



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Diversity of  
Cultural Expressions

# 10 IGC

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

**Tenth Ordinary Session**  
**Paris, UNESCO Headquarters**  
**12 - 15 December 2016**

**Item 10 of the provisional agenda:** Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties

In accordance with Rule 45.1 of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, this document presents in Annex the Committee's report on its activities and decisions, which will be examined by the Conference of Parties at its sixth ordinary session (June 2017).

Decision required: paragraph 2

1. Rule 45.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) stipulates that it shall present a report on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties. This report is presented in Annex to this document.

2. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

**DRAFT DECISION 10.IGC 10**

*The Committee,*

1. *Having examined Document DCE/16/10.IGC/10 and its Annex;*
2. *Adopts the report on its activities and decisions taken since the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties;*
3. *Submits the report to the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties.*

## **ANNEX**

### **Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties**

#### **Context**

1. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) is composed of representatives of 24 States Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), elected by the Conference of Parties for a term of four years, in accordance with the principles of equitable geographical representation as well as rotation. The Intergovernmental Committee shall meet annually and may meet in extraordinary session at the request of at least two thirds of its Members to discuss specific issues.

2. The responsibilities and functions of the Committee (Article 23 of the Convention) include, among others:

- promoting the objectives of the Convention as well as monitoring its implementation;
- preparing operational guidelines for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;
- transmitting to the Conference of Parties the quadrennial periodic reports submitted by Parties, including comments and summaries;
- establishing procedures and other mechanisms for consultation aimed at promoting the objectives and principles of the Convention in other international forums;
- taking decisions on funding requests under the International Fund for Cultural Diversity;
- inviting, at any time, public or private organisations or individuals to participate in its meetings for consultation on specific issues.

3. The annual sessions of the Committee are forums for discussion and decision-making, where Members meet to decide on the implementation of the Convention. These working sessions allow them to exchange views on the priorities decided by the Conference of Parties and to make important decisions, enabling the Parties to implement the Convention at the national level and to fulfil their obligations. The Committee’s report on its activities and decisions thus enables the Conference of Parties to be informed of the work accomplished by the Committee. The Committee’s work is guided by the resolutions approved by the Conference of Parties since its last session. The report describes the activities carried out by the Committee and the decisions it took in the past two years since the previous Conference of Parties.

#### **Composition of the Committee**

4. At its fifth ordinary session, on 10-12 June 2015, the Conference of Parties elected 12 members of the Committee, in accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties.

5. The 24 Member States of the Committee and their terms of office are as follows:

<b>Group I</b>			
Germany	2015-2019	France	2015-2019
Austria	2013-2017	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2013-2017
<b>Group II</b>			
Belarus	2013-2017	Czech Republic	2015-2019
Lithuania	2013-2017	Slovakia	2015-2019
<b>Group III</b>			
Brazil	2015-2019	Saint Lucia	2013-2017
Paraguay	2015-2019	Uruguay	2013-2017
Peru	2015-2019		
<b>Group IV</b>			
Afghanistan	2013-2017	Indonesia	2015-2019
Australia	2013-2017		
<b>Group V(a)</b>			
Côte d'Ivoire	2015-2019	Nigeria	2015-2019
Ethiopia	2013-2017	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2015-2019
Madagascar	2013-2017		
<b>Group V(b)</b>			
United Arab Emirates	2013-2017	Tunisia	2013-2017
Morocco	2015-2019		

**Meetings of the Committee since the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (10-12 June 2015)**

6. Since the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, the Committee has met twice in ordinary session. These meetings were held as follows:

<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Ninth ordinary session, Paris, France (9.IGC)	14-16 December 2015
Tenth ordinary session, Paris, France (10.IGC)	12-15 December 2016

7. In accordance with Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elects a Bureau at the end of each ordinary session, whose term of office continues until the next ordinary session. At its eighth and ninth ordinary sessions, the Committee suspended the application of Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure to proceed with the election of the Chairperson and one of the Committee's Vice-Chairpersons (Decisions 8.IGC 16 and 9.IGC 12).

Sessions	Members of the Bureau	Dates
Ninth ordinary session Paris (France)	Chairperson: Ms Eva Nowotny (Austria) Rapporteur : Mrs Mariella Crosta (Uruguay) Vice-Chairpersons : Australia, Ethiopia, Lithuania et Tunisia	14 - 16 December 2015
Tenth ordinary session Paris (France)	Chairperson: Mr Stephen Arnott (Australia) Rapporteur : Ms Jana Knazkova (Slovakia) Vice-Chairpersons : Brazil, France, Morocco and Nigeria	12 - 15 December 2016

8. Given the Chairperson, Mrs Eva Nowotny's inability to participate in the ninth ordinary session of the Committee due to unforeseen circumstances, and in accordance with Rule 14 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee unanimously accepted the recommendation of its Bureau to entrust H.E. the Ambassador of Lithuania, Mr Arunas Gelunas, with Chairperson duties.

**Activities of the Committee since the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (10-12 June 2015)**

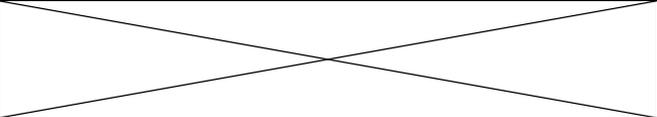
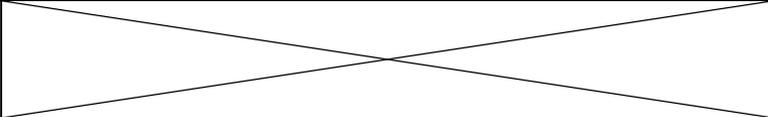
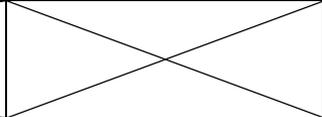
9. Since the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (June 2015), and in accordance with Article 23.6 (b), (e) and (f) of the Convention, with the activities and priorities defined by the Conference of Parties (Resolution 5.CP 14) and with the work plan for the activities of the Committee (June 2015- June 2017) (Decision 9.IGC 5), the main activities and decisions of the Committee have focused on:

- i. the implementation of the global capacity-building strategy;
- ii. the implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD), the second phase of its fundraising and of communication strategies;
- iii. the monitoring and assessment of the Convention's impact, including:
  - a) new quadrennial periodic reports submitted by Parties;
  - b) the development and implementation of a results framework for the Convention, including SMART indicators;
  - c) the implementation and impact of Articles 16 "Preferential treatment for developing countries" and 21 "International consultation and coordination" of the Convention;
- iv. the preparation of draft operational guidelines on digital issues;
- v. the assessment of the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and in the work of the governing bodies;
- vi. pursuing synergies with the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist;
- vii. the monitoring and implementation of the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) and of the External Auditor.

10. The table below presents the priority activities established by the Conference of Parties at its fifth session (June 2015), the activities and decisions implemented by the Committee at its ninth and tenth sessions (to be completed), in accordance with its work plan, as well as the challenges experienced by the Committee during their implementation, where applicable.

	5 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016
<p><b>i. Implementation of the global capacity-building strategy</b></p>	<p>Agreement by the Parties that capacity-development and knowledge production and management activities are essential for decision-making by the governing bodies and for the implementation of the Convention. <i>Resolution 5.CP 7</i></p> <p>The Conference of Parties invited the Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implement the global capacity-building strategy;</li> <li>- develop a training module on Articles 16 and 21 of the Convention. <i>Resolution 5.CP 14</i></li> </ul>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- invited the Parties to provide financial resources to the Secretariat in accordance with the priorities established by the Conference of Parties at its fifth session, particularly in relation to capacity building, knowledge production and management and related activities, thus implementing Recommendation 1(b) of the IOS audit and Articles 9 and 19 of the Convention ;</li> <li>- requested the Parties to provide the Secretariat with Associate Experts in the areas covered by the Convention. <i>Decision 9.IGC 5</i></li> </ul> <p>As part of its global capacity-building strategy, the Committee requested the Secretariat to develop a training module concerning the implementation of Articles 16 and 21. <i>Decision 9.IGC 8</i></p>	<p><b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b></p>

	5 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016
<p><b>ii. Implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)</b></p>	<p>The Conference of Parties invited the Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implement the IFCD and to prepare the terms of reference for the second audit and evaluation of the IFCD to be launched in 2017, with special attention to the application of UNESCO's cost recovery policy and the criteria for the allocation of funds pertaining to the needs and sustainability of projects.</li> </ul> <p><i>Resolution 5.CP 14</i></p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- approved projects to be funded through the IFCD as part of its sixth funding cycle (6 projects for a total amount of US\$ 522,142);</li> <li>- decided to issue a new call for funding requests in 2016 and to allocate 70 % of available funds on 30 June 2016 ;</li> <li>- authorised the Secretariat to charge the cost recovery incurred in 2015 for the IFCD from the unassigned funds in the IFCD Special Account (total of US\$ 76,668).</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 6</i></p> <p>The Committee further:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- appointed a panel of six experts to draw up recommendations on the funding requests that it examines and approves at each session;</li> <li>- appointed six alternate experts.</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 6</i></p> <p>The Committee also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- thanked all of the contributors who have supported the IFCD since its last ordinary session;</li> <li>- encouraged the Parties to provide regular voluntary contributions to the IFCD equivalent to at least 1 per cent of their total contribution to UNESCO, as mentioned in the annual official letter of appeal;</li> <li>- requested the Director-General to send the official letter of appeal for 2015 and to launch in 2016 a new appeal to all Convention stakeholders for contributions, quoting the amount corresponding to 1 per cent of their contribution to UNESCO's regular budget.</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 6</i></p>	<p><b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b></p>

	<b>5<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016</b>
<b>ii. Second phase of the IFCD's fundraising and communication strategies</b>	<p>The Conference of Parties requested the Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- continue its work on the IFCD fundraising and communication strategy and identify the resources to be used;</li> <li>- present a report on that matter at its sixth ordinary session.</li> </ul> <p><i>Resolution 5.CP 10</i></p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-examined the IFCD's fundraising activities;</li> <li>- requested the Secretariat to implement the fundraising and communication activities for 2016, corresponding to the second phase of the IFCD fundraising strategy (July 2014 to June 2016) ;</li> <li>- also requested the Secretariat to submit a report on the implementation of these activities at the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties and the tenth ordinary session of the Committee;</li> <li>- decided to allocate US\$ 50,489 for the Secretariat to carry out fundraising activities in 2016 from unassigned funds in the IFCD Special Account.</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 6</i></p>	<b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b>
<b>iii. Assessment of the impact of the Convention:</b>			
<b>a) New quadrennial periodic reports submitted by Parties</b>	<p>The Conference of Parties decided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Parties that ratified the Convention in 2012 shall submit their first quadrennial periodic report to the Secretariat before 30 April 2016, and that those that ratified the Convention in 2013 shall submit their first report before 30 April 2017;</li> <li>- the Parties that ratified the Convention between 2005 and 2008 shall submit their second quadrennial periodic report before 30 April 2016, and those that ratified the Convention in 2009 shall have to do so before 30 April 2017.</li> </ul> <p><i>Resolution 5.CP 9a, paragraphs 5 and 6</i></p> <p>It invited the Committee to submit, at its next ordinary session in 2017, the quadrennial</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- examined the information and data collected in the periodic reports pertaining to the implementation of the Convention, which are presented and analysed in the Convention's first Global Report;</li> <li>- invited the Parties whose first or second report is due in 2016 to submit it in a timely manner, and encouraged the Parties that had not yet submitted their reports in 2016 to do so, if possible in both working languages of the Committee as well as in other languages;</li> <li>- encouraged the Parties to engage in multi-stakeholder consultations in the preparation of their report, in particular by involving civil society organisations;</li> </ul>	<b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b>

	5 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016
	<p>periodic reports, together with its comments and the Secretariat's analysis in the form of a Global Report. <i>Resolution 5.CP 9a, paragraph 10</i></p> <p>Furthermore, it invited the Committee to continue its policy monitoring activities to assess the impact of the Convention through the collection and analysis of data, information and best practices based on the Parties' quadrennial periodic reports and other documents, and to publish the results in the biennial Global Report as well as through the Convention's knowledge management system. <i>Resolution 5.CP 14</i></p>	<p>- encouraged the Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources to the Secretariat's training programme on the preparation of reports, for the implementation of a global knowledge management system as well as to support the Convention's second Global Report (2017) ;</p> <p>- requested the Secretariat, following the session, to make quadrennial periodic reports available on the Convention website for information purposes. <i>Decision 9.IGC 10</i></p>	
<b>b) Development and implementation of a results framework for the Convention including SMART indicators</b>	<p>The Conference of Parties invited the Committee to develop a results framework for the Convention including SMART indicators. <i>Resolution 5.CP 14</i></p>	<p>The Committee examined the information and data collected in the first Global Report, including the results framework presented in the report.</p>	<b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b>
<b>c) Implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21 of the Convention</b>	<p>The Conference of Parties:</p> <p>- requested the Committee to continue its reflection on the implementation of Articles 16 and 21, including, inter alia, the digital dimension, taking into account the discussions that occurred during the fifth ordinary session, and to report on the results of its work at its sixth ordinary session; <i>Resolution 5.CP 11</i></p> <p>- invited the Committee, as part of its policy monitoring activities to assess the impact of the Convention, to give particular attention to the</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <p>- took note of the information regarding the status of the consultations on the application and impact of Articles 16 and 21 as well as the work on the platform and database to share knowledge and good practices;</p> <p>- requested the Secretariat to consult the Parties, international organisations and civil society in 2016, in order to collect and analyse information on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21, including digital technology, and also to update the report</p>	<b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b>

	5 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016
	<p>impact of Articles 16 and 21. <i>Resolution 5.CP 14</i></p>	<p>in order to submit it at its next ordinary session;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- requested the Parties to consult the online platform and support the work of the Secretariat by providing extrabudgetary resources.</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 8</i></p>	
<p><b>iv. Preparation of draft operational guidelines on digital issues</b></p>	<p>The Conference of Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- requested the Committee to continue its work on digital issues, including the production of draft operational guidelines;</li> <li>- and to submit the results of its work at its sixth session.</li> </ul> <p><i>Resolutions 5.CP 12 and 5.CP 14</i></p>	<p>The Committee had a rich and constructive debate when it examined the preliminary text presented by the Secretariat. Following this discussion, it requested the Secretariat to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- elaborate a preliminary draft of the operational guidelines on digital issues, taking into account the debates of the ninth ordinary session and the work accomplished by the governing bodies over the past four years;</li> <li>- continue its work on digital issues and their implications for the implementation of the Convention with the presentation, at its tenth ordinary session, of the study on the Convention and digital technologies in Spanish-speaking countries and the relevant results relating to digital issues, drawn from consultations on Articles 16 and 21 ;</li> <li>- pursue its efforts to raise extrabudgetary funds in order to conduct studies on the Convention and digital issues in other regions, particularly in Africa and the Arab States.</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 7</i></p>	<p><b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b></p>

	5 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016
<p><b>v. Assessment of the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and in the work of the governing bodies</b></p>	<p>The Conference of Parties invited the Committee to encourage and assess the engagement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention as well as in the work of the Convention's governing bodies. <i>Resolution 5.CP 14.</i></p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- examined the assessment of the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention and the related recommendations;</li> <li>- invited the Parties, the Secretariat and civil society to continue exchanging on and establishing mechanisms to create an enabling environment for the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention;</li> <li>- encouraged the Parties to support this participation, financially or otherwise, as well as to work in consultation with civil society in cultural policy making and in the preparation of their quadrennial periodic reports.</li> </ul> <p>It also requested the Secretariat to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- work together with civil society representatives in order to develop indicators to measure the involvement of this sector;</li> <li>- organise a working session between civil society and the Bureau prior to the meetings of the governing bodies;</li> <li>- encourage the participation of civil society as observers in meetings of the governing bodies;</li> <li>- inscribe on the agenda of each of its sessions an item on the role of civil society, and invite civil society to present an activity report under this item (in writing and/or orally).</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision 9.IGC 9</i></p>	<p><b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b></p>

	5 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties June 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> session of the Committee December 2016
<p><b>vi. Pursuing synergies with the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist</b></p>	<p>The Conference of Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- recognised the importance of pursuing synergies in the monitoring of the activities of other relevant standard-setting instruments, in particular, the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist; <i>Resolution 5.CP 9b</i></li> <li>- invited the Committee to continue its work on these issues. <i>Resolution 5.CP 14.</i></li> </ul>	<p>The Committee examined the work plan for its activities in 2015-2017 and included in it the task of pursuing synergies with the 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist. <i>Annex to Decision 9.IGC 5</i></p>	<p><b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b></p>
<p><b>vii. Monitoring and implementation of the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) and of the External Auditor</b></p>	<p>The Conference of Parties invited the Committee to continue monitoring the implementation of the recommendations resulting from IOS evaluations (pilot phase of the IFCD, working methods of cultural conventions), the IOS desk study (implementation of the Convention) and the external audit (self-assessment of governing bodies). <i>Resolution 5.CP 14</i></p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- examined the implementation status of the IOS evaluation recommendations concerning the pilot phase of the IFCD</li> <li>- recognised the progress in the overall implementation of these recommendations, while taking note of the financial implications for the results-based management framework;</li> <li>- encouraged the Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources to fully implement these recommendations;</li> <li>- requested the Secretariat to report on their updated status at its tenth session. <i>Decision 9.IGC 6</i></li> </ul> <p>The Committee also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- examined the status of the implementation of the IOS desk study recommendations concerning the implementation of the Convention</li> <li>- underlined the quality of the Secretariat's report, including Annex III which includes a status report on the recommendations. <i>Decision 9.IGC 4</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>To be completed during the 10<sup>th</sup> session</b></p>

## Conclusion and next steps

11. The table above shows that the majority of the activities requested by the Conference of Parties has been implemented by the Committee and that the necessary decisions have been adopted, in accordance with its work plan. However, the implementation of certain decisions is still pending. Such cases include the Committee's invitation for Parties to provide extrabudgetary contributions to the Secretariat, both under the capacity-building strategy and for the implementation of IOS recommendations.

12. Furthermore, in the current context, the Committee faces challenges regarding the integration of new themes into its workplan which have emerged in the past few years and which are raising global concerns. For example, the Committee will have to consider issues related to the 2030 United Nations Agenda and the impact of global conflicts<sup>1</sup> on the implementation of the Convention. For instance, in a conflict situation, artists will likely face situations in which creating, producing and disseminating will be difficult, thus calling into question their artistic freedom as well as their freedom of movement within their territory and abroad.

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<sup>1</sup> See Information Document DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.10 "Reinforcement of UNESCO's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict".