



Participative Policy Monitoring to Promote the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Panel Discussion

14 June 2017

Room II – UNESCO HQ

Context

In 2014, UNESCO launched the four-year project “Enhancing fundamental freedoms through the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions” with funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

The project aims to:

- strengthen the human and institutional capacities of governmental and civil society actors to collect the evidence required to design, implement and monitor national policies and measures that promote the diversity of cultural expressions;
- produce two biennial global monitoring reports analyzing current trends, tracking progress and identifying the principal advances and challenges faced by Parties and other relevant policy actors in the implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

The overall goal of the project is to lay the groundwork for informed, transparent and participatory policy making processes that support the development of systems of good governance to promote the diversity of cultural expressions based on fundamental freedoms, as stipulated in the Convention.

Purpose of the Panel

This panel discussion provides the sixth session of the Conference of Parties with an opportunity to meet and exchange with project beneficiaries from Colombia and Ethiopia and members of the 2005 Convention Expert Facility.

The purpose is to share and collectively discuss the lessons learnt and the challenges encountered during this project and better understand how the reporting and monitoring mechanisms of the Convention contribute to participatory policy making and hence sustainable systems of governance for culture.

To initiate the discussion, a presentation will be made of the main findings from the 2015 Global Report and discuss how the emerging trends and thematic areas of policy monitoring are “re-shaping” cultural policies at the country level.

Panellists will then be asked to discuss the role and impact of quadrennial periodic reporting as a tool contributing to informed, evidence based cultural policies at the country level and examine how new spaces for dialogue and cooperation among governmental, civil society actors and media professionals were opened up as a result of the capacity building interventions, how they function and what challenges lay ahead.

The debate is expected to demonstrate the interactions and synergies between national activities to collect information and data and global monitoring processes and how they can lead to new cooperation mechanisms for exchange, analysis and dissemination of information as foreseen by the Convention.

Programme

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| 10.00 – 10.05 | Opening, President of the sixth session of the Conference of Parties to the 2005 Convention |
| 10.05 – 10.20 | Presentation of the 2015 edition of the Global Report, “RE Shaping Cultural Policies” Mr Yudhishtir Raj Isar, Principal Editor of the Global Report and Professor of Cultural Policy Studies, American University of Paris |
| 10.20- 10.30 | Video. Burkina Faso: participative policy monitoring in action |
| 10-30 - 11.30 | Panel discussion, followed by Q&A with the audience |

Moderator: Mr Yudhishtir Raj Isar

- Mr Luis Armando Soto Boutin (Colombia), Deputy Permanent Delegate of Colombia to UNESCO, Former Director of Cultural Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Executive Secretary of the Colombian National Commission for UNESCO, member of the Colombian National Team for periodic reporting
- Mr Seminas Hadera (Ethiopia), Founder and Director of Gerar, the Creative Hub, civil society member of the Ethiopian National Team for periodic reporting
- Ms Christine M. Merkel (Germany), Head of Division for Culture, Memory of the World, German Commission for UNESCO, member of the Expert Facility who undertook capacity-building mission in Morocco and Tunisia and contributing author to the Global Report
- Ms Anupama Sekhar (India), Director of the Culture Department at the Asia-Europe foundation (ASEF), member of the Expert Facility who undertook capacity-building mission in Indonesia