

Statutes of the International Advisory Committee of the "Memory of the World" Programme

Article 1

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

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 co-operation with competent international non-governmental organizations such as the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). It shall also examine the possibility of gaining access to this heritage by means of the most up-to-date technologies.

Article 3

1. The Committee shall be composed of 14 members, appointed by the Director-General after consultation of 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 the other members will expire on 31 December two years later.
4. The members of the Committee shall be chosen for their authority in the field of the 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.

Article 4

The Director-General shall convene the Committee in ordinary session once every two years. S h e / H e 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 and be represented at its meetings.

Article 6

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

Article 7

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) organisations 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.

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 9

These Statutes may be amended by the Executive Board on its own initiative or on the proposal of the Director-General.