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联合国教育、
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**SECOND PROTOCOL TO THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1954 FOR THE
PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED
CONFLICT**

**COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE
EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT**

Eleventh meeting
UNESCO Headquarters
8 – 9 December 2016

Item 4 of the provisional agenda :
**Update on the Implementation of the Strategy for the “Reinforcement of
UNESCO’s Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural
Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict”**

The current document provides an update on the implementation of the Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO’s Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict, with regard to the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols.

The preparation of this document was requested by the Bureau of the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict during its Meeting held on 31 October 2016.

1. At its 38th session, the General Conference of UNESCO examined, in conformity with Decision 197 EX/10¹ of the Executive Board, the Strategy for the “Reinforcement of UNESCO’s Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict” (“the Strategy”) and adopted it with Resolution 38 C/48. The Strategy’s priority areas of action and its two objectives are formulated in the working document 38 C/49.²
2. The Strategy aims, on the basis of the Organization’s culture conventions, to **“Strengthen the ability of Member States to prevent, mitigate and recover the loss of cultural heritage and diversity as a result of conflict”**; and, **“incorporate the protection of culture into humanitarian action, security strategies and peace-building processes by engaging with relevant stakeholders outside the culture domain.”**
3. Resolution 38C/48 invited Member States to support the elaboration of an Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy, including by defining mechanisms for the mobilization of national experts, as well as by contributing to the Heritage Emergency Fund. The draft Action Plan was examined by the Executive Board at its 200th session³ and a revised version, which would incorporate the feedback provided during consultations with Member States, will be submitted at its 201st session.
4. A number of priority areas of action contained in the Strategy are in alignment and directly contribute to the effective implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols, in particular:
 - Building synergies in the implementation of the relevant UNESCO culture conventions especially the 1954 Convention and its two Protocols, as well as the 1970, 1972, 2001 and 2003 Conventions (paragraph 19 of the Strategy);
 - Developing technical activities aimed at assisting Member States in identifying, mitigating and reducing potential risks, as well as strengthening the capacities of national and local authorities (Paragraph 20);
 - Strengthening advocacy to promote the integration of culture in conflict prevention strategies and operational action, as well as for the full respect of international humanitarian law standards, including the 1954 Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols (paragraphs 21 and 23)
 - Supporting first aid and mitigation measures when cultural heritage is damaged, destroyed or at heightened risk, including possible evacuation of cultural assets from sites, museums and other cultural repositories, where they are at risk (paragraph 24)
 - Developing a common United Nations approach to the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural diversity during conflict and in its aftermath and further developing cooperation with the military including with United Nations peacekeeping forces, which eventually lead to the operationalization of protected cultural zones (paragraphs 33 and 35).

¹ Decision 197 EX/10 may be found on the following link:
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002351/235180e.pdf>

² Document 38 C/49 may be found under the following link:
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002351/235186e.pdf>

³ Document 200 EX/5B Part I F ADD may be found on the following link:
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002457/245703e.pdf>

5. The Secretariat of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols promotes a campaign for a global ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention (Paragraphs 21 and 23)⁴. Encouragement of integration of the protection of cultural heritage and diversity in military, notably in UN peace-keeping operations, is part of the Secretariat's activities (Paragraphs 33-35). Preparatory documentation, risk assessment and emergency plans for heritage in areas at risk and peripheral zones comply with Articles 3 of the 1954 Hague Convention and 5 of the 1999 Second Protocol (Paragraph 20).
6. Furthermore, the Secretariat's activities include a comprehensive review of legal and policy frameworks on safe havens for cultural property in order to facilitate the creation of safe havens for cultural property (Paragraph 24). However, all guidelines will be non-binding and only aimed at facilitating the setting up of safe havens, if decided so by a country.
7. The Secretariat is also working proactively in order to strengthen the 1954 Hague Convention's operational guidelines and build synergies (Paragraph 19) by working with the other Conventions and their respective Governing Bodies to identify them. Further information on Synergies is found in Document C54/16/11.COM/11, "Development of synergies with other relevant UNESCO's normative instruments and programmes and strengthening partnerships".
8. While the activities carried out in the framework of the implementation of the Strategy's priority areas of action relating to the 1954 Hague Convention show promising results, the limited capacities of the Secretariat prevents the full and effective implementation of the Strategy. In this regard, Member States are encouraged to make additional voluntary contributions to the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund in order to support the implementation of the Strategy and therefore enhance the implementation of the provisions of the 1954 Hague Convention.

⁴ Further information on the global campaign for ratification is found in document CLT-15/6.SP/CONF.202/INF.3/REV from the 6th Meeting of the States Parties to the Second Protocol on the following link: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002355/235584E.pdf>