STATUTES OF THE MEMORY OF THE WORLD INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED REVISIONS

Current Statutes

Article 1

An International Advisory Committee of the "Memory of the World" Programme hereinafter termed "the Committee" (category V), is hereby established.

Recommended Revision

Article 1

An International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme, hereinafter termed "the Committee" (category V), is hereby established.

Its goal is to contribute to the mission of UNESCO by emphasizing the importance of documentary heritage as the primary means of knowledge creation, expression and communication, in order to promote sharing knowledge for greater understanding and dialogue, while striving always to promote peace.

Article 2

The Committee shall be responsible for advising the Organization on the planning and implementation of the "Memory of the World" Programme as a whole and for making recommendations on raising funds, allocating them to projects, placing elements of the documentary heritage on the "Memory of the World" Register and granting the "Memory of the World" label to selected projects, including those which are not receiving financial assistance from the programme. The Committee shall seek cooperation with competent international non-government organisations such as the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). It shall also examine the possibility of gaining access to this heritage by means of the most up-to-date technologies.

Article 2

The Committee shall be responsible for advising the Organization on the planning and implementation of the Memory of the World Programme as a whole, working in close collaboration with the UNESCO Secretariat and advising the Director-General on all aspects of the Programme, including:

- (a) Implementation of the 2015 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage including in digital form;
- (b) Raising awareness, especially amongst governments, relevant NGOs and professional associations, the United Nations and its agencies, of the threats to fragile, often unique, documentary heritage;
- (c) Implementation of measures and activities to preserve documentary heritage, past, present and future, seen to be at risk of loss;

- (d) Monitoring the global situation of documentary heritage preservation and preparing proposals for its improvement;
- (e) Research, together with training and educational programmes, for preserving and making accessible documentary heritage, including in electronic forms, especially in approaches suited to conditions in least developed areas;
- (f) Recommending documentary heritage for inscription in the International Memory of the World Register according to the Memory of the World General Guidelines;
- (g) Building partnerships, branding, and revenue opportunities to advance the Memory of the World Programme; and
- (h) Developing synergies and joint initiatives with other relevant UNESCO programmes.

Article 3

- 1. The Committee shall be composed of 14 members, appointed by the Director-General after consultation with the National Commissions of the States concerned, and serving in a personal capacity.
- 2. The term of office of members of the Committee shall be four years. It is renewable once. In the event of the resignation or death of a member of the Committee, the Director-General shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.
- 3. Every two years, half the membership of the Committee shall be renewed. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 above, when appointing the initial members of the Committee, the Director-General shall designate the seven whose term of office will expire on 31 December of the fourth year of their election, it being understood that the term of office of other members will expire on

Article 3

- 3.1. The Committee shall be composed of 14 members appointed by the Director-General after consultation with the National Commissions of the concerned Member States, and serving in a personal capacity, not as representatives of their respective States or any other affiliated entities. They will not seek or accept instructions from governments or other authorities.
- 3.2. The term of office of the members of the Committee shall be four years. It is renewable once. In the event of the resignation or incapacity of a member of the Committee, the Director-General shall appoint a replacement and determine the term of his or her membership.
- 3.3 Every two years, half the membership of the Committee shall be renewed.

- 31 December two years later.
- 4. The members of the Committee shall be chosen for their authority in the field of safeguarding of the documentary heritage, taking due account of geographical representation and in such a way as to represent the various disciplines and schools of thought prevalent in this field within Member States and in the main international professional organizations.
- 5. In addition to the 14 members mentioned above, the Director-General may invite to meetings of the Committee individuals whose duties and qualifications make them suitable for assisting the Committee in its task. They shall not have the right to vote.
- 3.4. The members of the Committee shall be chosen for their expertise in safeguarding documentary heritage, taking due account of geographical, cultural and gender representation, and in such a way as to represent the various disciplines and schools of thought prevalent in this field within Member States and in the main international professional organizations.
- 3.5. In addition to the 14 members mentioned in Article 3.1, the Director-General may invite to meetings of the Committee individuals whose duties and qualifications make them suitable for assisting the Committee in its task. They shall not have the right to vote.

Article 4

The Director-General shall convene the Committee in ordinary session once every two years and shall fix the date and place. She/ He may convene extraordinary sessions.

Article 5

- 1. At each of its ordinary sessions, the Committee shall elect a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur who shall constitute the Bureau of the Committee and shall remain in office until the following ordinary session.
- 2. The Director-General shall convene the Bureau be represented at its meetings.

Article 6

The Secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the UNESCO Memory of the World Secretariat.

Article 4

- 4.1 The Director-General shall convene the Committee in ordinary session at least once every two years and shall fix the date and place. The Director-General may convene extraordinary sessions.
- 4.2. At each of its ordinary sessions, the Committee shall elect a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur who shall constitute the Bureau of the Committee and shall remain in office until the following ordinary session.
- 4.3. The Director-General shall convene the Bureau as deemed necessary in consultation with the Chairperson and be represented at its meetings.
- 4.4. The Secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the UNESCO Memory of the World Secretariat.

Article 7

Article 5

5.1. Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO may send observers to sessions of

- 1. Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO may send observers to meetings of the Committee.
- 2. The United Nations and other organisations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements may be represented at meetings of the Committee.
- 3. The Director-General may extend invitations to send observers to meetings of the Committee to:
- (a) organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded mutual representation agreements;
- (b) intergovernmental organizations;
- (c) international non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations;

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- 5.2. The Director-General may extend invitations to send observers to sessions of the Committee to:
- (a) organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded mutual representation agreements;
- (b) intergovernmental organizations;
- (c) international non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations; and
- (d) related programme areas and committees of UNESCO.

Article 8

- 1. The Committee shall establish its Rules of Procedure, which shall be submitted to the Director-General for approval.
- 2. The Director-General shall draw up the agenda of the sessions of the Committee after consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee.
- 3. After each session, the Committee shall present a report on its work and its recommendations to the Director-General. The Director-General shall inform the Executive Board of the results of the Committee's proceedings.

Article 6

- 6.1. The Committee shall establish its Code of Ethics and adopt Rules of Procedure, which shall be submitted to the Director-General for approval.
- 6.2. The Director-General shall draw up the agenda of the sessions of the Committee after consultation with the Chairperson.
- 6.3. After each session, the Committee shall present a report on its work and its recommendations supported by statements of reason to the Director-General. The Director-General shall inform the Executive Board of the results of the Committee's proceedings.

Article 7

7.1. The Committee shall establish subsidiary bodies to assist in its work as appropriate.

	7.2 The Chairpersons of sub-committees will be appointed by the Committee, in consultation with UNESCO.
	Article 8 8.1. The Committee shall advise the Director-General on the inscription of documentary heritage in the International Memory of the World Register, based on a professional assessment of nominated documentary heritage and on the application of established criteria. 8.2 Decisions on inscription in the International Memory of the World Register are made by the Director-General.
Article 9 These Statutes may be amended by the Executive Board on its own initiative or on the proposal of the Director-General	Article9 These Statutes may be amended by the Executive Board on its own initiative or on the proposal of the Director-General.