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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
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**Report**

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**REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMME (IFAP)  
(2010-2011)**

**OUTLINE**

**Source:** In accordance with Article 10 of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme, the Director-General shall submit to the General Conference, through the Executive Board, at each of its sessions, a report on the implementation of the Information for All Programme (paragraph 2) and the Council shall submit through the Executive Board to the General Conference, at each of its sessions, a report on its activities (paragraph 3).

The present document includes these two reports.

Should examination of these reports by the Executive Board give rise to any comments or recommendations, these will be communicated to the General Conference in the form of an Addendum to the present document.

## **PART I – REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMME**

1. The Information for All Programme (IFAP) was established in 2001 to provide a platform for international policy discussions and guidelines for action in the area of access to information and knowledge; for the participation of all in the knowledge societies. In the 2010-2011 biennium the Secretariat has continued its work of implementing the Strategic Plan for the Information for All Programme approved by the Executive Board at its 180th session (180 EX/15).

2. Key achievements of the Programme during the past biennium include the successful ongoing implementation of the activities envisaged in the Strategic Plan (2008-2013) for reinvigorating the programme. These activities included projects funded both by the regular programme and by the IFAP Special Fund, and were complemented by an increase in the Secretariat's staff support for IFAP, an improvement of IFAP's visibility, support for the establishment of new National IFAP Committees and the organization of IFAP-related regional and international meetings and events.

### **Implementing projects and events in the priority areas**

3. Information accessibility and information for development: With the financial support of the Government of Spain, UNESCO supported the establishment of the "Biblioteca Virtual", an on-line compilation of texts on youth policies in Latin America covering the countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Columbia, Chile, Cuba, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. In creating this important policy tool, specific attention was given to ensuring the inclusion of resources dedicated to the empowerment of women. A CD-ROM version has also been created and disseminated to permit off-line access.

4. A second project, "Access to Information, Accountability and Transparency in the Andean Region", also benefited from Spain's support. This project is focused on building the capacity of citizens especially women, civil servants and governmental officials to use ICTs, developing strategies to facilitate the creation, collection and disclosure of public domain information, and supported transparency and citizen participation by strengthening the right to information. The total contribution by Spain for these two activities was of \$204,106.57 and €21,310.

5. Information literacy: UNESCO, in collaboration with the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication (AIJC) supported the holding of the 5th Asia Pacific Information Network (APIN) Meeting and ICT Literacy Workshop in Manila, Philippines, from 23 to 26 November 2010. The assembly brought together information policy makers and executives representing APIN member-countries. The meeting improved alignment of the APIN Constitution with the IFAP priorities and created an action plan for the development of information tools and sharing of experiences among APIN member-countries. A one-day training workshop on competencies for developing ICT literacy was organized by the Communication Research Department of the University of the Philippines immediately after the APIN meeting.

6. Increasing global awareness on information ethics: In September 2010, UNESCO, together with the University of Botswana, organized (in Gaborone) the Third International Conference on Information Ethics, "Teaching Information Ethics in Africa: Current Status, Opportunities and Challenges". The event supported research and the development of African information ethics curricula and attracted some 60 experts from Africa, North America and Europe. Presentations by academic institutions from the Central African Republic, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe provided a coherent perspective on the state of the art in the field of information ethics in Africa. The main meeting

outcome was a roadmap and action plan for developing information ethics curricula in African universities.

7. UNESCO also organized the WSIS C10 (Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society) Action Line Meeting under the theme “Cyber and Information Ethics: Freedom and Security, Privacy, Malice and Harm, Property” at the 2011 WSIS Forum (16-20 May) in Geneva, Switzerland. The event attracted governments, IGOs, NGOs and academic institutions in Geneva as well as remote participants from Brazil, Canada, France, Mexico and Portugal who participated and contributed to the event via the simultaneous webcast.

### **Improving visibility and supporting fund raising**

8. In late 2010, the IFAP websites was restructured and redesigned to improve access and the organization of information on the programme and its achievements. Through ongoing development it is anticipated that the IFAP website will support better targeted content delivery and support the collection of relevant data.

9. To increase IFAP’s visibility and improve its impacts for fund-raising, the Secretariat has regularly disseminated information on IFAP. News items on IFAP and its activities have appeared on-line and in major policy publications such as the report of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development. An updated IFAP brochure is under preparation.

10. In response to a request from the Bureau, the Secretariat is engaged in efforts to identify, in cooperation with field offices, IFAP-labelled projects that can be presented by the IFAP Chair to donor countries for possible funding. The Secretariat is also preparing at the Bureau’s request a mechanism for selecting and recognizing projects of excellence by National IFAP Committees.

### **Fostering National IFAP Committees and reinforcing regional cooperation**

11. Together with the Government of Grenada, UNESCO co-organized in June 2011 the first Regional IFAP Conference for English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean Countries held under the theme of “Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies”. This event initiated the establishment of National IFAP Committees, produced a regional action plan and a political declaration, committing the Member States who attended the meeting, to supporting the creation of development-oriented Knowledge Societies that enable peoples to achieve their full potential, promote sustainable development and improve their quality of life. The Declaration encouraged UNESCO to continue to support regional cooperation and development, namely in the framework of the Information for All Programme.

12. At present, contacts and regular exchanges are maintained with the National IFAP Committees from the following countries: Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, France, Grenada, Indonesia, Israel, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, People’s Democratic Republic of Korea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela and Viet Nam. New National IFAP Committees have been or are being established in Azerbaijan, Tunisia and Zambia.

### **Organizing statutory meetings of the Council and its Bureau**

13. During the present biennium, the Secretariat organized one session of the Council in March 2010 and two meetings of the Bureau (March 2010 and February 2011). The total budget for the organization of these meetings was covered by the regular budget of the Organization, with no contribution by Member States.

14. The Secretariat has continuously kept NGOs such as the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archive Associations (CCAAA), the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) and the International Council on Archives (ICA), informed of IFAP’s activities by inviting them to these meetings as observers.

### **Cooperating with the IFAP Bureau**

15. The Secretariat has continued to develop a constructive and fruitful cooperation with the Bureau over the biennium covered by the present report. The Secretariat has continuously obtained the guidance and advice of the IFAP Council and Bureau for the implementation of all IFAP-related activities and provided technical and financial support for their activities.

16. At the 18th session of the IFAP Bureau, the Secretariat presented its activities in Media and Information Literacy Indicators, Free and Open Source Software and the Open Suite Platform. This increased awareness of these activities and provided opportunities to further enhance collaboration between IFAP's activities and those undertaken by the Secretariat. Discussions initiated by these presentations led to the identification and preparation of activities that are expected to be realized in 2012/2013.

17. The mainstreaming of IFAP's priority areas has guided the preparation of the Communication and Information Sector's input to the draft document 36 C/5.

### **Remarks by the Director-General on the implementation of IFAP**

18. The Director-General is actively supporting the ongoing implementation of the Strategic Plan for IFAP. Within the envelope of resources available to the Organization, additional staff support has been provided to bolster the efforts being undertaken to reinvigorate the Programme.

19. The Director-General underlines, however, that additional human and financial resources for IFAP are needed to effectively respond to, and deliver on, the priorities that Member States have entrusted it to perform. While appreciative of the renewed interest and more positive outlook amongst Member States, there remains an urgent need for an increase in fundraising and voluntary contributions by Member States to support and strengthen these positive developments at both international and national levels. The strategic orientations of this programme were fully endorsed by the Executive Board in 2008. Therefore the Director-General once again invites Member States to increase their extrabudgetary contributions to IFAP and also urges IFAP Bureau and Council members to more actively and effectively engage in fund-raising activities in order to increase the number of realizations under this programme and improve the geographical diversity and scope of its action.

## **PART II – REPORT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL FOR THE INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMME ON ITS ACTIVITIES**

### **Activities of the Council and its Bureau**

20. The Intergovernmental Council of the Information For All Programme held its sixth session on 29 and 30 March 2010 and will meet next in April 2012. The reinvigorated Bureau continues to play an active role in the life of the programme through its meetings, the activity of the Chair and online consultations.

21. Specific activities undertaken by the Council included:

#### **Helping Member States develop and implement national information policies and knowledge strategies**

22. The main activities in this area have been: (a) the finalization and publication of the report "National Information Society Policy: A Template", in January 2010 and its dissemination in physical and electronic formats to Member States, and its consequent translation by China and Russia into their national languages; (b) creation and maintenance of an online Information Society Observatory and publication of bi-monthly newsletters on new developments; and (c) publication of

information society policies annual report 2010. The most notable contribution to these important projects was made by Argentina, Poland and Hungary.

23. IFAP has also been supporting the organization of key national, regional and international events aimed at strengthening IFAP's relevance at national level, contributing to the international policy debate and the elaboration of policy frameworks. These interventions are described in greater detail under the relevant sections.

#### **IFAP Council contribution to the preparation of the draft Programme and Budget 2010-2011 (36 C/5)**

24. IFAP contributed actively to the preparation of the draft UNESCO Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5). A number of proposals elaborated by IFAP'S Working Groups were officially submitted by the Council in July 2010.

#### **Establishment of multi-stakeholder Working Groups to deal with the five IFAP priorities**

25. The IFAP Working Groups in the five priority areas have designated Chairpersons to lead the reporting on each of these areas, the revising and harmonizing of work and updating lists of international experts in each of these areas. The Working Groups have also been seeking to strengthen their links with the activities of the Secretariat.

26. The Working Group on Information Ethics, co-led by Latvia and Venezuela, submitted a Draft Code of Ethics for the Information Society which was approved by the IFAP Council for submission to the 36th session of UNESCO's General Conference for endorsement. The draft code, currently in its third version, has benefitted greatly from an extensive collaborative process dating back to 2006 which has involved the inputs of international experts, IGOs as well as regional consultations in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Latin America.

27. At the request of the Working Group on Information Preservation, the IFAP Bureau and Council has adopted the "IFLA Manifesto for Digital Libraries" and approved its submission to the 36th session General Conference of UNESCO for endorsement.

28. The Working Group on Information Literacy is currently engaged in developing various national and regional strategies to adapt and implement information literacy concepts, develop curricula and use indicators for assessing information skills.

#### **IFAP's contribution to the international information society debate and to the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines**

29. The IFAP Bureau together with the UNESCO Secretariat and National IFAP Committees organized various regional and international forums for debate, information exchange and to inform policy-making processes within IFAP's priority areas. These events included the 5th Asia-Pacific Information Network Meeting on "Information Policy: Accessibility and Media and Information Literacy" (Manila, Philippines, 20-23 November 2010); the regional conference on "Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies" (St George's, Grenada, 15-17 June 2011).

30. A number of IFAP special events on information preservation, information accessibility and information literacy took place: a) The annual ADIT International Conference for museum workers (Krasnodar, Russia, 8-10 June 2010 and Minsk, Belarus, 11-14 May 2011); and b) The Annual International Crimea Conference (Sudak, Ukraine, June 2010 and June 2011), which brought together around 1,500 participants from 40 countries. At the 2011 Conference a special seminar on Open Access was organized in the presence of Ms Ellen Tise, IFLA President.

31. At the invitation of IFLA, Mr Evgeny Kuzmin, IFAP Chair, participated in the sixty-second Annual IFLA General Conference in Geteborg, Sweden (August 2010). The Chair's participation provided an opportunity to present IFAP's work, and together with the IFLA Information Literacy

Section Standing Committee, to identify specific steps to implement the IFAP-IFLA Joint Action Plan for promoting information literacy.

32. The IFAP Council has undertaken exploratory steps for the preparation of a “World Report on Information Preservation”. Preservation of information is an emerging challenge of the information society, the acuteness, profundity, sophistication and scope of preservation problems are all but unnoticed by most people. The exponential growth of digital networks makes this a pressing issue. This World Report will provide the basis for elaborating more specific recommendations for national information preservation policy development.

33. To support this effort and to establish a platform for determining and discussing problems and solutions for long-term preservation of information (such as digital information preservation concepts, methods, policies, laws and activities at the international, regional and national levels), an international conference, “Preservation of Digital Information in the Information society”, will be held in Moscow, Russian Federation (2-5 October 2011). This event is expected to attract around 100 experts from the library, archive, museum, educational and scientific communities, government and non-governmental institutions, as well as the private sector, representing some 50 Member States worldwide. The conference is a part of the preparation of the international conference on Digital Preservation which will be organized by UNESCO in autumn 2012.

34. A number of other project proposals were drafted by the IFAP Information Preservation Working Group led by Austria and these include, among others: (a) safeguarding the Hidden Documents of Linguistic and Cultural Diversity; (b) open source software for digital preservation and data management; and (c) promoting international cooperation in format registries.

35. Multilingualism is a cross-cutting issue in the information society and IFAP is taking active measures to foster advances in this field. A competence centre for multilingualism in cyberspace was established in 2010 at the North Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk, Russian Federation in response to the Lena Resolution adopted at the First International conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace supported by IFAP in 2008. The second edition of this conference was held in Yakutsk from 12 to 14 July 2011 with prominent experts from 33 countries of all continents and top-ranking UNESCO and ITU officials, highlighting the importance of preserving multilingualism and of promoting linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace, especially in view of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, adopted by UNESCO in 2003.

#### **Improving the efficiency of IFAP and its Council**

36. The Council has been constantly informed about all the activities and consulted or requested to decide on major issues of the Bureau. Permanent Delegations of Member States represented on the Intergovernmental Council of IFAP are also regularly informed of major developments concerning IFAP.

37. The first-ever meeting of National IFAP Committees was held in Moscow on 7 and 8 December 2009. The meeting was organized by the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP, the UNESCO Secretariat, the Russian IFAP Committee and its working body – the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre. The meeting gathered Chairs and representatives of 17 national IFAP committees – from Austria, Chile, China, Cuba, France, Germany, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lithuania, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and Thailand, and also Moldova, where an IFAP Committee was being established. Assistance was provided for the creation of new National IFAP Committees in 2009-2011 in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and in Europe.

38. The Government of the Russian Federation allocated (through the Ministry of Culture and the Federal Agency for Print and Mass Communications) about \$400,000, in 2011, to the Russian National IFAP Committee and its working body – the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre – to

hold IFAP–related international events and implement other projects in the framework of Russia’s chairmanship of IFAP. The IFAP Special Account also received \$40,000 in 2010/2011 from the Government of China.

39. A revision of the Guidelines for creation and operation of national committees of the Information for All Programme has been initiated to take into account the experiences, best practices and diversity in existing National IFAP Committees. It was resolved that a National IFAP Committee should exist in each Member State elected to the IFAP Council and where this is not feasible, a minimum requirement of a list of national experts in IFAP’s priorities is to be met.

40. A special Working Group co-led by Austria and Brazil has been undertaking a further review of a draft proposal for changes to the Statutes of IFAP with a view to proposing amendments that could further contribute to improving IFAP’s efficiency and effectiveness. The findings of this study are to be presented at the sixth session of the IFAP Council in April 2012.