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Diversity of cultural expressions

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

**Third ordinary session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
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Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD): preliminary stages

At its second session in June 2009, the Conference of Parties approved the operational guidelines for the implementation of the Convention and the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (Article 18). This document explores the preliminary stages of the pilot phase of the IFCD.

Decision required: paragraph 24.

1. At its second ordinary session in June 2009, the Conference of Parties approved the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (Article 18) (hereinafter referred to as “the Guidelines”) (Resolution 2.CP7).

2. Pursuant to Article 18.4 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), the resources of the Fund will be used as decided by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) on the basis of guidelines adopted by the Conference of Parties.

3. Paragraph 5 of the Guidelines provides that they will apply during a pilot phase lasting 36 months from the date of their approval by the Conference of Parties, that is, from 16 June 2009 to 15 June 2012. During this period, the organs of the Convention will convene in ordinary session as follows: three sessions of the Committee in December 2009, December 2010 and December 2011, and one session of the Conference of Parties in June 2011.

4. In order to have an overall view of the stages and successive deadlines in the pilot phase, a provisional timetable consistent with the Guidelines is provided in Annex I.

5. Paragraph 5 of the Guidelines also provides that an evaluation of the mechanisms of the pilot phase, the results obtained and the effectiveness of the management of the Fund will be carried out six months before the end of the pilot phase. The findings of this evaluation will be submitted to the Committee for examination with a view to a possible revision of the Guidelines if need be. The evaluation would therefore cover the period from January 2009 to June 2012 and its findings would be submitted to the Committee at its sixth ordinary session in December 2012.

6. To make the Fund operational in accordance with the Guidelines, the Committee should at this preliminary stage:

- (i) select the members of the expert panel;
- (ii) examine the provisional draft budget for the pilot phase;
- (iii) adopt the draft budget for 2010;
- (iv) take note of the Assistance Request Form.

(i) Expert panel

7. Paragraph 15.3 of the Guidelines stipulates that an “expert panel will be appointed for a two-year period by the Committee, drawn from a database of experts proposed by States Parties. The panel will be selected on the basis of criteria of equitable geographical distribution, representation, as well as complementarity of expertise. It will be responsible, after a technical examination of the programmes/projects, for preparing recommendations for the Committee in view of the examination of the programmes/projects by it”.

8. In order to constitute the database of experts, the Secretariat of the Convention invited the Parties to submit, by 16 September 2009, the names and contact information of experts specialized in cultural policies and cultural industries. The Secretariat sent a reminder e-mail to the Parties in September 2009. As of 26 October 2009, the Secretariat had received 67 nominations from 27 Parties. The experts’ names and relevant information are provided in information document CE/09/3IGC/211/INF.4A.

9. As to the expert panel, two options are proposed.

Under **Option A**, the panel would be composed of six experts, each a national of a State Party of each of the six electoral groups of UNESCO. One of these experts may also be required to act as coordinator on a voluntary basis.

Under **Option B**, the panel would be composed of 12 experts, that is, two nationals of a State Party of each of the six electoral groups of UNESCO. One of these experts may also be required to act as coordinator on a voluntary basis.

10. As to the **modalities** of work, two options are also proposed, depending on the option chosen by the Committee under paragraph 9 above. If the Committee opts for a panel of six experts (option A under paragraph 9), option B below will no longer be applicable.

Under **Option A**, one evaluator would be responsible for evaluating one request which would be validated by the coordinator and/or another member of the panel.

Under **Option B**, two evaluators would be responsible for evaluating one request which would be validated by the coordinator and/or two other members of the panel, nationals of countries that do not belong to the same UNESCO electoral group.

11. In accordance with paragraph 10 of the Guidelines, funding requests will be submitted in French or English, the working languages of the Organization and of the Committee, which will also be the working languages of the expert panel. In addition, paragraph 15.3 of the Guidelines indicates that, as a rule, the experts will consult each other electronically.

12. The Guidelines contain no information on the experts' **profile** or level of expertise. However, requiring a degree level and skills equivalent to grade P-5 consultants would ensure quality services. An advanced university degree and at least ten years' relevant professional experience, both national and international, in the fields of cultural policies and cultural industries would therefore meet the requirements for the panel. In addition, excellent written command of one of the Organization's two working languages and good comprehension of the other language are indispensable for the task of validating evaluations between members of the expert panel.

13. The **remuneration** of the experts will be borne by the Fund. It is proposed that the experts, in view of their profile and level of expertise when they provide services, be remunerated according to the scale for grade P-5 applicable in 2009. As there is uncertainty as to the number of funding requests in the first year, the Secretariat tentatively proposes a sum of US \$30,000, which would correspond to the remuneration for grade P-5 consulting services.

(ii) Provisional budget for the pilot phase

14. Information document CE/09/3IGC/211/INF4B shows the contributions received as of 30 September 2009. At that date, contributions credited to the budget code of the Fund amounted to **US\$1,622,309.56**. An appeal to the Parties is envisaged to request, encourage and stabilize contributions to the Fund.

15. The Secretariat has drawn up a draft provisional budget for the 36-month pilot phase, as shown in Annex II, which proposes the amount to be allocated for this period:

US\$825,000, corresponding to 51% of the funds available as of 30 September 2009, including the 10% support charge applicable to special accounts.

16. As the Fund is replenished through voluntary contributions, holding an amount of money in reserve could prove useful not only during the pilot phase, but also in the future. The Committee may thus wish to decide to establish a reserve, in particular for funding needs for special situations such as those set out in Articles 8 and 17 of the Convention and the operational guidelines relating

thereto (paragraph 6.2 of the Guidelines). The provisional draft budgets provide for a reserve of US\$16,223 for Years 2 and 3, amounting to 1% of the contributions to the Fund received as of 30 September 2009. If the reserve is not used in Year 2, it will simply be carried over to the next year. No reserve is planned for Year 1.

17. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Guidelines, the Committee is required at each session to draw up the budget to be allocated for each type of assistance in accordance with the resources available in the Special Account. The provisional draft budget for the pilot phase gives the provisional breakdown of the total allocation by project. It goes without saying that, at its fourth ordinary session in December 2010, the Committee could decide on the amounts to allocate for each type of assistance in the light of the number and nature of the funding requests received and in accordance with the provisions in paragraph 4 of the Guidelines.

18. In addition, the provisional draft budget contains an estimate of the cost of assistance to enable government experts from the least-developed countries that are members of the Committee to participate, at their request, in meetings of the organs of the Convention (paragraph 6.4.2 of the Guidelines).

19. The Guidelines provide for the evaluation of the funded programmes/projects, as well as of the mechanisms and management of the pilot phase (paragraphs 5 and 17 of the Guidelines).

20. The amount available for the funding of projects would be US\$585,000, that is 70.9% of the total provisional draft budget for the pilot phase. The factors used in calculating the amount available for the funding of projects include the funding of programmes/projects (paragraph 6.1), preparatory assistance (paragraph 6.3) and the reserve. The reserve covers the funding of programmes/projects relating to special situations for which Articles 8 and 17 of the Convention provide (risk of extinction, serious threat, need for urgent safeguarding of the cultural expressions on a territory) (see Annex II). Starting from 2011, it is **proposed** that the amount available for the funding of projects be broken down as follows: 57% of the amount would be allocated for preparatory assistance and 43% for the funding of programmes/projects, with the reserve covering projects relating to special situations.

21. It is up to the Committee to decide on the amount that it would like to allocate for the pilot phase, it being understood that the Committee will decide at its fourth ordinary session to revise it, depending on the amount of contributions to the Fund and the number of requests for assistance. This is reflected in the draft decision.

(iii) Budget for 2010

22. Paragraph 8 of the Guidelines provides for the Committee, at each session, to draw up the budget to be allocated for each type of assistance in accordance with the resources available in the Special Account. In 2010, the expenditure to be covered includes the cost of the evaluation of funding requests by the expert panel (paragraphs 6.5 and 17 of the Guidelines) and, potentially, assistance for participation in meetings, within the limits of funding decided by the Committee (paragraph 6 of the Guidelines). Provision for such expenditure is included in the draft budget for 2010, contained in Annex III, which the Secretariat submits to the Committee for examination and adoption.

(iv) Assistance Request Form

23. In order to issue a call for projects as soon as the Committee's session ends, the Secretariat has drawn up an assistance request form. This form, whose content complies with the provisions set out in the Guidelines, can be found in information document CE/09/3IGC/211/INF.4C.

24. The Committee may wish to adopt the draft decision below.

DRAFT DECISION 3.IGC 5

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document CE/09/3IGC/211/5,*
2. *Recalling Resolution 2.CP7, and in particular the provisions of the Guidelines on the use of the resources of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (Article 18),*
3. *Takes note of the provisional timetable and the provisional draft budget for the pilot phase;*
4. *Takes note of the assistance request form concerning programmes/projects;*
5. *Decides to appoint, for a two-year period starting from this session, the following experts as members of the panel established to draw up recommendations for the Committee with a view to its examination of requests for the funding of programmes/projects by the IFCD:*
6. *Requests the Director-General to launch an appeal for contributions to all Convention stakeholders;*
7. *Decides to allocate the amount of XXX for the pilot phase, on the understanding that the Committee will decide at its fourth ordinary session whether to revise it depending on the amount of contributions to the Fund and the number of requests for assistance;*
8. *Adopts the budget for 2010.*

IFCD – PROVISIONAL BUDGET FOR THE PILOT PHASE FOR 2010–2012

		US\$825,000					
Description		Year 1 2010	Year 2 2011		Year 3 2012		
1	Evaluation of funding requests by the expert panel (consultant contract)	\$30,000.00	66.7%	\$30,000.00	8.9%	\$30,000.00	8.2%
2	Funding of programmes/projects (para. 6.1)		0.0%	\$110,510.80	32.7%	\$110,510.80	30.1%
3	Preparatory assistance (para. 6.3)		0.0%	\$165,766.20	49.1%	\$165,766.20	45.1%
4	Cost of participation in statutory meetings by experts from LDCs that are members of the Committee (para. 6.4.2)	\$10,000.00	22.2%	\$10,000.00	3.0%	\$15,000.00	4.1%
5	Evaluation of funded programmes/projects (para. 17) and the pilot phase (para. 5) (consultant contract)		0.0%		0.0%	\$25,000.00	6.8%
6	Cost of participation of public or private organizations (Article 23.7 of the Convention, para 6.4.1 of the Guidelines)	\$5,000.00	11.1%	\$5,000.00	1.5%	\$5,000.00	1.4%
7	Reserve		0.0%	\$16,223.00	4.8%	\$16,223.00	4.4%
SUB-TOTAL per year		\$45,000.00		\$337,500.00		\$367,500.00	
SUB-TOTAL		\$750,000.00					
Support costs applicable to the Special Account TOTAL: 10%		\$75,000.00					
TOTAL		\$825,000.00					

Amount remaining for the funding of projects \$585,000.00 70.9%

N.B.: Total contributions credited to the budget code of the Fund as of 30 September 2009: US \$1,622,309.56

IFCD – PROJECTED BUDGET FOR 2010 (YEAR 1 OF THE PILOT PHASE)

		US\$825,000 For the 36 months of the pilot phase	
Description		Year 1 2010	
1	Evaluation of funding requests by the expert panel (para. 6.5) (consultant contract)	\$30,000.00	66.7%
2	Cost of participation in statutory meetings by experts from LDCs that are members of the Committee (para. 6.4.2)	\$10,000.00	22.2%
3	Cost of participation of public or private organizations (Article 23.7 of the Convention, para. 6.4.1)	\$5,000.00	11.1%
4	Reserve (para. 6.2)		0.0%
SUBTOTAL		\$45,000.00	
Support costs applicable to the Special Account:10%		\$4,500.00	10.0%
TOTAL		\$49,500.00	

N.B. Total contributions credited to the budget code of the Fund as of 30 September 2009: US \$1,622,309.56

Balance available after approval of the budget:

US \$1,622,309.56 – 825,000 = 797,309.56