

DECISIONS TAKEN BY

THE 30TH COUNCIL SESSION OF

THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

OF COMMUNICATION (IPDC)

17-18 NOVEMBER 2016

UNESCO HQ, Paris (France)

CI-16/COUNCIL-30/4 Item 8

IPDC Council decision on the safety of journalists and the danger of impunity report by the Director-General to the intergovernmental council of the IPDC (THIRTIETH SESSION)

The Intergovernmental Council of IPDC,

Welcoming the fifth biennial Director-General's Report on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity,

Deeply disturbed by the increase of acts of violence against journalists, media workers and social media producers in many parts of the world, including in countries which are not considered as conflict areas,

Welcoming the increased response rate to the Director-General's enquiries on judicial process, but also concerned at the continued rate of impunity as reflected in the Director-General's Report and the signal that this sends that violence against journalists can go unpunished,

Noting UNESCO's role in leading the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, which inter alia encourages the development of global, regional and national processes and mechanisms involving all stakeholders to achieve an environment for the safe exercise of free expression, Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolutions A/RES/68/163 (2013), A/RES/69/185 (2014); A/RES/70/162 (2015); and recalling the Human Rights Council Resolutions A/HRC/RES/21/12 (2012), A/HRC/RES/27/5 (2014) and A/HRC/33/L.6 (2016); and further recalling the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1738 (2006) and 2222 (2015),

Recalling UNESCO Resolutions 29 C/29 (1997) and 36 C/53 (2011), as well as Executive Board Decision 196 EX/31 (2015), and the Riga and Finlandia Declarations adopted on 3 May, World Press Freedom Day, in 2015 and 2016 respectively,

Welcoming the UNESCO conference "News organizations standing up for the safety of media professionals" and its Outcome documents with which IPDC was associated, as well as recent initiatives by media and civil society actors such as the International Declaration on the Protection of Journalists, the Global Safety Principles and Practices,

Appreciating that the Report has been recognized by the UN Statistical Commission as a contribution towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, Target 10, as one of the resources for monitoring the safety of journalists and the danger of impunity.

1. Emphasizes the ongoing relevance of the Decisions on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity adopted by the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC at its 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th sessions in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014 respectively, which urge Member States to continue "to inform the Director-General of UNESCO, on a voluntary basis, on the status of the judicial inquiries conducted on each of the killings condemned by the Director-General";
2. Appreciates the efforts of the Member States that have provided information to the Director-General on the status of the judicial investigations of killings of journalists.

3. Strongly encourages Member States that have not yet replied to the Director-General's requests to actively provide information to UNESCO, on a voluntary basis, concerning the judicial investigations of killings of journalists.
4. Requests the Director-General of UNESCO to continue to provide to the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC an analytical report on the killing of journalists, media workers and social media producers who are engaged in journalistic activities and who are killed in their line of duty, based on the Director-General's condemnations; including information on the judicial inquiries that is based on the information provided by Member States on a voluntary basis;
5. Invites the Director-General to further reinforce this analytical report by:
 - a. Also collecting information on actions taken by Member States to promote the safety of journalists and to combat impunity, as a way to share good practices;
 - b. Improving data collection on killings and judicial process in order to provide these data as part of the UN's monitoring of SDG 16, Target 10 within the IPDC's remit;
 - c. Strengthening data disaggregation in order to highlight the specific risks faced by women journalists in the exercise of their work;
6. Urges Member States to monitor the safety of journalists as part of their fulfillment of SDG 16, Target 10;
7. Encourages UNESCO to continue to support Member States in their reporting and monitoring mechanisms on journalists' safety and the issue of impunity;
8. Invites the Bureau of the inter-governmental council of the IPDC to continue to give priority to projects that further the objectives of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity within the framework of the six IPDC priorities.
9. Urges the Director-General and the Member States to increase their efforts in mobilizing additional extra-budgetary funding for UNESCO's work in the area of safety of journalists and the issue of impunity.

CI-16/COUNCIL-30/10 Item 15

IPDC Council decision on earmarked contributions to projects under the IPDC Special Account

The Intergovernmental Council of IPDC,

decides to accept earmarked contributions to projects/activities under the IPDC Special Account, to be approved by the Bureau, and provided that the general conditions of the Special Account are respected within the framework of the six priorities of the IPDC.

CI-16/COUNCIL-30/11 Item 11

IPDC Council decision on the follow-up to: 1) the audit of the governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes and entities, 2) audit report on the communication and information sector (CI)

Part 1 Audit of the governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes and entities

The Intergovernmental Council of IPDC,

Takes note of document 38 C/23 and the Executive Summary of the Audit of the governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes and entities;

Further takes note of the report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of Recommendations 1, 11 and 13 of the External Auditor's Audit of the governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes and entities (document 199 EX/12);

Recalling resolution 38C/101 of the General Conference, through which was established an open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO,

Requests the Secretariat in coordination with the Bureau to hold a consultation process with all IPDC Council Members, before the 61st Meeting of the IPDC Bureau in March 2017 on the rules and procedures of IPDC and to report on its proposals and recommendations to the chairperson of the open-ended working group of governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of the UNESCO;

Part 2 Audit report on the communication and information sector (CI)

The Intergovernmental Council of IPDC,

Decides to commission a new IPDC evaluation, pending the availability of the necessary extra-budgetary funding;

Invites the Secretariat to circulate a second draft of the Terms of Reference by the end of the year and the final version to the Bureau in March 2017.