

39 C/Resolution 87 Governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO

The General Conference,

Recalling 38 C/Resolution 101, by which it decided to establish an open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO whose mandate would be to examine the governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies building on the recommendations of the Executive Board (197 EX/Decision 28 and 44), and to report to the Executive Board at its 202nd session with a view to enabling the Executive Board to make its recommendations to the General Conference at its 39th session,

Having considered document 39 C/20 containing the report and the recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, as well as document 39 C/20 Add., containing the recommendations of the Executive Board thereon,

Taking note of the debates in the APX Commission,

I

1. *Thanks* the President of the 38th session of the General Conference, Chairperson of the open-ended working group on governance, as well as the members of the group, for their valuable contribution to the reflections of the General Conference on the structure, composition and methods of work of the General Conference and Executive Board, and of UNESCO's international and intergovernmental bodies;
2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance as amended in document 39 C/70;
3. *Invites* the Executive Board, the Director-General and the governing bodies of the different organs examined by the open-ended working group on governance to implement, as appropriate, the above-mentioned recommendations;
4. *Underlines* the role of the Secretariat as facilitator in the follow-up process of all the international and intergovernmental bodies, and *invites* the Director-General to produce an electronic guidebook of good practices, as outlined in recommendations 76, 80 and 129, in a timely manner to inform UNESCO's international and intergovernmental bodies at their upcoming meetings in 2018 on possible concrete ways for further alignment with UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and its Programme and Budget (C/5);
5. *Requests* the Director-General, in consultation with the President of the General Conference and the Chairperson of the Executive Board, to review the relevant UNESCO texts impacted by the above recommendations;

II

1. *Decides* to amend paragraphs 4 and 5 of Rule 82 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference as follows:

"XV. Voting

Rule 82 – Voting rights

(...)

4. (a) Member States shall address their communications invoking the provisions of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), to the Director-General, who shall transmit them to the Administrative Commission of the General Conference. That Commission shall take up the matter at the commencement of its work and issue in plenary meeting, as a matter of priority, a report and recommendations on the subject.
 - (b) For this purpose, the Administrative Commission of the General Conference shall establish a working group on contributions. The working group shall consist of six members, one representative from each electoral group. Upon the first meeting of this working group, none of its members should be in a position to be deprived of their right to vote under Article IV.C, paragraph 8 (b), of the Constitution.
 - (c) The term of office of the members of the working group shall be four years. Half of the members of the working group shall be replaced at each ordinary session of the General Conference.

Transitional provision:

On the first election of members of the working group, half of them, designated by drawing lots, shall only serve a term of two years.
 - (d) The working group on contributions shall begin its work one to two months before the expiry of the time limit specified in paragraph 5 below.
5. The communications from Member States referred to in paragraph 4 (a) must be submitted no later than the opening day of the Executive Board session preceding the General Conference. In the absence of such a communication from the Member States concerned, the latter may no longer be authorized to take part in voting at that session of the General Conference."