



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board
Two hundred and fourth session

(Paris, 4 April – 17 April 2018)*

204 EX/Decisions

PARIS, 17 May 2018

**DECISIONS ADOPTED
BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 204th SESSION**

* Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies before the plenary meetings.



Job: 201801173

All the terms used in this collection of texts to designate the person discharging duties or functions are to be interpreted as implying that men and women are equally eligible to fill any post or seat associated with the discharge of these duties and functions

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ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1 **Agenda and timetable of work, report of the Bureau and election of the Chairperson of the Special Committee (SP)** (204 EX/1 Rev.; 204 EX/2)

The Executive Board adopted the agenda and timetable of work as set out in document 204 EX/1 Rev.

The Executive Board decided to refer the following items of its agenda to the commissions:

1. **Programme and External Relations Commission (PX):** items **4.I, 5.I, 6, 7, 8, 9, 25, 26, 28, 29, and 32**
2. **Finance and Administrative Commission (FA):** items **4.II, 4.III, 5.II (A, C, D, and E), 5.III, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20 and 21**

and to refer the following items to the **PX and FA Commissions at their joint meeting:** items **5.II (B), 10, 16, 22, 24 and 31.**

In accordance with Rule 16, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Procedure, the Executive Board elected Mr Alexander Kuznetsov (Russian Federation) Chairperson of the Special Committee (SP) to replace Ms Venera Domi (Albania) for the remainder of her term of office.

(204 EX/SR.1)

2 **Approval of the summary records of the 202nd and 203rd sessions** (202 EX/SR.1-12; 203 EX/SR.1-2)

The Executive Board approved the summary records of its 202nd and 203rd sessions.

(204 EX/SR.1)

3 **Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board** (204 EX/PRIV.1 and Add.; 204 EX/PRIV.2; 204 EX/PRIV.3; 204 EX/3.INF)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject in private meeting.

(204 EX/SR.1)

REPORTING ITEMS

4 **Execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference** (204 EX/4; 204 EX/4.INF and Corr.; 204 EX/4.INF.2; 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/35; 204 EX/36)

4.I **Analytical programme implementation report (APIR) for 2014-2017**

4.I.A

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 38 C/Resolution 99,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/4 Part I and 204 EX/PG.INF,
3. Recognizing that adjustments had to be made to the initial programmatic targets to take into account the reduction in the volume of the regular budget,

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the first Analytical Programme Implementation Report (APIR) which provides an initial assessment of programme implementation during the 2014-2017 quadrennium;
5. Encourages the Director-General to pursue her efforts to present methodologically solid, forward-looking assessments of UNESCO's positioning with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the concrete impacts of the Organization's work on the ground, in consultation with Member States;
6. Invites the Director-General, when preparing future Analytical Programme Implementation Reports (APIR), to take into account the debates held during its 204th session, and the comments made during the meeting of the Preparatory Group as summarized in document 204 EX/PG.INF;
7. Notes with satisfaction the measures taken to ensure cost-effective programme implementation and the achievement of results, despite the challenges and the financial constraints and reiterates the need to take into consideration the contribution of the network of institutes and field offices;
8. Requests the Director-General to pay particular attention to the challenges identified under each major programme, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and the global priorities, given that not all expected results were achieved;
9. Also invites the Director-General to address, in a timely and strategic manner, the challenges that remain in achieving a more efficient and better "fit for purpose" Organization, as set out in document 204 EX/4 Part I;
10. Also requests the Director-General to present to it at its 206th session a Programme Implementation Report (PIR) covering the first 12 months of the 2018-2021 quadrennium (1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018), in accordance with 38 C/Resolution 99.

(204 EX/SR.6)

4.I.B

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the Declaration of Berlin adopted by the Fifth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS V) in 2013, the Revised International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport of 17 November 2015 and United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
2. Welcomes the adoption of the Kazan Action Plan by the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS VI), which is an overarching reference and a tool for aligning international and national sport policy based on voluntary work, and which aims to encourage international convergence amongst policy-makers and all of the stakeholders in the fields of physical education, physical activity and sport with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Revised International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport;
3. Reaffirms the importance of accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDGs 4 and 5;
4. Recognizes the multifunctional dimension of sport as a vector for education, health, culture, gender equality, dialogue and peace;

5. Convinced that sport is a powerful tool able to contribute substantially to sustainable development and peace,
6. Recalls UNESCO's key role in the promotion of human values and ethics, and its action for the implementation of the Kazan Action Plan by Member States;
7. Encourages all Member States and non-Member States to include quality physical education as an integral part of quality education in their primary and secondary national education systems, and to promote the integrity of sport;
8. Requests the Director-General to pursue efforts to promote the Kazan Action Plan and to take measures to support UNESCO's sport programme so as to accompany Member States in the implementation of the Action Plan while emphasizing the importance of quality physical education, which is a global priority regarding sport policy, and the integrity of sport.

(204 EX/SR.6)

4.II Budgetary situation of the Organization for 2016-2017 as at 31 December 2017

Budget adjustments arising from donations and special contributions received and Management Chart for Programme Execution in 2016-2017 Status as at 31 December 2017

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Director-General's report in document 204 EX/4 Part II on donations and special contributions received during the period July-December 2017 and appropriated to the regular budget in accordance with the terms of the Appropriation Resolution approved by the General Conference at its 38th session (38 C/Resolution 103, para. (b)),
2. Takes note that the Director-General has, as a consequence of these donations and special contributions, increased the appropriations to the regular budget by a total amount of **\$2,504,699 for the period 1 July to 31 December 2017** as detailed in Annex II of document 204 EX/4.INF and summarized as follows:

	\$
Part I.B - Directorate and Executive Office of the Director-General	14 151
Part II.A - Education	1 295 174
Part II.A - Natural sciences	307 597
Part II.A - Social and human sciences	147 131
Part II.A - Culture	324 231
Part II.A - Communication and information	233 701
Part II.A - Management of field offices	111 385
Part II.B - Coordination and monitoring of action to benefit Africa	5 903
Part II.B - Coordination and monitoring of action to implement gender equality	2 940
Part II.B - External relations and public information	62 486
Total	<u>2 504 699</u>

3. Expresses its appreciation to the donors listed in Annexes II, III.A and III.B to document 204 EX/4.INF;
4. Also takes note of the revised 38 C/5 Appropriation Table in Annex I of 204 EX/4.INF;
5. Also having examined the Director-General's report on the overall regular budget situation of the Organization for the 2016-2017 biennium at the closure of accounts (204 EX/4 Part II),

6. Further takes note of the budgetary situation (unaudited) of the Organization for the 2016-2017 regular budget (38 C/5) as at 31 December 2017;
7. Takes note of the carry forward to the 2018-2019 financial period of the remaining available unspent funds (\$27.5 million) under the expenditure plan of the regular budget set out in document 38 C/5 in conformity with 39 C/Resolution 69, as stated in document 204 EX/4 Part II;
8. Also takes note that the 2% target for cost recovery of regular programme staff time set by 195 EX/Decision 5.IV.C has been achieved as stated in 204 EX/4 Part II and expresses its appreciation of the effort made by the Director-General in this regard.

(204 EX/SR.6)

4.III Annual report of the Ethics Office (2017)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/4 Part III,
2. Welcomes the improvements achieved regarding ethics training, and encourages further improvements in this regard at all levels of the Organization;
3. Reaffirms the importance of systematic consultation of the Ethics Office in the drafting and updating of the policies and procedures relevant to the work of the Office;
4. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 206th session a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in document 204 EX/4 Part III;
5. Also invites the Director-General to inform Member States in a timely manner of the policies to be developed and/or updated in line with the United Nations Secretary-General's initiative on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse;
6. Also welcomes the Director-General's commitment to instilling the highest ethical standards across the Organization;
7. Emphasizes the role of the Ethics Office in promoting integrity, professionalism and respect for diversity throughout the Organization.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5 Follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions (204 EX/5 Part I; 204 EX/5 Part II and Add. and Corr.; 204 EX/5 Part III and Addenda; 204 EX/5.INF; 204 EX/5.INF.2; 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/35; 204 EX/36; 204 EX/37)

5.I Programme issues

5.I.A Participation of UNESCO in the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 201 EX/Decision 33 and 202 EX/Decision 5.I.I,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part I.A,

3. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 205th session an information document containing the revised Bylaws of the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH), and to report on the proposed criteria for UNESCO's participation in the Alliance, in particular those relating to the identification and implementation of projects, their financing methods and the expected role of the Organization;
4. Also requests the Director-General to ensure that, within the framework of cooperation between UNESCO and the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH), support and financing be strengthened for the implementation of relevant cultural conventions;
5. Further requests the Director-General to report on UNESCO's participation in the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH) in the statutory reports (EX/4 document) on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference (39 C/5).

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.I.B Sustainable Tourism Management Assessment Tool – Outcomes of the pilot phase

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 45,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/5 Part I.B and 204 EX/5.INF.2,
3. Takes note of the development of the sustainable tourism management assessment tool and looks forward to the result of its pilot testing in 2018;
4. Invites the Director-General to present further information on the results of the assessment of the new tool, including the results of discussions held by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session;
5. Also takes note of the second World Conference on Tourism and Culture, aiming to promote sustainable tourism, held in Muscat, Oman, in December 2017;
6. Also invites the Director-General to report on progress made in the statutory reports (EX/4 document) on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference (39 C/5).

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.I.C Conclusions of the assessment of the Youth Forum of the 39th session of the General Conference

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the UNESCO Operational Strategy on Youth 2014-2021, adopted by the General Conference at its 37th session as the operational framework for UNESCO's work in the area of youth,
2. Also recalling 39 C/Resolution 54 and documents 39 C/19, 39 C/INF.20 and 201 EX/4.INF.2,
3. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part I.C,

4. Thanks the Director-General for her efforts to improve UNESCO's work in the area of youth, notably by enhancing the engagement of young women and men, and encourages her to pursue efforts to further enhance the quality of UNESCO's engagement with young women and men;
5. Also encourages the Director-General, together with the Member States and their National Commissions for UNESCO, young women and men and youth organizations, to ensure follow-up to and meaningful implementation of the Youth Forum recommendations;
6. Invites Member States to engage young women and men in their UNESCO-related work and to include young people in their official delegations to intergovernmental meetings, including sessions of the General Conference of UNESCO;
7. Welcomes relevant initiatives to engage youth at the local and global levels, and the proposal to set up regional youth spaces to determine the best modality and platform for youth engagement;
8. Requests the Director-General, in line with 39 C/Resolution 54 and in consultation with Member States and including youth representatives, to ensure the active involvement of national and regional youth organizations in the preparation of the next Youth Forum, and to hold the Youth Forum well in advance of the General Conference, in order to facilitate substantial youth input to the deliberations and decisions of the General Conference, including input into the C/4 and C/5 documents;
9. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 19.I, recommends to the Secretariat that the selection of participants, including panellists, experts and keynote speakers, in addition to their expertise in the relevant field of competence, should be gender-balanced and geographically balanced, and include young specialists and experts, and also requests the Director-General to present an assessment of this work including a proposal for a performance indicator in this regard for the Programme and Budget for 2020-2021 (40 C/5).

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.I.D Follow-up of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine)¹

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part I.D,
2. Takes note of the information provided therein;
3. Invites the Director-General to report to it thereon at its 205th session.

(204 EX/SR.6)

¹ The Executive Board adopted this decision upon a recommendation made by the Programme and External Relations Commission (PX) following a roll-call vote: 16 votes in favour, 11 votes against and 24 abstentions:

In favour: Albania, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Belarus, Burundi, China, Cuba, India, Nicaragua, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

Abstentions: Bangladesh, Brazil, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam, Zambia.

Absent: Cameroon, Grenada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Madagascar, Morocco, Paraguay.

5.I.E Plan of action to strengthen UNESCO’s cooperation “Together for Haiti”

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 201 EX/Decision 34,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part I.E,
3. Taking into account the results achieved in the implementation of programmes in UNESCO’s fields of competence, in particular through activities for the restoration of educational services and of fragile ecosystems affected by Hurricane Matthew,
4. Considering the risks to which Haiti continues to be exposed in the face of natural disasters, as well as the impact of the damage caused by Hurricane Matthew,
5. Requests the Director General to continue her efforts in favour of the plan of action “Together for Haiti”, and to continue mobilizing financial resources for its implementation;
6. Also requests the Director-General to report to it at its 206th session on the follow-up of the plan of action “Together for Haiti” and its results.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.I.F Recent decisions and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system of relevance to the work of UNESCO

5.I.F.A Recent United Nations system activities, reports and resolutions relevant to the work of UNESCO

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined section A of document 204 EX/5 Part I.F,
2. Takes note of its content;
3. Encourages the Director-General to maintain UNESCO’s leadership and coordination role within the United Nations system, on matters that fall within the Organization’s terms of reference.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.I.F.B Reform of the United Nations system

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined section B of document 204 EX/5 Part I.F,
2. Welcomes the Secretary-General’s ongoing efforts with respect to reforms of the United Nations development system;
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for her efforts concerning the active inclusion of UNESCO in United Nations reform consultations, which will inform the Organization’s own reform efforts;
4. Also welcomes the range of actions already taken to continue to establish UNESCO as a strong and credible organization delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its areas of expertise and contributing to a more integrated United Nations development system;

5. Requests the Director-General to further develop inter-agency dialogue to advance UNESCO's strategic interest in United Nations system-wide reform efforts;
6. Also requests the Director-General to organize an information meeting on the guidelines for UNESCO's country strategies;
7. Further requests the Director-General to report to it at its 206th session on UNESCO's action in this regard.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.II Management issues

5.II.A Sustainability of the field network

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 200 EX/Decision 5.III.A and 201 EX/Decision 5.III.A,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part II.A,
3. Reiterates the importance of a responsive and sustainable field network for the implementation of the Organization's mandate as well as to ensure that UNESCO is well positioned in the United Nations development system's joint programmes at the country and regional levels in order to attain the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
4. Takes note with interest of the introduction of the Balanced Scorecard in order to improve the performance of the field operations as well as of other management tools to support decision-making;
5. Invites the Director-General to continue to improve the management tools used to measure the performance of the field network, taking into account the comments made during the 204th session of the Executive Board, and the comments made during the meeting of the Preparatory Group as summarized in document 204 EX/PG.INF, and to provide further information concerning the processes, documents and tools concerning the field network, such as the UNESCO country strategies;
6. Also invites the Director-General to focus her efforts on improving strategic and programmatic cohesion between Headquarters and the field network by further involving field offices in the process of drawing up and implementing the programmes;
7. Takes note of the assessment of the performance of the field network in 2017;
8. Urges the Director-General to take action to address the factors leading to performance discrepancies between the different field offices in the implementation of the C/5 document;
9. Requests the Director-General to present to it biennially comprehensive analyses of the performance of the field network using all available sources of information, including the improved Balanced Scorecard, cost-neutral inputs by Member States as relevant and reports from the directors of field offices;
10. Also takes note of the progress achieved in implementing the recommendations of the External Auditor contained in document 199 EX/15 Part VI;
11. Recognizes the importance of the external audit of the UNESCO field office network (204 EX/21 Part I) and its recommendations for UNESCO's overall field strategy;

12. Further takes note of the ongoing discussions on the United Nations Secretary-General's report "Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet" (A/72/684);
13. Also requests the Director-General to present to it at its 206th session an overall strategy for UNESCO's field presence following a comprehensive house-wide review accompanied by consultation with Member States, including National Commissions.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.II.B Resource mobilization strategy and annual structured financing dialogue

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 5.III.E,
2. Also recalling 202 EX/Decision 5.III.C, which welcomed the Director-General's proposals for the preparation of an inclusive structured financing dialogue process, including its modalities and timeline,
3. Having examined documents 204 EX/5 Part II.B and Add. and 204 EX/5.INF,
4. Welcomes the final draft of the UNESCO resource mobilization strategy for 2018-2019, stresses the need to harmonize and coordinate all fundraising efforts to ensure a coordinated house-wide approach with clear roles and responsibilities, and emphasizes that all resource mobilization should contribute directly to the realization of the priorities in the four-year Programme (C/5);
5. Also stresses the need for a consistent and coordinated approach to engagement with the private sector, from a United Nations system-wide perspective, as indicated by the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) in its report on private sector partnership arrangements in the context of the 2030 Agenda (JIU/REP/2017/8), and also emphasizes that UNESCO, as well as other specialized agencies, is encouraged to take action upon a number of JIU recommendations as outlined in the Annex of the report;
6. Takes note of the update on the status of the filling of the funding gap for 2018-2019;
7. Also takes note of the outline for the Structured Financing Dialogue (SFD) Partners Meeting pursuant to 202 EX/Decision 5.III.C, and requests the Director-General to send the invitation at least three months before the scheduled date, together with guidelines to assist participants in their preparation process, in order to ensure a qualitative exchange during the Meeting;
8. Invites the Director-General to organize an information meeting as part of the preparation for the Structured Financing Dialogue (SFD) Partners Meeting;
9. Underlines the strategic importance of the UNESCO Transparency Portal for resource mobilization, and requests the Director-General to ensure that the planned improvements to the UNESCO Transparency Portal are rapidly put into place, including improved source data resulting from the core systems redesign;
10. Also invites the Director-General to ensure an inclusive learning process to follow up the first two-year budget cycle with the new resource mobilization strategy and the structured financing dialogue;
11. Requests the Director-General, in line with the recommendations endorsed by the General Conference in 39 C/Resolution 87, to organize annual orientation sessions for

delegations about the C/4 and C/5 frameworks as well as about the resource mobilization process, and recalls from the same resolution the invitation to produce an electronic guidebook of good practices to facilitate alignment between the C/4 and C/5 documents, which could serve as a background document for the annual orientation sessions.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.II.C UNESCO Security and Safety Action Plan

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part II.C,
2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the UNESCO Security and Safety Action Plan;
3. Recalls the fundamental importance of security for all staff and permanent delegations to UNESCO as well as for the effective delivery of the Organization's programmes, and invites Member States to make financial contributions to the Special Account for Strengthening the Security of UNESCO Premises Worldwide.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.II.D Report on the implementation of invest for efficient delivery

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 5.III.F,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part II.D,
3. Takes note of the progress report provided by the Director-General in document 204 EX/5 Part II.D on the implementation of the learning and development initiatives (Annex I), knowledge management and information technologies initiatives (Annex II) and additional initiatives approved at its 201st session (Annex III);
4. Invites the Director-General to continue implementation of the aforementioned initiatives;
5. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 205th session an updated report on the implementation of the aforementioned initiatives;
6. Reiterates its appeal to Member States to consider providing voluntary contributions to increase the budget of the important Invest for Efficient Delivery Fund.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.II.E Cost-recovery policy: revised proposal for a differential rate policy for management cost rates

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 5.III.G.2,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part II.E and Corr.,
3. Also having examined the proposals for differential rates set out in Options A, B and C in document 204 EX/5 Part II.E and Corr.,

4. Welcomes the proposals of the Secretariat for differential rates set out in Option B as the preferred option, which should apply to all new funding agreements and letters of contribution to Special Accounts from the date of the present decision and taking into account the provisions of paragraph 3 of 202 EX/Decision 5.III.G.2.;
5. Takes note that the actual income generated through the application of the new management rates will be kept under close review by the Secretariat as will any requirement to adjust the differential rate in line with any changes to the resource mobilization strategy of the Organization, and that the Secretariat will consult the Executive Board accordingly,
6. Requests the Director-General to submit a report to it at its 209th session (2020) on the status of implementation of this new policy for management cost rates.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.III Human resources issues

5.III.A Report on the geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff of the Secretariat and progress on the implementation of the measures taken to redress any imbalance

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 199 EX/Decision 5.III.A and 201 EX/Decision 5.IV.A,
2. Takes note of the information provided by the Director-General in document 204 EX/5 Part III.A regarding the situation of the geographical distribution and the gender balance of the staff as of January 2018;
3. Also recalling the UNESCO geographical distribution action plan for 2017-2022 contained in Annex III of document 204 EX/5 Part III.A,
4. Invites the Director-General to ensure better geographical distribution, horizontally and vertically, by, *inter alia*, directing a comprehensive outreach strategy targeting under-represented and non-represented Member States, and requests her to continue her best efforts to promote gender parity in the Organization;
5. Expresses concern at the increase of the number of over-represented and non-represented Member States;
6. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 206th session a report on the situation of the geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat and on the achievement of gender parity at the senior level.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.III.B Progress report on the strategic framework for human resources partnerships

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 5.IV.B,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part III.B,
3. Takes note of its content;

4. Invites the Director-General to submit a report to the General Conference at its 40th session on human resources partnerships, in the context of the biennial report on the comprehensive partnership strategy.

(204 EX/SR.6)

5.III.C Annual report (2017) by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC): Report by the Director-General

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 114 EX/Decision 8.5, 22 C/Resolution 37 and 39 C/Resolution 72,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/5 Part III.C,
3. Takes note of its content;
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to ensure UNESCO's participation in the work of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), and to take into account its recommendations and the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly.

(204 EX/SR.6)

PROGRAMME MATTERS

6 Proposal for the convening of an international conference of States for the revision of the 1978 Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States (204 EX/6, 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 39 C/Resolution 83,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/6,
3. Reaffirming the importance of promoting academic mobility and quality assurance by facilitating the recognition of qualifications in higher education in the Arab States,
4. Acknowledging the important role UNESCO plays in this field, particularly through its conventions and recommendation on the mutual recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education,
5. Conscious that significant changes have taken place in higher education in a more globalized world and that there is a need for a new generation of regional recognition conventions to respond to new challenges,
6. Also reaffirming the strong interest of the Arab region in moving forward with the revision of the 1978 Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States, and also acknowledging the significant progress made,
7. Thanks the Director-General for her proposal for the convening in the first half of 2019 of an international conference of States (category I) for the revision of the 1978 Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States, as presented in document 204 EX/6;

8. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 205th session the invitations to the international conference of States (category I) for the revision of the 1978 Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States.

(204 EX/SR.6)

7 Nominations of new UNESCO Global Geoparks (204 EX/7; 204 EX/7.INF; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 38 C/Resolution 23,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/7 and 204 EX/7.INF,
3. Welcomes the important contribution of UNESCO Global Geoparks to the Organization's work with regard to heritage management, promotion of sustainable development as well as conservation and protection of the geological heritage;
4. Calls upon the members of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) and the UNESCO Secretariat to foster capacity building and sharing of good practices in order to support the Member States that aspire to establish UNESCO Global Geoparks, especially in under-represented regions;
5. Endorses the nominations of the UNESCO Global Geoparks decided upon by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council at its second statutory meeting, held in Guanzhaicun, China, on 16 and 17 September 2017.

(204 EX/SR.6)

8 Draft action plan for a comprehensive review of the Memory of the World Programme (204 EX/8; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 202 EX/Decision 15,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/8,
3. Recognizing the universal value of the Memory of the World Programme (MoW),
4. Expresses its appreciation to the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme (MoW) for its work on the review of the MoW Programme;
5. Takes note with appreciation of the proposed action plan, and invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 205th session an updated action plan taking into account the discussions held at its 204th session;
6. Requests the Director-General to promote more consultation with the Member States on the Memory of the World Programme (MoW) review process, in the spirit of dialogue, taking into account the work conducted by the Programme's International Advisory Committee.

(204 EX/SR.6)

9 UNESCO Prizes (204 EX/9 Rev.; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 24 EX/Decision 6.9, 114 EX/Decision 5.3.2, and 162 EX/Decision 3.3.4,
2. Taking into consideration 191 EX/Decision 12 and 196 EX/Decision 12 on the adoption and implementation of the Revised Overall Strategy for UNESCO Prizes and its Constituent Criteria, as well as the recommendations contained in the evaluation of UNESCO prizes by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) (document IOS/EVS/PI/114),
3. Having examined document 204 EX/9 concerning the proposed renewal of the UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science, and its Annex I containing proposed amendments to the Statutes of the Prize,
4. Takes note of the Financial Regulations of the Special Account for the UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science as set out in Annex II of document 204 EX/9;
5. Decides to renew the UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science for a period of six years, and approves the amended Statutes of the Prize, which are in conformity with the Standard Model Text for Statutes as approved by 191 EX/Decision 12.

(204 EX/SR.6)

INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

Category 1 institutes and centres

10 Report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) on the activities of the Institute (204 EX/10; 204 EX/37)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article V.1 (e) of the Statutes of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) (30 C/Resolution 44), and 201 EX/Decision 12,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/10,
3. Also recalling the important role given to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) in advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and especially the Education 2030 Framework for Action so as to provide comparable data for education, emphasizes the Institute's role as the lead UNESCO agency responsible for monitoring Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) through producing comparable education indicators cross-nationally, and by working with partners to develop new indicators, statistical approaches and monitoring tools to better assess progress towards the international education targets;
4. Reiterates the SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee recommendation to advocate in favour of the investment case for Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) monitoring and data collection in an amount of \$280 million per year, as estimated by the Technical Cooperation Group, noting that the Steering Committee also called for countries, donors, United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders to work in a coordinated manner, building on agreed responsibilities and shared cost;
5. Welcomes the significant achievements of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), despite the extreme budgetary constraints, and also welcomes the Director-General's

proposal in document 204 EX/20 Part II.B Corr. to provide immediate financial reinforcement to UIS in an amount of \$2 million;

6. Encourages Member States to increase financial support to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), in recognition of its leading role in Sustainable Development Goal measurement across the United Nations, especially in the field of education;
7. Invites the Director-General to continue her fundraising efforts in order to secure additional funding and support for the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS);
8. Invites the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) to report to it at its 206th session.

(204 EX/SR.6)

11 Management of category 1 institutes (204 EX/11 and Corr.; 204 EX/35)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 99, 37 C/Resolution 14, 194 EX/Decision 7, 196 EX/Decision 5.IV.A, 197 EX/Decision 15, 38 C/Resolution 10, 201 EX/Decision 11 and 202 EX/Decision 17,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/11 and Corr.,
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for her efforts to improve the management of the education-related category 1 institutes, in line with the recommendations of UNESCO's Internal Oversight Service (IOS) and the External Auditor and within the context of the governance reform exercise;
4. Takes note of the analysis of the safeguards in place at each of the category 1 institutes and of the analysis of the risks for the performance and financial sustainability of each institute implied by the modifications to their statutes as proposed in Annex IV to document 202 EX/17;
5. Requests the Director-General to strengthen efforts to promote, through resource mobilization, appropriate funding for category 1 institutes so that they are able to accomplish their mission in the framework of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the standard-setting work of the Organization in the follow-up to conventions and recommendations;
6. Strongly appeals to the Director-General and the Member States, including the regional groups and host countries, to make all possible efforts to provide further core funding to the category 1 institutes with a view to ensuring their financial sustainability;
7. Encourages the continuation of consultations between UNESCO Headquarters and category 1 institutes, including non-education-related institutes;
8. Invites the governing bodies of the category 1 institutes to implement, as appropriate, the relevant recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO, as endorsed by the General Conference at its 39th session (39 C/Resolution 87);
9. Also requests the Director-General to submit a final report to it at its 207th session on improving the management of the education-related category 1 institutes, with a view to its transmission to the General Conference at its 40th session.

(204 EX/SR.6)

Category 2 institutes and centres

12 Follow-up to the review of the management framework for UNESCO category 2 institutes and centres (204 EX/12; 204 EX/35)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 37 C/Resolution 93 and document 37 C/18 Part I,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/12,
3. Takes note of the main findings and recommendations of the UNESCO Internal Oversight Service's (IOS) 2017 audit of the management framework for UNESCO's category 2 institutes and centres (IOS/AUD/2017/04.Rev.);
4. Expresses concern that more than two-thirds of category 2 institutes and centres are not operational, one half are not established and one quarter are inactive, have an obsolete or an expired agreement or do not fully align with UNESCO's programme objectives;
5. Also takes note of the recommendations for the improvement of the management framework for category 2 institutes and centres in line with the internal audit report (IOS/AUD/2017/04.Rev.);
6. Welcomes the Director-General's proposed follow-up actions to improve the management framework for UNESCO's category 2 institutes and centres in line with the recommendations formulated by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) in its audit report (IOS/AUD/2017/04.Rev.), in consultation with Member States;
7. Requests the Director-General to report to it at its 205th session on the progress made in this regard.

(204 EX/SR.6)

13 Reviews and renewals of category 2 institutes and centres (204 EX/13 Parts I and Part II Rev.; 204 EX/35)

13.I

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 32 C/Resolution 11 and 37 C/Resolution 93,
2. Taking into account document 37 C/18 Part I, its Annex and the attachments thereto,
3. Having examined document 204 EX/13 Part I,
4. Notes the Director-General's recommendation that the designation of the Regional Centre for Educational Planning (RCEP) (United Arab Emirates) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) be renewed;
5. Takes note of the draft agreement between the Government of the United Arab Emirates and UNESCO regarding the Regional Centre for Educational Planning (RCEP);
6. Invites both the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the Regional Centre for Educational Planning (RCEP) to implement the recommendations made in the evaluation report referred to in document 204 EX/13 Part I;

7. Decides to renew the designation of the Regional Centre for Educational Planning (RCEP) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
8. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

(204 EX/SR.6)

13.II

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 33, 36 C/Resolution 20, 37 C/Resolution 93 and document 179 EX/7,
2. Taking into account document 37 C/18 Part I, its Annex and the attachments thereto, and 171 EX/Decision 23,
3. Having examined document 204 EX/13 Part II Rev.,
4. Notes the Director-General's recommendation that the designation of the International Research and Training Centre for Science and Technology Strategy (CISTRAT) (China) and the Asia-Pacific Centre for Ecohydrology (APCE) (Indonesia) as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) be renewed;
5. Confirms that the International Research and Training Centre for Science and Technology Strategy (CISTRAT) (China) and the Asia-Pacific Centre for Ecohydrology (APCE) (Indonesia) have performed satisfactorily as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
6. Decides to renew the designation of the International Research and Training Centre for Science and Technology Strategy (CISTRAT) (China) and the Asia-Pacific Centre for Ecohydrology (APCE) (Indonesia) as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
7. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreements;
8. Also taking into account the fact that the agreement between the Government of Colombia and UNESCO for the establishment of the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management for Latin America and the Caribbean, signed on 28 September 2007, never entered into force,
9. Also notes that, in August 2017, the Government of Colombia expressly renounced the establishment of the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management for Latin America and the Caribbean as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

(204 EX/SR.6)

14 Establishment in China of an international centre for the UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) (204 EX/14; 204 EX/35 and Corr.)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 37 C/Resolution 93, 39 C/Resolution 12, and document 37 C/18 Part I, its Annex and the attachments thereto,

2. Taking note of the important contributions of category 2 institutes and centres to UNESCO's programme priorities, particularly their potential international or regional impact for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4),
3. Recognizing the important role of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project network (ASPnet) in contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4),
4. Welcoming the proposal of China to establish in Sanya, China, an international centre for the UNESCO Associated Schools Project network (ASPnet) (ICUA) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2),
5. Also taking note of the observations and conclusions of the feasibility study contained in document 204 EX/14,
6. Deems the proposal to establish an international centre for the UNESCO Associated Schools Project network (ASPnet) (ICUA) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) in line with the revised integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
7. Approves the establishment in Sanya, China, of the International Centre for the UNESCO Associated Schools Project network (ASPnet) (ICUA) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), and authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

(204 EX/SR.6)

[15 Establishment in Ecuador of the International Centre of Advanced Communication Studies for Latin America (CIESPAL) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2)]

This item was postponed to the 205th session of the Executive Board: see the footnote in document 204 EX/1 Rev.

PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING

16 39 C/5 implementation plan (204 EX/16; 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/37)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling documents 39 C/5 (Draft), 39 C/6 and Add., 39 C/Resolutions and 202 EX/Decision 19,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/16 and 204 EX/PG.INF,
3. Endorses the 39 C/5 implementation plan presenting the programmatic elements adjusted to the revised integrated biennial budget (2018-2019) of \$1.22 billion based on a regular programme budget of \$595.2 million;
4. Requests the Director-General to publish document 39 C/5 Approved – Programme and Budget 2018-2021 on the basis of the elements presented in the online advance version.

(204 EX/SR.6)

MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

- 17 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon** (204 EX/CR/HR and Addenda; 204 EX/CR/2; 204 EX/3 PRIV. (Draft) and Add. and Corr.)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject in private meeting.

(204 EX/SR.5)

- 18 Implementation of standard-setting instruments** (204 EX/18 and Corr.; 204 EX/33)

18.I General monitoring

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1, 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 32 C/Resolution 77, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21, 175 EX/Decision 28, 176 EX/Decision 33, 177 EX/Decision 35, 34 C/Resolution 87, 196 EX/Decision 20, 199 EX/Decision 14.I, 200 EX/Decision 16.I, 201 EX/Decision 19.I and 202 EX/Decision 24.I relating to the first aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR), which concerns the implementation of standard-setting instruments,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/18 Part I, and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (204 EX/33),
3. Urges all Member States, once again, to fulfil their legal obligations under Article VIII of the Constitution of UNESCO regarding periodic reports on the action taken upon the conventions and recommendations;
4. Takes note of the timetable of work of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) for 2018-2021 contained in Annex I to document 204 EX/18 Part I, on the understanding that this timetable may be subject to further adjustments;
5. Also takes note of the timetable for submission of Member States' reports on measures taken to implement the conventions and recommendations for the period 2018-2019, contained in Annex II to document 204 EX/18 Part I;
6. Requests the Director-General to continue to ensure the implementation of the legal framework concerning standard-setting instruments, as adopted at its 177th session and amended at its 196th session, by the programme sectors and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), which have responsibility for the conventions and recommendations monitored by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR);
7. Decides to continue consideration of this matter at its 205th session.

(204 EX/SR.5)

18.II Implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training – preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations under Article VIII of UNESCO's Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States

and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,

2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Also recalling 38 C/Resolution 14,
4. Having examined document 204 EX/18 Part II and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (204 EX/33),
5. Underlining the importance of the 2015 Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training as a means to support the implementation and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Education 2030, particularly targets 4.3 and 4.4,
6. Invites the Director-General to include a question on the obstacles related to the ratification of the 1989 Convention on Technical and Vocational Education in the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training, as annexed to document 204 EX/18 Part II;
7. Approves the guidelines as complemented by paragraph 6 above;
8. Requests the Director-General to invite Member States to submit their reports on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training;
9. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 207th session the first consolidated report on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 40th session.

(204 EX/SR.5)

18.III Implementation of the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist – preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations under Article VIII of UNESCO's Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,
2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Also recalling 38 C/Resolution 95,
4. Having examined document 204 EX/18 Part III and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (204 EX/33),

5. Underlining the importance of strengthening synergies in monitoring the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist and the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions as instruments that promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially artistic freedom and artists' social and economic rights as well as gender equality,
6. Invites Member States to consider the possibility of financially supporting the re-designed UNESCO-Aschberg Programme for Artists and Cultural Professionals to enable the Secretariat to continue its efforts to enhance synergies in the implementation and monitoring of the two instruments referred to in paragraph 5 above;
7. Approves the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the implementation of the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist, as annexed to document 204 EX/18 Part III and amended in the light of the discussions during the meeting of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR);
8. Requests the Director-General to invite Member States to submit their reports on the implementation of the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist by 30 October 2018;
9. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 207th session the fourth consolidated report on the implementation of the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 40th session.

(204 EX/SR.5)

18.IV Implementation of the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education – preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations under Article VIII of UNESCO's Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,
2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Also recalling 38 C/Resolution 93,
4. Further recalling 202 EX/Decision 24.V by which it requested the Director-General to submit to it at its 204th session draft guidelines for reporting on the implementation of the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education,
5. Having examined document 204 EX/18 Part IV and Corr. as well as the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (204 EX/33),
6. Underlining the importance of the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education as a means to support the implementation and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Education 2030, and to address interregional issues relating to recognition of qualifications and quality assurance in the global context,
7. Approves the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the implementation of the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and

Qualifications in Higher Education, as annexed to document 204 EX/18 Part IV and amended in the light of the discussions during the meeting of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR);

8. Requests the Director-General to invite Member States to submit their reports on the implementation of the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education;
9. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 207th session the next consolidated report on the implementation of the 1993 Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 40th session.

(204 EX/SR.5)

18.V Implementation of the 2003 Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace – preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations under Article VIII of UNESCO's Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,
2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Further recalling 38 C/Resolution 97,
4. Having examined document 204 EX/18 Part V and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (204 EX/33),
5. Underlining the importance of the 2003 Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace as a means to provide the basis for the promotion of linguistic diversity and multilingualism as a key pillar in fostering pluralistic, equitable, open and inclusive knowledge societies,
6. Approves the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the implementation of the 2003 Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, as annexed to document 204 EX/18 Part V and amended in the light of the discussions during the meeting of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR);
7. Requests the Director-General to invite Member States to submit their reports on the implementation of the 2003 Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace;
8. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 206th session the fourth consolidated report on the implementation of the 2003 Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 40th session with a view to its possible updating.

(204 EX/SR.5)

18.VI Implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form – preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations under Article VIII of UNESCO's Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,
2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Also recalling 38 C/Resolution 55,
4. Having examined document 204 EX/18 Part VI and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (204 EX/33),
5. Underlining the importance of the 2015 Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form,
6. Approves the questionnaire for the preparation of reports by Member States on the implementation of the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form (2015), as annexed to document 204 EX/18 Part VI;
7. Requests the Director-General to invite Member States to submit their reports on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form;
8. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 206th session the first consolidated report on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage, including in Digital Form, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 40th session.

(204 EX/SR.5)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

[19 Financial regulations of special accounts]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda: see the footnote in document 204 EX/1 Rev.

20 Collection of Member States' contributions, cash-flow implications and contingency plan (204 EX/20 Part I; 204 EX/20 Part II.A and Corr. (English only); 204 EX/20 Part II.B and Corr. and Corr.2 (French only); 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/35)

20.I Report by the Director-General on the collection of Member States' contributions

20.I.A Member States' assessed contributions in arrears

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined section A of document 204 EX/20 Part I,

2. Reaffirming that the prompt and full payment of contributions is an obligation incumbent on Member States under the Constitution and Article 5.5 of the Financial Regulations of the Organization,
3. Recalling 39 C/Resolution 69,
4. Also recalling recommendation 8 of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO, endorsed by the General Conference at its 39th session (Annex I to 39 C/20),
5. Takes note of the preliminary proposals contained in document 204 EX/20 Part I, which shall constitute an input into the background document intended to enrich the discussion on the strengthening of the mechanism for the management of assessed contributions in arrears;
6. Requests the Director-General to inform the Member States of the proposals under consideration, and to submit to it at its 205th session, when submitting the background document requested by 39 C/Resolution 69, a report taking into account the debates held during its 204th session and the consultations which will take place with the External Auditor and Member States with a view to any decisions that the General Conference may wish to take during its 40th session.

(204 EX/SR.6)

20.I.B Withdrawal of Israel from the Organization

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined section B of document 204 EX/20 Part I,
2. Takes note of the information contained therein with a view to preparing the decisions that the General Conference will take at its 40th session regarding the allocation of resources as a result of the withdrawal of Israel and the United States of America from the Organization.

(204 EX/SR.6)

20.II.A Report by the Director-General on the cash-flow implications

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/20 Part II.A and Corr.,
2. Reaffirms that the prompt and full payment of contributions is an obligation incumbent on Member States under the Constitution and Article 5.5 of the Financial Regulations of the Organization;
3. Expresses its gratitude to Member States that have settled their contributions, those that have paid their contributions promptly, those that have paid their contributions in advance, and those that have made efforts to reduce their arrears;
4. Expresses concern that a large number of Member States have not made their contributions in full, and appeals to those Member States that are behind with the payment of their regular contributions and instalments under payment plans to pay their arrears without delay;

5. Requests Member States to make their best efforts to provide the Director-General with information on the probable date and amount of payment of contributions so as to facilitate the cash-flow planning of the Organization.

(204 EX/SR.6)

20.II.B Report by the Director-General on the status of the carry forward of the remaining unspent regular budget funds under the 38 C/5 expenditure plan, and the proposals for use of the unspent balance.

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 39 C/Resolution 69,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/20 Part II.B and Corr.,
3. Takes note that a total amount of \$27.5 million became available as unspent funds under the 38 C/5 expenditure plan, including the amount of \$19.8 million frozen as a result of the contingency plan;
4. Approves the partial utilization of unspent funds under the 38 C/5 expenditure plan in 2018-2019 in an amount of \$6.9 million as proposed in section B.I of document 204 EX/20 Part II.B;
5. Also approves the utilization of unspent funds under the 38 C/5 expenditure plan in 2018-2019 in the amount of \$2.1 million for UNESCO's strategic transformation process as outlined in section B.II of document 204 EX/20 Part II.B;
6. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 205th session a detailed proposal on the utilization of the remaining \$18.5 million in unspent funds under the 38 C/5 expenditure plan for UNESCO's strategic transformation and for programme reinforcement;
7. Also requests the Director-General to provide to it, in periodic status reports, details of the utilization of the unspent funds under the 38 C/5 expenditure plan.

(204 EX/SR.6)

21 New audits by the External Auditor (204 EX/21 Parts I-V; 204 EX/21 Part VI and Addenda; 204 EX/21.INF-INF.6; 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/35)

21.I Audit report on the UNESCO field office network

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 204 EX/21 Part I and 204 EX/21.INF,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report to it at its 206th session on progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations contained in document 204 EX/21 Part I in the report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor and the implications thereof, in the context of UNESCO's strategic transformation proposed by the Director-General.

(204 EX/SR.6)

21.II Audit report on the UNESCO Office in Lima

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 204 EX/21 Part II and 204 EX/21.INF.2,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations contained in document 204 EX/21 Part II in the report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(204 EX/SR.6)

21.III Audit report on the UNESCO Office in Jakarta

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 204 EX/21 Part III and 204 EX/21.INF.3,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 204 EX/21 Part III in the report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(204 EX/SR.6)

21.IV Audit report on the UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 204 EX/21 Part IV and 204 EX/21.INF.4,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 204 EX/21 Part IV in the report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(204 EX/SR.6)

21.V Audit report on UNESCO procurement

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 204 EX/21 Part V and 204 EX/21.INF.5,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Expresses its concern about the numerous anomalies identified in the report of the External Auditor, and invites the Director-General to take the appropriate measures to bring them to an end;

4. Also invites the Director-General to present a report to it at its 206th session on progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations made by the External Auditor in document 204 EX/21 Part V.

(204 EX/SR.6)

21.VI Audit report on UNESCO's internal human resources management processes

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 204 EX/21 Part VI and 204 EX/INF.6,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations contained in document 204 EX/21 Part VI in the report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(204 EX/SR.6)

22 Internal Oversight Service (IOS): annual report 2017 (204 EX/22; 204 EX/22.INF; 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/37)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 160 EX/Decision 6.5 and 164 EX/Decision 6.10,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/22 and 204 EX/22.INF,
3. Welcomes the role of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) in the functioning of the Organization;
4. Appreciates the advice and recommendations provided to the Director-General by the Oversight Advisory Committee (OAC) in document 204 EX/22.INF, and requests the Director-General to ensure the full and timely implementation of all recommendations accepted by the Organization;
5. Also requests the Director-General to ensure that all Internal Oversight Service (IOS) recommendations are fully implemented within a reasonable timeframe and that the discussions held at the 204th session of the Executive Board and at the meeting of the Preparatory Group are taken into account;
6. Further requests the Director-General to maintain an effective oversight function as set forth in the respective revised Internal Oversight Service (IOS) internal audit and evaluation policies, and to continue efforts to reach the funding target of allocating 3% of the operational or activity budget as the minimum level of investment in evaluation (DG/Note/16/12) with the exception of evaluations performed by the donors in self-benefiting activities, as determined in 201 EX/Decision 22;
7. Requests the Director-General to report annually on Internal Oversight Service (IOS) strategies and activities, significant oversight recommendations, their impact, and the response by the Director-General as well as actions taken to address and implement these recommendations;
8. Also requests the Director-General to continue vigorously implementing the recommendations of the 2015 internal audit on recruitment, taking into account the recommendations of the External Auditor on UNESCO's internal human resources

management processes, particularly those aimed at speeding up the recruitment process and making it more efficient, which will allow the Organization to recruit the talents it needs to advance the 2030 Agenda;

9. Takes note of the indicative work programmes for audit and evaluation contained in Annex II to document 204 EX/22 and invites the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) to consider adjusting the timetable and work plan in order to use the results of evaluations for the preparation of UNESCO reports presented to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;
10. Also invites the Internal Oversight Service (IOS), in the context of its audit of revenue-generating activities, to analyse the institutional framework of the provision of rooms to external organizers free of charge, and to evaluate the return on investment for the Organization;
11. Recalling 199 EX/Decision 16, requests the Director-General to ensure that the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) audit plan contained in Annex II to document 204 EX/22 is fully funded within the budget under document 39 C/5.

(204 EX/SR.6)

RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS

23 Relations with non-governmental partners (204 EX/23 Rev.; 204 EX/23.INF Rev.; 204 EX/34)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 29 C/Resolution 64, 36 C/Resolution 108, 38 C/Resolution 71, 202 EX/Decision 37, 39 C/Resolution 42 and 203 EX/Decision 12,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/23 Rev. and 204 EX/23.INF.Rev.,
3. Takes note of the Director-General's decisions relating to the admission to consultative status of the three non-governmental organizations listed in paragraph 16 of document 204 EX/23 Rev., and the establishment of official relations with the two foundations listed in paragraph 17 of document 204 EX/23 Rev.;
4. Considers that effective interaction between Member States and civil society is a key element in ensuring a comprehensive approach to many issues within UNESCO's mandate and amplifying the reach of its message;
5. Also considers that the transparency of the interaction between UNESCO and non-governmental organizations from the beginning of their relationship is the fundamental basis of the qualitative dialogue between the Member States and NGOs;
6. Invites the Secretariat, to the extent of available human and financial resources, to strengthen, as appropriate, interaction between the Member States and NGOs on specific issues under the implementation of the programme, and to provide Member States with easier access to the network of NGO partners through drawing up as exhaustive lists as possible of NGOs in each sector and through regular reporting of their activities in the Analytical Programme Implementation Report (APIR), and invites Member States to support all efforts to that end;
7. Invites the Director-General to conduct wide-ranging, in-depth consultations with all Member States, National Commissions and the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, on

the possibility of improving the modalities of dialogue between Member States and NGOs, including by reinforcing existing modalities in this regard, and also invites her to formulate new proposals accordingly, on the basis of total transparency and with full respect to the intergovernmental nature of UNESCO, to be presented to it at its 205th session.

(204 EX/SR.5)

24 Draft memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and UNESCO (204 EX/24; 204 EX/37)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/24,
2. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the memorandum of understanding between UNESCO and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) (2018-2022) as annexed to document 204 EX/24;
3. Requests the Director-General to report on the activities carried out in the framework of this memorandum of understanding in her statutory reports on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference.

(204 EX/SR.6)

GENERAL MATTERS

25 Occupied Palestine (204 EX/25 and Add. and Corr.; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered documents 204 EX/25 and Add. and Corr., and the annex to this decision,
2. Recalling its previous decisions concerning “Occupied Palestine”,
3. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 205th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a follow-up report thereon.



ANNEX

Executive Board Two hundred and fourth session

204 EX/PX/DR.25.2
PARIS, 6 April 2018
Original: English

PROGRAMME AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMISSION (PX)

Item 25 OCCUPIED PALESTINE

DRAFT DECISION

Submitted by: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar and Sudan

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/25,
2. Recalling the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions (1949) and their additional Protocols (1977), the 1907 Hague Regulations on Land Warfare, the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and its additional Protocols, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls at the request of Jordan on the World Heritage List (1981) and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1982), and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO on the protection of cultural heritage, as well as resolutions and decisions of UNESCO relating to Jerusalem, also recalling previous UNESCO decisions relating to the reconstruction and development of Gaza as well as UNESCO decisions on the two Palestinian sites in Al-Khalil/Hebron and in Bethlehem,
3. Affirming that nothing in the current decision, which aims, *inter alia*, at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of Palestine and the distinctive character of East Jerusalem, shall in any way affect the relevant Security Council and United Nations resolutions and decisions on the legal status of Palestine and Jerusalem, including United Nations Security Council resolution 2334 (2016),

25.1 Jerusalem

4. Reaffirming the importance of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls for the three monotheistic religions,
5. Bearing in mind that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purport to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and in particular the “basic law” on Jerusalem, are null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,
6. Also recalling the thirteen decisions of the Executive Board: 185 EX/Decision 14, 187 EX/Decision 11, 189 EX/Decision 8, 190 EX/Decision 13, 192 EX/Decision 11, 194 EX/Decision 5.I.D, 195 EX/Decision 9, 196 EX/Decision 26, 197 EX/Decision 32, 199 EX/Decision 19.1, 200 EX/Decision 25, 201 EX/Decision 30 and 202 EX/Decision 38 and the eight World Heritage Committee decisions: 34 COM/7A.20, 35 COM/7A.22, 36 COM/7A.23, 37 COM/7A.26, 38 COM/7A.4, 39 COM/7A.27, 40 COM/7A.13, and 41 COM/7A.36,
7. Regrets the failure of the Israeli occupying authorities to cease the persistent excavations, tunnelling, works and projects in East Jerusalem, particularly in and around the Old City of Jerusalem, which are illegal under international law and reiterates its request to Israel, the occupying Power, to prohibit all violations which are not in conformity with the provisions of the relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;

8. Also regrets the Israeli refusal to implement the UNESCO request to the Director-General to appoint a permanent representative to be stationed in East Jerusalem to report on a regular basis about all aspects covering the fields of competence of UNESCO in East Jerusalem, and reiterates its request to the Director-General to appoint, as soon as possible, the above-mentioned representative;
9. Stresses again the urgent need to implement the UNESCO reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls, and invites the Director-General and the World Heritage Centre to exert all possible efforts, in line with their mandates and in conformity with the provisions of the relevant UNESCO conventions, decisions and resolutions, to ensure the prompt implementation of the mission and, in case of non-implementation, to propose possible effective measures to ensure its implementation;

25.II Reconstruction and development of Gaza

10. Deeply deplores the ongoing military developments around the Gaza Strip and their heavy toll of civilian casualties as well as their continuous negative impact in the fields of competence of UNESCO;
11. Also deplores the continuous Israeli closure of the Gaza Strip, which harmfully affects the free and sustained movement of personnel, students and humanitarian relief items and requests Israel to immediately ease this closure;
12. Thanks the Director-General for initiatives that have already been implemented in Gaza in the fields of education, culture and youth and for the safety of media professionals, calls upon her to continue her active involvement in the reconstruction of Gaza's damaged educational and cultural components and reiterates, in this regard, its request to her to upgrade the UNESCO Antenna in Gaza and to organize, as soon as possible, an information meeting on the current situation in Gaza in the fields of competence of UNESCO and on the outcome of the projects conducted by UNESCO;

25.III The two Palestinian sites of *Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi/Tomb of the Patriarchs* in Al-Khalil/Hebron and the *Bilal Ibn Rabah Mosque/Rachel's Tomb* in Bethlehem

13. Reaffirms that the two concerned sites located in Al-Khalil/Hebron and in Bethlehem are an integral part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and shares the conviction affirmed by the international community that the two sites are of religious significance for Judaism, Christianity and Islam;
14. Deplores the ongoing Israeli excavations, works, construction of private roads for settlers and of a Wall inside the Old City of Al-Khalil/Hebron which are illegal under international law and harmfully affect the authenticity and integrity of the site, and the subsequent denial of freedom of movement and freedom of access to places of worship and asks Israel, the occupying Power, to end all violations which are not in conformity with the provisions of relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;
15. Regrets the visual impact of the Wall on the site of Bilal Ibn Rabah Mosque/Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem as well as the strict ban on access of Palestinian Christian and Muslim worshippers to the site, and demands that the Israeli authorities restore the original character of the landscape around the site and lift the ban on access to it;

25.IV

16. Decides to include these matters under an item entitled "Occupied Palestine" in the agenda at its 205th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(204 EX/SR.6)

26 Implementation of 39 C/Resolution 55 and 202 EX/Decision 39 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories (204 EX/26 and Corr.; 204 EX/25 and Add. and Corr.; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered documents 204 EX/25 and Add. and Corr. and 204 EX/26 and Corr., and the annex to this decision,

2. Recalling its previous decisions concerning “Educational and Cultural Institutions in the Occupied Arab Territories”,
3. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 205th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a follow-up report thereon.

ANNEX



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board Two hundred and fourth session

204 EX/PX/DR.26.3
PARIS, 6 April 2018
Original: English

PROGRAMME AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMISSION (PX)

Item 26 IMPLEMENTATION OF 39 C/RESOLUTION 55 AND 202 EX/DECISION 39 CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

DRAFT DECISION

Submitted by: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar and Sudan

26.1 OCCUPIED PALESTINE

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 185 EX/Decision 36 and 38 C/Resolution 72 as well as Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with regard to the right to education, Articles 24, 50 and 94 of the Fourth Geneva Convention with regard to the denial of the right of children to education, as well as the Hague Convention (1954) and its additional Protocols and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), also recalling the International Court of Justice’s Advisory Opinion of 9 July 2004 on the “Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory”,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/25 and 204 EX/26,
3. Committed to the safeguarding of monuments, works of art, manuscripts, books and other historical and cultural properties to be protected in the event of conflict, as well as the safeguarding of schools and all educational facilities,
4. Deplores the damaging impact of the military confrontations on the fields of competence of UNESCO in the Gaza Strip, particularly education and cultural institutions, and calls for ending measures that prevent the reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of schools in the Gaza Strip;
5. Deeply concerned by the Israeli army violations against Palestinian universities and schools, demands that the Israeli authorities immediately halt actions that violate UNESCO principles and the provisions of the world declaration for education for all (1990) and reaffirms, in this regard, that schools, universities and cultural heritage sites enjoy special protection and should not be targeted;

6. Expresses its growing concern about the harmful impact of the Wall on the activities of educational and cultural institutions, and demands, in this regard, that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, including the construction of the Wall and other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian territory, including in and around East Jerusalem and the Cremisan Monastery in the Bethlehem Governorate, which harm the social fabric of Palestinian society and prevent Palestinian school children and students from exercising fully their right to education;
7. Notes with deep concern the Israeli censorship of the Palestinian curricula of schools and universities in East Jerusalem, and urges the Israeli authorities to immediately halt this censorship;
8. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of all concerned Member States and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to UNESCO's action in Palestine as well as for building of schools for Palestinian children such as the school of Tana, near Nablus and the two schools in Khan Al-Ahmar and in Abu Nuwar near Jerusalem, and appeals to them to continue assisting UNESCO in this endeavour;
9. Deeply regrets the destruction by the Israeli authorities of schools, including the school in Abu Nuwar and the school in Tana, and calls on the Israeli authorities to halt plans for further demolition, including of the school in Khan Al-Ahmar;
10. Thanks the Director-General for the results that have been obtained in favour of the protection, reconstruction, rehabilitation and restoration of the Palestinian archaeological sites and cultural heritage, invites her to reinforce her action in this regard and to strengthen UNESCO's assistance to the Palestinian educational and cultural institutions in order to address the needs for capacity building in UNESCO's fields of competence by, *inter alia*, expanding the financial assistance programme for Palestinian students and school children, and requests her to organize, as soon as possible, the ninth meeting of the Joint UNESCO-Palestine Committee;

26.II OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN

11. Also invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts she is making to preserve the human, social and cultural fabric of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of its decisions;
 - (b) to undertake efforts to offer appropriate curricula, and to provide more grants and adequate assistance to the educational and cultural institutions of the occupied Syrian Golan;
 - (c) to dispatch an expert to assess and evaluate the needs of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan and report to her before the 205th session of the Executive Board;

26.III

12. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 205th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(204 EX/SR.6)

27 Dates of the 205th session and provisional list of matters to be examined by the Executive Board (204 EX/27.INF; 204 EX/27.INF.2)

205th session

(Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies)

(3 to 17 October 2018)

(11 working days / 15 calendar days)

Bureau (BUR)	Wednesday 3, Friday 5 and Friday 12 October
Special Committee (SP)	Thursday 4 October
Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR)	Wednesday 3 (afternoon) to Friday 5 October
Committee on Non-Governmental Partners (NGP)	Friday 5 October
Plenary meetings	Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 October, then Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 October
Commissions	Wednesday 10 to Monday 15 October

N.B.: School holidays in the host country are scheduled from Monday 22 October to Sunday 4 November 2018 (Zone C: Paris and suburbs).

Preparatory Group: Tuesday 18 and Wednesday 19 September 2018

The Executive Board took note of the provisional list of matters to be examined by it at its 205th session contained in document 204 EX/27.INF.2.

(204 EX/SR.6)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

28 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) beyond 2019 (204 EX/28; 204 EX/PG.INF; 204 EX/DG.INF; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 69/211 “Follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014): Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development”, 192 EX/Decision 6 and 37 C/Resolution 12 on the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) as the follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD), as well as the adoption of document 39 C/5 at the 39th session of the General Conference,
2. Also recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/209 “United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)” and United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/222 “Education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which invites UNESCO to continue its mandated role to lead the Education 2030 Agenda, in particular through the SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee, reaffirms UNESCO as the lead agency for education for sustainable development (ESD) and affirms that ESD is “an integral element of the Sustainable Development Goal on quality education and a key enabler of all the other Sustainable Development Goals”,

3. Further recalling the Aichi-Nagoya Declaration on Education for Sustainable Development, adopted at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) (2014, Aichi-Nagoya, Japan),
4. Reaffirms that education for sustainable development (ESD) is a key instrument for the implementation of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
5. Takes note with appreciation of the coordination and implementation undertaken by UNESCO thus far of the Global Action Programme on ESD;
6. Calls upon all Member States to strengthen further their commitment to the implementation of the Global Action Programme on ESD;
7. Requests the Director-General to develop, in full alignment with UNESCO's four-year programme (39 C/5) and the 2030 Agenda as well as other relevant international commitments and in close consultation with Member States and other stakeholders, a draft framework for the further implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD) based on the overall approach that ESD is an integral part of target 4.7 and contributes to the implementation of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to be put in place after 2019 when the current phase of the Global Action Programme on ESD comes to an end;
8. Also requests the Director-General to initiate a review of the implementation of the Global Action Programme on ESD to ensure that the proposed framework builds upon the outcomes and lessons learnt from the Global Action Programme on ESD;
9. Calls upon Member States and other stakeholders to engage fully in the consultations to be conducted by UNESCO on a draft framework for the further implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD);
10. Further requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 206th session a draft framework for the further implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD), with a view to submitting it for approval to the General Conference at its 40th session and for acknowledgement to the United Nations General Assembly at its 74th session in 2019, so as to ensure seamless follow-up to the Global Action Programme on ESD and continued UNESCO leadership in ESD beyond 2019.

(204 EX/SR.6)

29 Eighth World Water Forum (204 EX/29; 204 EX/29.INF; 204 EX/DG.INF; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 39 C/Resolution 13,
2. Having examined documents 204 EX/29; 204 EX/29.INF and 204 EX/DG.INF,
3. Stressing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes a dedicated Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on water and sanitation (SDG 6) that aims to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”, and water-related targets of other SDGs,
4. Underscoring UNESCO's expertise in the implementation and promotion of water education policies and best practices, supported by its global network, which includes water-related centres under the auspices of UNESCO, UNESCO Chairs and the University Twinning and Networking Programme (UNITWIN),

5. Emphasizing that the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is the only intergovernmental programme of the United Nations system entirely devoted to water resources management, and to research, education and capacity building in the field of water,
6. Reiterating resolution XXII-7 of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), which requested the IHP Secretariat to provide support to Member States to build their institutional capacities, human resources and a sound basis in science capacity for the monitoring and implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 and of water-related targets of other SDGs,
7. Recognizing that the World Water Forum, since it first convened in Marrakesh, Morocco, in 1997, has contributed to international dialogue on water and has promoted local, national and regional action on integrated and sustainable water resources management worldwide,
8. Acknowledges the successful organization of the Eighth World Water Forum by the Government of Brazil and the World Water Council, contributing to establishing water as a priority at the global level;
9. Notes with appreciation the engagement of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in the preparation of the Eighth World Water Forum, in particular the thematic and regional processes;
10. Takes note of the Ministerial Declaration of the Eighth World Water Forum, “An urgent call for decisive action on water” and welcomes the Declaration’s recognition of the role of UNESCO in promoting the implementation and sharing of water education policies and best practices on water and sanitation, benefiting from existing international centres as well as from UNESCO’s expertise and networks, including the International Hydrological Programme (IHP);
11. Requests the Director-General to report on UNESCO’s contributions to the Eighth World Water Forum at the 23rd session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and the 205th session of the Executive Board;
12. Invites the Director-General to consider the relevant outcomes of the Eighth World Water Forum that are in the context of UNESCO’s four-year programme (39 C/5) and the Organization’s contributions to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 and other related SDGs, such as SDG 4;
13. Encourages Member States to contribute to the “IHP Fund for the Implementation of SDG 6”.

(204 EX/SR.6)

30 Invitations to intergovernmental meetings (category II) related to the preliminary draft of the global convention on the recognition of higher education qualifications
(204 EX/30, 204 EX/2)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 39 C/Resolution 81,
2. Having examined document 204 EX/30 and its annex,

3. Decides that:
 - (a) invitations to participate in intergovernmental meetings of experts (category II) to examine the draft global convention on the recognition of higher education qualifications in the light of the comments received from Member States and relevant stakeholders on the preliminary draft, will be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO;
 - (b) invitations to send observers to the intergovernmental meetings of experts (category II) will also be sent to the States mentioned in paragraph (b) of the annex to document 204 EX/30;
 - (c) invitations to send observers to the intergovernmental meetings of experts (category II) will be sent to the organizations of the United Nations system which are listed in paragraph (c) of the annex to document 204 EX/30;
 - (d) invitations to send observers to the intergovernmental meetings of experts (category II) will be sent to the organizations and institutions listed in paragraphs (d) and (e) of the annex to document 204 EX/30;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to send invitations to the entities listed in paragraph (f) of the annex to document 204 EX/30, and to any other entities she may deem useful for advancing the work of the intergovernmental meetings of experts (category II), notifying the Executive Board thereof.

(204 EX/SR.1)

31 The stages of UNESCO's strategic transformation (204 EX/31; 204 EX/37)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 204 EX/31,
2. Stresses the importance of continuing the ongoing reform process of the Organization to further enhance its programme delivery for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and to secure a lead role in the United Nations system within its fields of competence;
3. Underscores the importance of engaging Member States and their National Commissions in UNESCO's ongoing strategic transformation process;
4. Welcomes the efforts of the Director-General to deepen the ongoing reform process and takes note with interest of "The stages of UNESCO's strategic transformation" as presented by her in document 204 EX/31;
5. Also takes note with interest of the guiding principles of UNESCO's strategic transformation as proposed by the Director-General and calls for the strengthening of UNESCO's programmes and priorities, including the reinforcement of its normative, international cooperation and assistance role, the enhancement of its efficiency and the creation of new partnerships while reaffirming the intergovernmental nature of the Organization;
6. Reiterates the importance of the principles of transparency, inclusiveness, accountability, ethics and results-based management as core principles to be further embedded in UNESCO's strategic transformation;
7. Takes into account the extensive discussions on UNESCO's strategic transformation held during its 204th session;

8. Recognizes the need for additional information on the proposal for UNESCO's strategic transformation, including on clear objectives, steps for implementation, timelines, and a clear outline of the expected outcomes;
9. Invites the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Preparatory Group to include UNESCO's strategic transformation as an item on the provisional agenda of the Preparatory Group to ensure regular interactive consultations with the Secretariat until the 40th session of the General Conference, and decides to hold one special meeting of the Preparatory Group before 30 June 2018 dedicated to UNESCO's strategic transformation;
10. Requests the Director-General to submit to the Preparatory Group at its special meeting and to the Executive Board at its 205th session the following: updated and comprehensive information on strengthening the efficiency of the means of action, as indicated in paragraph 10 of document 204 EX/31 (Part 2 of UNESCO's strategic transformation), and a concept paper on the process of UNESCO's strategic transformation as indicated in paragraphs 11-15 of document 204 EX/31 (Part 3 of UNESCO's strategic transformation) including information on the advisory group and the scope of its mandate, taking duly into account the debate during its 204th session and past audit and evaluation reports, as well as strategic reviews and relevant recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO endorsed by the General Conference at its 39th session (39 C/Resolution 87);
11. Takes note of the breakdown for the budget envisioned to launch UNESCO's strategic transformation provided to it at its 204th session, annexed hereto, and its approval of the amount of \$2.1 million for UNESCO's strategic transformation in 204 EX/Decision 20.II.B.

ANNEX

Preliminary indicative estimates to launch UNESCO's strategic transformation

	\$'000
1. Communication review	200.0
2. Task force	\$'000
(a) Staff (3 staff x \$354,100) 21 months	1062.3
(b) Consultancy	120.0
(c) Supplies, etc.	21.3
	\$1203.6
3. Advisory group	\$'000
(a) Meetings at Headquarters (4 meetings) DSA and tickets	121.0
(b) Field visits (3 per region)	345.3
(c) Staff travel	95.2
(d) Consultants	100.0
(e) Interpretation	48.0
(f) Documents, etc.	30.0
	\$739.5
Total	\$2 143.1

32 Reviving the Mosul Spirit: the recovery of the city of Mosul through culture and education – the human dimension at the centre of Iraq’s recovery (204 EX/32; 204 EX/36)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 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, adopted by the General Conference at its 38th session (November 2015),
2. Also recalling the Appeal entitled “Protecting Culture and Promoting Cultural Pluralism: The Key to Lasting Peace”, endorsed and launched by the General Conference at its 39th session (November 2017),
3. Further recalling the recommendations of the International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq, organized by UNESCO and the Government of Iraq (UNESCO, February 2017),
4. Welcomes the launch by the Director-General of the initiative entitled “Reviving the Mosul Spirit: the recovery of the city of Mosul through culture and education” on the occasion of the Kuwait International Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq (Kuwait City, 12-14 February 2018);
5. Also welcomes the endorsement of the initiative entitled “Reviving the Mosul Spirit: the recovery of the city of Mosul through culture and education”, by Mr Haider al-Abadi, Prime Minister of Iraq, and Mr Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General;
6. Affirming that the city of Mosul embodies the values of Iraq’s cultural diversity and richness that need to be at the heart of Iraq’s recovery and reconstruction within their human dimension,
7. Also affirming that the initiative entitled “Reviving the Mosul Spirit: the recovery of the city of Mosul through culture and education” is aligned with UNESCO’s mandate to foster peace and cultural diversity in the recovery from conflicts and to prevent violent extremism, through an inclusive and integrated vision for recovery and reconstruction based on culture and education,
8. Calls on the UNESCO Member States to support the initiative entitled “Reviving the Mosul Spirit: the recovery of the city of Mosul through culture and education” and to contribute to its success at the policy, technical and financial levels.

(204 EX/SR.6)

PRIVATE MEETINGS

Announcement concerning the private meetings held on Monday 9 April and Monday 16 April 2018

At the private meetings held on Monday 9 April and Monday 16 April 2018, the Executive Board approved the summary records of its private meetings of the 202nd session and considered items **3** and **17** of its agenda.

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (204 EX/PRIV.1 and Add.; 204 EX/PRIV.2; 204 EX/PRIV.3; 204 EX/3.INF)

1. In accordance with Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General informed the Board of the general situation regarding staff members at grade D-1 and above and the decisions she had taken regarding appointments and extensions of contract of staff members at grade D-1 and above whose posts come under the regular programme of the Organization, including those of Deputy Director-General (DDG), Assistant Director-General for Education (ADG/ED), Assistant Director-General for Culture (ADG/CLT) and Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information (ADG/CI).
2. Furthermore, in compliance with Staff Regulation 4.5.3, adopted by the General Conference at its 38th session, the Director-General consulted the Executive Board on the contracts of the Legal Adviser and the Ethics Adviser.

(204 EX/SR.1 and 5)

17 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon (204 EX/CR/HR and Addenda; 204 EX/CR/2; 204 EX/3 PRIV. (Draft) and Add. and Corr.)

1. The Executive Board examined the report of its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations concerning the communications received by the Organization on the subject of cases and questions of alleged violations of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence.
2. The Executive Board took note of the Committee's report.

(204 EX/SR.5)