMA) in Montevideo, Uruguay, under the laws of Uruguay. It will enjoy, within the territory of Uruguay, the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity necessary for the exercise for its function. In particular, it will be able to contract, to institute legal proceedings and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property.

## **Governing Board**

8. The Centre will have a Governing Board that will comprise of a representative of the Government who will be the Chairperson of the Governing Board, a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO and representatives of Member States, which have sent to the Centre notification for membership, have expressed interest in being represented on the Board and who wish to contribute to the activities of the Centre.

## **Financial matters**

### 9. (a) *Contribution of the Government of Uruguay*

The Government shall provide all the resources either financially or in kind, needed for the administration and proper functioning of the Centre. The government undertakes to:

- (i) make available funding to cover the costs of the premises, administration and functioning of the Centre. The premises of the Centre will be located at the following address: Rondeau 1665, Montevideo, Uruguay;
- (ii) entirely assume the maintenance of the premises and provide the staff for granting the operating capacity for the centre including a Director and support staff;
- (iii) contribute to the Centre an annual amount of US \$280,000 (two hundred and eighty thousand US dollars) for a duration of six years that assures the sustainability of the activities of the Centre;
- (iv) make available the necessary equipment (furnishing, IT, and communication tools) for the Centre to be fully operational.

The Centre will have a Technical Secretariat composed of a Director and support staff and also will benefit from the technical cooperation and assistance provided by experts from the National Water Directorate and the National Environmental Directorate. The name of the category 2 centre will be: Regional Centre for Groundwater Management for Latin America and the Caribbean (CeReGAS).

### (b) *Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO*

UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes. However, it is understood that UNESCO may contribute to concrete activities/projects of the Centre if those are deemed to be in line with UNESCO's programme priorities and as foreseen in the budget approved by UNESCO's Governing Bodies.

## **UNESCO's contribution**

10. UNESCO may provide assistance, as required, in the form of technical assistance for the programme activities of the Centre, in accordance with the strategic goals and objectives of UNESCO by providing the assistance of its experts in the specialized fields of the Centre, engaging in temporary staff exchanges when appropriate, whereby the staff concerned will remain on the payroll of the dispatching organizations and seconding members of its staff temporarily, as may be decided by the Director-General of UNESCO on an exceptional basis if justified by the implementation of a joint activity/project within a strategic programme priority area. In all the cases listed above, such assistance shall not be undertaken except within the provisions of UNESCO's programme and budget, and UNESCO will provide Member States with accounts relating to the use of its staff and associated costs.

### **Action expected of the Executive Board**

11. In light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103,
2. Taking note of Resolution IHP/IC-XX-6, adopted at the twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme in June 2012,
3. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part V, which contains the feasibility study on the proposal to establish the regional centre for groundwater management for Latin America and the Caribbean in Uruguay as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
4. Welcoming the proposal of the Government of Uruguay to establish on its territory the regional centre for groundwater management for Latin America and the Caribbean as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO,
5. Deeming the considerations and proposals contained in document 190 EX/18 Part V to be such as to meet the requirements for UNESCO to grant its auspices to the regional centre,
6. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 37th session, approve the establishment in Uruguay of the regional centre for groundwater management for Latin America and the Caribbean, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.





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Educational, Scientific and  
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# Executive Board

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## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### PART VI

#### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN LANGFANG, CHINA, OF AN INTERNATIONAL CENTRE ON GLOBAL-SCALE GEOCHEMISTRY

##### SUMMARY

Following a proposal by the Government of China to establish an International Centre on Global-scale Geochemistry under the auspices of UNESCO in Langfang, China, a UNESCO mission was undertaken in November 2010 as a part of the evaluation of the feasibility of establishing the proposed Centre, which would specialize in and lend support to international cooperation in the field of global geochemical studies.

The Scientific Board of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) decided unanimously at its 38th session in February 2010 to support this initiative in accordance with Resolution IGCP.R.38.1. After receiving a more detailed proposal at its 39th session in February 2011, the IGCP Scientific Board adopted Resolution IGCP.R.39.1 welcoming the establishment of the Centre and requesting UNESCO's assistance in preparing the necessary documentation to be submitted to UNESCO's governing bodies.

This document contains the main findings of the feasibility study for the proposed Centre. A draft agreement has been drawn up in compliance with the standard model agreement contained in document 35 C/22. The evaluation of the Centre was done in conformity with the comprehensive integrated strategy document of 35 C/22 approved by the 35th session of the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103. Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraphs 6, 9 and 10.

Action expected of the Executive Board: proposed decision in paragraph 17.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of the People's Republic of China has proposed the establishment of an International Centre on Global-scale Geochemistry in Langfang, China, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. In October 2010, the Ministry of Land and Resources formally requested the Director-General through the Permanent Delegation of the People's Republic of China that UNESCO carry out a feasibility study for the creation of a category 2 centre at the Institute of Geophysical and Geochemical Exploration. The institute's main objective will be to document the global abundance and distribution of chemical elements. The institute will serve as a platform for training and transferring advanced geochemical knowledge and technology between developed and developing countries and promoting equal access to geochemical data.

2. The entire Earth – living and non-living – is made of the chemical elements listed in the periodic table. Therefore, a global geochemical database is important to many of the sciences and has broad implications that extend to climate change and sustainable development such as understanding abundance and distribution of chemical elements in soils and waters as related to issues of land use, agriculture and human health that involve economic development, environmental protection and social benefits, which are issues of importance to UNESCO.

3. Based on the work of a series of International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) projects and in collaboration with the International Union of Geological Sciences and International Association of GeoChemistry (IUGS/IAGC) Task Group on Global Geochemical Baselines, it was proposed in November 2009 to establish an International Research Centre on Global Geochemical Mapping (the title has since changed to the International Centre on Global-scale Geochemistry) under the auspices of UNESCO. The IGCP Scientific Board has positively reviewed the proposal – submitted jointly by the Chinese National Committee for IGCP, the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences and the Institute of Geophysical and Geochemical Exploration. The Secretary of the IGCP and Chief of Global Earth Observation Section, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, UNESCO, conducted a mission to the People's Republic of China in November 2010 to assess the feasibility of this Centre.

## CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

### Overview of the proposal

4. A coherent, systematic, worldwide geochemical database will help meet the requirements of a sustainable society for balancing the management of environmental and natural resources. The proposed Centre will act as an international platform for research and training on global-scale geochemistry and will set up Chemical Earth, a computer-generated three-dimensional virtual globe of geochemical information that will allow people everywhere access to vast amounts of geochemical data and maps through Internet-based software. Chemical Earth will serve the global earth science community and advance the geochemical basis of sustainable development.

5. Structure and legal status: The Centre shall be established in accordance with laws and regulations of China. The Centre shall enjoy on the territory of China the legal status and legal capacity necessary for exercising its functions, in particular the following legal capacity: to contract, to institute legal proceedings and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property.

6. Financial matters: The Government of the People's Republic of China has agreed to provide approximately US \$1 million per year for facilities and salary costs, including equipment, utilities, communications, maintenance of infrastructure and salaries for secretariat staff. The Centre's activities, such as the session of the Governing Board and scientific research projects, shall be funded from the following sources: the budget of the Ministry of Land and Resources; payments made for research projects by the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Chinese Geological Survey; payments made by other institutions participating in the activities of the Centre. The

Government, the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences and the Centre will cooperate in order to mobilize additional extra budgetary resources for the activities of the Centre. UNESCO will not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes, activities or projects.

7. Objectives and functions:

(a) Objectives

- (i) To foster knowledge and technology of global-scale geochemistry for sustainable global development in the management of natural resources and environments;
- (ii) To document the global concentration and distribution, baselines and changes of chemical elements in the Earth surface for monitoring environments, for discovering mineral resources, for improving the efficiency of agriculture, and for studying the behaviour of elements in the food chain and their health effects on humans and other biota;
- (iii) To educate and train postgraduate students, scientists and engineers on the basis of up-to-date global-scale geochemical knowledge and mapping, and to provide technical assistance to developing countries;
- (iv) To promote equal access to basic services and knowledge-sharing, and to create a bridge between the scientific community, decision-makers and the general public in the field of geochemistry.

(b) Functions

- (i) Standardize global-scale geochemical methods to document the concentration and spatial distribution of chemical elements in the various environmental compartments of the earth's surface and to establish global geochemical baselines for monitoring future geochemical changes;
- (ii) Foster the implementation of global geochemical baselines programmes for securing funds, managing and coordinating these activities according to scientific guidelines determined by an external advisory committee cooperating with the IUGS/IAGC Task Group on Global Geochemical Baselines.
- (iii) Transfer global-scale geochemical methods to developing countries and facilitate capacity building in these countries in the areas of application of geochemical databases and maps to mineral resources, investigations, global climate change studies, and research on environmental effects of agricultural practices, etc.

8. Areas of cooperation with UNESCO: The Centre will support the implementation of relevant regional and international activities foreseen in UNESCO's programmes and budget documents and facilitate the linkage to relevant regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UNESCO Member States.

9. The Centre will be housed within the Institute of Geophysical and Geochemical Exploration (IGGE) located at 84 Jinguang Road, Langfang, 065000, China. As one of the institutes of the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, IGGE has good facilities, a world-class laboratory, a geochemical standard material development centre, and basic financial support from the Chinese Government.

10. With regard to all legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the proposed Centre, the Draft Agreement addresses these issues. This Draft Agreement on the proposed International Centre on Global-scale Geochemistry, under the auspices of UNESCO has been elaborated

through a process of consultation between the authorities of the Chinese Government and the UNESCO Secretariat.

### **Relationship between the activities of the Centre and UNESCO's objectives and programmes**

11. UNESCO's involvement at the front of global-scale geochemistry science, education and training for the benefit of Member States represents a long-term commitment. UNESCO supported research in this field through two IGCP programs, IGCP 259 and IGCP 360, to advance global geochemistry and its application in environmental and resources issues for sustainable development. The year of 2011 was the International Year of Chemistry and UNESCO's relationship with the Centre will highlight the contributions of chemistry to the well-being of humankind and will emphasize the importance of chemistry in sustaining natural resources in the context of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014.

12. The capabilities and functions of the proposed Centre fall squarely within Strategic Objective 3 of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy (34 C/4) for 2008-2013, to "Leverage scientific knowledge for sustainable development and management of natural resources". The proposed Centre will help UNESCO to promote equal access to scientific and technological knowledge and basic services in the field of geochemistry. The geochemical data and maps generated by the Centre will go beyond the traditional customers of the mineral exploration community and environmental management. Such data will also be useful for global-scale monitoring of the state of freshwater and the oceans by providing broad-scale data on the chemical loads from major rivers into the oceans and by linking the data of freshwater systems to river catchments.

13. The activities of the proposed centre will be linked with Global Change and Sustainable Development, IUGS Global Geochemical Baselines, the Commission for the Geological Map of the World (CGMW), One Geology and other global geosciences programs which cooperate with UNESCO. The Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme's focus on the relationships between people and their environment aligns with the Centre's mission to advance the geochemical basis for sustainable development. Members of the Global Geoparks Network can act as educational portals to disseminate information about the importance of geochemistry for people's well-being.

14. Results expected from UNESCO's contribution:

- (a) Role of the Centre in the implementation of the Organization's programmes: The Centre fits well with UNESCO's objectives in general and with those of the IGCP programmes and the IUGS/IAGC Task Group on Global Geochemical Baselines in particular. The current geochemical expertise in the People's Republic of China, and the commitment demonstrated by the Institute of Geophysical and Geochemical Exploration (IGGE) and the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences provide a solid base for the launching of a Centre in the People's Republic of China.
- (b) Potential impact of UNESCO's contribution on the Centre's activities: The assistance of UNESCO will lend organizational expertise to catalyze the establishment and stimulate the initial operation of the Centre. Also, UNESCO will ensure a bridge to other countries, international organizations and relevant scientific institutions, an essential element for the success of the Centre.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

15. Risk: The risks that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the Centre would be low, due primarily to the support of the Chinese government in providing an appropriate infrastructure, facilities and highly specialized personnel.

16. The Director-General welcomes the proposed establishment of the International Centre on Global-scale Geochemistry in the People's Republic of China. She recognizes that the government authorities are able to provide the required facilities to the proposed Centre for research and training and the centre will result in important benefits to Member States and to institutions and professionals working on global geochemical sciences. The feasibility of the proposed International Centre on Global-scale Geochemistry in Langfang, China, is high and UNESCO's governing bodies should give it due consideration.

**Proposed draft decision**

17. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part VI,
2. Welcomes the proposal of China to establish an international centre on global-scale geochemistry in Langfang, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines for the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) annexed to document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
3. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 37th session, approve the establishment of the international centre on global-scale geochemistry in Langfang, China, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director- General to sign the corresponding agreement.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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# Executive Board

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# 190 EX/18 Part VII

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## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### PART VII

#### EVALUATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR WATER HAZARD AND RISK MANAGEMENT (ICHARM) AND RENEWAL OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRE STATUS

##### SUMMARY

The General Conference of UNESCO, at its 33rd session, granted the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO (33 C/Resolution 28).

Pursuant to the agreement between the Government of Japan and UNESCO, an evaluation of ICHARM was carried out. The purpose was to assess key issues relating to its role as an international centre, and to examine the coordination with UNESCO and its International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and the follow-up of the IHP priorities. The evaluation specifically reviewed whether ICHARM makes an important contribution to the strategic goals of UNESCO and whether the activities pursued are in conformity with the Agreement. The key results of the evaluation are contained in the present document.

In accordance with the principles and guidelines regarding the establishment and operation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by 35 C/Resolution 103, a continuation of ICHARM as category 2 centre is proposed together with an annex containing such provisions of the proposed draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Japan concerning the proposed centre as deviate from the model agreement (see document 35 C/22 and Corr.).

Decision proposed: paragraph 10.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The 33rd session of the General Conference granted the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO (33 C/Resolution 28) while highlighting the needs to mitigate the effects of drought and floods which were adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002, and the ministerial declaration underlining the need for comprehensive efforts against water-related disasters from the Third World Water Forum (WWF3) in Kyoto, Shiga and Osaka, Japan in 2003, and Resolution XVI-4 adopted at the sixteenth session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council held from 20 to 24 September 2004 in Paris.

2. The main purpose of the evaluation, which was carried out in close consultation with the Government of Japan and UNESCO, was to provide a valuable element for deciding whether the ICHARM agreement between UNESCO and the host government should be renewed, and to ensure that the focus and coverage of the activities of the Centre are in line with the strategic objectives of UNESCO in accordance with the new Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (document 35 C/22) approved by the 35th Session of the General Conference. The cost of the evaluation was financed by ICHARM. Part III of this document summarizes the key findings and recommendations of the external evaluation.

## II. BACKGROUND

3. In September 2004, the sixteenth session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council adopted Resolution XVI-4 to support the proposal of the Japanese Government to establish ICHARM as a part of the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI). The Executive Board at its 171st session (April 2005) considered item 12: Proposed Establishment of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) in Tsukuba, Japan, under the auspices of UNESCO. Having examined documents 171 EX/11, 171 EX/11 Add. and 171 EX/11 Add. Corr. that described the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the Centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 21 C/36, the Board welcomed the proposal for the establishment of the Centre. The Board recommended that the General Conference at its 33rd session approve the creation of the said Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (171 EX/Decision 12). The 33rd session of the General Conference granted the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO (33 C/Resolution 28).

4. On the basis of an agreement signed between UNESCO and the Government of Japan in March 2006, the ICHARM was created as a category-2 water centre with the objective to conduct research, capacity-building and information networking activities in the field of water-related hazard and risk management at the local, national, regional and global level in order to prevent and mitigate the impacts of such hazards and thus to achieve sustainable and integrated river basin management.

## III. EVALUATION

5. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess key issues relating to this international category 2 centre, whether it has been playing an active and important role in the field of water sciences in cooperation with UNESCO and contributing to the objectives of UNESCO. The evaluation covers the period 2006-2011. More specifically the evaluation was to determine whether an important contribution to the strategic objectives of UNESCO was achieved and whether the activities pursued were in conformity with the agreement.

6. The evaluation was carried out by an international team of two experts appointed by the secretary of IHP and was managed by ICHARM in consultation with IHP. IHP consulted with UNESCO's Internal Oversight Service (IOS) for technical guidance during the evaluation process.

7. The evaluation team met at ICHARM, Tsukuba on 13 and 14 January 2011. The following methodology was used to assess progress of ICHARM in relationship with the existing agreement with UNESCO.

- Meetings and interviews with the Director and key staff of ICHARM
- Examination of materials provided by ICHARM
- Thematic analysis by the evaluation team
- Analysis of budget and staffing data
- Review of ICHARM website and relevant material quoted by stakeholders
- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis

The cost of the evaluation was funded by ICHARM. The final evaluation report was submitted in May 2011. The full evaluation report is available at the following web site: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/ihp/water-centres/>.

8. Overall, the evaluation concluded that ICHARM is well established and has streamlined its activities to address the strategic goals of UNESCO. ICHARM is a recognized international centre as the host of the International Flood Initiative with international linkages as a category 2 centre with a clear mandate. ICHARM has been working remarkably well within only five years from its establishment and available funding resources (around 400 million Japanese Yen per year) to deliver its roles and responsibilities under the existing agreement with UNESCO.

9. The recommendations made by the evaluation team are provided below.

#### *Recommendations to ICHARM*

##### *Key recommendations include:*

- Building on its success in flood risk management research, ICHARM may consider broadening its scope to include research on integrated management of floods and droughts, ecological consequences of hydrohazards and micro and macro econometric analysis of hydrohazards at the catchment, country and regional levels focusing on flow-on effects to the economy.
- Expand staff base by creating academic and remuneration incentives for hiring and maintaining high calibre international staff .
- Promote greater linkages with other divisions of PWRI and other entities of MLIT to deal with the wider range of hydrohazards.
- ICHARM needs to continue to strengthen its niche in delivering high-quality short-term training programmes (focusing on a wider range of managing hydrohazards such as floods, droughts, IWRM approach to managing hydrohazards, tsunami and post disaster ecosystem risks) to multilevel stakeholders in collaboration with greater UNESCO family and other partners.
- Institute greater peer review and external assessment processes in the Master's and Ph.D. degree programmes and also formalize a programme of high calibre adjunct faculty.
- Secure additional financial resources to deliver a broader agenda through targeted fund raising in association with UNESCO family.

The following recommendations should also be important for further streamlining ICHARM operations:

- Build strategic partnerships with other national and international agencies and universities.



- Increase the number of students in the Master's programme to promote efficient use of intellectual knowledge base, staff time and structural facilities.
- Consider offering Distance and Split Degree programmes in cooperation with UNESCO IHE and other reputable universities and centres of excellence.
- Employ a dedicated knowledge broker staff for stakeholder outreach and business development.
- Promote geographic diversity in the selection of high quality Master's and Ph.D. students in cooperation with UNESCO's water education programme.
- Focus on greater operational linkages with water management organizations and practitioners.
- Establish a greater number of reciprocal web links with the greater UNESCO family to deliver joint activities.
- Promote scientific findings such as Master's student theses by making them available online.

#### *Recommendations to the Government of Japan*

- Take appropriate steps including formulation of career progression structures and incentives to attract and keep cutting-edge international staff skills in a very competitive international market.
- Assign national staff recognizing the international competitive nature of the centre.
- Consider enhanced financial support for ICHARM activities given the increasing demand for its expertise in delivering hydrohazard solutions to developing countries and poor communities in desperate need.
- Ensure institutional flexibility for ICHARM to effectively operate as an international centre of excellence under the auspices of UNESCO

#### *Recommendations to UNESCO*

- Considering the excellent achievements of ICHARM, continue operation of this centre as a key category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO.
- Provide necessary support to secure financial resources to deliver UNESCO's agenda in developing countries facing ever increasing hydrohazards.
- Where appropriate decentralize resources to ICHARM to deliver project-based mid-term strategy outcomes in ICHARM's areas of competence in consultation with the Member States.
- Ensure greater synergies between UNESCO's Mid-Term Strategy such as the forthcoming International Hydrological Programme (Phase VIII) and strategic plans of ICHARM in managing hydrohazards.
- Consider providing seed grants for Master's and Ph.D. students from UNESCO Member States, preferably those from the least developed countries to study at ICHARM.

- Develop knowledge-sharing platforms to provide ready access to ICHARM products to Member States.
- Promote networking, collaboration and project-based partnerships between UNESCO category 2 centres by operationalizing the new integrated strategy as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference (document 35 C/22).

#### **IV. PROPOSED DECISION**

10. In light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 12 and 33 C/Resolution 28,
2. Taking into account 35 C/Resolution 103,
3. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part VII and its annex,
4. Notes the evaluation of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM);
5. Confirms that the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) has performed satisfactorily as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
6. Decides to renew the granting of the status of a category 2 centre to the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM);
7. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement with the Government of Japan.

## ANNEX

### DEVIATIONS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT FROM THE MODEL AGREEMENT

1. The General Conference, at its 35th session, approved the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres. At the same time, the General Conference “request[ed] the Director-General to apply the strategy to all new proposals for the establishment of category 2 institutes and centres, as well as to any renewals of existing agreements”. (35 C/Resolution 103). The renewal of the centre deviates from the UNESCO integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (document 35 C/22) and the proposed model agreement due to its national laws and regulations and the budget procedures. Substantive divergences are highlighted here so that the Executive Board can be fully informed thereof and may consider whether or not to renew the granting of the status under the auspices of UNESCO, and authorize the divergences, if it so decides.
2. Article 3.2 of the draft agreement foresees that the centre shall be an integral part of PWRI. This constitutes a divergence from the Model Agreement which foresees that category 2 centres and institutes must have their own legal personality and functional autonomy under its Constitutive Act. However, ICHARM is established and operated as part of the Independent Administrative Agency. A clause regarding the Constitutive Act is not deemed feasible for ICHARM.
3. In accordance with the Model Agreement, the length of the term of office of the members of the Governing Board must be specified, Article 5.1 of the draft Agreement, however does not provide for it.
4. Article 5.2 of the Draft Agreement does not foresee that Member States, which have sent notification to the Centre of their interest in participating in the activities of the Centre, under Article 8 of the Draft Agreement, may become members of the Governing Board.
5. Article 5.4 of the Draft Agreement foresees that the Centre’s programme, work plan and internal regulation “shall satisfy the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements relating to PWRI”. Whereas the Model Agreement foresees that the rules of procedure of the Governing Board for the first meeting shall be decided by the Government and UNESCO, Article 5.6 of the draft Agreement provides that these rules of procedure shall be established by the Chief Executive of PWRI. The proposed wording in Articles 5.4 and 5.6 in the Draft Agreement reflects the actual state where ICHARM operates as part of PWRI in accordance with the national laws and regulations; therefore the Government would like not to change this.
6. In accordance with the Model Agreement, Article 5.5 foresees that the Governing Board shall meet at least once every year. The frequency of the ordinary session in Articles 5.5 in the draft (once every two years) reflects the past practice where ICHARM was well managed with such an occurrence of the meeting.
7. Article 7 of the Draft Agreement provides that “[the Government shall take appropriate measures ... which may be required by the centre to receive adequate funds]” and that “[the centre’s resources shall derive from sums allotted by the PWRI...]”. This clause diverges from the Model Agreement, which provides that the responsibility for providing the resources necessary for the Centre/Institute shall lie with the Government. The proposed expression in Articles 7.1 and 7.2 in the draft Agreement reflects the actual state of ICHARM whose financial resources derive from PWRI under the national administrative and legal system.
8. Article 16 of the Draft Agreement is not in conformity with Article 18 of the Model Agreement, which provides that any dispute if not settled by negotiation or other method agreed upon by the parties shall be submitted to an arbitration tribunal. In the view of the Japanese Government, any dispute between the Government of Japan and UNESCO over the interpretation and application of the agreement should be solved through consultation and negotiation among the Parties in a spirit

of cooperation, and such a dispute is unlikely to grow into an international conflict that requires an international tribunal, and that the proposed text in the draft Agreement provides a system for the settlement of disputes through negotiation between the Parties to find appropriate methods that can be agreeable to them. The text borrows the expression from the Agreement concerning the Establishment of the International Centre for Integrated Water Resources Management at the United States Army Corps as a category 2 centre (182 EX/20 Part IV Annex II). The Government of Japan regards this agreement as a type of administrative arrangement which is implemented within national laws, regulations and budget, and hence cannot accept any procedures for settlement that assumes a binding decision made by a third party, such as an arbitration tribunal.



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### CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

#### PART VIII

### INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF MARTIAL ARTS FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT IN CHUNGJU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

#### SUMMARY

Pursuant to 35 C/Resolution 103, this document presents the conclusions and recommendations of the feasibility study undertaken by the Director-General at the request of the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning the creation of an International Centre of Martial Arts for Youth Development and Engagement in Chungju, Republic of Korea, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). The draft agreement is based on the approved model agreement.

Financial and administrative implications are dealt with in paragraph 18.

Action expected of the Executive Board: decision proposed in paragraph 23.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. In May 2012, the Government of the Republic of Korea submitted a detailed proposal to establish the International Centre of Martial Arts for Youth Development and Engagement in Chungju, Republic of Korea, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. In accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (35 C/22 and Corr.), approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, a mission was undertaken to assess the feasibility of establishing the proposed centre. This document outlines the background and nature of the proposal, feasibility and foreseeable implications of the creation of the proposed Centre, especially concerning benefits to Member States and the Centre's relevance to UNESCO's programmes.

## **CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE**

### **Objectives and functions**

2. The main objective of the Centre is to contribute to youth development and engagement by using martial arts philosophy and the values, positive attitudes, and personal development characteristics it engenders as the means of doing so. In order to accomplish this objective, the Centre will seek to better understand how the various forms of martial arts practiced around the world contribute to physiological and psychological enrichment and growth, both at the individual level and through collective action. Using these insights, appropriate programmes will be elaborated to enhance the capacities of young men and women to promote knowledge sharing and international collaboration.

3. A secondary but equally important objective of the proposed Centre is to promote the equitable participation of young women in martial arts as facilitators, beneficiaries, and subjects of research. This is particularly important as martial arts are predominantly masculine and there is an obvious need to increase the presence of female practitioners at all levels of martial arts.

### **Functions and scope of the Centre**

4. The functions of the proposed Centre are to promote research and knowledge sharing, to build the capacities of youth, to provide documentation, to act as a clearing-house, and to promote North-South collaboration.

5. Specifically, the research and knowledge sharing function will focus on:

- (a) the role of martial arts in the consolidation of a culture of peace and reconciliation;
- (b) the contribution of martial arts to the healthy development of young women and young men, and to their personal and social development;
- (c) the contribution of martial arts to the prevention of violence, particularly affecting youth;
- (d) A comparative analysis of the perception, acceptance and health and social impacts of martial arts among young women and men in the region, and in other parts of the world;
- (e) the role of young women in martial arts;
- (f) encouraging research on martial arts by young researchers;
- (g) producing a world traditional martial arts compendium and glossary targeting youth.

6. The capacity-building function will focus on:
  - (a) contributing to youth development, leadership and community engagement through education and training involving martial arts philosophies, cultural values and techniques that train the mind, body and spirit. This could involve:
    - (i) conducting martial arts training seminars and summer schools for young women and men from different parts of the world as a means of building a sense of community and promoting voluntary work;
    - (ii) helping establish martial arts “open schools”, community and cultural centres;
    - (iii) organizing international seminars and academic meetings relating to martial arts;
    - (iv) organizing world martial arts youth rallies.
7. The documentation and clearing-house function of the Centre will include a virtual component and focus on:
  - (a) setting up and managing a documentation centre which will collect, preserve and disseminate records and materials on martial arts from all countries in order to support educational and academic activities with and for youth in this field. This will involve:
    - (i) collecting all relevant materials;
    - (ii) developing and managing a website, including an online database, and using social media to connect with youth and to network with youth organizations from different parts of the world on martial arts;
    - (iii) publishing periodical information, including electronic bulletins;
    - (iv) participating in the operation of the world martial arts library cum museum;
    - (v) helping to organize international martial arts festivals and expos.
  - (b) producing a world traditional martial arts compendium and glossary targeting youth.
8. The Centre will also contribute to fostering North-South cooperation by:
  - (a) engaging young women and men from sub-Saharan Africa in martial arts activities for the consolidation of a culture of peace and reconciliation in the subregion;
  - (b) developing projects based on the research component mentioned above for a consolidation of a culture of peace, dialogue and reconciliation, also building on UNESCO’s expertise and competencies.

### **Structure and legal status**

9. The Centre will be an independent legal entity, allowing it to formalize the financial, administrative and technical support provided by national and regional institutions. The structure of the Centre is defined in the Draft Agreement and will involve:

- (1) A Governing Board: A body in charge of supervising the Centre’s activities. The composition is defined in Article 7 of the Draft Agreement;

- (2) A Programme Advisory Committee, which is responsible for assisting the Director of the Centre in conceptualizing the programme that will be submitted to the Governing Board for approval, and for providing professional guidance on programme delivery. It will be formed by the Director of the Centre along the guidelines laid down by the Governing Board.
- (3) Secretariat: A body in charge of executing the activities of the Centre under the authority of a Director appointed by the Governing Board;
- (4) The Centre shall enjoy, in the territory of the Republic of Korea, the autonomous status and legal capacity necessary to exercise its functions.

### **Financial matters**

10. The annual operating cost of approximately US \$800,000 per year will be provided to the proposed Centre by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, North Chungcheong Province, and the City of Chungju (a.k.a. the Government). The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism will be the responsible agency for establishing the Centre and will serve as the indemnitor for the financial, administrative and logistical aspects of the Centre. It would coordinate all linkages with all other relevant ministries/departments of the Government of the Republic of Korea, and actively assist the establishment and operation of the International Centre as an independent non-profit entity under Korean national law.

11. Any additional funding required for the main proposed projects of the Centre, which include producing a world traditional martial arts encyclopaedia publication and a world martial arts archive, developing martial arts open schools and conducting a training of trainers for traditional martial arts instructors in developing countries and the organization of international martial arts academic seminars would be leveraged from the national government and from North Chungcheong Province and Chungju City on a project basis. In addition, the Centre's projects may also be funded through implementing partnership arrangements with the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

12. The Government will:

- (a) make available to the Centre temporary premises within the City Hall of Chungju;
- (b) contribute to the Centre a total amount of one billion Korean Won (equivalent to approximately US \$800,000) per annum for operating costs; and
- (c) make available to the Centre the administrative staff necessary for the performance of its functions, with the necessary administrative, financial and budgetary expertise and;
- (d) construct or otherwise provide permanent facilities, including offices for the Centre.

### **Areas of cooperation with UNESCO**

13. The proposed centre will directly contribute to the realization of UNESCO's work with youth in the social and human sciences to capitalize on the potential of sport for social transformation, social inclusion and development, and peace, as reflected in Biennial Sectoral Priority 2 of the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5). It will also directly contribute to achieving the objectives of UNESCO's intersectoral and interdisciplinary programme of action to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, also contained in document 36 C/5, by empowering young people to become agents of positive social change in their communities. Emphasis will be put on using martial arts as a powerful medium to imbue positive values, foster social cohesion and develop the life skills that are needed for the holistic development of young men and women and their participation in public and political life. It is also expected that young women and men



“graduates” of the Centre will act as role models, promoting positive attitudes and martial arts in their communities. Efforts will be made to continually align and adapt the Centre with UNESCO’s strategic programme objectives, including those to be defined in the Organization’s future Medium-Term Strategy (37 C/4) and Programme and Budget (37 C/5).

14. The activities of the Centre will directly contribute to the achievement of UNESCO’s two global priorities: the promotion of gender equality and priority Africa. All efforts will be made to ensure that gender equality is included in the conceptualization and delivery of the programme. The Centre will also contribute to priority Africa through its work to engage young people in martial arts activities in Sub-Saharan Africa, including through the establishment of martial arts open schools, and the training of martial arts leaders, which will directly contribute to the implementation of UNESCO’s strategy on African youth.

### **Expected impact and relevance of the Centre for UNESCO**

15. The proposed Centre is expected to have a significant impact on UNESCO’s work to develop and implement youth programmes that support youth development and their participation in society, prevent violence affecting youth and promote social inclusion. The Centre and its proposed programmes are also highly relevant to UNESCO’s work to give priority to youth in both its Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) and its Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5). It will also directly contribute to the Organization’s capacity-building, clearing house, and international cooperation functions.

### **Regional or international impact of the Centre**

16. The activities of the centre relate to all countries, and it will explore cooperation with other youth-focused UNESCO category 1 and category 2 institutes and centres. It will also expand its international reach through cooperation with the World Martial Arts Union (WOMAU), currently comprised of 44 organizations from 38 nations, all of which are Member States of UNESCO; the World Taekwondo Federation; the Intergovernmental Committee on Physical Education and Sports (CIGEPS), and the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP). A full list of strategic alliances and networks with whom the Centre will cooperate is available at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002176/217613E.pdf>.

### **Areas of cooperation with UNESCO**

17. The proposed Centre will operate under the auspices of UNESCO but will not be a part of the Organization. However, UNESCO will work closely with the proposed Centre and may provide, *inter alia*:

- (a) advice and technical support for the formulation of the short-, medium-, and long-term vision and strategy of the Centre;
- (b) assistance in fostering collaboration with intergovernmental, non-governmental and private sector entities, as well as Member States of UNESCO to mobilize financial and technical assistance, to implement appropriate youth projects through the Centre, and facilitating contacts with other international organizations, including, in particular, youth organizations, relevant to the functions of the Centre;
- (c) relevant UNESCO publications and other pertinent materials, as well as dissemination of information on the activities of the Centre via UNESCO’s website, newsletters and other mechanisms at the Organization’s disposal;
- (d) participating, where appropriate, and depending on the availability of funding, in the research and knowledge, sharing capacity-building activities, and meetings of the Centre.

## **Financial and administrative implications for UNESCO**

18. No regular financial or administrative implications are foreseen for UNESCO. UNESCO may contribute to the programme activities of the centre through a contractual arrangement with the centre on an ad hoc basis within the limits of the approved programme and budget and without compromising the implementation of the regular programme approved by the General Conference. Future foreseen administrative costs directly linked to the achievement of the operation of the centre once it is established, foreseen to start in 2014, will correspond to liaising with the Centre and coordinating with the network of UNESCO youth-related centres in accordance with SHS's strategy for category 2 institutes and centres. The relatively minor costs of this involvement will be more than offset by the fact that the Centre will be actively involved in the execution of the Organization's youth programmes with a substantial contribution from the Korean Government. The Centre will expand UNESCO's implementation capabilities, both in the region, and in other parts of the world.

## **Risks**

19. The risks that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the Centre would be low in view of the official support the Centre will be receiving from the Korean Government and the direct linkage between the Centre's activities and UNESCO's goals and objectives.

## **Conclusion**

20. Overall, the Republic of Korea has made a strong case for a successful application for category 2 status for the proposed International Centre of Martial Arts for Youth Development and Engagement. The goals of the proposed Centre are closely aligned with UNESCO's strategic programme objectives and its global and programme priorities pertaining to youth, the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, social inclusion, Africa and gender equality. The "international" aspect of the Centre will be achieved and visibility for UNESCO enhanced through the Centre's work to generate knowledge and promote understanding on the various forms of martial arts practiced around the world and how they contribute to the development, engagement and empowerment of youth; the active participation of young women and men from countries in the North and South in specially designed capacity-building programmes; and from a balanced geographical composition of the Governing Board.

21. The draft Agreement provides more specific details about all of the legal, managerial and administrative aspects of the propose Centre.

22. The Director-General welcomes the establishment of the proposed International Centre of Martial Arts for Youth Development and Engagement in the Republic of Korea. She recognizes that the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism is able to provide the required facilities to the proposed Centre for it to promote research and knowledge sharing, capacity-building, North-South collaboration, and for it to achieve its documentation and clearing-house functions. She further notes that the Centre will provide important benefits to Member States and to institutions, NGOs and professionals working to promote youth development and civic engagement in political and public life as a means of promoting sustainable development and a culture of peace and non-violence. Furthermore, it is in line with the strategy of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, as presented in 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, as well as SHS's sector specific strategy for category 2 institutes and centres.

### **Proposed draft decision**

23. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103 by which the General Conference approved an integrated comprehensive strategy for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as set out in documents 35 C/22 and Corr.,
2. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part VIII,
3. Aware that the work of an international centre of martial arts for youth development and engagement will substantively contribute to the objectives of Major Programme III – Social and Human Sciences – to capitalize on the potential of sport for social transformation, social inclusion and development, and peace, and to the objectives of the intersectoral platform for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence under the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5), particularly in the areas related to the engagement of youth in building a culture of peace and non-violence and through non-formal and formal education,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Republic of Korea to establish an international centre of martial arts for youth development and engagement in Chungju, Republic of South Korea, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in conformity with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines concerning the creation of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in the annex to documents 35 C/22 and Corr., as approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
5. Thanks the Director-General for conducting the feasibility study to assess the suitability of establishing an international centre of martial arts for youth development and engagement as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO;
6. Recommends that the General Conference, at its 37th session, approve the establishment of the international centre of martial arts for youth development and engagement, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO, and that it authorize the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement;
7. Invites all other relevant national or regional centres or institutes focusing on martial arts for youth development and engagement to collaborate with the centre.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

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# 190 EX/18

## Part X

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## CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

### PART X

#### REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON A PROPOSAL BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE FOR WATER EDUCATION TO CREATE A GLOBAL CAMPUS AND TO OBTAIN THE RIGHT TO GRANT DOCTORAL DEGREES

#### SUMMARY

This document reports on a set of proposals adopted by the Governing Board of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education with a view to increasing the Institute's capacity to respond to the ever increasing demands in water education and research by (a) the establishment of a UNESCO-IHE Global Campus as an interconnected network of category 1 regional institutes and (b) amending the Statutes of the Institute in order to clearly specify its authority to grant doctoral degrees.

Decision proposed: paragraph 8.

1. By 31 C/Resolution 16<sup>1</sup> the General Conference at its 31st session, decided to accept a no-cost loan of staff and infrastructure from the IHE Foundation<sup>2</sup>, located in Delft, The Netherlands, and created the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education as a category 1 institute of UNESCO (UNESCO-IHE). The Institute is functionally autonomous in terms of programme and entirely extrabudgetary. Its mission is to contribute to the education and training of professionals, to generate new knowledge through water-related research and to build the capacity of sector organisations, knowledge centres and other institutions active in the fields of water, the environment and infrastructure, for the benefit of developing countries and countries in transition

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/general-conference/all-documents/>

<sup>2</sup> IHE = International Institute for Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering established in 1957 as a Dutch national entity, see at <http://www.unesco-ihe.org/About/50-years-of-wise-water>

through Master of Science and Ph.D. programmes, the latter in cooperation with universities of the host country, short courses, tailor-made capacity development activities and online courses.

2. The Governing Board of the category 1 institute UNESCO-IHE, in recognition of the clear need for appropriate reform to meet global challenges, including the globally increasing demand for water education and research in developing countries, adopted in 2010 at its ninth session *Strategic Directions: UNESCO-IHE in 2020* along with an Implementation Plan. This strategy document points to the adverse impacts of the physical, financial and staff resources constraints which have hindered further expansion of the Institute in Delft, and resulted in the Institute having to reject nine out of ten qualified candidates. The document envisions a solution based on the establishment of a UNESCO-IHE Global Campus as an interconnected network of Category 1 regional institutes that are established on the same principles and practices as UNESCO-IHE and in full conformity with the relevant rules and regulations of UNESCO. This document has been noted by the 19th session of the International Hydrological Programme's (IHP) Intergovernmental Council (IC), which issued a supporting resolution (Resolution XIX-3).

3. On 18 June 2012 the Chair of Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE requested that the Director-General place a proposal for the establishment of a Global Campus on the Agenda of the 190th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO, noting that by its resolution (36/C Resolution 18), the 36th session of the UNESCO General Conference "took note of the General Principles of the strategic directions of UNESCO-IHE reform" and "encouraged its timely implementation" and that the 20th session of the IHP IC has also "expressed its support towards the establishment of a UNESCO-IHE Global Campus in order to increase the efficiency and geographic coverage of water education programme" (SC-2012/WS/5).

4. Furthermore, the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE also requested the Executive Board of UNESCO to consider the proposal to grant the Institute the right to award doctoral degrees autonomously from universities in The Netherlands, which would allow the Institute to develop Joint Ph.D. programmes with other universities, particularly in developing countries, and thereby significantly enhance the impact of the Institute given that it has had a fully functional Ph.D. programme since the 1990s as well as referring to the precedent, established by the 64th session of the United Nations General Assembly, which granted the same right to the United Nations University (UNU)<sup>3</sup>.

5. The Director-General takes note of the proposal and recalls that she has in the past supported the Strategic Vision of UNESCO-IHE, including the conceptual foundation of the Global Campus. She also notes with appreciation the distinguished track record of UNESCO-IHE in preparing doctoral candidates and in demonstrating the Institute's capacity to continue doing so autonomously. The Director-General also concurs that responding to the increasing demand for water education and research is both necessary and consistent with the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, expressed in its outcome document *The Future We Want* as well as with the strategic plans of the eighth phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2018) which was recently endorsed by the 20th session of the IHP IC, noting as well that the same session reflected the overwhelming support of Member States to the UNESCO-IHE reform process, especially regarding the establishment of the Global Campus.

6. At the same time, with respect to the Global Campus, the Director-General notes the need for further debate and more details regarding the implementation of the proposal. She believes that notwithstanding that any proposal for category 1 institutes would have to go through a rigorous feasibility study led by her, there remains a need for a comprehensive feasibility study to address the legal, governance, financial, and implementation implications and dimensions of the Global Campus concept, in addition to a needs assessment based on a thorough regional mapping of current high-quality programmes to fully inform the 37th session of the General Conference. Consideration for a possible phasing of the approach and a reflection on the added value of such

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<sup>3</sup> The full proposal of the Governing Board of the UNESCO-IHE and background information is available at [http://www.unesco-ihe.org/executive\\_board\\_documents](http://www.unesco-ihe.org/executive_board_documents)

an initiative compared with other possible delivery mechanisms, including modalities other than category 1 institutes, should also be included in such a comprehensive feasibility study.

7. Likewise, the Director-General is of the opinion that a comprehensive feasibility study is also required to inform the 37th session of the General Conference about the quality assurance and accreditation implications of granting to UNESCO-IHE the right to award doctorate degrees, including a thorough consideration of the implication on future members of the Global Campus in terms of quality assurance and its consistency. The Director-General also emphasizes the significance of maintaining the strongest, most collaborative relationships between IHE and universities in The Netherlands, as well as in other countries. Furthermore the precedent that would be set needs to be considered for potential UNESCO degree programmes in other subjects and the implications that this might have for the Organization.

8. In light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to consider the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 190 EX/18 Part X and the full proposal from the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE and the relevant background documents,
2. Recalling decision 182 EX/SR.11 of the Executive Board of UNESCO,
3. Noting with appreciation the proven track record of UNESCO-IHE concerning its Master of Science and Doctoral programmes in cooperation with universities, for the benefit of developing countries and countries in transition,
4. Taking note of the proposal of the Governing Board of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education to create a UNESCO-IHE Global Campus as an interconnected network of category 1 regional institutes,
5. Also taking note of the request by the Governing Board of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education to be granted the right to award doctorate degree independently,
6. Further taking note of the observations made by the Director-General in paragraphs 5, 6, 7 of document 190 EX/18 Part X,
7. Invites the Director-General to undertake a comprehensive feasibility study for the possible creation of a UNESCO-IHE Global Campus including: (a) a comprehensive assessment of the legal, financial, governance and implementation implications and dimensions of the Global Campus concept; (b) an in-depth assessment of the implications of granting to UNESCO-IHE the right to award doctorate degrees, in terms of quality assurance and accreditation, also reflecting on a possible phasing of the approach and on the added value of such an initiative compared with other possible delivery mechanisms, including modalities other than category 1 institutes; (c) a needs assessment based on a thorough regional mapping of existing advanced education programmes in the area of water.
8. Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 191st session the results of this feasibility study.