



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Diversity of
Cultural Expressions

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Diversité
des expressions
culturelles

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Diversidad
de las expresiones
culturales

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

Разнообразие форм
культурного
самовыражения

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

تنوع أشكال التعبير
الثقافي

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

文化表现形式
多样性

6 CP

DCE/17/6.CP/4

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CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

Sixth ordinary session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room II
12-15 June 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda: Adoption of the summary record of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties

This document contains in annex the draft summary record of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions submitted for adoption by the Conference of Parties.

Decision required: paragraph 3.

1. The Secretariat has prepared the draft summary record of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The draft was published electronically on the Convention website (<https://en.unesco.org/creativity/>).
3. The draft summary record of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions submitted for adoption by the Conference of Parties is annexed to this document.
4. The Conference of Parties may wish to adopt the following resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION 6.CP 4

The Conference of Parties,

1. *Having examined Document DCE/17/6.CP/4 and its Annex;*
2. *Adopts the summary record of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions annexed to the above-mentioned document.*

ANNEX

Draft summary record of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties

Opening Ceremony

1. The fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter “the Convention”) was opened by Mrs. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO on Wednesday, 10 June 2015.
2. It was attended by 92 Parties to the Convention, 8 UNESCO Member States not Party to the Convention, 5 intergovernmental organizations, and 8 civil society organizations.
3. The **Director-General of UNESCO**, Mrs. Irina Bokova, welcomed all participants celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Convention, the 70th anniversary of UNESCO, and the shared value of cultural diversity. The Director-General of UNESCO underlined the importance of the Convention as a tool for integrating culture into the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda (hereinafter “the Post-2015 Agenda”) outlining the synergies with the guiding principles of the Convention. Examples of progress made in the Convention’s 10 years were highlighted and will figure in the first Global Report to monitor the implementation of the Convention, supported by the Swedish government. Other highlights include the adoption of a global capacity building strategy and operational guidelines supporting the implementation of national policies and programs as well as the funding of some 80 projects worldwide supported by the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD), 20 per cent with benefits for young people. The Director-General of UNESCO thanked the major donors of these programs, notably the European Union, Spain, Italy, and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The creation of the Expert Facility, with European Union support, assisting 13 developing countries to strengthen their systems of governance for culture was singled out as the first project to implement the Convention at the international level, as was the high level conference in Brussels to discuss its results with the Commissioner for International Development. Looking forward, the Director-General signalled the work of the Parties to address digital issues in the context of the Convention.
4. The opening remarks and video are available on the Convention website: <http://en.unesco.org/creativity/convention/governing-bodies/conferences/5th-ordinary-session>.

Item 1 - Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson(s) and a Rapporteur of the Conference of Parties (Document CE/15/5.CP/1)

5. The **Assistant Director-General for Culture**, Mr Alfredo Perez de Armiñán, proceeded with the election of the Bureau comprising six persons, one for each electoral group. After recalling the members of the current Bureau, he noted that informal consultation between Parties had taken place and invited them to present a candidate for Chairperson.
6. The Delegation of **the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, with the support of the Delegation of **Chile**, proposed H.E. Dr Arunas Gelunas, the Ambassador of Lithuania, to chair the Session.
7. The **Assistant Director-General for Culture** confirmed the nomination by acclamation of Dr Arunas Gelunas as Chairperson, and invited him to take his place on the podium.

8. The **Chairperson**, H.E. Dr. Arunas Gelunas, thanked the Assistant Director-General for Culture, the Secretary of the Convention, and all the Parties for his election as Chairperson. He proceeded with the election of the remaining members of the Bureau, inviting Parties to provide their nominations for the positions of Vice-chairpersons and the Rapporteur.
9. The Delegation of **China** nominated the Republic of Korea as Vice-Chair of Group IV, the Delegation of **Senegal** with the support of the Delegation of **Côte d'Ivoire** nominated the Democratic Republic of the Congo as Vice-Chair of Group V (a), the Delegation of **France** nominated Germany as Vice-Chair of Group I, and the Delegation of **Chile** nominated Brazil as Vice-Chair of Group II. Parties agreed with these nominations and the Vice-chairpersons were elected by acclamation.
10. The **Chairperson** proceeded with the election of the Rapporteur, asking for nominations.
11. The Delegation of **Morocco** proposed Mr Soufiane Feki, Director of the Centre of Arab and Mediterranean Music, Tunisia, for the position of Rapporteur.
12. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put draft resolution 5.CP 1 on the screen and seeing no objections declared the resolution adopted. He congratulated Mr Soufiane Feki and the Vice-chairpersons., reminding them of a meeting to take place the following morning.

Resolution 5.CP 1 was adopted.

Item 2 - Adoption of the agenda (Document CE/15/5.CP/2)

13. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the working documents of this session.
14. The **Secretary of the Convention**, Ms Danielle Cliche, read the list of working documents submitted to Parties on 11 May 2015, within the statutory time limit established by the Rules of Procedure, and available in the six official languages of UNESCO. Ten information documents were also listed. A complete set of printed working and information documents, WIFI access, and USB sticks with all documents were available from the *commis de salle*. This session might consider adopting a new policy of 'paperless sessions' to align itself to the working methods of other Convention governing bodies. It was announced that Room V was available to the participants for use as a media and working space.
15. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention, asked the Parties if there were any questions, and proceeded to the adoption of the resolution.

Resolution 5.CP 2 was adopted.

Item 3 - Approval of the list of observers (Document CE/15/5.CP/INF.2)

16. The **Chairperson** requested the Secretary of the Convention to read the list of observers for Parties approval.
17. The **Secretary of the Convention** read out the list of the 7 Member States of UNESCO, non-Parties to the Convention (Japan, Saudi Arabia, Myanmar, Philippines, the Russian Federation, Thailand, Turkey), as well as registered intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations.
18. The **Chairperson** asked if there were any objections to admitting these observers to this session, and seeing none, he invited the Conference of Parties to approve the list of observers.

Resolution 5.CP 3 was adopted.

Item 4 - Adoption of the summary record of the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (Document CE/15/5.CP/4)

19. The **Chairperson** introduced the item and noted that the Secretariat had received one written amendment to the draft detailed summary record from **Andorra**.
20. The Delegation of the **European Union** requested an amendment to its contribution made during the General Debate (to remove the word “far” in reference to the “Eastern Partnership” program).
21. The **Chairperson** confirmed that the amendments would be made to the summary record and asked the Secretariat to put draft resolution 5.CP 4 on the screen for adoption.

Resolution 5.CP 4 was adopted as amended.

Item 5 - General debate

22. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to read out the names of the Parties who registered to speak during the General Debate and reminded the Parties to keep their interventions to 3 minutes.
23. All Parties congratulated the Chairperson for his election, as well as the Secretariat and the Committee for their hard work.
24. The **Minister of Culture of Paraguay** recognized the importance of the Convention for culture and cultural diversity in public policies. Paraguay is mainstreaming culture in its development policies and is promoting culture’s inclusion in the Post-2015 Agenda. The need to advance cultural policy through regional partnerships such as MERCOSUR, UNASUR, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), and the Organization of American States (OAS) was underlined. The important role of UNESCO was acknowledged as was the need to balance the economic and cultural dimensions of cultural goods and services. Levels of understanding and implementation of the Convention must improve taking into account the local context. Paraguay is working to support its cultural industries and to build an ecosystem around them for the benefit of future generations.
25. The Delegation of **Morocco** affirmed its support of the Convention and outlined its recently adopted strategy of issuing transparent calls for arts projects open to all citizens. Efforts to systematize the Ministry of Culture’s actions were stressed, notably reinforcing its capacity to work with civil society. Its actions reflect support for the Convention’s objectives and promotion of South-South cooperation, facilitating exchanges of cultural goods and the international mobility of artists. Solidarity among sub-Saharan African partners is crucial.
26. The Delegation of **France** thanked the Secretariat for organizing the exchange session on digital issues and underscored the responsibility of national governments within this context. It recognized the distinctive nature of cultural goods and services as vehicles of identity, values and meaning and the importance of the sovereign right of States to adopt and implement cultural policies. The Convention is an instrument to promote international dialogue and cooperation. The Delegation confirmed its support of the IFCD to which France has contributed over 1 million USD. Furthermore, it informed Parties of two conferences it was preparing to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Convention. There is a need to address digital issues and to reaffirm the Convention’s technological neutrality. It called for a new form of international cooperation to reduce the global “technological divide” to favour the development of global cultural and creative industries, to help finance creation, to protect the rights of the author, and to share best practices in order to make technology a tool to promote the diversity of cultural expressions. A joint paper prepared with Canada proposing several ideas for new operational guidelines on digital issues will be circulated.

27. The Delegation of **Zimbabwe** outlined the recent creation of a Ministry of Sports, Arts, and Culture and a constitutional referendum that makes several commitments to cultural diversity. Zimbabwe has been working across sectors to draft a new cultural policy that clearly enunciates many of the Convention's key articles. The delegate spoke of the government's recognition of several Convention stakeholders and active engagement with the cultural sector. An implementation plan is being drafted to appoint staff in ministries working with UNESCO on critical cultural reporting mechanisms and programs. Underscoring the Convention's limited resources, the Delegation commended the Swedish government for its financial assistance to meet its periodic reporting obligations. The Convention's importance has been reaffirmed at the 2015 African Union Pan-African Cultural Congress.
28. The Delegation of **Germany** noted that due to the Parties' periodic reports, the Secretariat, and the Convention's experts, a number of promising strategies and inspiring practices for international cultural cooperation and preferential treatment have been identified. This systematic capacity building and analytical monitoring is the backbone of the successful implementation of the Convention and the Delegation commended the substantial initiatives by the European Union, the Spanish government, and SIDA to partner with and support the Secretariat's programs. It emphasized the long-term need for public policy and public support to introduce incentives for arts and culture, particularly in the context of opening markets through trade agreements and progressive deregulation. It confirmed that in 2014 and 2015 Germany contributed 220,000 euros to the IFCD which it considered to be a good platform for innovative, multi-stakeholder projects. The Delegation echoed France in emphasizing the need to address digital issues and the worldwide violent attacks on people and cultural expressions. These challenges necessitate joint responses and enhanced cooperation. Germany has thus initiated a joint project involving diverse cross-sector stakeholders to work on advancing the Convention in the years to come.
29. The Delegation of **Nigeria** expressed its continued commitment to the implementation of the Convention, evidenced by its incorporation of Convention provisions into its evolving cultural policy and through the Institute for African Culture and International Understanding (IACIU), a UNESCO Category 2 Institute. Nigeria has been promoting the Convention's visibility through work with a number of African countries affiliated with the IACIU, in part through the organization of six workshops and two regional conferences in the last three years. The IACIU is at an advanced stage of digitally mapping African dance, dress, and indigenous science and technology. It has also worked with sixteen African countries to produce a 36-chapter book featuring a foreword written by a former Assistant-Director General of UNESCO. This book was published to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Convention and was available to the Parties.
30. The Delegation of **Argentina** confirmed its completion of mainstreaming the values of the Convention into its public policy, its investment in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and infrastructures, its approval of the audio-visual communications regulations, and strengthened its efforts to support cultural industries. It successfully organized four workshops on cultural industries that were attended by ten countries. Argentina is working extensively with MERCOSUR to foster South-South cooperation, a vital tool for sharing regional best practices, and has been offering significant technical support for regional capacity-building. Argentina uses bilateral cultural partnerships to further implement the Convention and works with the cultural divisions of regional organizations to promote the distribution of cultural expressions. The Delegation thanked the Secretariat for the technical support provided for its periodic report preparation and for supporting its efforts on Articles 16 and 21. It highlighted the culture-development nexus as needing to be addressed, and urged the mainstreaming of culture in the Post-2015 Agenda.

31. The Delegation of **Cuba** characterized cultural diversity as a birthright closely linked to the safeguarding of national sovereignty, and underscored the importance of ensuring that cultural expressions, particularly in developing countries, are protected and promoted through the introduction of the Convention in national legislation. The Delegation affirmed that Cuba has undertaken various measures and regional initiatives to promote the involvement of cultural stakeholders in government decision making processes. Furthermore, it affirmed that its national social, political, and financial initiatives have always considered the cultural dimension and called for greater cooperation between the Parties to ensure the Convention's success. It recalled the 2014 CELAC meeting in Havana with special emphasis on culture, cooperation, and development for the LAC region, and confirmed an upcoming September 2015 meeting of cultural ministries in Havana. The Delegation underscored the impact of the budget on programs concerning key issues such as ICTs, the need for a cross cutting approach to cultural expressions, and called for the broadening of the current debates on transversal issues such as the Post-2015 Agenda.
32. The Delegation of **Norway** acknowledged the great impact and achievements of the Convention over the past 10 years, attested by the high number of ratifications. It has shown to be a useful global platform for exchange on cultural policy issues and an important reference point for the legitimacy of national cultural policies. A rich and diverse cultural life is a precondition for societal growth on all levels. The Convention contributed to important aspects of Norwegian cultural policy and is referred to in various international and national policy documents. Norway has contributed to the IFCD for important capacity-building programs. More emphasis should be placed on the structural and cultural impact of IFCD-supported projects, which the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) indicated as important for sustainability. It further underscored the IOS recommendation for streamlining synergies between and coordination among conventions and welcomed the establishment of a Conventions Common Services Unit to support this work. The Delegation questioned why only 50 percent of the regular budget was allocated to Convention activities when Convention implementation and support comprise 80 percent of UNESCO's Culture Sector work, indicating an unsustainable dynamic in which the workload of the Convention's Secretariat increases as support from the regular program budget decreases. Furthermore, since the number of tasks assigned to the Committee and the Secretariat is disproportionate to the available funding, there is an increasing reliance on extra-budgetary funding. The Delegation urged the governing bodies of the Convention to assume responsibility and to set priorities.
33. The Delegation of **Canada** thanked the Secretariat and the Intergovernmental Committee for their considerable work in the biennium, noting that it is due to the efforts of the Parties and civil society that the Convention is effectively being implemented. It emphasized the issue of digital technology as important to future implementation. It supported the Committee's proposal on operational guidelines for digital technology, noting the Convention's technological neutrality. It encouraged the Parties to draw knowledge from the experience of civil society experts and cultural practitioners on this issue, emphasizing the need for better involvement in the sharing of skills and practices through exercises such as quadrennial reports and surveys. These mechanisms will contribute to the development of good practices for future implementation. Furthermore, it urged raising the Convention's profile and promoting its principles in other international fora such as in trade agreement negotiations. It endorsed the good management of the IFCD, noting that 82 percent of the Fund's budget goes directly to project funding.

The **representative of the Government of Quebec** within the permanent Delegation of Canada to UNESCO took the floor and called for the full mobilization of all Parties to promote national, inter-ministerial, and cross-departmental cooperation in the discussion of the digital challenge through work with diverse actors, stakeholders, divisions within UNESCO, and private and public operators. The representative underscored the importance of sharing skills and knowledge, especially with countries in the global South that are Parties to the Convention. She shared the following two examples: 1) the Quebec

Cultural Development Project, which is similar to a development bank, and 2) the National Library and Archives of Quebec, which has been supporting a number of digitization projects since 2009.

34. The Delegation of **China** affirmed that it was making efforts to promote the Convention through a number of far-reaching domestic reforms of cultural institutions and attempts to establish a modern cultural market. Specifically, China has: developed measures to promote free and fair competition among various cultural stakeholders in the market; promoted the role of private companies; decided to establish a modern public service for culture; introduced a degree of competition to further promote social development; and advocated for a greater openness of culture by drawing on foreign examples. Internationally, China has established an exchange forum with six countries and bilateral exchange programs with more than 20 countries leading to a genuine boost to international cultural cooperation. On the domestic level, the Chinese president has launched a new cultural-economic initiative promoting exchanges between people along the Silk Road and the maritime Silk Road. The Delegation highlighted a number of challenges remaining, including raising the Convention's profile and adapting to new digital rules; underscoring the different stages of development and different strategies for addressing these challenges worldwide as a result. It reemphasized the challenge of the digital age and the need to afford greater preferential treatment to developing countries to ensure that all of the goals of the Convention are met.
35. The Delegation of **Sweden** characterized the Convention as the first global instrument of its kind to fully embrace cultural issues and policies, underscoring its deep involvement in what it considers to be a significant platform for the work of UNESCO. Sweden strongly supports UNESCO's work on Convention-related issues such as digital issues, freedom of expression, and the safety of journalists and media workers. The Delegation emphasized the need for inter-sectoral collaboration within UNESCO, particularly between the Communication and Information and Culture sectors. Calling the 10th anniversary an opportunity to define future action, a full-day conference was held in Stockholm including policy makers, civil society, and performing artists, as well as the Secretary of the Convention. Sweden would continue to regularly support the IFCD. The Delegation expressed deep concern over the decreasing IFCD support and encouraged all Parties to contribute; echoing Norway in reiterating the need for prioritizing Convention work due to the lack of available resources. It concluded by highlighting a SIDA-funded program enhancing fundamental freedoms through the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions as an example of the Convention's positive impact, and urging all the Parties to support Convention implementation in any way possible, extra-budgetary or otherwise.
36. The Delegation of **Oman** reaffirmed the Convention's domestic significance and listed a number of ways in which the government has implemented the Convention, both within and external to government services. Oman is promoting the diversity of popular cultures domestically through: the establishment of a committee bringing together Oman's cultural stakeholders and artists; the creation of a theatre festival; a new folk and popular cultural arts festival; support for creators and writers; and the establishment of cultural centers across the country. Internationally, cultural days are organized in Oman and Omani cultural days are organized across the world. Cooperation has been pursued with other cultural ministers in the region, with the Gulf Cooperation Council and Arab countries. Further work on the Convention includes preparations to stage an international forum alongside the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and 57 other countries; the acknowledgement of the city of Niwza as the 2016 Muslim City of Culture; and its work with civil society which has led to the establishment of an Omani fund for cultural diversity.
37. The Delegation of **Slovakia** reaffirmed its long-standing support of the Convention and its strong support for civil society, citing the highly-respected Slovak Coalition for Cultural Diversity which represents over 200 entities and associations of artists from all fields. The Delegation underscored the progress resulting from Slovakia's 2012 establishment of a

government council for culture, including eight different Ministers and civil society in a cross-sector joint discussion. It underscored the importance of the status of artists in relation to Article 4 of the Convention, noting that in many countries artists are assessed in the same way as businessmen, referring to tax law and social insurance as evidence of this point. Slovakia is working on this issue; both through successful attempts to gain national-level consensus, the results of which will be implemented in January, and through the creation of an international discussion with the support of five different international agencies. More than twenty countries from four continents have taken part in the publication of work on the status of the artist. The Delegation underscored the importance of diversity in culture, not diversity in laws. It reminded those present of an international conference in Pilsen, Czech Republic, this year's European capital of culture, aiming to build international consensus on laws governing the status of the artist.

38. The Delegation of **Sudan** highlighted its recently created inventory of Sudanese cultural heritage noting that the establishment of an under-secretariat for this mission was recognition of its long-term, ongoing nature. This project drew together different national and regional ministries, universities, NGOs, and local stakeholders to create the inventory, which will be used to draw a national cultural map. It gratefully acknowledged UNESCO for supporting this large-scale project which it affirmed was as an opportunity to draw on the expertise and experience of those countries that are advanced in this area. The Delegation cautioned against overemphasizing cultural diversity; invoking the experiences of Sudan and several African countries and positing that cultural diversity is a part of daily life. Cultural diversity should be preserved as a way of life and should not foster ethnic diversity or regional diversity. It suggested that the celebrations for the Convention's 10th anniversary include discussions on this theme and on digital issues.
39. The Delegation of **Tunisia** recalled its period of upheaval, with enormous economic and cultural challenges, in conjunction with its 2014 national laws that have created the necessary legislative framework to foster the diversity of national cultural expressions, to reinforce cultural infrastructure, and to ensure its maintenance during a period of democratization and the decentralization of culture. Tunisia is working to ensure that its tangible and intangible cultural heritage is safeguarded through the creation of its Intangible Cultural Heritage Center, the promotion of civil society initiatives in the cultural sphere, and ensuring greater openness in artistic and cultural expressions. The Delegation outlined several events, held in partnership with civil society, concerned with capacity-building, expressing its hope that this would foster creative industries and related networks, particularly those aimed at younger stakeholders. It underscored the importance of quadrennial periodic reporting, the need for transparency and innovation, and the importance of the technical and logistic support of UNESCO and the Secretariat providing training for quadrennial report preparation.
40. The Delegation of **Brazil** noted the increase in policy convergence and the inclusion of more cultural aspects in international discussions of cultural policies now that culture is seen as more than just promoting the arts. The Delegation emphasized its long-standing commitment to implementing and promoting the Convention, explaining that Minister Gilberto Gil has designed a new way of looking at cultural policies based on three dimensions: 1) the symbolic dimension; 2) the citizenship dimension, including everyone in the creation of and access to cultural products and services; 3) the economic dimension, dealing with the production, distribution, and promotion of cultural goods and services. Brazil is working to create a "space of culture" by interrelating these dimensions in policy, and has established the Secretariat for Cultural Diversity and Citizenship. This Secretariat has developed innovative programs including: the Culture Points program - a way of funding civil society initiatives and organizing them in a network to promote dialogue; and a culture ticket program - a kind of cultural bonus given to workers to afford them greater access to cultural goods and services. The Delegation underscored the importance of including culture in national development plans to obtain a minimum level of financing for culture in the national budget. It also underscored work on cultural diversity regionally through MERCOSUR and CELAC, implementing cultural diversity programs with Ibero-

American countries, work with other Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa, and use of the Convention's provisions to inform its interactions. The Delegation saluted the Secretariat's new incentives for IFCD contributions and work on the creative economy reports. It emphasized the relevance of innovative studies and data collection, work on Articles 16 and 21, and the issue of digital culture. It concluded by inviting the Parties to attend its international seminar celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the Convention taking place later in the year.

41. The Delegation of **Lithuania** noted that over 10 years the Convention has proved its vitality by encouraging systematic changes, developing the creative sector, and increasing culture's role in national and international sustainable development strategies. Numerous efforts have been made by Lithuania to improve its democratic model of cultural policy, to include the creative sector in regional development, and to promote social inclusion, education, and regeneration policies. It also cited initiatives to increase creative sector access to financial resources such as tax incentives for audiovisual production or investing in new structural funds in the creative sector.
42. The Delegation of **Denmark** affirmed its support of the Convention through the Danish Centre for Culture and Development promoting global cultural cooperation and the free expression of artists. It supported Convention work on the rights to arts and culture, with particular reference to Article 14 on cooperation for development. It stressed contributing to knowledge creation and dissemination among relevant actors. In consideration of the financial challenges and future actions, the Delegation advocated increasing the focus of actions; underlining the need to streamline efforts in the area of capacity-building by using evidence and relevant cases that would underpin the agenda-setting work of the Convention. It underscored the need for strategic communications that would articulate the challenges of the Convention in developing countries.
43. The Delegation of **Namibia** noted the African Union's action plan and the Convention as important cultural policy documents. The Delegation highlighted its national review of cultural policy culminating in a national consultative meeting, in October 2014, attended by 70 key strategic culture-sector stakeholders. It then held a culture and creative arts conference in April 2015 during which a draft policy was presented for discussion. A policy advisory group was formed, that finalized a new policy implementation strategy including regional consultations involving rural communities and other stakeholders. The Delegation affirmed that since participating in the 2012 quadrennial periodic report, the Directorate of Arts in the newly created Ministry of Education, Arts, and Culture has sponsored various activities. These include: festivals, exhibitions, and arts training programs at the College of the Arts, the annual Windhoek Jazz Festival and Oshakati Totem Expo, organized by local governments and women. Namibia is working to create an environment for artists, individuals, and groups to showcase their skills and gain recognition. Despite its efforts, it identified challenges such as the inadequate understanding of the Convention's objectives and insufficient knowledge of IFCD requirements that restrict access to funding resources. The Delegation underscored the need for capacity-building in order to fully implement the Convention.
44. The Delegation of **Indonesia** affirmed the importance of the Convention for promoting cooperation between countries on issues such as culture as a driving force for development and the importance of healthy creative industries. It stressed the need to focus on Articles 16 and 21 for international cultural cooperation on trade agreements and for linking culture and development. It acknowledged the challenge of treating cultural goods and services in the digital environment. The Delegation expressed its willingness to contribute to and work with other Parties on digital issues.

45. The Delegation of **Ecuador** underscored the need for the special treatment of cultural goods and services. Highlighting access to culture as a vital human right, it confirmed that Ecuador, together with Brazil and other LAC countries, is promoting active, global citizenship by ensuring universal access to culture. The Delegation characterized ICTs as vital for disseminating cultural expressions on the web, but with potential threats that need to be addressed. It advocated using the Convention to promote this cross-cutting issue and called for mainstreaming culture into the Post-2015 Agenda, in part through greater efforts to promote the Convention's visibility in this context. It noted that developing countries require more practical mechanisms to help implement the Convention in order to ensure that cultural goods and services are given preferential treatment on the market, and advocated close work with local and indigenous communities and authorities to ensure broad engagement.
46. The Delegation of **Australia** informed about the government's investment of approximately 520 million USD to support arts and culture. This includes significant investments by the Australia Council for the Arts in artists and arts organizations to develop and present innovative and high quality works. The Ministry for the Arts is providing government funding to support indigenous languages and projects as well as support for the independent Australian Broadcasting Corporation, and the Special Broadcasting Service. The Ministry administers a range of other programs and funding to support literature, regional arts, heritage collections, elite arts training, and film and screen content. In 2015, Australia established the National Program for Excellence in the Arts, to support a range of projects open to all organizations. It is working to strengthen international ties, including the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cultural cooperation with the government of India in 2014 and the completion of a similar agreement between the Australia Council and the Institut Français. A new implementation plan with the Chinese government is being developed for projects under the existing cultural MOU. Australia reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting opportunities for the arts, to make national collections and performing arts accessible, provide training opportunities, and to represent the diversity of its cultural expressions.
47. The **Chairperson** invited the observers to take the floor.

[Observers]

48. The representative of the **Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie** (APF), Ms Carole Poirier, noted that the APF brings together parliamentarians from 81 parliaments and interparliamentary organizations worldwide. Since 1999, the APF has focused on cultural diversity, mobilizing members to promote the Convention, including the 2011 adoption of an action plan for Convention implementation in the French-speaking world resulting in 46 member ratifications on its 10th anniversary. The centrality of cultural diversity in the APF, which has made Convention ratification a requirement for new members, relates to the key role played by parliamentarians for the implementation of the Convention in domestic law. This role was highlighted by the National Assembly of Quebec at an International Symposium for the Convention's 10th anniversary held in May at Laval University. The Convention is increasingly vital to promote the dynamism of cultural industries and as a stepping stone to the future. A reevaluation of national cultural policies for Convention implementation in light of rapid digitalization and the dematerialization of culture is needed.
49. The representative of the **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** (IFCCD) emphasized the recognition by the Parties of the need to better integrate culture into legal, economic and social issues, and human rights, in accordance with Articles 20 and 21. In addition to the work done on trade and culture, other activities related to the Post-2015 Agenda would equally contribute to implementing these articles. The representative emphasized the need for UN recognition of culture's contribution to development, and the issue of cultural rights as a vital for the freedom of expression, and suggested that digital technologies be used to move culture beyond the walls of UNESCO to promote more international cooperation. To celebrate the Convention's 10-year anniversary, a conference will be organized in Mons, Belgium in October 2015.

50. The representative of **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)** affirmed that UCLG was promoting culture as people-centered development in its action plan with local governments worldwide. The Culture 21 Action Plan (to be adopted in Bilbao in March 2015) provides practical advice to local governments on how to demonstrate the concrete and operational role of culture in local level sustainable development initiatives. While there is potential to include culture in the Post-2015 Agenda, it is not yet well reflected in the Agenda's zero draft, and work is needed in thematic monitoring and strengthening the involvement of civil society in global networks dealing with culture and development.
51. The **Chairperson** thanked the representative of UCLG for mentioning the role of cities and municipal initiatives in this context, noting the presence and success of UNESCO's Creative Cities Network. He urged the Parties to continue working to address the role of culture in sustainable development.
52. The Delegation of **Thailand** characterized the Convention as challenging to implement due to its interrelation with the economy, education, and communication. It has observed the implementation of the Convention, and its high international profile, particularly within other UN organizations whose documents refer to the Convention. It appreciated the Convention's impact on cultural policy and on general development plans in many countries; affirming its attempts to implement its numerous principles and objectives. It recalled the relative novelty of its Ministry of Culture and its long-term collaboration with UNESCO. Its National Assembly recently approved the ratification of the 2003 Convention; giving it the opportunity to focus on the 2005 Convention, which the Ministry of Culture found complex. The previous day's discussions on digital issues and preferential treatment were much appreciated.
53. The Delegation of **Latvia** appreciated the exchange session on digital issues, noting the forward looking nature of the Convention and its relevance to the Post-2015 Agenda. The government of Latvia has taken many measures to implement the Convention, through the establishment of its first national agenda for creative industries, a new law in preparation on the status of artists, and the establishment of a council on creative industries ensuring greater participation of civil society in decision-making processes. It highlighted Latvian creativity week, an event that has grown into a social movement promoting interest in cultural industries. New solutions in the management of social problems for sustainable development have been found that integrate culture into business development, economic growth, and urban and regional development. An ICT platform has been created to provide content for the general public and to ensure accessibility. It underscored the challenge of the ICT literacy gap, especially among the elderly with limited access to virtual cultural products, and acknowledged the success of ICTs in the creation of synergies between culture and education promoting new curricula for creative mindsets.
54. The Delegation of **Kenya** affirmed cultural diplomacy as one of the pillars of Kenyan foreign policy that has been included in its Constitution of 2010 and its cultural policy of 2012 as well as in its national development agenda and in its Vision 2030. Kenya gained immense benefits from its participation in the EU/UNESCO Expert Facility Project to strengthen governance for culture. As a result, Kenya is training musicians and visual artists to use ICTs to market their cultural goods and services. This includes a mobile money transfer system, and M-Pesa that is spreading across Africa. Focus on Article 21 and international trade agreements is important because while cultural cooperation and development involve known cultural experts, key players from various ministries and international organizations negotiating trade agreements often do not often involve culture sector stakeholders. The Delegation called on UNESCO to create a mechanism to cooperate with the World Trade Organization in areas of cultural industries. It also called for strengthening intellectual property rights to allow cultural actors to fully benefit from their creativity and to protect creative works from piracy. The Delegation called for a stronger emphasis on the protection and promotion of cultural creativity to enable creators to reap the maximum benefits from their creative works.

55. The Delegation of the **European Union** reaffirmed the EU's commitment to translate the Convention's objectives into its internal policies across fields such as culture, information society, intellectual property, and copyright. It has supported the Expert Facility since 2010 as part of an external policy to strengthen the system of governance for culture in developing countries. To date, experts have been providing technical assistance to 13 countries. The delegation highlighted an event in Brussels, Belgium celebrating the Convention's 10th anniversary involving representatives of the Expert Facility, beneficiary countries and some 30 non-European countries. At this event, the Director-General of UNESCO, the European Commissioner for Development, and the Director General for Education and Culture, all confirmed their unwavering support for the important cooperation between the EU and UNESCO on the Convention. There is a new political focus on culture and reflections have started on a new cultural diplomacy strategy. Within the 28 EU Member States, the cultural and creative sectors now contribute 4.4 percent to GDP and offer jobs to 8.5 million Europeans; twice the size of the car industry and including a larger proportion of young people than any other sector. As such, the Delegation underlined trade and digital issues as priority issues for the Conference of Parties. The Delegation concluded that while celebrating the 10th anniversary, efforts should focus on ensuring that the Convention's positive momentum be sustained. It outlined three priorities: 1) awareness raising and advocacy; 2) improving governance and capacity building at home and abroad; 3) the participation of civil society, including representatives of women and young people.
56. The Delegation of **Barbados** acknowledged the Convention as a platform for worldwide socioeconomic development and the resiliency of cultural industries in times of uncertainty. Results of its implementation of the Convention include the Cultural Industries Development Act of 2015 which supports cultural industries and sustainable development. This act provides a regulatory framework to facilitate and encourage the sustainable growth and development of cultural industries, funding and tax concessions for cultural projects, and provisions for the establishment of a Cultural Industries Development Authority responsible for promoting and facilitating sustainable marketing strategies for cultural industries. Barbados encourages public-private partnerships through its Cultural Industries Development Fund, managed by the Authority, which provides financing for culture projects and programs such as the National Culture Foundation's program nurturing artistic interest and skills. The Delegation recognized the role of modern technology in preserving traditions and its potential for disseminating diverse cultural expressions, characterizing it as essential for promoting youth involvement in cultural activities; recognizing its cultural ambassador, Rihanna, as testament of the importance of youth involvement. It hosts cultural exchanges through bilateral cultural cooperation agreements, workshops, and conferences. The Delegation reaffirmed its commitment to multilateral work, commending its close relationship with and participation in the Organization of American States and UNESCO activities, and announced its organization of the Carifesta in 2017, an international multicultural Caribbean arts festival recognizing the importance of the Convention for small island developing states. It concluded by calling for further consideration of Articles 16 and 21.
57. The Delegation of **Bosnia and Herzegovina** highlighted its celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Convention through a one-day event held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is both a beneficiary and a contributor to the IFCD, an important instrument both for the support of cultural projects and for increasing the visibility of the Convention, as evidenced by the numerous applications made annually. The Delegation called for stronger cooperation between States and civil society, which it felt was crucial to achieve all of the Convention's objectives.
58. The Delegation of **Burkina Faso** recognized the significant advances the Convention has created for implementing national cultural policy. The most important advances gained from its technical and financial assistance are: a cultural decentralization project making culture a common value throughout the territorial collectivity; a strategy to integrate the arts and culture in the national educational system; and the realization of a study on the impact of culture on development. A center for performing arts in Africa has been established as a

UNESCO Category 2 Centre accompanying African countries in the elaboration of cultural policies. It mentioned four challenges faced by countries such as Burkina Faso: 1) the transversality of culture, which requires cross-sector participation in culture for development; 2) the need to take culture into account in bilateral cooperation agreements, compounded by the absence of culture and its representatives in debates and agreements; 3) the challenge of digital technology; and 4) the strategic management of Convention-related actions, which the Delegation felt could be addressed through Member State access to UNESCO planning for the Convention in the medium and long terms.

59. The Delegation of **Côte d'Ivoire** recalled its 2007 ratification of the Convention and how it shaped its 2014 National Cultural Policy Law which places culture at the center of sustainable development. The Delegation detailed the creation of a division charged uniquely with the promotion of cultural industries and Convention-related laws such as: a law on freedom of the press, a fund to support the press and a law on the book publishing industry. Since 2008, an annual cultural festival and the Support Fund for Culture and Artistic Creation have existed. The Support Fund for the Film Industry was established by the Office of Cinema. Considering the fight for the protection of artistic works against piracy, Côte d'Ivoire conducted a 2015 revision of a 1996 law on authors rights and the Decree of the Ivoirian Office of Authors Rights taking into account the digital aspects of intellectual property right protection. A piracy brigade fighting nationally against piracy was set up as well as a National Institute of Arts and Culture (INSAC), an arts high school training cultural actors and organizing seminars to promote the Convention.
60. The Delegation of **Italy** affirmed its long-standing recognition of culture as a vector for sustainable development, evidenced by its support of UNESCO's efforts to include culture in the Post-2015 Agenda. Italy organized the 3rd UNESCO Forum for Cultural Industries in Florence, which resulted in a declaration emphasizing the importance of culture in sustainable development. This declaration was presented to Ministers of Culture at the Universal Exposition in Milan, July 31-August 1st 2015. Italy supports the work of the Secretariat by providing an Associate Expert to assist the Secretariat in Convention-related activities.
61. The Delegation of the **United Republic of Tanzania** acknowledged UNESCO efforts and engagement in the promotion of the Convention despite the limited financial resources available, affirming its commitment to Convention implementation. It noted the Convention's usefulness in promoting youth, women, engagement in the community, and fighting against poverty. Developing countries are facing numerous challenges. They require capacity-building, assistance to further encourage local NGOs to participate in policy making and access to IFCD support. It had not yet succeeded in this regard because of its inability to fulfill some of the application conditions. The Delegation affirmed its engagement with cultural activities and mentioned the annual Sauti Za Busara Festival, the Voice of Wisdom Festival, and its annual event at the Village Museum featuring one of the United Republic of Tanzania's 120 cultures in a national celebration. This event demonstrates the government's commitment to promoting the cultural expression of all of its citizens.
62. The **Chairperson** concluded that the General Debate provided reassuring evidence of many initiatives around the world to implement the Convention and to celebrate its 10th anniversary. There appeared to be consensus among the Parties on themes for the future workplan, including digital issues, the links between culture and development, the implementation of Articles 16 and 21, the status of the artist and the engagement of civil society in policy making and the work of the governing bodies. The Chairperson declared the General Debate closed.

Item 6 - Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties (Document CE/15/5.CP/6)

63. The **Chairperson** opened agenda item 6 calling on Mr Mikael Schultz, Rapporteur of the seventh ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee, to present its Report.
64. The **Rapporteur** recalled that the Committee had met for its seventh and eighth ordinary sessions and had taken a total of 34 decisions since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties. With regard to the IFCD and its fundraising strategy, the Committee approved 17 new projects for financing and allocated approximately 100,000 USD to the Secretariat to carry out fundraising activities. In both sessions the Committee expressed concern for the lack of financial contributions. It requested the Secretariat to seek a professional company with fundraising experience to implement this strategy. The Committee reviewed the IOS reports concerning the working methods of the cultural conventions, and the desk study on the implementation of the 2005 Convention. The Committee requested that the Parties provide extra-budgetary resources to fully implement the IOS recommendations. Informations collected from the quadrennial periodic reports were examined and the importance of these reports was underlined. The Committee revised the operational guidelines concerning Article 9, now transmitted for approval by the Conference of the Parties, and underscored the need to give priority to gender equality and youth. The ratification strategy was reviewed, resulting in a Committee request for Parties and civil society to continue their efforts. Regarding Article 16 on preferential treatment and Article 21 on international coordination and cooperation, the Committee requested the Secretariat to collect and analyze data on the implementation of these articles in order to further develop a platform, a database, and training modules on their implementation. Considering the need to include these articles in the global capacity-building strategy, the Committee requested the Secretariat to organize an exchange session between the Parties and economic and trade experts with the involvement of civil society. The Committee requested that the Secretariat be given the mandate by the Conference of the Parties to prepare draft operational guidelines on digital issues and the diversity of cultural expressions. The Rapporteur underscored the Committee's increasing engagement with members of civil society and the enhancement of the role of civil society in the preparation of periodic reports as indicated in the revised draft operational guidelines.

Resolution 5.CP 6 was adopted.

Item 7 - Secretariat's report on its activities (Document CE/15/5.CP/7)

65. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretary to present its activities report.
66. The **Secretary of the Convention** indicated that Document 7 provided information on the progress made by the Secretariat to implement the decisions of the governing bodies as measured against the performance indicators and targets defined in the 37 C/5. It also provides an overview of the challenges and the remedial actions taken by the Secretariat to achieve the targets.

The Secretariat has been particularly engaged in fundraising activities to support the implementation of the global capacity-building strategy adopted by the seventh ordinary session of the Committee. Support obtained from SIDA helped to implement one part of this strategy and the Secretariat was looking for resources for the other major components; namely, continuing technical assistance on the governance of culture. Capacity-building was accomplished in partnership with the Convention's Expert Facility, established with the support of the European Union, and was recently expanded to diversify the areas of expertise and geographic representation to carry out the work identified in the SIDA-supported project.

In pursuit of its main function to collect and disseminate information, the Secretariat worked with experts to analyze the periodic reports, to develop and implement indicators, and to undertake research on new issues. The Secretariat performed analyses of over 50 trade agreements, the results of which would be made available online on the Convention website, including a comprehensive database on how the Convention has been taken into account in trade agreements. Information and experiences were being organized in the Knowledge Management System and were informing the Secretariat's daily and future work, such as drafting training modules with the Expert Facility. New guides on the IFCD's application process were being finalized, as was a new guide on the innovative methodology to implement technical assistance designed through the European Union-supported project.

The Secretary of the Convention indicated that all of the evidence collected was also informing UNESCO's two global priorities, Africa and gender equality, as well as UNESCO's advocacy for the inclusion of culture in the Post-2015 Agenda. The Convention also featured prominently in the UNESCO World Forum on Culture and Cultural Industries, the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2011 and 2013 on Culture and Sustainable Development as well as in the UN Secretary General's report of July 2014 on Globalization and Interdependence. The Convention and its objectives had also been raised by several delegations in New York during the special thematic debates on culture and development in the Post-2015 Agenda.

The Secretary of the Convention thanked the European Union, the governments of Spain and Italy as well as the Danish Center for Culture and Development for their support of the Secretariat's work on knowledge production and management in the past two years, and acknowledged the support from SIDA which would help part of this work to continue in the future.

The Secretariat participated in several audits and evaluations on working methods for the improvement of its performance and impact. These reports identified the challenge of the governing bodies' and global stakeholders' increasing expectations and workload for the Secretariat, which the IOS audit confirmed had a real impact on what it can deliver. The Secretariat was doing its best to respond to all the demands it received, but it required additional expertise to fully address new thematic fields of critical importance for future implementation that were determined as priority by the governing bodies including trade, digital issues, and achieving a worldwide balance in the flow of cultural goods and services through the introduction of preferential treatment measures.

67. The **Chairperson** underscored the importance of the financial restrictions in relation to setting priorities for the Committee and the Secretariat. He emphasized the serious impact of financial limitations on the Culture Sector and commended the Secretariat for its impressive work despite these restrictions.
68. All Parties appreciated the quality of the Secretariat's work and its report.
69. The Delegation of **Brazil** proposed that the Secretariat increase its field activities, providing more time and people for on-the-ground technical assistance and training modules. It recognized that achieving this would necessitate an increase in Culture Sector staff working with the Convention and suggested inviting Member States to provide some specialists to work for UNESCO on a two or three year basis on a short-term secondment agreement. This could help increase Convention activities while training Member State personnel to share their experiences, skills, and professionalism. This proposal was endorsed by the Delegation of **Saint Lucia**.
70. The Delegation of **Norway** referred to the 2013 IOS audit conclusion on the need for streamlining synergies between and coordination among conventions. It asked to what extent the establishment of the Conventions Common Services Unit contributed to facilitating the work of the Secretariat and to developing critical synergies and coordination.

71. The Delegation of the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** affirmed its honor to have presided over the Committee for the past two years, emphasizing and commending the high-quality nature of his collaborations with the Secretary of the Convention and her team.
72. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** expressed its satisfaction with the results of the consultations and information collected on Articles 16 and 21, which it found to be highly valuable. It requested that the Secretariat communicate these results to increase the visibility of the Convention due to the substance and interest of the results for all Member States, the larger global community, and for civil society. It fully supported the creation of a new training module on Article 16 and 21, expressing its conviction that this module would be requested by both developing and developed countries.
73. The Delegation of **Honduras** noted the limited financial resources available for Convention implementation, commending the Secretariat for making a significant contribution despite financial limitations. The Delegation highlighted the Secretariat's capacity-building activities, thanking Sweden for its support and cooperation in this area. The Delegation characterized the culture indicators in capacity-building activities as a point of interest for many regions of the world. As such, it highlighted the need to share this information widely as a leveraging tool helping regions such as Central America, South America, and Africa to better work with additional access to Convention information.
74. The Delegation of the **United Arab Emirates** reaffirmed its support of the Convention and acknowledged the need to promote the Convention nationally; pledging its readiness to extend the support needed by the Secretariat. The United Arab Emirates has a cultural diversity of people from more than 200 countries and represents a new and genuine center of gravity for people working in culture, in the areas of books, audiovisual production, and music.
75. The Delegation of **Germany** reaffirmed the innovation of this Convention and underscored the importance of the Convention's spirit that goes beyond what Parties can do alone. It commended the Secretariat's knowledge management and work to bring everyone together in an open spirit of cooperation to discuss diverse issues. The Delegation considered this a good practice example in UNESCO, especially the exchange sessions that brought different sectors together to pool the knowledge needed to strengthen the Convention.

[Observers]

76. The representative of the **IFCCD** noted the omission of civil society in the Secretariat's report, underscoring the significant achievements and progress made by civil society in its involvement and participation in the Convention. The representative highlighted civil society submissions of information documents for and involvement in discussions leading up to meetings for the benefit of all participants, and emphasized the ability of civil society to contribute to quadrennial reports, characterizing this as part of the Convention's novelty. The Convention's anniversary could be used to find opportunities to further mobilize civil society and increase cooperation between civil society and the Parties.
77. The **Secretary of the Convention** acknowledged the importance of partnerships with civil society. Addressing Norway's question, the Secretary detailed the preparation of a report on the follow-up to the IOS evaluation with a particular focus on the synergies built between the different Secretariats on their working methods. In addition to the working group established between Secretaries of Conventions, sub-groups between the professionals working on common activities have been established, allowing for a continuous exchange on periodic reporting, international assistance and knowledge management. The Common Services Unit is part of the complete reorganization of the Culture Sector. The addition of different functions in the logistics unit, namely fundraising, communication, and partnership building was highlighted. The IOS and the Culture Sector are working on an evaluation of this Unit.

78. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put Resolution 5.CP7 on the screen, confirming that no written amendments to the resolution had been received.
79. The Delegation of **Ecuador** proposed the addition of a paragraph to “Encourage the Secretariat to continue developing synergies with other cultural conventions of UNESCO”. The Delegation noted similar paragraphs in other resolutions related to the 1970 and 1972 Conventions. The Delegation underscored its continual encouragement of the Secretariat to improve synergies as a means of saving UNESCO’s valuable resources during a difficult time. This proposal was supported by the delegations of **Norway, Egypt, Argentina, and Finland**.
80. The Delegation of the **European Union** asked for a point of clarification on paragraph 5 and what “38 C/5” referred to specifically.
81. **Secretary of the Convention** specified that the 38 C/5 is UNESCO’s program document that sets out specific Main Lines of Action for each Sector with expected results (one for each Convention), performance indicators and benchmarks. The Secretariat’s report was not necessarily harmonized with this macro level reporting; as such, the Secretariat attempted to align the decisions of the governing bodies with decisions taken by the Member States in the context of the 38 C/5 exercise.
82. The Delegation of **Germany** noted that the IOS evaluation encouraged synergies not only between the individual Convention Secretariats but also among the Parties and expert communities attached to all culture conventions. It asked if some of the same elements would show up in the decision-making bodies of other cultural conventions; expressing hesitation to task synergies exclusively to the Secretariat despite its approval of the spirit and the intention behind the amendment. In this context, it recalled the upcoming World Heritage Committee session including a joint working session for the chairpersons of all governing bodies.
83. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** proposed that all additions to the end of paragraph 5 (now 6) be deleted and that the draft resolution be adopted with the original wording, “38 C/5”. The delegation posited that since the C/5 would be adopted in November, the Secretariat would soon be implementing the activities of the C/5 itself and would be reporting at the next Conference of Parties on the activities in the C/5; therefore the addition of words such as “draft” or “exercise of production” in reference to the C/5 was difficult to understand. This proposal was supported by the delegations of **Mexico, Portugal, Cuba, Paraguay, and Grenada**.
84. The **Chairperson** asked if the resolution could be adopted as amended with a simplified paragraph 6 ending after the words “the period 2016-2017”. Seeing no objections, the Chairperson declared the resolution adopted as amended.

Resolution 5.CP 7 was adopted as amended.

Item 8 - Report on the Evaluation of UNESCO’s Standard-setting Work of the Culture Sector Part IV – 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Documents CE/15/5.CP/8 and CE/15/5.CP/INF.8)

85. The **Chairperson** introduced the agenda item, indicating that the Committee, at its eighth ordinary session, asked the Secretariat to transmit the IOS report to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties accompanied by a summary of the Committee’s debates on the report. The Chairperson invited the Director of the IOS to present a global overview of the report.

86. The representative of the **Internal Oversight Service** recalled that this desk study was part of a series of IOS evaluations on four of the conventions, highlighting the synergies shown between the findings of each of the evaluations. The representative affirmed that parts 1, 2, and 3 of the desk study had already been presented to the Intergovernmental Committee. Its purpose was to assess the relevance and effectiveness of the standard-setting work related to the Convention; summarized by the basic question, “what difference does it make?” The desk study included recommendations directed to Member States, the Secretariat, the Committee, and the Parties on directions for future work and it focused on the extent to which the Parties have integrated the provisions of the Convention in their legislation, policies, and strategies.

The first key issue was the importance of sharing good practices among Parties, intergovernmental organizations, and civil society organizations on the design and implementation of cultural policies, the integration of culture in sustainable development strategies, and the strengthening of the cultural dimensions in international development policies. Another key issue identified was the impact of Articles 16 and 21 as related to the international trade agenda. The third issue was the need to encourage Parties to consider the implications of the Convention in terms of cultural governance. For example: coordinating the relationships between national governments and the different tiers of government; promoting public-private partnerships and the participation of civil society; and providing technical assistance focusing on these areas. The need to pay special attention to the cultural industries as well as to the role of civil society actors was also highlighted. The representative suggested that Parties consider the adoption of long-term strategies to address these needs and that an overall results framework for the Convention be developed including objectives, indicators, and benchmarks. This recommendation was also made for other UNESCO conventions.

The representative discussed the overall results framework, noting that the desk study pointed to the need to use a theory of change, which is an intervention logic reflecting on the assumptions behind actions. For example, if the Convention was ratified by Member States it should lead to national policies and measures. If those national policies and measures are put into place, they should lead to certain effects such as enhanced cooperation with the private sector or the strengthening of the capacity of public institutions and professionals. The achievement of each result comes with the assumption that it will lead to some other result, creating a chain of assumptions of the effects of actions. It is important to understand the assumptions behind Convention work so that outcomes can be understood in relation to the differences between the assumed and the actual results of actions. This would then form the basis of a common framework for adoption in the pursuit of the Convention’s work.

The representative expressed appreciation of the Secretariat’s efforts to advance the evaluation recommendations and acknowledged the significant progress made. Some of the recommendations were not cost-neutral and would require additional resources.

87. The Delegation of **Denmark** highlighted the lack of policies addressing barriers of access to the enjoyment of and participation in cultural life faced by individuals and social groups as defined in Article 7. It reflected on the need for strategies to address this issue in the future, asking if this challenge could include the aspects of empowerment and democratic values identified in the General Debate and whether this issue could be identified as a transversal issue in the next monitoring report. It expressed its appreciation of the IOS evaluation of the Culture Sector’s standard-setting work and its particular interest in the theory of change which helped to evaluate the Convention’s impact. The theory’s relevance to presenting Convention benefits to stakeholders and potential donors was underscored. The Delegation asked the IOS for additional details on its experience developing a theory of change in other Conventions. It asked whether this Convention could benefit from that work. The Delegations of **Sweden** and **Saint Lucia** concurred with this question.

88. The Delegation of **Sweden** underscored the financial and staff costs involved in implementing the recommendations and the need to prioritize the suggestions with a forward-looking vision. It flagged recommendations 9 and 10 as very important, to raise awareness of the Convention among countries that are still not Party as well as to work on an overall results framework.
89. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** asked how the theory fit with results-based budgeting and how many tools Parties were going to deal with, and what the financial and staff implications of such an evaluation tool would be.
90. The Delegation of **Argentina** reflected on the factors affecting Convention implementation, recalling the challenge of mainstreaming culture in the Post-2015 Agenda and reaffirming its commitment to increase the Convention's visibility as a means of doing so. The Delegation reiterated the need to promote Convention growth through ratifications, and asked for more information on the potential application of the evaluation to the mainstreaming challenge. It characterized benchmark data on cultural policies as influential factors to Convention implementation and called for specific investigations on the impact of cultural industries on the economy. Signaling the lack of reference data on this point, it expressed interest in seeing what the impact of these policies would be and how they would dovetail with economic policy to provide a snapshot of economic development. The Delegation reflected on the kinds of cultural indicators that could be used, referring to the development of a cultural information system with data from 10 countries members of the MERCOSUR. The Delegation specified that information collected from the cultural information system was included in gauging the economic impact of the cultural industries to assist with public policy decision-making.
91. The Delegation of **Zimbabwe** stated that many of the results related to culture needed to be made more explicit in order to make a better case to the broader community of development practitioners and government bodies. The Delegation confirmed that seeking funds for culture was still not as straightforward as seeking funds for agriculture or health. Despite the challenges, the Delegation confirmed that there were leaders and politicians trying to inform the public that culture and cultural industries, like agriculture, can play an important role in the economy and for social development. It called for the advancement of this work on the theory of change and for more information on the results of applying this work to other Conventions.
92. The **Chairperson** noted that he had seen the dichotomy of culture and agriculture complicate the presentation of convincing data on culture due to the methodological difficulty of gathering effective qualitative data on the arts. The Chairperson asked what methodology could be applied to evaluate improvements in arts quality.
93. The representative of the **Internal Oversight Service** underscored the technical nature of the theory of change. If there is a failure to address the implementation of a policy, it is necessary to understand the reasons for this and to develop implementation strategies to achieve an end goal. The representative endorsed Denmark's suggestion to use empowerment and democratic values as a possible way forward, and identified this as a good example of how a results chain can be developed based on perceptions of what can work, but underscored the necessity of holding discussions to identify gaps, areas in need of improvement, and strategies to address these areas as Member States.

The representative stressed that developing a theory of change was a consultative process involving many different stakeholders. The representative hoped this would become a tool for Member States to use in identifying their focus areas. Other conventions include theories of change in their reports, but time is needed for evaluations to work their way through different Convention meetings. It is a tool for dialogue and engagement to foster a common vision of a desired outcome or direction.

The IOS evaluation acknowledges the costs involved in some of its recommendations. Parties make strategic decisions to invest in certain issues in order for the Convention to work to its full extent and they set priorities. Working with so many different frameworks is difficult. The results framework is part of a results-based budgeting approach because it can provide an understanding of the value for money, which is absolutely necessary to achieve results. The representative highlighted this as the moment for discussion based on comprehensive and complex questions, identifying theory of change as the beginning of the discussion that would lead to agreement on the kinds of activities and results desired and the costs needed to achieve them.

There is a challenge to include culture in the Post-2015 Agenda and there has been progress in generating an understanding of the importance of culture. The representative suggested that reflection be conducted on why culture has not been fully understood and what is needed to put it on the map, noting that the IOS evaluation indicates a need for: more awareness; outreach to different partners; showing the relevance of culture; and showing what happens if culture is not addressed. A results framework can identify desired results and show the importance of investment in culture. The representative acknowledged the difficulty involved in highly qualitative measurement and underscored the importance of using a baseline. This necessitates establishing an initial assessment of quality that is used as a point of comparison to interpret later measurements. For example, by establishing an initial baseline on arts quality in a given locale, it is possible to reevaluate that quality in five years time, using differences between the baseline and the new measurement as evidence of change. This is an important distinction both for program evaluators and for providing feedback to constituents and stakeholders. An extensive amount of analysis is required and using the framework is important in order to understand directions, results, and reasons for why the goals defined therein were or were not achieved.

94. The **Secretary of the Convention** thanked the representative of the IOS for the excellent work, and cooperation with the Secretariat. The evaluations created learning opportunities. The Secretary of the Convention highlighted the need to distinguish between the Secretariat's monitoring of Convention implementation as a whole and the specific questions of monitoring what is happening within the countries themselves; referring to the periodic reporting mechanisms for country-level monitoring. Addressing a question on the indicators used in countries to measure the impact of cultural policies, it was noted that while there are several good practices, many countries were not able to show the relationship between indicators and a certain impact over time. The introduction of indicators should be encouraged in individual countries with reflection on which indicators those should be.

The Secretary of the Convention expressed appreciation for the support from Sweden in helping to develop a monitoring and results framework for the Convention as proposed in the IOS desk study. This would help frame the first Global Monitoring Report to be published in December 2015. The results framework helps to identify the Convention's global impact over the past 10 years.

95. The Delegation of **Brazil** commented on the lack of baseline data on cultural policies and cultural industries, and underscored the importance of common denominators in terms of data, measurements, and achievements. The Delegation reflected on designing guidelines with the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) and the Secretariat for harmonizing data collection methodologies for the Parties. It suggested that this be done regionally, not globally, due to the marked differences between regions, citing its experience collecting South American data with Argentina and SICSUR. It suggested identifying regional indicators for the GRULAC region while other regions could do the same. This would necessitate some interaction to ensure similarities in thinking and in efforts undertaken. The Delegation asked what steps and resources would be required to do so, reflected on the possibility of adding resources, and asked how guidelines provided by the IOS in cooperation with the Secretariat, the UIS, and some regions and Parties could be used in the short and medium term.

96. The representative of the **Internal Oversight Service** underscored the need for a common results framework in order to identify indicators that could be used to evaluate the achievement of results. Indicators needed to be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely (“SMART”). The cost-effective way to proceed was to find and use available indicators, varying among countries and regions, as a starting point for developing methodological guidelines in partnership with the UIS. The representative emphasized the need to harmonize data collection methodology for indicators to enable comparability, which would require a combined effort with the Secretariat. While performance results broken down by region is interesting, it is useful for Parties to begin at the country level. This was also a good opportunity for South-South cooperation between States.
97. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put draft resolution 5.CP 8 on the screen and read out the resolution in its entirety. The Chairperson confirmed the absence of written amendments and invited the Parties to intervene. Seeing no comments from the Parties, the Chairperson declared Resolution 5.CP 8 adopted with no amendments thanking everyone for their participation.

Resolution 5.CP 8 was adopted.

98. The **Chairperson** opened the session commending the rich discussions with the Bureau members at their morning meeting. He informed the Parties of the presence of Her Excellency Clariza Lisbeth Castellanos Diaz, the **Vice-Minister of Culture**, Guatemala, and gave her the floor.
99. Her Excellency Clariza Lisbeth Castellanos Diaz affirmed Guatemala’s rich multicultural, multilingual, multiethnic population including many different peoples, languages, national dress, national dishes, music and archaeological artifacts. Culture is enshrined in its legislative framework and its national constitution, which guarantees the safeguarding of cultural specificities, the Maya languages, and the creative processes of its cultural communities. The Vice-Minister outlined laws protecting linguistic diversity, artisanal handicrafts, and the music of its people which are vital tools to safeguard the culture of Guatemala’s native peoples in the long-term. The Vice-Minister noted the celebration of the sixth era of the Mayan people as an example of how archeological and cultural research have contributed to an understanding of the importance of safeguarding culture. The national languages show a distinct and unique link with the country’s natural surroundings, because the initial concepts of many words in the Mayan language demonstrate its cultural transcendence. The Vice-Minister outlined the celebration of several national days, the promotion of mobile training courses, language competitions to foster pride in young people’s use of indigenous languages, and courses in other cultural aspects such as gastronomy. These developments are a renaissance of teaching indigenous languages and history which the government feels is very important in order to recover lost history for the wealth of the whole country. Cultural industries are given support, as are different forms of expression and different fora for the live manifestations of all cultures.

Item 9a - Analytical summary of quadrennial periodic reports of Parties to the Convention (Documents CE/15/5.CP/9a and its Annex, CE/15/5.CP/INF.4, CE/15/5.CP/INF.5, and CE/15/5.CP/INF.9)

100. The **Chairperson** proceeded to agenda item 9, asking the Secretary of the Convention to present the relevant documents.
101. The **Secretary of the Convention** presented the Secretariat’s report that provides an analysis of the quadrennial periodic reports (QPRs) examined by the Committee during the 2013-2014 period. All QPRs are available on the Convention website. Two-thirds of the reports were submitted in English, one-third in French and one in Spanish. Forty percent of

the reports submitted included some statistical data in the optional statistical annex. The Secretariat received 71 reports while 116 reports were expected, representing approximately a 60 percent submission rate. The majority of the reports were submitted by Groups I and II; 12 reports were submitted from the Latin American and Caribbean Region, representing about one half of the number expected; 6 from the Asia Pacific Region, a little over half of the reports expected; 9 by African countries, representing about two-thirds of the reports that were expected; and 6 from the Arab States, representing over two-thirds of the reports expected.

In examining the reports over the past two years, several themes emerged as important policy issues crucial for future implementation. The role of civil society has been identified by the eighth session of the Committee as an important agenda item to be treated separately at its ninth ordinary session. The importance of Article 16 on preferential treatment, at the core of the concerns of developing countries, was also underscored as a priority theme. Among the challenges that were raised by the Committee with respect to periodic reporting were the lack of financial and human resources and the continued lack of awareness of the Convention's scope and objectives. Therefore, the Committee requested the Secretariat to actively help the Parties address these challenges and strengthen national capacities for implementation, monitoring, and reporting. The Committee discussed the need to develop an indicator framework for the Convention and to organize in-country trainings. It also recognized the importance of knowledge management and the efforts by the Secretariat to develop a system that would make better use of the existing information and data including the innovative policy and program examples currently online. The Secretary of the Convention recognized the funding provided by SIDA as improving the Secretariat's position to continue its work. Some of the Committee members also highlighted the importance of identifying incentives to motivate Parties to prepare their reports; suggesting the promotion of good practices via the Global Report monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

The analysis of the quadrennial period reports demonstrated continuity in the direction of country-level implementation, in particular regarding the adoption of new measures to support creativity, to expand domestic markets, and to strengthen cultural production and distribution capacities. New policies and programs integrating culture into both national and international growth and development strategies are being designed, coupled with the establishment of new coordination mechanisms and governance models. The analysis revealed that developing countries are increasingly active in South-South or regional cooperation via programs to support artists' mobility and exchanges of cultural goods and services. Three transversal studies from recognized international experts were commissioned in response to the decisions taken by the Committee on Party measures related to digital technologies, public service broadcasting, and calls for more detailed analysis on the role of civil society. The Secretariat also commissioned a separate analysis on measures taken to promote gender equality; the findings of which were integrated in UNESCO's World Report on Gender and Culture. A transversal study on the status of artists was conducted and presented to the Committee at its seventh session. Good practices from all of these transversal analyses were identified and included in Working Document 5, Annex 4 and in the Convention database on good practices.

Over one-third of the Parties reported specific measures taken in the last three to five years in the area of public service media and policy and regulatory measures related to audiovisual media. This points to the relevance of media diversity and illustrates a political will to promote the diversity of cultural expressions via high quality media content. The analysis also identified trends including those addressing the digitization of content and media convergence with the rise of digital networks and online platforms. The expert report concluded that media cannot be enhanced where media freedom and related basic fundamental freedoms are absent, and highlighted the relevance of this issue to the Convention.

102. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention, acknowledging the progress made by the Parties in quadrennial periodic reporting, highlighting the challenges for most Parties with this exercise. He welcomed the increased quality and number of reports. The Chairperson commended Sweden for its assistance addressing the priority challenges identified by the Committee.
103. The Delegation of **Canada** congratulated the Parties that submitted their quadrennial reports, underscored the importance of the priority issues they identified, and acknowledged the significant resources involved in producing a periodic report, especially in terms of data collection. It emphasized the need for contextualized, relevant, and reliable data in order to identify the needs and measures for further implementation. The Delegation highlighted a symposium organized by the Canadian Coalition for Cultural Diversity, the Faculty of Law of Laval University, and the National Institute for Scientific Research held in Quebec on the day of the Convention's anniversary to develop cultural indicators for the Convention, and identified the quadrennial reports as broad sources of rich information which Parties must supply and update at all times.
104. The Delegation of **Cuba** underscored the importance of circulating this information to identify needs and country successes, as well as for the optimum utilization of the reports available on the Convention website. It confirmed its 2012 report submission, signaled its absence from the list of countries with submissions in the Annex of the information document, and asked that this be amended to include it on the list.
105. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that the countries listed in the Annex of the information document included only those that submitted reports in 2013 and 2014; therefore, Cuba was listed for its submission in 2012 and not in this report. The Secretariat acknowledged Cuba's 2012 submission, as reflected in the report submitted to the last Conference of Parties.
106. The Delegation of **Cuba** thanked the Secretary for the clarification and noted that one of the documents related to the Secretariat's analysis did mention countries who had submitted reports in the 2012-2014 period.
107. The **Chairperson** noted that Lithuania was also not mentioned in the analysis despite its 2012 submission and recalled the Secretariat's explanation.
108. The Delegation of the **Czech Republic** noted that the Annex indicated that the Czech Republic should submit its second periodic report in 2016 despite its 2010 ratification of the Convention and timely submission of its first periodic report in 2014. The Czech Republic underscored that according to Article 9 of the Convention, Parties should report every four years, or in 2018; therefore, the Delegation asked that this be corrected in the report.
109. The **Secretary of the Convention** affirmed that the first periodic reporting exercise started in 2012 and that when the periodic framework was adopted it included the idea for Parties ratifying in the 2007-2010 period to submit their periodic reports during the first cycle. The Secretary of the Convention confirmed that the report from the Czech Republic was indeed due in 2018 and apologized for the error in the document.
110. The Delegation of **Nigeria** confirmed that it would submit a very detailed report in 2016. Considering the lack of report submissions from African countries, it asked what mechanisms were in place to encourage or assist countries failing to respond to submission requirements.
111. The Delegation of **Indonesia** confirmed preparations of its first report for March 2016 and its use of other country reports and consultations with the Secretariat to do so. It reflected on the possibility of preparing a template for the reports to facilitate submissions, highlighted its participation in a report preparation workshop at the UNESCO Office in Bangkok.

112. The **Secretary of the Convention** indicated that in the case of Africa, to increase the number of reports expected, or in the case of Indonesia, to help prepare its first report, the Secretariat is developing further its capacity-building platforms. It thanked Sweden again for supporting its new program to help countries prepare their periodic reports and recalled its need for partners, such as SIDA, to ensure this work in the future.
113. The Delegation of **China** confirmed its first cycle report submission and asked for more information on changes in the second cycle. It recalled that the priorities set out by the Committee clearly illustrated the need for communication and exchange between the Parties; noting that report preparation gave Parties the opportunity to better understand the Convention, and to review and improve its implementation. The Delegation underscored the significant human and financial resources required in report preparation, acknowledging the high number and diversity of actors involved including national authorities of culture, financial departments, and civil society. It emphasized the challenge, for many Parties, of conducting public and private sector consultations including civil society. The Delegation confirmed its expected report submission in April 2016, emphasized its need for training and assistance, and expressed hope that the Secretariat would be in a position to provide this training. It reflected on the possibility of organizing regional training workshops and good practice exchanges between Parties and international experts; affirming its willingness to extend support to the Secretariat. It asked if the six month reminder for Party submissions, called for under the operational guidelines, could be sent out twelve months in advance.
114. The **Chairperson** highlighted the challenge for many countries posed by the increasingly complicated reporting mechanisms and asked for opinions on this issue, recalling the Committee's invitation for new themes in reporting. The Chairperson shared the Committee's uncertainty about proceeding with new mechanisms or complicating the reporting process in light of the difficulties already involved in reporting; flagging this issue as especially important due to the limited financial and human resources available for assisting countries with capacity-building and report preparation.
115. The Delegation of **Oman** suggested that some countries may need incentives to help them draft the report and submit it on time. It asked what the Secretariat could do to help and suggested that reminder letters be sent to Parties at intervals. It further reflected on the possibility of creating a list of available experts on the UNESCO website to help countries if needed. The Delegation recalled the 2012 submission of its first report, affirmed its current preparations for its 2016 report, and its availability to assist the Secretariat on this issue.
116. The Delegation of **Barbados** regretted not submitting its report. It endorsed questions on additional clarity in the periodic reporting form and its intention to submit information useful to the community. As such, it joined in asking for guidance and assistance with producing its report. The Delegation confirmed its willingness to work towards fulfilling its reporting duties before the end of the year.
117. The Delegation of the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** underscored the need to define metrics for informing national governments and civil society stakeholders on the sufficiency of efforts made to implement the priorities of the Convention. Emphasizing the difficulty to advance culture in the absence of tangible metrics to measure its success, the Delegation noted that UNESCO was not the only organization addressing this issue and cited the work of the European Commission and the European Council. In light of the financial constraints, it asked what steps were being taken by the Secretariat to ensure that similar work in other organizations was integrated with UNESCO work.
118. The Delegation of **Argentina** recalled the difficulty it had preparing its first submission and confirmed a plan for improving the preparation of its next report in 2016. It differentiated the value of the report itself, in terms of its usefulness to the Committee and the Convention, from its internal and domestic value. It highlighted the usefulness of reevaluating national policies in the four-year period and examining long-term policies related to the Convention. This exercise promotes reflection on the intersection of Convention priorities and national

plans. The delegation underscored enhancing the cross-cutting analysis of the reports so that they can be used beyond their culture-specific aspects, ensuring comparability for the analysis of different countries or regions. It cited the reports on gender and culture as an example for future cross-cutting analytical exercises.

119. The **Secretary of the Convention** reflected on the possibility of conducting interviews after this session to capture the experiences of Parties preparing their first reports in order to share them with all Parties. Addressing the suggestion for incentives, the Secretary of the Convention recalled the development and importance of a platform for knowledge sharing that currently features 80 good practices on various priority themes. The Parties are encouraged to use this platform to showcase their policies and measures as an incentive for Parties' engagement in this exercise.

Acknowledging the challenges in preparing a report, the Secretary of the Convention emphasized the need for additional resources in order to create stronger assistance mechanisms. The funding provided by SIDA allowed the Secretariat to send experts to countries for capacity-building.

Addressing work being carried out by other international, intergovernmental, and regional economic organizations, the Secretary of the Convention confirmed close contact between the Secretariat and other agencies to exchange on experiences. For example, the Secretariat has regular exchanges with the Council of Europe on its indicator-building work for culture and democracy, and is working with the Council of Europe to see which indicators could be used in common in order to ensure that these issues are advanced in various contexts, globally through UNESCO and on a pan-European level through the Council of Europe.

120. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put the draft resolution on the screens, confirmed the absence of written amendments and read the resolution paragraph by paragraph. The Chairperson, seeing no objections or amendments, declared Resolution 5.CP 9a adopted.

Resolution 5.CP 9a was adopted.

Item 9b - Approval of the revised operational guidelines on Article 9 on information sharing and transparency (Documents CE/15/5.CP/9a and CE/15/5.CP/9b)

121. The **Chairperson** informed the Parties that the proposed revisions to the operational guidelines on Article 9 were adopted by the Committee at its eighth ordinary session in December 2014 and invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the revised guidelines.
122. The **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed that at its fourth ordinary session in June 2013, the Conference of Parties mandated the Committee to reexamine and, if necessary, revise the operational guidelines on Article 9 including the framework for quadrennial periodic reporting and its statistical annex. The Conference of Parties asked the Committee to submit the results of its work at its next and current session. While a number of revisions had been introduced, the key thematic areas identified for the framework had remained unchanged.

The Secretary of the Convention highlighted the proposed changes beginning with the introduction of a new section entitled "Overview of the Cultural Policy Context," aiming to give Parties a free space for reporting on the key objectives and priorities in their current cultural policy and asking them to report on the opportunities and challenges of the digital environment. The section on cultural policies and measures in the revised framework includes new targeted questions on measures taken on the national, regional, and local levels at different stages of the cultural value chain. The section on international cooperation has been separated into two distinct rubrics, one on international cultural cooperation and

one on preferential treatment. This was intended to avoid confusion and overlap occurring in some reports over the past years. The section on preferential treatment is organized in accordance with the methodology proposed by the expert Keith Nurse, asking Parties to identify measures that promote preferential treatment on three levels: individual, institutional, and industrial. This section was broken into two distinct rubrics to allow space for both developing and developed countries to provide information on their preferential treatment measures. During the Committee debates, the suggestion for only developed countries to report on preferential treatment measures was deemed inadequate considering the new work of developing countries to foster South-South cooperation which underscores the importance for all Parties to report on this issue.

The section on culture and development was clarified through the distinction made between international and national development assistance policies, programs, and plans. This structure is based on the methodology proposed by the expert David Throsby in his analysis of the periodic reports. The Secretary of the Convention explained that this reflects the reality that development work is for all countries, not just “developing” countries. Therefore, all Parties should report on how culture has been integrated into national development strategies and plans and how they have achieved economic, social, and environmental outcomes, how they have addressed fairness in the treatment of individuals and groups and equity in the distribution of cultural resources between urban and rural areas.

A new space has been added on transversal issues that would introduce a focus on a particular domain of policy making. The Conference of Parties was invited to identify a particular transversal issue for the 2016-2019 reporting cycle. Additionally, the revised framework adopted by the Committee included two questions: one on gender equality, with new targeted questions related to UNESCO’s global priority on gender; and one asking Parties to report on how they have implemented UNESCO’s operational strategy for youth.

The revision of the statistical annex by the UIS aimed to simplify the indicators presented and harmonize them with the media and Internet use indicators used by the Communication and Information Sector both in its 2008 development indicators framework and its 2014 World Trends Report on Freedom of Expression and Media Development. The revised periodic reporting framework is a mechanism to monitor indicators and includes specific questions on the overall impact of the Convention. The Secretary of the Convention highlighted some of these questions and confirmed that they have been used by the OECD to monitor the long-term impact of their policies on the ground. The results of this assessment and all of the issues addressed in the periodic reports would be published in the December 2015 Global Report monitoring the impact of the Convention.

123. The **Chairperson** thanked the Committee Members for their work on the guidelines and the positive results. The Chairperson reflected that some Parties may prefer that preferential treatment be addressed in the next periodic reporting cycle and invited a Committee Member to speak about work done on this issue. The Chairperson confirmed that the Secretariat had received some written amendments to draft resolution 5.CP 9b.
124. The Delegation of **Argentina** confirmed the Committee’s discussions to focus on preferential treatment as a priority issue. The Delegation specified that the new report template included a section for countries to share more information they deemed important. It reemphasized the culture and development nexus as fundamentally important and meriting attention. As such, it highlighted the addition of cross-cutting issues to the new report template as an important step to reflect new developments within Parties to the Convention. For example, in Argentina, a new inter-sectoral working group on the cultural industries has been established bringing together the Minister of Culture and the Ministry of Industry. The report template now also includes UNESCO’s priorities of gender equality and the role of youth that the Committee felt were important and useful to analyze.

125. The Delegation of **Denmark** supported the revisions of the operational guidelines and the revised framework for periodic reporting making it more impact-oriented with better targeted questions, such as those on youth. It found this was a constructive way of focusing Party reports as a tool to monitor the implementation and on-the-ground impact of the Convention, and it appreciated the introduction of a transversal theme. The Delegation remarked that it was challenging to report on policies as specified in Article 7 due to the way cultural policies are organized in Denmark. The Delegation also supported the IOS recommendation to address questions of gender in a more analytical manner to show why such policies may be lacking, and suggested that analyzing these kinds of issues from a democratic and empowerment perspective would provide a more nuanced approach. It suggested that while this may be an interesting transversal theme for a future reporting cycle, it acknowledged the Secretariat's limited resources and called for reactions on this issue. Denmark's proposed transversal theme was endorsed by the Delegations of **Sweden** and **Finland**.
126. The Delegation of **Sweden** underscored the importance of revising the guidelines in a way that did not increase pressure on the Parties and the Secretariat beyond its current capacities. Within this context, the Delegation suggested that the introduction of a transversal issue does not require much effort and builds on something already being done. It expressed its support for issues of gender and youth and suggested that it could be interesting to deepen this focus in the coming years.
127. The Delegation of **Brazil** recalled the 30-page limit of reports and cautioned against the addition of numerous new themes. In terms of identifying transversal issues, it underscored the work remaining on the issues already identified and suggested refraining from any new additions. It proposed that reporting on previously identified issues continue, such as on digital issues and civil society participation. It emphasized the need to provide more uniform data to the Secretariat for the improvement of the baselines used to measure the impact of the Convention. This comment was supported by the Delegation of **Germany**.
128. The Delegation of **Finland** appreciated the proposed amendments to the guidelines and the Secretariat's clarification on the section on culture and development via the distinction made between international development assistance policies and national-level development plans. Recalling the discussion of statistics, it underscored the challenges of collecting solid data from the various countries and acknowledged good processes occurring in this area. It welcomed the simplification of indicators in the reporting process.

[Observers]

129. The representative of the **IFCCD** underscored the lack of data, which inhibits civil society from promoting the value of culture in the broader context of sustainable development. It would be important for Parties to involve creators, artists, and those working in cultural industries in the collection of evidence on the value of culture for sustainable development.
130. The **Chairperson** then moved to the approval of the guidelines and, seeing no objections or amendments, declared the guidelines approved. The Chairperson thanked the Committee Members and called for their applause before opening the discussion of transversal issues. He recalled the presence of 12 transversal issues in the existing framework and reflected on the feasibility of identifying another one. Parties were encouraged to express themselves on this need. The Chairperson gave the floor to Canada for the presentation of its written draft resolution submitted to the Secretariat.
131. The Delegation of **Canada** expressed its support for the current framework. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee recommended the examination by the Parties of the impact of digital issues and its inclusion as a cross-cutting issue in the 2016 reporting cycle. The Delegation fully supported this proposal and suggested amending paragraphs 3 and 5 of the draft resolution to consider digital issues as transversal issues for 2016-2018. It underscored

the need for continued work on digital issues and for all Parties to have the right tools to address these issues. This proposal was supported by **France**.

132. The **Chairperson** thanked Canada for highlighting the Committee's discussions and for its proposed revision to paragraph 3. The Chairperson asked Parties to reflect on whether there was a need to add a transversal issue and whether they would support the proposed amendment.
133. The Delegation of **Germany** asked how transversal issues entered into the discussion, reminding Parties that the first lesson learned from the 2012-2014 reporting cycle was that more information was included in the periodic reports than was initially requested. The horizontal re-reading of reports showed the interconnectedness of many elements on artistic creation such as gender issues, civil society, public service broadcasting, and digital issues. It acknowledged the Committee's decision as an encouragement for cumulative learning from periodic reporting and the Parties' spirit of advancing together. The Delegation endorsed using the reports to deepen the reflection on the existing issues addressed in the periodic reports rather than adding new elements. This suggestion was supported by the Delegations of **Denmark, Ecuador, Norway**, and the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**.
134. The Delegation of **Denmark** agreed on the lack of a common understanding of the transversal issue; noting the inclusion of youth and gender issues in the operational guidelines. It suggested that information be used in a more analytical manner employing an empowerment perspective, citing the information in Article 7 being put to use for future work as an example. This proposal was endorsed by the Delegation of **Sweden**.
135. The Delegation of **Colombia** recalled that due to its 2013 accession to the Convention it had not yet submitted its first quadrennial report. It expressed its agreement with the operational guidelines as proposed and called for the inclusion of digital technologies as a cross-cutting issue. It suggested that analysis of this issue could gauge the Convention's impact and provide a snapshot of creativity in social development. The Delegation underscored the importance of examining the Convention's impact on creativity, highlighting parallels between work on national policy frameworks and the Convention. Citing its own experience, it affirmed that the Convention and its guiding principles remained one step ahead of the work being done in many countries. It emphasized the need for the Convention to remain in this position – always one step ahead, offering expert opinions on difficult issues such as creativity, access to digital platforms and community participation in digital technologies.
136. The Delegation of **Sweden** affirmed the incredible importance of the global digital explosion, which it noted was a reoccurring theme in the guidelines and a special agenda item for the Conference of Parties. As such, it expressed a preference for advancing the work already being done on gender by identifying it as a transversal issue.
137. The Delegation of **Ecuador** called for further discussion of cross-cutting issues, affirming that while they are important, digital issues are not the only cross-cutting issue needing consideration. Gender, human rights, and social inclusion are other examples of issues falling under the scope of the Convention and warranting inclusion as a cross-cutting issue. Other issues included in the operational guidelines, such as international cooperation, culture and development, gender equality, and youth, also merit discussion.
138. The **Chairperson** expressed support for deepening already existing issues of this nature. The Chairperson recalled the previous day's discussion in the European Union coordination group meeting during which many of the 28 countries included thought that civil society was vital in cultural diversity processes. There are numerous themes needing to be deepened.
139. The Delegation of **France** stressed that digital issues were of utmost importance, meriting the full attention of the Parties, even in consideration of the reservations raised.

140. The Delegation of **Norway** emphasized the significant work involved in quadrennial reporting and the 60 percent country submission rate; calling for caution in introducing new reporting obligations despite the interest and relevancy of the issues mentioned in the discussions.
141. The Delegation of the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** recalled the significant number of priority issues already identified and the problem of measuring digitization. Referring to issues such as gender equality and strategies for youth, the Delegation underscored the relative ease with which a national government could report on its strategies in these areas. Recognizing its 2016 obligation to report, the Delegation acknowledged the difficulties of reporting on digital strategies because they were profoundly embedded in the expression of cultural activities.
142. The Delegation of **Mexico** agreed that there are numerous, important cross-cutting issues within the context of the Convention. They would, however, require consultation and cooperation with national authorities and numerous other authorities, each with their own priorities. It was precisely because of the importance of the cross-cutting issue that awareness of the immensity of the work it would involve was crucial. This position was supported by the Delegations of **Tunisia** and **Egypt**.
143. The Delegation of the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** reemphasized the 40 percent of countries that had not yet submitted a report, citing itself as one among them. It identified this as a result of working at two different speeds, with some countries moving ahead of others. In consideration of the need for the countries lagging behind to submit a report and the work involved to create a first report, the Delegation suggested that adding a transversal theme would add to the workload. Furthermore, it cited the lack of a proper analysis of why 40 percent of the countries had not submitted their reports in due time, suggesting that the reporting process be slowed down.
144. The Delegation of **Tunisia** reaffirmed the additional work for the Secretariat and for those charged with Convention implementation at the national level that would result from introducing a transversal theme. Citing the difficulty in elaborating reports and the calls by some countries for technical assistance in this regard, it called for additional time and reflection on this issue. Furthermore, it noted that some countries still have not been able to fully implement the Convention, emphasizing that adding another complication would prevent them from keeping up with countries that are more advanced in the implementation process. The Convention was still young and in need of a more balanced rhythm between countries.
145. The Delegation of **Kenya** recognized the importance of digital issues, recalling numerous problems surrounding this topic raised during the exchange session. It underscored the lack of infrastructure for digital connectivity in many developing African countries, noting that most of the discussions on digital issues were conducted by countries where such infrastructure is already in place. Most of the cultural industries in Africa are located in rural areas where connectivity, electricity, and the knowledge among cultural producers is lacking. It affirmed that development was a gradual process, citing the need for the Convention to take special measures to facilitate digital accessibility in developing countries. Without this assistance, it would be difficult for these countries to report on digital issues.
146. The Delegation of **Spain** further emphasized the additional work that would be involved in report preparation with the addition of a transversal issue. It suggested that the transversal issue only be included in a country's second periodic report, and limiting the first report to a global summary of national work being done on the implementation of the Convention.
147. The Delegation of **Egypt** underlined the complexity of digital technology use, an issue it deemed increasingly crucial and difficult for governments and civil societies in the Arab region to deal with. It acknowledged both the importance of a transversal issue and the difficulty involved in its implementation, highlighting the need for time and technical

assistance to create a better understanding of the Convention in equal measure to its advancement on digital issues.

148. The **Chairperson** invited the observers to take the floor.

[Observers]

149. The representative of the **IFCCD** noted that digital issues would be reported on whether or not it was selected as a transversal issue. The need to define the scope of digital issues as they relate to cultural policy is important due to the immensity of the subject itself.

150. Mr Frédéric Jacquemin, representative of **Africalia**, referred to digital issues as a transversal theme in relation to the work of the UNESCO Expert Facility for cultural policy as well as in relation to his role assisting in the preparation of a civil society white paper closely linked to this theme, and underscored the increasing dissemination of cultural products via rapidly multiplying digital channels, and the increasing need to adapt to digital issues.

151. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that youth and gender were included in the newly approved reporting framework and that some of the other issues included in the framework were transversal in and of themselves. The transversal analyses that were prepared by the Secretariat with experts on, for example, digital issues, media diversity, and civil society was much appreciated by the Parties. An analysis of digital issues would always be included because much of the information gathered from the reports deals with them; therefore, the question at hand was whether to increase this focus within the frameworks. The Secretary of the Convention recalled a previous Committee decision for Parties to report on digital issues, only if possible, and suggested that the resolution indicate this theme as optional. This could be an opportunity for Parties to identify challenges. She reminded the Conference of Parties that the goal of periodic reporting was not to compare countries' progress on Convention implementation but rather to serve as a tool for sharing information between Parties. The Secretariat's job is to take the information collected from these reports and communicate it back to the Parties to inspire policy work and Convention implementation on national and regional levels.

152. The **Chairperson** noted that the transversal issue could only be adopted by consensus. In light of the perceived lack of consensus he asked if paragraph 5 could be deleted from the proposed resolution.

153. The Delegation of **Brazil** asked the Secretariat to suggest a paragraph in line with its proposal for the transversal theme option of digital issues but with flexibility in mind so that countries wishing to report on this issue could, without imposing an extra burden on the reporting exercise.

154. The Delegation of **Sudan** expressed reservations on point 5 in relation to digital technologies in consideration of the sociopolitical conditions in a number of regions and in some African-Arab countries. Recalling the interventions by Kenya and Egypt on this point, it highlighted the priorities of these countries as providing food, shelter, and security rather than the issue of digital technologies.

155. The Delegation of **Denmark** supported the Chairperson's proposal to delete paragraph 5. Should this not be possible, it proposed the following wording, "Decides that the Committee should propose criteria for selecting possible future transversal issues, taking into consideration the human and financial resources required." This proposal was supported by the Delegations of **Sweden** and **Egypt**. It was opposed by the Delegation of the **United Republic of Tanzania**.

156. The Delegation of **Canada** reiterated that due to its continuous evolution, the digital environment needed to be included in the periodic reports to enable strategic data collection during the four-year reporting cycle. It expressed support for a proposal to include digital issues as an option for countries wishing to report on them. This was supported by the Delegations of **Colombia**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, and **Tanzania**.
157. The **Chairperson** proposed the replacement of the word “will” with the word “may” in paragraph 5 in order to make the paragraph less legally binding.
158. The Delegation of **Tunisia** underscored the difficulty for many countries to prepare their first and second periodic reports and supported the proposition for countries to select the transversal theme they wanted to address in their reports according to their own priorities. An open transversal theme would allow for more reporting on strengths, which would facilitate the exchange of good practices.
159. The Delegation of **Colombia** asked for clarification on what reporting on digital technology would involve, and suggested holding broader discussions to better define digital technologies as a means, ends, and factor. Furthermore, it called for the use of flexible language allowing countries to decide which transversal topics they want to include depending on their national specificities.
160. The Delegation of **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** reaffirmed the importance of digital issues and fully endorsed reporting on digital technology as a transversal issue in the 2016-2019 reporting cycle as an option.
161. The Delegation of **Kenya** expressed its limited agreement, clarifying that digital technologies could be reported on as transversal issues during the 2016- 2019 cycle depending on the countries’ capacities and excluding those countries reporting for the first time.
162. The Delegation of **Egypt** noted that in light of the comments made by Sudan and Tunisia, the phrasing could result in confusion and additional work representing a burden for some governments and those responsible for preparing reports. It noted that while it had considered the complete deletion of paragraph 5, it agreed with the proposal made by Denmark.
163. The Delegation of the **United Republic of Tanzania** underscored that while some countries would be able to report on the issue concerned, such as digital technology, those unable to do so could still report on the challenges preventing them from advancing on that issue. In this way Parties could learn from each other’s experience, making transversal reporting a good opportunity for countries lagging behind to use other Parties’ experiences to advance. It emphasized the non-mandatory nature of the optional transversal issue and concluded that detailing challenges was a fundamental component of reporting.
164. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put the latest amendment of Resolution 9b on the screens that was submitted in writing by **Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark and France**. The Chairperson read the paragraph, “Decides that Parties may select freely the themes relevant to the Convention that they want to address in transversal issues during the 2016-2019 cycle”. The Chairperson asked the Parties to consider the proposed resolution and welcomed the consensus. The Chairperson asked if there were any objections and seeing none declared Resolution 5.CP 9b adopted as amended.

Resolution 5.CP 9b was adopted as amended.

Item 10 - Secretariat's report on the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) and the fundraising strategy (Document CE/15/5.CP/10, CE/15/5.CP/INF.10)

165. The **Chairperson** opened agenda item 10 and invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the documents.
166. The **Secretary of the Convention** presented working document 10.

The IFCD launched the fifth and sixth calls for funding requests in January 2014 and 2015, implementing a new timeframe following the revised IFCD guidelines adopted during the fourth Conference of Parties. The evaluation of eligible funding requests for the fifth call was undertaken by a newly composed six-member Panel of Experts resulting in the approval of 7 projects by the Committee at its eighth ordinary session. For the sixth call for funding requests, a new online platform for the application and pre-selection process was developed to facilitate a more efficient process for the Secretariat and to ensure transparency in the decision-making process. For the sixth call, there was a total of 294 funding requests from 82 countries representing 63 public institutions, 219 NGOs, and 12 international NGOs. 36 percent of the submitted funding requests were from Latin America and the Caribbean, 27 percent from Europe, 22 percent from Africa, 8 percent from Asia and the Pacific, and 6 percent from the Arab region. 85 total funding requests were pre-selected from 53 countries.

At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee invited the Conference of Parties to consider the most appropriate criteria for the allocation of IFCD funds with a focus on sustainability and need which the Secretariat applied. The Secretariat fully implemented the majority of the IOS recommendations in the revised IFCD guidelines, as reflected in Annex 1 of information document 10. A results-based management framework for the IFCD was developed to monitor and improve its performance and determine whether it was achieving its objectives, presented in Annex 2. Additional financial resources are needed to fully embed an effective results-based management procedure to ensure efficient project monitoring. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to consistently apply the cost-recovery policy when using IFCD resources for direct project management, including implementation and monitoring.

The Secretary of the Convention noted that the Director-General of UNESCO would present a proposal at the 197th session of the Executive Board to adjust and reduce the standard program support cost rate to future projects while charging more identifiable direct and indirect variable costs. The impact of phase one of the fundraising strategy is demonstrated by the fact that 75 percent of the target amount of 1.4 million dollars was raised between January 2013 and June 2014 by around 15 percent of the Parties, of which only 7 made annual and regular contributions during this period. Phase two of this strategy began in July 2014 seeking alternative resources, mainly from the private sector and high net-worth individuals. The Secretariat will create tailor-made cases for support, outlining the key advantages as selling points and developing different modalities of partnership with prospective partners. The Committee, in its eighth ordinary session, requested the Secretariat to seek a professional company specializing in fundraising to implement this strategy; this will be done in due course.

The Secretariat has developed various communication tools and strongly encourages all Parties to use and widely distribute them, including 6 project documentary videos. The need for regular voluntary financial support from at least half of the Parties before the end of 2018 was underscored, with a proposal that the Secretariat issue an official letter of appeal quoting the amount of 1 percent contributed by each Member State to UNESCO's regular budget. The IFCD faces challenges that make it difficult to ensure its future performance. One is the lack of human resources for IFCD management, monitoring and project evaluation, and fully implementing its fundraising and communication strategy. The Secretary of the Convention acknowledged that while almost 7.5 million USD have been raised from voluntary contributions since 2007, this does not correspond to the increasing expectations and high number of quality IFCD requests received. Fourteen countries and one private sector donor

have contributed approximately 600,000 USD to the Fund in the last 12 months. The budget is formed on the basis of the funds available by June 30 each year. Should there be no additional contributions by June 2016, the Committee will again be faced with having to select between 5 and 7 projects from the sixth call for projects. Raising IFCD visibility, especially among potential private sector donors, remains one of the main challenges facing the Secretariat in the coming years requiring Party support.

167. The **Chairperson** underscored the challenge of the disproportionate IFCD resources and limitations for project funding, and emphasized the need for Parties to negotiate crucial IFCD contributions with their governments and to pursue their collective effort to involve all stakeholders. The Chairperson opened the floor for debate.
168. The Delegation of **Norway** recalled the numerous capacity-building projects generated through the IFCD and supported the IOS emphasis on project sustainability and structural impact. It expressed uncertainty on how to relate applicability to need, asking the Secretariat for additional details on this point. It echoed the IOS recommendations to avoid overlap by creating synergies between funds.
169. The **Secretary of the Convention** referred to Annex 1 of Document 10, which reports on the IOS recommendations' implementation status. To prevent overlap it is important to clearly distinguish the objectives of different funds and to exchange on methodological issues of fund management, such as application processing and results presentation. The Secretary of the Convention underscored the completely different objectives and application procedures of the IFCD and the IFPC, for example, and affirmed that the IFCD objectives were taken into account in the revised guidelines to support capacity-building in fields relevant to the Convention. The issues signaled in the IOS recommendations concerning sustainability and structural impact have been mainstreamed throughout all stages of IFCD management procedures, including project evaluation.
170. The Delegation of **Brazil** thanked the Secretariat for paragraph 30 on issuing appeals for regular contributions quoting the 1 percent contribution, characterizing it as important for governments to internally process voluntary contribution requests. It supported the overall 2018 funding goal detailed in paragraph 27, emphasizing the importance of this target. It also raised the issue of disappointment among IFCD applicants unable to receive funding due to resource restrictions, asking the Secretariat to provide additional comments on the last sentence in paragraph 27.
171. The **Secretary of the Convention** cited the numerous high-quality projects from the last call for proposals that could not be funded as evidence of the need for increased funding. She highlighted the new distribution mechanism proposed for Party approval that would facilitate secure contributions from governments. However, considering that only 14 of the 139 Parties to the Convention contributed to the IFCD in the last 12 months and that contributions were needed from roughly 60 additional Parties in order to meet the 2018 funding goal, much work remains to be done.
172. The **Assistant Director-General for Culture** underscored the serious resource shortage affecting the entire Culture Sector and its conventions in parallel with the considerable pressure on the Sector to address serious cultural issues such as the protection of cultural heritage from destruction from conflict and crisis. The Culture Sector was doing its best, with help from the Director General, in the context of the severe financial constraints faced by UNESCO as a whole. The Assistant Director-General called on help from all Member States; underscoring the inability of the IFCD to deliver more in the absence of additional contributions and the miracle of what it is able to achieve in light of its difficulties. Parties were encouraged to solicit assistance for their international cooperation needs.

173. The **Chairperson** noted that the Executive Board needs to address this issue and reexamine the financial and human resource situations of the cultural conventions central to UNESCO.
174. The Delegation of **Denmark** suggested the inclusion of a value-for-money dimension in the planned IFCD evaluation in 2017, to investigate the efficiency of IFCD resource use by the Secretariat and IFCD applicants. It asked if it was possible to put a temporary hold on project funding in order to focus exclusively on implementing the fundraising strategy until more funding is acquired. Doing so would save countries the effort of preparing project applications unable to be funded. The full and successful implementation of the fundraising strategy would allow the IFCD to better meet requests in the future.
175. The Delegation of **Switzerland** acknowledged progress made on IFCD objectives and project evaluation. It asked how UNESCO and the Secretariat were promoting the visibility of supported projects and cooperating with local project contributors to promote synergies and donations on the national level. It requested the publication of the total extra-budgetary contributions received by the IFCD.
176. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the revised guidelines for the IFCD, adopted by the Conference of the Parties in June 2013, which defined the schedule for IFCD evaluations including the next scheduled evaluation in 2017. The Secretariat was doing its best within the existing infrastructure to work with field offices on direct project monitoring, with civil society networks familiar with the projects, and with managers to collect feedback. The Secretary of the Convention relied on this outreach network in addition to on-site project visits to get a real sense of projects and their achievements. Since on-site visits resulted in the creation of project videos, those in contact with project managers and contact points were invited to provide testimony of project success. The indicators put into place served to monitor projects in terms of need and sustainability. There is positive feedback that IFCD seed-funding of certain projects leads to extraordinary investments by governments and the private sector for project continuation. The IFCD was referred to as innovative by the Panel of Experts and provides support for projects that have been maintained by governmental funding once positive results were produced.
177. The Delegation of **Argentina** mentioned the IFCD-funded project that is important to its public policy. It characterized the IFCD as a space to use good practices to raise support for projects and improve the profile of the Convention. The IFCD strategy should be evaluated as an opportunity for States to contribute and reevaluate their own public policies. In light of increasing funding requests, the Delegation emphasized the need to increase and reinforce IFCD capacity for additional projects by ensuring sustainable funding. Referring to an ongoing strategy within the liaison group to increase the impact of regional groups, it suggested increasing the focus on national commissions and raising project support within regions. It underscored the need to work with national commissions to give high profiles to IFCD-supported projects and to do national-level work to solicit contributions. The Delegation confirmed plans to promote IFCD visibility in its celebrations of the Convention's 10 year anniversary.
178. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** reiterated the positive impact of IFCD projects for the Parties and underscored the need to focus on the positive results of funded projects. It emphasized that the voluntary basis of contributions resulted from a Party compromise to conform the Convention's wording to the legislations of some Parties preventing ratification due to the inclusion of the word "compulsory." It recalled that when the Convention was adopted with the word "voluntary" in it, all Parties promised to contribute at least 1 percent of their budget on a regular annual basis as if it were compulsory, in line with other conventions. The Delegation affirmed that this promise had not been kept, acknowledging the technical challenge of some Ministries of Finance refusing payment in the absence of an invoice and referring to UNESCO efforts to create a voluntary invoice that would be sent to all Parties to facilitate regular contributions. Recalling the spirit directing multilateral funds resources to collectively agreed-upon priorities, the Delegation emphasized that most extra-budgetary funding is directed towards the priorities of individual donors. As such, it affirmed its

insistence on contributing to the IFCD, its support of the IFCD evaluation, and its request for the Secretariat to continue reporting on successful projects as good practices. This position was endorsed by the delegations of **Brazil** and **Barbados**.

179. The **Assistant Director-General for Culture** thanked Saint Lucia for referring to the compromises made during the initial Convention negotiations, confirming that a letter for voluntary contributions to the IFCD had been drafted and would be sent to the Parties immediately following the Conference of Parties in order to respond to the technical challenge, and expressed hope for a positive outcome from this “voluntary invoice”.
180. The Delegation of **Brazil** echoed the “gentleman’s agreement” made in the initial decision on the IFCD and commended the Secretariat for the voluntary invoice. It recalled a Committee discussion on the need for a mechanism to recognize the value of good projects unable to be supported by the IFCD and suggested the development of a means of official recommendation or formal approval in the name of UNESCO, the Convention, or the Panel of Experts and sent out requesting IFCD contributions specific to these projects. It asked if this could be done and, if so, what the necessary steps would be. This proposal was not supported by **Barbados**.
181. The Delegation of **Barbados** cited its strict national financial and audit rules based on a five-year plan, strongly emphasized the necessity of an invoice to meet Ministry of Finance regulations, and suggested including a range for contributions in that invoice. The Delegation requested that UNESCO explore possible mechanisms for countries to give support.
182. The Delegation of **Paraguay** acknowledged the importance of the IFCD which enables cooperation with civil society and youth in project development, and cited its experience with the development of a neighborhood project as evidence. It highlighted the importance of ensuring second chances for pre-selected projects unable to receive funding due to financial restrictions and requested clear parameters offering guidance for acceptable applications.
183. The **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed the preparation of guides for project applications using good examples of projects as a basis for advice on project design. While assistance for project design could be developed, without money in the IFCD there would continue to be increasing numbers of high-quality funding requests and increasing expectations for the Fund as a result. The Secretary of the Convention expressed her hope for a wave of new contributions to increase the number of funded projects in the next year, affirming that while a mechanism for project-specific funding could be developed, the Secretariat’s priority, as underlined by the Committee in December, was to increase the money in the IFCD so that these projects could be financed.

[Observers]

184. The representative of the **International Telecommunication Union** (ITU) underscored the absence of funds to provide individual project support as proposed by Brazil. The representative noted that most project managers were aware of the need for fundraising, which is a sphere of competence related to managing fundraising activities and links between donors. The representative suggested the development of strategies for multi-actor, multidirectional consultations with potential donors to structure fundraising activities and ensure the long-term sustainability of the IFCD and the Convention objectives.
185. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretary to put the draft resolution on the screen, recalling the discussions of an agreement to 1 percent annual contributions to the IFCD. The Chairperson confirmed that there were no written amendments received and read the draft resolution paragraph by paragraph with special mention of the adoption of paragraph 6, the topic of the previous interventions, and the voluntary invoice for use in relation to paragraph 8. Seeing no objections, the Chairperson declared the draft resolution adopted.

Resolution 5.CP 10 was adopted.

Item 11 - Preferential treatment and international consultation and coordination: report on Articles 16 and 21 of the Convention (Document CE/15/5.CP/11)

186. Referring to document 11, the **Chairperson** expressed his hope that numerous Parties had attended the expert exchange session on this theme organized by the Secretariat at the request of the Committee in its Decision 8.IGC 12. The Chairperson invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the report.
187. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that the Conference of Parties, at its third session in June 2011, and the Committee, at its fifth session in 2011, requested the Secretariat to collect and analyze information on the implementation of Article 21. At its seventh session in December 2013, the Committee decided to expand this work to include Article 16. In conformity with this decision, the Secretariat collected information through: consultations with Parties, international organizations, and civil society using two questionnaires; analysis of all quadrennial reports submitted by Parties since 2012; and complementary research including the analysis of 51 bilateral trade agreements involving 87 Parties to the Convention. A unique collection of 17 case studies were selected for the Convention website.

The report contains preliminary observations on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21. The initial question framing the evaluation was on the attainment of the desired outcomes as a result of implementing these articles. The results show evidence of new measures to promote artists' mobility in developing countries and an increasing number of audiovisual coproduction agreements suggesting the achievement of short-term results and a foundation for future impact.

Results also show progress in the field of trade, including explicit references to the Convention in 7 different European Union agreements engaging 48 Parties to the Convention. Five bilateral and regional trade agreements ensure the joint implementation of Articles 16 and 21, affecting 47 Parties to the Convention; and there is use of other legal tools implementing Convention objectives in bilateral trade agreements concluded by more than 40 Parties. Jurisprudence remains to be further developed. Furthermore, the Parties have adopted or amended new national plans for international development programs that draw on the Convention and place it at the center of the process to include culture in the Post-2015 Agenda. The Secretariat's study concludes with a proposed program of activities to be undertaken in the next two years based on the IOS recommendations, including continued Secretariat reporting on the impact and implementation of these two articles, the identification of case studies on trade agreements corresponding to the model case in Annex B of the document, and the development of a training module for trade negotiators as requested by the eighth session of the Committee.

188. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretariat for the groundbreaking collection of data and invited speakers to take the floor.
189. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** appreciated the data collected on Articles 16 and 21 and requested that this activity continue on a regular basis and this data be widely disseminated. It expressed dissatisfaction with progress on the implementation of Article 16, referring to the Committee request for a training module for trade negotiators. It highlighted the lack of funds for this module, which it felt would be useful to all Parties, and requested that this training module be prioritized, appealing for its funding through the IFCD. The Delegation reemphasized the importance of Article 16 and proposed a reevaluation of its guidelines in the next biennium, recalling the intention built into the initial discussions on guidelines for Article 16 for reevaluation to be done when the Parties had more experience and data.

190. The Delegation of **Colombia** underscored the value of the case studies and called for a more pedagogic and operational approach to their implementation so that they could be used by countries as instruments. It drew on its own experience trying to negotiate culture into free trade agreements which was made possible by negotiation assistance from France and Canada to clarify some of the technical language difficult for the cultural sector to understand. It emphasized the Convention's importance as a framework to fall back on and the need to include some of its chapters in agreements to prevent the cultural isolation of some countries, especially in light of the digitization of culture and the need to protect cultural goods.
191. The Delegation of the **European Union** thanked the Secretariat for mentioning e-commerce. It affirmed that since ratifying the Convention it has looked for concrete ways to implement it with its partners through political dialogues and trade negotiations, recalling the 13 EU agreements featured in the report, including three protocols on cultural cooperation successfully negotiated with multiple countries such as the Republic of Korea. The delegation indicated three geographic corrections to the report.

It cited its frequent collaboration with Asia on Convention implementation, including China and the Republic of Korea. Referring to page 12 of the report and comments made on the mobility of artists, the EU underscored its following of the exchange session via webstreaming, thanked the Secretariat for this option, and expressed hope that webstreaming would continue in the future. Referring to its visa policies, the Delegation outlined European Commission proposals for smarter EU visas and touring visas, which are beneficial to third country nationals such as artists and cultural producers wanting to come to the EU. This would benefit performing artists touring the EU for long time periods. The Delegation emphasized that these proposals were still under discussion by the European Council pending approval by both the Council and the European Parliament and expressed hope that they would be approved.

192. The Delegation of **China** reflected that Article 21 is one measure of the success of the Convention and recalled the request made by the third session of the Conference of Parties to undertake an evaluation of its implementation. It underlined Article 16 and the need for preferential treatment of cultural agents, such as artists and producers, in developing countries; identifying a gap between progress made and the real needs of developing countries in this area. It requested that the draft resolution express the need to continue implementing Articles 16 and 21 and affirmed its support for the development of training modules, in which it would participate.
193. The Delegation of **Germany** noted that the report showed the qualitative value of accumulating strategic data over time. Work on Article 16 shows progress made on the individual level and progress is now needed on the institutional level. This was evident through UIS data and the willingness of developing countries to proactively identify needs in this area. The Delegation fully supported and offered to contribute to the drafting of training modules. It cited the report finding that governments do more than they are aware of on this issue and highlighted the need to proactively learn about and pursue preferential treatment. It reflected on the need to include digital products in this analysis.
194. The Delegation of **Canada** noted it has integrated cultural aspects in its bilateral and multilateral negotiations, introduced this theme in other international organizations, and attempted to include specific references to the Convention in its own trade agreements. For example, it cited the direct reference to the Convention in its trade agreement with the EU, and an explicit reference to cultural aspects in an agreement with Quebec. The Delegation urged Parties to commit to actively continue working with international organizations and civil society on these issues and to identify a multitude of areas for the implementation of Articles 16 and 21.

195. The **Chairperson** suggested inviting guest speakers other than cultural producers and those working in cultural ministries, such as representatives of ministries of Finance and Commerce, to share their experiences and identify shortcomings in their work with this issue. This would offer a more interdisciplinary cross-sector perspective.
196. The Delegation of **Argentina** noted that its work with MERCOSUR on the mobility of artists through the streamlining of visa applications was a good path forward. It expressed hesitation on the exclusive focus on trade agreements in the Secretariat's report; suggesting a wider focus on all kinds of international agreements, such as those on copyright and intellectual property rights. The Delegation expressed uncertainty on the need to list all of the cultural clauses instead of focusing on the role that culture plays. It reaffirmed the need for National Commissions to increase the Convention's visibility, citing its efforts to insert explicit cultural clauses in its national inter-ministerial meetings as good opportunities to raise the profile of cultural issues and their mainstreaming.
197. The Delegation of **France** outlined its work on visa issues through an inter-ministerial group created between the Minister of Culture, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of the Interior, drafting instructions for all of its embassies to use visa specifications for artists and cultural producers; these instructions would be submitted to the Secretariat for distribution. It underscored that preferential treatment was not entirely based on commerce but included the development and consolidation of the cultural sector through cooperative actions like training and support for the cultural industries.
198. The Delegation of **Brazil** asked the Secretariat to distribute its report to various ministries and foreign services working on trade negotiations in order to promote the implementation of Articles 16 and 21. It affirmed that it would work to raise awareness of these articles within its national government, highlighting a disconnect between its Ministry of Culture and other ministries involved in trade agreement negotiations. The delegation fully endorsed paragraph 4 of the draft resolution and the importance of including national actors from various ministries in the process as outlined in paragraph 6 of the draft resolution and mentioned by the Chairperson. It supported the involvement of these actors into training modules, seminars and debates in order to harmonize the priorities of ministries unaware of the importance of including culture in agreements. It supported the Chairperson's suggestion of inviting these actors to intervene in the Convention's training modules, seminars, and debates.
199. The Delegation of **Colombia** underscored the need to optimize links between national actors in negotiation processes by disseminating information on the value of culture. To do so, it emphasized mobilizing civil society through Ministry of Culture efforts to maintain permanent dialogues with these partners, to establish a common language, and to inform all stakeholders in trade negotiations of the value of cultural inclusion in trade agreements.

[Observers]

200. The representative of the **Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie** (APF) affirmed its prioritization of Articles 16 and 21 in bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations, recalling its 2011 adoption of the Declaration of Quebec asking all heads of States and governments to support measures favoring cultural expressions in trade negotiations. The action plan adopted by the APF Commission of Education, Communication and Cultural Affairs aims to concretize this call through seminars and trainings for Francophone parliamentarians and is being implemented in conjunction with a parliamentary component to reinforce policies for cultural industries in developing countries of the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF). Two capacity-building seminars have been organized thus far, in Gabon in 2012 and in Burkina Faso in 2013, to assist parliamentary representatives in the development of new public policies and strategies for the protection and development of their cultural industries. The representative strongly emphasized the importance of the link between culture and sustainable development, and its intention to adopt a resolution on this matter at its next assembly in 2016.

201. The representative of the **International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF)** underscored the insufficient dialogues between ministries of Trade and Culture in relation to data collection and good practices. Characterizing the lack of progress in this area as a communications problem, the representative urged the Parties to share good practices showing the positive effects of including culture in trade agreements, citing the example of the 2014 OIF seminar in Dakar between planners and Ministries of Culture on anti-poverty policies and culture.
202. The Delegation of the **United Arab Emirates** noted the importance of giving a human face to trade agreements by linking culture to trade and industry. It cautioned against the commodification of culture, encouraging States to give culture a rightful place in their operations.
203. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put the draft resolution on the screens to be read paragraph by paragraph.
204. The Delegation of **Ecuador** asked why in paragraph 4 digital issues were the only theme included when other issues had been highlighted in the debate. It asked the Secretariat why digital issues were being given so much importance in relation to preferential treatment in this agenda item.
205. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that the inclusion of digital issues here was taking into account the digital distribution of cultural goods and services and their increased integration in trade agreements. It was suggested through the case studies presented in the working document that e-commerce would become more important in the future. Referring to them in the resolution recognized new developments and challenges at the intersection of Articles 16 and 21.
206. The Delegation of **Ecuador** proposed the addition of a phrase that would allow for the inclusion of other themes posing challenges to preferential treatment such as the relationship between culture and growth and the inclusion of culture in the Post-2015 Agenda. It requested that either digital issues be removed from the paragraph or that the wording be changed to allow for the inclusion of other challenges identified in relation to the implementation of Articles 16 and 21.
207. The Delegation of **Colombia** clarified that digital issues were not under discussion here and that the subject was the electronic exchange and circulation of cultural goods and services.
208. The Delegation of **Brazil** noted that the inclusion of digital issues in this paragraph was important as it was absent from the original Convention text due to its irrelevancy at the time. It emphasized the need to add digital issues to Article 16 and 21, noting the Committee's decision not to change the text as this theme was important to all areas of the Convention. Its addition in Articles 16 and 21 was in order to broaden their perspective and include the new challenges of digitization.
209. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** proposed adding the phrase, "inter alia the digital dimension," as a means to resolve the concerns raised by the Delegation of **Ecuador** and to include the comment made by the Delegation of **Colombia**, which it fully endorsed.
210. The **Chairperson** emphasized that "inter alia" included the various issues discussed. The Chairperson asked if this paragraph could be adopted with the proposed amendment and, seeing no objections, declared this paragraph adopted. Resuming with paragraph 5, the Chairperson continued reading out the paragraphs for adoption. Seeing no more objections, the Chairperson declared the resolution adopted as amended.

Resolution 5.CP11 was adopted as amended.

Item 12 - Digital issues and their impact on promoting the diversity of cultural expressions (Documents CE/15/5.CP/12, and CE/15/5.CP/INF.9)

211. The **Chairperson** recalled the expert exchange session organized by the Secretariat at the request of the Committee in its Decision 8.IGC 12, to provide insight on the opportunities and obstacles presented by digital technologies.
212. The **Secretary of the Convention** presented the report recalling earlier decisions and resolutions of the Committee and Conference of Parties, which emphasized the Convention's technological neutrality and the sovereign right of States as imperative to cultural policies in the digital age, and which invited the Committee to make proposals for future actions to be examined. The Secretariat distributed a questionnaire in 2013 to identify priority areas for action that could inform the Committee's future work on digital issues and their potential impact on the Convention. Thirty-five Parties and nine civil society organizations responded to this survey, identifying five specific areas for Party examination: 1) policies and measures to promote diverse cultural expressions; 2) education and public awareness raising; 3) incorporating culture in sustainable development; 4) international cooperation for development; and 5) preferential treatment for developing countries. At its seventh ordinary session, the Committee invited Parties submitting periodic reports in April 2014-2015 to underline the impact of digital issues on Convention implementation and asked the Secretariat to provide transversal analysis of these reports. The Secretariat commissioned an expert to do so with the results presented and discussed at the eighth session of the Committee in 2014, resulting in the request to present these results to the Conference of Parties as reflected in Information Document 9.

At its eighth session, the Committee took a decision asking for the examination, analysis, and debate of the information provided in the annexed report of Information Document 9 by this Conference of Parties to inform a future action plan for the Committee to pursue in the 2015-2017 period, including the possible preparation of draft operational guidelines. This action plan was to be developed on the basis of the governing bodies' debates over the past few years and on information and analysis produced to date. The Secretary of the Convention underscored the need for additional funding to fully implement this action plan.

213. The **Chairperson** emphasized the current significant influence of digital issues, connectivity, media literacy, and the substantial progress of the Parties on digital issues. The time had come to make decisions for a future action plan on whether the Committee needed to design and draft operational guidelines for consideration at the next Conference of Parties. If so, the Secretariat would need to be given guidance on the nature and goal of these guidelines in pursuance of the collective effort to ensure that all Parties are ideally placed to implement the Convention in the digital age.
214. The Delegation of **France** mentioned the report it supported with Canada, offering to assist the Parties should they have any questions or comments. It noted that it did not want to reopen the Convention or to overburden the Secretariat. In its opinion, operational guidelines could clarify and offer precisions on implementing the Convention in the digital environment. It fully endorsed the Secretariat's proposed action plan and congratulated its preparatory work for debate on this issue. It emphasized that digital technologies were an opportunity and a challenge that could weaken public policies by overturning value chains needed to finance cultural goods and services. The Delegation highlighted the Convention's principle of technological neutrality in relation to the modes of production and dissemination of cultural goods and services. It also cited the States' capacity to guide digital ecosystems, to ensure preferential treatment, to encourage the diversity of and access to cultural goods and services, and to ensure fair remuneration for creators through intellectual property rights adapted to the digital age. It posited that the action plan could strengthen international cooperation by leveraging digital technologies. It strongly emphasized the need to use digital issues as a platform for international cooperation, calling on the Parties to take them into account in policies for cooperation, and to document and distribute their good practices

through UNESCO. It suggested strengthening dialogue with other international organizations working on this issue and intensifying work with regional economic organizations to promote the inclusion of the Convention in trade agreements. This position was endorsed by **Canada**.

215. The Delegation of **Canada** affirmed its full support of the Committee decision to prepare operational guidelines on digital issues and the resulting action plan developed by the Secretariat. With Quebec, it underscored the importance of this question for the protection of culture through trade agreements and the capacity of States to adapt policies to the realities of digital issues, citing its increasing trade liberalization as evidence of its efforts. Recalling the Convention's technological neutrality, it underscored the need to put policies on digital technologies into place, citing some of its policy examples. It emphasized the need for international dialogue to define new modalities of State intervention and the importance of sharing experiences to identify solutions for these complex questions being addressed by governments worldwide. The Delegation encouraged strengthening ties with other international organizations prioritizing digital issues in their respective agendas. It also cited the 2014 adoption of a digital cultural plan by the Government of Quebec to include Quebecois culture in digital technologies and to favor its distribution locally, nationally, and internationally through digital channels. The government of Quebec created an interministerial working group on digital issues and the Convention that includes civil society and the private sector. Thanks to the expertise developed as a result, Quebec is participating in various trainings and technical missions on digital issues and culture in developing countries.
216. All Parties commended the Secretariat, France, and Canada for their reports. The France-Canada report was endorsed by **Brazil, Argentina, and Colombia**. All Delegations taking the floor acknowledged the importance of digital issues for the future of the Convention, and expressed support for the preparation of operational guidelines thereon: **France; Canada; Nigeria; Norway; China; Brazil; Cuba; Argentina; Slovakia; Sweden; Republic of Korea; Indonesia; European Union; United Republic of Tanzania; Colombia; Germany; Austria; Switzerland; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Bangladesh; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Belgium**.
217. The Delegation of **Nigeria** acknowledged technology as an important platform for Convention implementation and endorsed suggestions on action areas including: adapting national policies for cultural goods and services to the digital environment; implementing international cooperation mechanisms to promote cultural goods and services at the global level; and the next steps proposed for the Parties by the Committee, the Secretariat, civil society, and other international organizations. It noted that some of the areas of digital issues, especially rising concerns of piracy, could be taken into account.
218. The Delegation of **Norway** acknowledged the impact of digital issues and their challenges and opportunities. It noted that the operational guidelines on Article 7 of the Convention already invite Parties to account for digital issues in their quadrennial periodic reports without recourse to new operational guidelines. Should it be decided to work on operational guidelines, they must be manageable, taking into account measures such as Article 7, and the actions of other international organizations, in order to avoid duplication. This statement was supported by **Sweden**.
219. The Delegation of **China** endorsed the necessity of preserving the sovereign right of States to implement national cultural policies in the digital era. It acknowledged the magnitude of digital trends and noted the inclusion of an Internet action plan in its report, called Internet Plus, incorporating the digital platform, ICTs, and traditional modes for promoting culture. It cited the Alibaba Group as an example of the need to create a new cultural environment and business development. Chinese cinema also shows that while digital issues can be problematic and intrude on business, they do not undermine it or make it disappear. Cooperation will be needed between States to guarantee cybersecurity and copyrights.

Developing countries in particular need to implement knowledge exchange programs and technology transfer policies to ensure opportunities for artists in the digital world.

220. The Delegation of **Brazil** endorsed the opinions on the centrality of the digital frontier, which provides new opportunities for developing countries to expand and establish progressive policies to ensure national diversity. Annex 2 of the Secretariat's report is a good start, and consultations with governments and civil society need to continue.
221. The Delegation of **Cuba** underscored the need to foster digital culture for society; citing an international conference with government and civil society participation in Havana on new political dimensions of the digital world and the link between society and digital issues as evidence. It highlighted point 3 that refers to the infrastructure needed for countries and regions from the developing world, and the importance of fair remuneration for artists. Referring to future actions in point 7, it supported sharing good practices, affirming its intent to create a ministerial working group to look at these issues. Furthermore, it mentioned technical obsolescence as a major challenge, exacerbated in Cuba due to its longstanding cultural and economic embargo. Nevertheless, new technology is arriving, providing possibilities to increase access. It noted that its Ministry of Culture created an initiative to support the value of cultural diversity, underscored the sovereign rights of States, and agreed on the need to avoid duplicating actions in digital areas.
222. The Delegation of **Argentina** highlighted media convergence as both positive and negative for the cultural sector, noting three issues mentioned by the Secretariat that it felt should be debated: access; content production; and rights. The Delegation emphasized its experience creating specific political responses, broadening access to the production and broadcasting of cultural goods, and protecting the rights of cultural actors by implementing specific legislation. It mentioned broadening access to technology to help cultural actors and give visibility to new cultural expressions and to encourage improving international cooperation; citing its experiences at the regional level with UNASUR and with Colombia through the *Expreso Sur*. Actions in other UNESCO sectors could inform further debate.
223. The Delegation of **Sweden** suggested the Committee focus its work by creating a map of the cross-cutting issues involved so as to avoid overlap with other international organizations' work on this issue, to define the future direction of the Convention, and to avoid overflow of this issue into other areas. The Convention's guiding principles are an initial framework for digital issues. It advocated for an open written consultative process to actively include all countries and referred to the assertion in the France-Canada report that work on digital issues would not require additional resources; asking the Secretariat to outline what resources it would need to conduct a cross-cutting survey and to map the results.
224. The Delegation of **Indonesia** acknowledged the delicacy of this issue, citing its recent establishment of a creative economy agency in anticipation of the link between culture and digital technology. It affirmed its efforts to formulate policies and measures on this issue in relation to the protection of cultural expressions and emphasized protecting the intellectual property rights of digital expressions.
225. The Delegation of the **European Union** provided an update of the recent proposal of a new digital single market strategy by the European Commission, which includes the revision of EU media and copyright rules to ensure their preparedness for the challenges of the digital shift. It emphasized the need for regulatory frameworks to ensure a level playing field, to reward creation, and to increase access to diverse works, including across borders. It cited the 2014 adoption of a workplan for culture by the EU Minister of Culture ensuring the coherency of guidelines in EU and international level work on these issues. The Delegation highlighted a new EU project on cultural entrepreneurship; the establishment of an 800,000 euro budget by the European Parliament to create a worldwide network of young cultural entrepreneurs that is primarily online and will be managed by the Education and Culture Directorate General. Calls for proposals for this project would be made in due course.

226. The Delegation of the **United Republic of Tanzania** drew attention to the challenges and opportunities of digital technology for Convention implementation in developing States. Challenges result from weak capacity in the value chain. The Delegation underscored the technology gap between countries and emphasized the need for targeted policies for the digital environment in light of the opportunities it provides for countries to leap into the 21st century with know-how and innovative young creators.
227. The Delegation of **Colombia** cited its digital and cultural policy, cultural diversity policy, and cultural industries entrepreneurial initiative.
228. The Delegation of **Germany** recalled that 2015 was also the 10th year after the World Summit on the Information Society, observed the evolution of the Global South and the important changes that took place over the last decade due to digital technology. It acknowledged the work of UNESCO on linguistic diversity in cyberspace and underscored the need for a meaningful connection with digital issues and the Convention. It echoed Sweden's questions on the resources and analytical work the operational guidelines would require. It encouraged the Committee to work with substantial economic players and create an analytical understanding of this issue going beyond OECD countries.
229. The Delegation of **Switzerland** supported a global reflection including the creation of a map of the digital ecosystem from the point of view of cultural diversity. It underscored the need for UNESCO to take up the task through a large collaborative process coherent with other UN and regional organizations, including the Council of Europe, to avoid the doubling of efforts and to enhance UNESCO's inclusivity and credibility. It called for collaboration with other UNESCO Sectors including Communication, Science, and Social Science.
230. The Delegation of the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** underscored the need for developing countries to embrace digital issues. It called for the Secretariat and advanced countries in this area to accompany those countries lagging behind through the elaboration of trainings, technical materials, and documentation.
231. The Delegation of **Bangladesh** confirmed its national priority regarding digital issues by 2021 and provide access to digital technology. It underscored the challenges involved as a developing country and its effort to formulate national cultural policies. Affirming the immense opportunities provided by digital technology, it emphasized the need to take the challenges of digital issues into account.
232. The Delegation of the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** endorsed the comments made by **Sweden, Norway, and Germany** underscoring the need to match desired ends to available means in consideration of the Convention's resource restraints. The Delegation noted that while most of the interventions focused on the Annex of Document 12, paragraph 9 of the report mentioned the requirement for extra-budgetary resources for the full implementation of an action plan which would entail consequences for the Secretariat's large workload. It called for consideration of the Convention's role in relation to the work of other organizations that could take the lead on certain aspects of digital issues. It cited paragraph 3 on page 11 of the Annex, suggesting that the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) would be better suited to take the lead on the piracy issue.

[Observers]

233. The representative of the **IFCCD** reflected that the most important aspect of digital issues for civil society was the distribution and access to cultural goods and services. This can be addressed through national cultural policies controlling access to and financing new distribution networks. The immediate importance of policies concerning piracy, intellectual property rights, and the status of artists was emphasized. The representative signaled the need to redefine the private sector through domestic policies for market regulation preserving the freedom for market self-regulation, experimentation, and allowing for the emergence of

new practices without over-regulation in the short-term. Discussions on new modalities of e-commerce and the free circulation of cultural goods was needed. The representative underscored youths' hyperconnectivity via social media and urged their incorporation into the expert work in order to leverage their extensive knowledge.

234. The representative of the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)** affirmed that the digitization process challenges its operational guidelines. The distribution of media content passes through different devices anywhere, anytime. Previously time was important for producing and space was important for moving cultural goods and services in national dimensions. Now global dimensions are involved and time is no longer important to move cultural goods. Furthermore, digital issues affect many fields, necessitating significant changes in regulation that need to be taken into account. Challenges include the need to reevaluate legislative and regulatory processes for cultural spaces with few worldwide tools, such as the Convention, to build on. To illustrate this point, the representative cited changes in the Italian audiovisual market in terms of the scale of competition, forcing the smallest companies to compete with global companies producing 1000 times more. Market rules are unbalanced, requiring national entities creating local jobs and cultural goods to respect national regulations that global companies can avoid. Despite the Convention's digital neutrality, there is a great need to adapt its measurement tools to detect new problems created by digital issues. Public service broadcasting is an important means for States to shape the cultural sphere, evidenced by the 7 billion euros spent on local cultural content by public service broadcasters in Europe.
235. The representative of the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** underscored the work remaining on the access issue, citing that 81 percent of the population in developed countries had Internet access, while only 34 percent have access in developing countries, and 6.7 percent have access in least developed countries. Despite the speed of digital development, efforts must continue leveraging on what is already being done. The representative confirmed the ITU's availability to work on the elaboration of the proposed document and willingness to participate in project evaluations for IFCD applications. The effective coordination between NGOs and international organizations was underscored.
236. The **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed Committee decisions to invite observers and non-Committee members to submit documents to inform the Committee's work, and encouraged broad participation in the discussions on draft operational guidelines and national consultations. Important issues for inclusion in the guidelines would follow the architecture for decisions proposed in the Annex of Working Document 12. This would form the content of the draft operational guidelines, which would be presented to the Parties for adoption at the Committee's tenth ordinary session in December 2016; giving time for internal and external consultations.

The Secretary of the Convention encouraged inclusion of examples shared during the debates in the periodic reports, highlighting the new online section for digital issues based on the information received thus far. The Secretary of the Convention recalled that when the IFCD guidelines were revised, discussions on its objectives resulted in a suggestion to only support projects integrating digital technology. As this was not accepted by all the Parties, the IFCD objectives were left broad, with the focus on capacity-building identified as a priority of the governing bodies. Many of the IFCD supported projects include digital components, such as e-books or support for multimedia artistic creation.

237. The **Chairperson** highlighted the perceived need to adopt operational guidelines on digital issues and asked the Secretariat to put draft resolution 5.CP 12 on the screens, and confirmed that no written amendments to the resolution had been received by the Secretariat.
238. The **Chairperson** asked if there were any objections to adopting Resolution 5.CP 12 as a whole. Seeing none, he declared the resolution adopted.

Resolution 5.CP 12 was adopted.

Item 13 - Promoting the visibility of the Convention (Document CE/15/5.CP/13)

239. The **Chairperson** opened agenda item 13 inviting the Secretary of the Convention to present the document.
240. The **Secretary of the Convention** outlined the Committee debate at its eighth session on the visibility of the Convention resulting in a decision to include visibility on the agenda of the Conference of Parties and to be discussed in the context of the Convention's 10th anniversary. The Secretary outlined the concrete activities taken to increase the visibility of the Convention since 2007 that led to the approval of operational guidelines in 2011, and the adoption of an emblem and operational guidelines in 2013.

Largely thanks to support received from the government of Spain, the Secretariat has worked on numerous levels developing and testing a strategy for a new information kit targeting specific audiences, such as young people. The Secretariat has also produced and distributed promotional materials communicating the results and impact of the IFCD and has organized workshops and events to enhance the Convention's visibility and promote its ratification. International exchanges have ranged from the 2014 UN special thematic debate on culture and sustainable development to high-level regional meetings that resulted in action plans such as the Dhaka Ministerial Declaration on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Awareness raising workshops have been organized all around the world to raise visibility of the Convention at the national and local levels. All Parties and civil society partners have been encouraged to leverage the 10th anniversary to promote the Convention, including using its emblem. Information received on these activities has been posted on a special Convention anniversary website, including the streaming of interviews with 20 stakeholders. The Secretary of the Convention presented the Convention anniversary webpage and encouraged those organizing events to inform the Secretariat of their plans so they could be included on the website's timeline.

241. The Delegation of **Belgium** underscored the link between digital issues and Convention visibility, highlighting a 2015 international forum celebrating the Convention's 10th anniversary organized by the French community of Belgium and the Mons 2015 Foundation. The UNESCO Director-General would participate along with numerous political and cultural actors.
242. The Delegation of **Nigeria** underscored the importance of promoting the Convention, noting several national-level actions including two regional conferences on the Convention with 36 African countries in 2011 and 48 countries in 2014. Over the last three years, the Institute for African Culture, a Category 2 Institute, has published a quarterly newsletter containing information related to the Convention. This journal is disseminated to Ministries of Culture and to institutions of higher education throughout Africa. Many people in Africa are familiar with the Convention and its impact through this publication.
243. The Delegation of **Denmark** asked where and how the Secretariat was disseminating its information, what response it has received, and to what extent the Secretariat was using social media for communications. It underscored the importance of social media as a core platform for communication needing to be taken into account by the Convention. It endorsed the application of the theory of change to enable the communication of clear messages for stakeholders and donors able to promote the targeted efforts of the Convention. It noted that producing communication tools is important but costly, which requires them to be distributed in a strategic manner, representing a second step to be taken into consideration.
244. The **Secretary of the Convention** specified that the messages in its communications tools come from the countries' periodic reports and are thus shaped by experience in implementing the Convention. IFCD e-updates are sent to a database of 4000 email addresses from around the world, including different audiences that have subscribed to the

list. The theory of change has inspired work by the Secretariat in the context of the forthcoming Global Report to monitor the impact of the Convention that could also be considered as a strategic communication tool. Key messages are distributed through UNESCO's social media channels.

245. The Delegation of **Cuba** underscored the link between the visibility of the Convention and digital issues as well as the need to raise awareness to wider audiences. To celebrate the 10th anniversary, Cuba held events during World Cultural Diversity Day, including conferences and interviews about culture and growth. It also prepared a national television spot and planned a ministerial meeting.
246. The Delegation of **Venezuela** was promoting the transversality of the Convention and its role as a catalyst for international cooperation. Venezuela considers culture part of universal human rights. References to culture are included in its constitution and in government policies on science, technology, education, and communication. Laws and institutions are in place for the protection of artists, all forms of media, youth, women, and indigenous groups. It promotes the Convention through annual national festivals and has created nationwide networks of community media, identified by UNESCO as an example of good practice. Internationally it is promoting the Convention through regional cooperation mechanisms in MERCOSUR, CELAC, UNASUR, and ALBA. The University of Arts and Music and the Foundation Simon Bolivar are evidence of the country's interest in promoting artistic creation.
247. The Delegation of **Canada** referred to the clear strategy adopted for the IFCD, its operational communication tools, and the online database as precious sources of information. It highlighted various actions Canada is taking to promote the Convention, including the organization of a round table addressing the challenges and opportunities posed by new technologies. The Delegation suggested that cinema could be used to showcase the richness of creativity, in particular in the Francophone world, and help promote the Convention. A newsletter covering several of the events organized throughout the year, including a colloquium organized by the Canadian Coalition for Cultural Diversity, has been widely distributed. Canadian civil society is also promoting the Convention, for example, through annual meetings and events. It mentioned one event organized by the Fine Arts Institute of Montreal.
248. The Delegation of **Namibia** underlined the role of artists in promoting the visibility of the Convention and the need to create opportunities for platforms they can use to promote it. The Namibian Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture has created networks with local artists to raise awareness of the value of diversity in arts and culture. It has also reviewed its national policy on arts, culture, and heritage, resulting in a draft policy that helps promote the Convention. The Delegation stressed information sharing and capacity-building and outreach to young people in particular. It supported the organization of workshops and training for key stakeholders as mentioned in paragraph 24 of the document.
249. The Delegation of **Argentina** noted specific cultural policies created by its Ministry of Culture. It is conducting transversal work across State sectors that will help raise national awareness of the Convention and its broader international issues. It has planned programs for the Convention's 10-year anniversary including a cultural industries market to take place in September and other events developed with the UNESCO Regional Field Office in Montevideo.
250. The Delegation of **Burkina Faso** noted that while the Convention is known within the cultural sector, it is little known in the areas where development decisions are made, such as in Parliament. Financial partners are also largely unfamiliar with the Convention and despite their work with entities such as the European Union, many are not familiar with the Convention's provisions. The Delegation recognized the considerable work needed for culture to break the barriers of entry into sectors such as education and business, especially in countries of the Global South. It emphasized raising the Convention's profile among civil

society, ministers, and the government in order to gain their support and the work needed to raise the Convention's profile in the Global South.

251. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** remarked that the UNESCO website did not include any information specific to the Convention or its anniversary. It further noted that this was also true for the UNESCO Culture Sector homepage, which only features information about the heritage conventions. It called for UNESCO's administration to give the Convention more visibility on its websites, even if only for its 10th anniversary, and cautioned against disregarding one convention on behalf of another, especially in the long term.
252. The Delegation of the **European Union** noted that webstreaming the Conference was a means of its promotion and asked the Secretariat how many people were watching, how many had watched the expert exchange session, and if the Committee meeting in December would be webstreamed as well.
253. The Delegation of the **Côte d'Ivoire** highlighted the creation of a Directorate for the Promotion of Cultural Industries and a cultural industries fair that help raise awareness of the Convention.
254. The Delegation of **Brazil** underscored the importance of a strategy for promoting the Convention outside of the cultural sector. It suggested using capacity-building to reach out to business, trade, planning, and other government branches through the organization of training workshops that could be used to convince these sectors of the relevance of the Convention. It noted its positive experience working with officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and inviting officials from various ministries to attend presentations on the major challenges of Brazilian foreign policy, including culture. The Delegation emphasized the need to open new avenues for dialogue among officials in diverse sectors who are open to these ideas if they are presented as State issues.
255. The **Chairperson** fully endorsed Brazil's statements and invited the observers to take the floor.

[Observers]

256. The representative of the **European Broadcasters Union (EBU)** informed about the organization, through a Dutch broadcaster, of its sixth cultural diversity show related to the 10th anniversary of the Convention in January. He would provide the dates of this show as soon as they were available.
257. The representative of the **IFCCD** detailed the webcasting of an event in Quebec where it helped connect people to Twitter. The Canadian Federation and the International Federation both have Facebook pages getting 200 hits up from 40 a few years ago. The representative encouraged the Parties to send the IFCCD information for publication on social media.
258. The representative of the **International Organization of the Francophonie** underscored the problem of communicating the principles of the Convention in rural areas, in which many people do not speak the main Convention working languages. As such, help was needed from the Parties and civil society for the translation of documents into local languages. The periodic reporting exercise is a strategic opportunity to inform civil society about the Convention.
259. The **Secretary of the Convention** indicated that information on the volume of webstreaming would be obtained from the UNESCO Division of Public Information. The Secretariat has been issuing press releases on Convention activities and on trade and digital issues which are picked up by the media in different countries. She encouraged the Parties to continue strengthening their visibility efforts, to make requests for use of the emblem, and to send the Secretariat information on their events for the Convention website.

260. The **Chairperson** moved to the adoption of draft resolution 5.CP 13, asking the Secretariat to put it up on the screens and declaring that no written amendments had been received. The Chairperson asked if there were any comments or objections and seeing none, declared the Resolution 5.CP 13 adopted.

Resolution 5.CP 13 was adopted.

Item 14 - Future activities of the Committee (Documents CE/15/5.CP 14 and CE/15/5.CP/INF.8)

261. The **Chairperson** opened agenda item 14, inviting the Secretary of the Convention to present the document.

262. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that in preparing document 14, she took into account: the Convention's operational guidelines; decisions taken during the eighth session of the Committee; the IOS evaluations of the Convention and the IFCD; the results of various surveys conducted with the Parties; and the global priorities identified by the governing bodies and in the 37 C/5. Document 14 presents possible future actions for the Committee and reflects the current phase of implementation.

Certain activities are already grounded in the core of work on the Convention. For example, the ninth session of the Committee will approve projects based on IFCD requests submitted in 2015 and will consider appointing 3 new members to the Panel of Experts to assess funding requests in 2016 and 2017. The Committee will also evaluate the continued implementation of the IOS recommendations, the fundraising and communication strategy, and oversee the management of IFCD resources including the application of the cost-recovery policy. The Committee will launch the first Global Monitoring Report on the worldwide implementation of the Convention in December 2015 with support from SIDA. Reporting will continue based on the revised operational guidelines adopted by the Parties at this session. The next analysis of quadrennial periodic reports will be presented to the ninth session of the Committee in December, but will then change from an annual to a biannual basis. The Secretary of the Convention recalled that as the priorities for future activities are defined, due consideration should be given to the financial and human capacities of the Secretariat to implement all activities to their fullest. The importance of civil society and other partner engagement to meet the growing needs and priorities identified by the Parties was also stressed.

263. The **Chairperson** encouraged the Parties to prioritize future tasks and noted the possibility of removing some activities from the list if they were not essential to ensuring the Convention's future success. He encouraged the Parties interested in specific activities to provide extra-budgetary resources.

264. The Delegation of **Brazil** posited that prioritizing should be done with reference to statutory obligations. As such, its priorities were the drafting of new operational guidelines on digital issues and implementing the global capacity-building strategies and preparation of training modules for Articles 16 and 21. It acknowledged the important work of the IFCD, implementation of the IOS recommendations, reporting and monitoring activities, as well as pursuing synergies with the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist. It did not agree to removing any items from the list. This was endorsed by **Saint Lucia**.

265. The Delegation of **Saint Lucia** endorsed the statement by Brazil and said that due to the importance of all of the issues listed, Parties should provide resources for the Secretariat to accomplish these actions. Member States should raise the resource issue at the UNESCO General Conference and prioritize with other conventions that have more staff and resources. The Delegation noted that while the General Conference affirmed the equal importance of the cultural conventions, the small budget and staff allocated to this Convention indicated otherwise. This observation was endorsed by **Austria**.

266. The Delegation of **Norway** echoed the importance of statutory obligations, expressing its priority to maintain monitoring the implementation of IOS recommendations.
267. The Delegation of **Denmark** underlined the need for discussion at the General Conference and endorsed the list of future actions in its entirety. It identified the Global Report and the results framework as particularly important to showcase results in order to get support for the implementation of the Convention's other core functions.
268. The Delegation of **Kuwait** acknowledged the difficulty for many Parties to provide extra-budgetary assistance and support, suggesting the creation of an expenditure breakdown. This would allow a number of the investment expenses to be put back into the system to ensure long-term sustainability.
269. The Delegation of **Austria** emphasized the need to maintain the Secretariat's statutory obligations and to invest in capacity-building and training modules. This would ensure the sustainability, global outreach, and the implementation of the Convention, safeguarding its future relevancy and ability to address emerging issues such as the operational guidelines on digital issues. It confirmed that the Convention receives less financial and human resources than the other cultural conventions and echoed the call to raise this issue at the General Conference and during the next session of the Executive Board.
270. The **Chairperson** asked if there were any other Parties or observers wishing to take the floor. Seeing none he asked the Secretariat to put draft resolution 5.CP 14 on the screen, confirming that the Secretariat had received no written amendments to the resolution. The Chairperson declared the resolution adopted.

Resolution 5.CP 14 was adopted.

Item 15 - Election of the Members of the Committee (Document CE/15/5.CP/15 and CE/15/5.CP/INF.3)

271. The **Chairperson** moved to the election of the Committee, inviting the Secretary of the Convention to take the floor to provide more information on how to proceed.
272. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that in accordance with Article 23.1 and Article 23.4, the Conference of Parties elected at its first ordinary session a Committee composed of 24 members. Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties stipulates that the term of office of the Members of the Committee shall be four years, in accordance with Article 23.1 of the Convention. The 12 Members of the Committee by electoral group whose term had come to an end in 2015 were:

- Group I: Sweden and Switzerland
- Group II: Armenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Group III: Argentina, Honduras and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Group IV: Viet Nam
- Group Va: Guinea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe
- Group Vb: Kuwait

It was recalled that, at its fourth ordinary session in June 2013, the Conference of Parties elected 12 Committee Members whose term of office would expire in 2017. These remaining members by electoral group were:

- Group I: Austria and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Group II: Lithuania and Belarus
- Group III: Uruguay and Saint Lucia
- Group IV: Afghanistan and Australia
- Group Va: Madagascar and Ethiopia
- Group Vb: Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates

The Secretary of the Convention explained Rule 15.2 of the Rules of Procedure and referred to Information Document 3 where the provisional list of candidates was to be found. In accordance with Rule 17.3, this list had been finalized 48 hours prior to the opening of the Conference of Parties. As of 8 June 2015 the number of seats available and the candidates were the following:

Group I: Germany and France

Group II: Czech Republic and Slovakia

Group III: Brazil, Paraguay and Peru

Group IV: Indonesia

Group Va: Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Group Vb: Morocco and Egypt

273. The **Chairperson** pointed out that there was a clean slate in all groups and asked the Secretariat to put the resolution text on the screens. The Chairperson asked the Conference of Parties if they agreed, and declared the resolution adopted. Noting the ease and smoothness of the Conference proceedings, the Chairperson invited those Parties whose Committee term was ending to comment on their work.

Resolution 5.CP 15 was adopted.

274. Delegations taking the floor congratulated the outgoing and incoming Committee Members, wishing them luck for their future work on the Convention, commended the cooperative spirit of the Parties and thanked the Chairperson and the Secretariat for their excellent work: **Democratic Republic of the Congo; United Arab Emirates; Honduras; Argentina; Morocco; Peru; Indonesia; Côte d'Ivoire; Nigeria; Brazil; Kuwait; France; Slovakia; Paraguay; Switzerland; Sweden; Czech Republic; Barbados; Togo; China.**
275. The **Chairperson** thanked the outgoing Committee Members for their great work and the leadership of the Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of the Congo during an important moment in the Committee's life. The Chairperson expressed hope that the outgoing Committee Members would be welcomed back to the Committee again and greeted the incoming Committee Members.

Item 16 - Other business

276. The **Chairperson** informed the Parties that the resolutions adopted during the fifth Conference of Parties would be available on the screens and gave the floor to the Rapporteur to present the resolutions adopted.
277. Mr Sofiene Feki, the **Rapporteur**, provided a summary of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, mentioning the participation of the Director-General of UNESCO and the exchange session with experts on Articles 16 and 21 and digital issues. The Rapporteur noted the participation of 92 Parties, 8 UNESCO Member States not Party to the Convention, 5 intergovernmental organizations, and 8 nongovernmental organizations. The Rapporteur summarized the items on the agenda and outlined the 16 resolutions adopted.
278. The **Chairperson** thanked the Rapporteur for his excellent work, moved to the adoption of the resolutions in their entirety, and seeing no objections declared the resolutions adopted. The Chairperson announced the end of the work and thanked all of the participants for their efforts during this session. He asked everyone to fill out the satisfaction survey to inform the working methods of the Secretariat. The Chairperson thanked, in particular, the Secretary of the Convention and the Secretariat for its extraordinary work. The Chairperson also thanked the translators, the technicians, and everyone for making the Conference of Parties a success.

279. The **Secretary of the Convention** thanked the Chairperson and all the outgoing Committee Members as well as the representatives of civil society, acknowledging the need to work more closely with them at the national and international levels. The Secretary of the Convention also thanked the Legal Adviser and, especially, the Secretariat team for their hard work and dedication as well as their commitment to the Convention and its successful implementation.
280. The **Chairperson** declared the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions closed.

End of Session