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

Eleventh Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
12-15 December 2017

Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda: Adoption of the detailed summary record of the tenth session of the Committee

This document contains in Annex the draft detailed summary record of the tenth session of the Committee (13-15 December 2016) for adoption by the Committee.

Decision required: paragraph 4

1. In accordance with Article 43 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”), the Secretariat prepared a draft detailed summary record of the tenth session of the Committee (13 - 15 December 2016) in the two working languages, English and French. The draft was published electronically on the Convention website (<http://www.unesco.org/culture/en/diversity/convention/>) simultaneously in the two working languages of the Committee.
2. To date, the Secretariat has received no comments.
3. This document contains in Annex, for adoption by the Committee, the draft detailed summary record of the tenth session of the Committee.
4. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 11.IGC 3

The Committee,

1. *Having examined Document DCE/17/11.IGC/3 and its Annex;*
2. *Adopts the detailed summary record of the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions included in the above-mentioned document.*

ANNEX

Draft detailed summary record of the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The tenth ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 13 to 15 December 2016.
2. It was attended by 246 participants, including 73 participants from the 24 States Members of the Committee, 110 participants from 46 Parties non-members of the Committee (45 States Parties and the European Union), 11 participants from 4 States not Parties to the Convention, 1 participant from 1 Permanent Observer Mission to UNESCO, 4 participants from 2 intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and 47 participants from 38 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with observer status. The Bureau consisted of Chairperson: Mr Stephen Arnott (Australia), Rapporteur: Ms Jana Kňázková (Slovakia), Vice-Chairpersons: Brazil, France, Morocco, Nigeria.
3. In opening the session the **Assistant Director-General for Culture a.i.**, Mr Francesco Bandarin, welcomed all participants. He emphasized the importance of the session’s focus on issues related to the digital environment and the adoption of a provisional draft of the operational Guidelines concerning the implementation of the 2005 Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as “the Convention”), in the era of digital creativity, a decisive turning point for the Convention. He reflected that the Convention’s 145 Parties, including the European Union, as well as the measurable results of its Members and civil society was either evident, showed evidence or demonstrated evidence of its growing strength. He recalled the December 2015 launch of the first Global Report monitoring the Convention’s implementation, and the organization of multiple launch events worldwide. Mr Bandarin thanked the Swedish government for supporting the 2015 Global Report and the upcoming launch of the 2017 Global Report. He observed that the Global Reports are intended to guide the Convention’s future implementation in light of emerging issues and to provide a solid framework in order to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (hereafter referred to as the “2030 Agenda”). He announced the session’s review of 33 new quadrennial periodic reports and 6 new projects for the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) as recommended by the Panel of Experts. He reported that the Global Strategy for Capacity-Building, adopted in 2013, has resulted in many useful operational tools including new training models and materials. He affirmed that these tools had been tested and would be finalized in light of the lessons learned at the country-level. Mr Bandarin highlighted the projected development of a new training model on artistic freedom with the support of Denmark, which would bolster the work of the Convention’s new Goodwill Ambassador for Artistic Freedom and Creativity recently appointed by the Director-General, Norwegian filmmaker, Ms Deeyah Khan. He announced that the Committee would review a new study examining the impact of the Convention on 51 bilateral and regional trade agreements concluded since 2005 and a study on the adaptation of the cultural and creative industries to the rise of digital technologies in Spain, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico. He underscored the critical importance for civil society engagement and recalled the previous day’s training sessions on helping NGOs to better participate in the work of the Committee. Mr Bandarin underscored the

cultural industry's need for support and infrastructure and affirmed his hope that voluntary contributions to the IFCD would significantly increase in the future. In conclusion, he thanked the governments of China, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Spain, and Sweden for their support of the work of the Secretariat and reiterated ongoing efforts to mobilize financial support. He expressed hope that the European Union would renew its support of the Convention's efforts to provide technical assistance.

4. The **Chairperson** thanked the Assistant Director-General for Culture a.i. for his opening remarks and emphasized the Convention's positive impact worldwide. He asked the Committee to extend its congratulations to the Parties that had ratified the Convention in the last 12 months: Ghana, South Sudan, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Timor-Leste. He noted that this brought the number of Parties to the Convention to 145 thus achieving the ratification strategy set in 2011 for the Convention's 10-year anniversary. The Chairperson underscored this Committee session's projected adoption of draft Operational Guidelines for Convention implementation in the digital environment. He announced a program of exchanges, organized by the Secretariat for the afternoon, featuring a Ministerial Panel discussion between the Director-General of UNESCO and Ministers responsible for culture and technologies centered on reshaping cultural policies in the digital environment and perspectives on the draft Operational Guidelines due to be debated and adopted in the next day's session. He explained that interpretation and working documents for the session would be available in two languages, English and French, and detailed the availability of the working documents for the session. Complete printed copies of documents would be provided to Committee members and all of the working documents would be available on USB keys as well as on the Convention website. Furthermore, the *commis de salle* would make available the basic texts of the Convention. The Chairperson asked that any amendments for draft decisions be brought directly to him in writing, in both French and English, in order to facilitate the work of the Secretariat and the adoption of decisions. He recalled that this session was being live webcasted and that those not present could participate via Twitter using the Convention's hashtag, #supportcreativity. The Chairperson announced that the Bureau meeting would be held at 9:30 am on the 14th of December and proceeded to open Item 1 on the agenda. He invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the items on the provisional agenda.

ITEM 1 – ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Documents DCE/16/10.IGC/1REV and DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.1REV

5. The **Secretary of the Convention**, Ms Danielle Cliche, noted that the working documents for the session were made available on the Convention website within the statutory deadlines, in English and French. Documents are preceded by the "DCE/16/10.IGC" code followed by the number of the corresponding agenda item and decision. She indicated that the 10 information documents provide additional input to Committee members to inform their debates and decisions.
6. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention and asked if there were any questions or comments about the provisional agenda or the documents presented by the Secretariat. Seeing none, he asked the Secretariat to put draft decision 1 on the screens and seeing no objections, he declared the agenda adopted.

Decision 10.IGC 1 was adopted.

ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF OBSERVERS

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.2

7. The **Secretary of the Convention** read the list of observers: 46 Parties non-members of the Committee, 4 Member States not Parties to the Convention, 2 IGOs, and 38 NGOs.
8. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary and asked any observers not registered or announced by the Secretary to announce themselves.
9. The delegations of **Burkina Faso, Colombia, Honduras, the Russian Federation and Serbia** announced their presence as observers.
10. The **Chairperson** thanked these observers for announcing themselves and requested that they register on the Convention website for inclusion on the final list of participants. He reminded all participants that the observers would be given the floor during the debate for each agenda item and recalled the order that they would take the floor. The Chairperson asked for any objections to admitting the observers and asked the Secretariat to put draft decision 10.IGC 2 on the screens. Seeing no objections, he declared the list of participants adopted.

Decision 10.IGC 2 was adopted.

ITEM 3 – ADOPTION OF THE DETAILED SUMMARY RECORD OF THE NINTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/3

11. The **Chairperson** moved to consider the draft detailed summary record of the ninth ordinary session of the Committee held in December 2015 and presented working document 3. He informed the Committee members that the Secretariat had received amendments from the **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**, the delegation of **Canada**, the **representative of the Government of Quebec** within the delegation of Canada, and **Nigeria**. He confirmed that these amendments would be taken into account in a revised version of the document. He asked if there were any other Parties wishing to submit additional amendments to the summary record.
12. The delegation of **Morocco** asked that the word “staff” be removed from the last line of paragraph 93 on page 21 of the document.
13. The **Chairperson** asked Morocco to submit their amendment to the Secretariat in writing and confirmed that it would be taken into account. He asked for other comments on agenda item 3. Seeing none, he asked the Secretariat to put draft decision 10.IGC 3 on the screens and declared the decision adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 3 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 4 – SECRETARIAT’S REPORT ON ITS ACTIVITIES IN 2016

Documents DCE/16/10.IGC/4, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.3, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.4, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.6, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.7, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.8, DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.9, and DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.10

14. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary of the Convention to present the Secretariat’s report on its activities.

15. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the purpose of the Secretariat's report and outlined the main functions of the Secretariat. She specified that the Secretariat's report was organized to present a summary of the results achieved in 2016 that would contribute to the achievement of the four overarching goals of the Convention published in the 2015 Global Report and to promote synergies between the Secretariat's and the Parties' reporting of results. Ms Cliche confirmed the Secretariat's longer-term objective to provide an overview and a more coherent picture of Convention implementation at the global and the country levels. Ms Cliche thanked the Governments of Sweden, Denmark and the Republic of Korea for the extra-budgetary funds that supported various capacity-development activities undertaken in 2016 in close cooperation with the UNESCO Field offices in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Tunisia, Viet Nam, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. She affirmed that regional activities had also taken place to support Convention implementation in small islands developing states, namely in the Caribbean and Pacific Islands. She noted the Secretariat's activities to raise general awareness of the Convention and to establish inclusive policy dialogue platforms and specific mechanisms between governments and civil society to be among the great achievements of 2016. She confirmed the will of governments around the world to implement the Convention and the will for structural change. The Secretary underscored the need for a commitment to a long-term process of continued cooperation to ensure that policies turn into properly financed action plans that continue to respond to the needs of those targeted by the Convention. She highlighted examples demonstrating the efficacy of the methodology developed through technical assistance in Viet Nam, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in Mauritius. She thanked the Convention's Expert Facility for their commitment and support since 2011 that has led to these results. She highlighted a decision taken by the Executive Board and the General Conference allowing for the redesign of the Aschberg Programme for Artists and Cultural Professionals, to be officially launched at the beginning of 2017. This will include the development of a training module for trade negotiators, as requested by the governing bodies that will serve as the basis for future technical assistance to Parties requesting policy advice. She acknowledged Véronique Guèvremont and Laval University, the new UNESCO Chair on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and Keith Nurse, the architect of the Operational Guidelines on Article 16 for their assistance in the design of this new programme. She drew the Committee's attention to Part 3 of the Secretariat's Report outlining the relationship between the Convention and the achievement of the SDGs. She confirmed the collection and sharing of good practices through the Global Report. She confirmed a number of activities undertaken by the Secretariat in the areas of artistic freedom, the status of artists, and gender equality reflected in periodic reporting and in the Global Report. The Secretariat has also reached out to key international networks including: Freemuse; Artwatch Africa; Arterial Network; PEN international; the EU working group on Arts Rights Justice, and the International Cities of Refuge Network. Ms Cliche announced the appointment of the first Goodwill Ambassador associated with the Convention in November 2016 and her potential to advance UNESCO's work in the area of artistic freedom. Ms Cliche confirmed that the progress towards achieving Expected Result 6 of the 38 C/5 remains on-track. She noted that while it is still too early to determine the full impact of the Convention and the Secretariat's work on the 11 policy areas identified in the Global Report, experts and policy makers have indicated that the Convention's monitoring framework serves as a useful tool to design and review their cultural policies. She thanked the Government of Italy for providing the Secretariat with an Associate Expert to undertake the work of knowledge-management in 2016.
16. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretariat for the quality of the report and congratulated them for making such considerable achievements in the six-month timeframe. He then opened the floor for debate or comment on the Secretariat's Report.

17. All Parties and observers congratulated the Secretariat for the clear, concise, comprehensive, and high-quality report and thanked the Secretariat for all of the excellent work accomplished during 2016. All Parties and observers congratulated the Chairperson for leading the session.
18. The delegation of **Indonesia** underscored the importance of investing in culture for sustainable development, methodological guides and technical assistance for policymaking, the globalization of cultural trade, and strategies for international cultural relations to assist Parties in developing policies and measures for culture. The delegate affirmed that Indonesia considers the Convention as philosophically linked to its Constitution of 1945 and confirmed Indonesia's adoption of a new law on culture as an enabler for sustainable development. The delegate commended the Secretariat for its programmes, implementation strategy, and use of capacity-building tools and materials. Indonesia asked the Secretariat to provide an update on its progress to collect data and provide technical assistance to countries requesting policy advice. Indonesia thanked the Swedish government and the Secretariat for their support in the preparation of its first quadrennial periodic report submitted to UNESCO in June 2016.
19. The delegation of **Nigeria** thanked all the Member States and donors for their contributions supporting the implementation of Convention programmes and projects. The delegation expressed satisfaction with the results of the Convention's awareness-raising activities that have led to additional ratifications. The delegate highlighted the Convention's monitoring framework as a useful tool for the design and review of cultural policies, which he considered a significant achievement. Nigeria underscored the importance of the intersectoral approach to the monitoring framework and asked the Secretariat to report on their efforts to work with the Field offices to locate funding and expertise in light of the potential funding available at the regional and national levels. In reference to Annex II, the delegate asked the Secretariat to comment on the decreasing number of participants registering for Convention meetings despite the awareness-raising activities. The delegate thanked the Secretariat for Annex III and its concrete examples relating the Convention's goals to the Agenda 2030.
20. The delegation of **France** expressed satisfaction with the European Union's adoption of the new Strategy for International Cultural Cooperation and the positive synergy between the European Union and UNESCO. The delegate supported the Convention's focus on sustainable development objectives, the promotion of artistic freedom, and the freedom of expression. France underscored the importance of the Convention's promotion of fundamental rights such as gender equality. Recalling the Director-General's 2013 speech to the UN General Assembly, the delegate recalled the Convention's role in the digital environment. France stressed the potential threat of cultural diversity to certain groups as an example of threats to the freedom of expression. France affirmed its stance against cultural homogenization and the importance of protecting tangible and intangible cultural heritage through: education; learning creative skills; support to creators and artists; the freedom of expression; and fighting radicalization through dialogue.
21. The delegation of **Uruguay** expressed satisfaction with the activities connecting the Agenda 2030 and the Convention. The delegate underscored the importance of the Convention's goal to promote greater mobility between artists and cultural professionals and its promotion of the exchange of cultural goods and services. The delegation expressed anticipation towards the Global Report 2017 data especially in regards to gender equality. Uruguay expressed satisfaction with the Convention's Secretariat and reiterated its commitment to the Convention.
22. The delegation of **Australia** recognized the Secretariat's critical role in promoting the Convention and providing assistance in the development of cultural policies and programmes supporting sustainable development and capacity-building. Australia thanked

the Secretariat for its activities and progress towards achieving its 2016 and 2017 targets, and underscored the achievement in the ratification of 145 member states as well as the commitment expressed by the Cultural Ministers of Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu for the ratification of the Convention in the future. The delegate affirmed Australia's commitment to the Convention and the Secretariat's activities, highlighting its recent voluntary contribution to the IFCD. It reported opportunities to deliver outcomes within Australian government programmes to promote and tailor grants for capacity-building and exchanges for artists and cultural professionals from developing countries. Australia suggested the possibility of facilitating collaboration with the UNESCO Creative Cities Network including in several Australian cities through which it could support the professional development of artists from developing countries.

23. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** congratulated the Secretariat's efforts to include culture within the frame of the Sustainable Development Goals, to engage civil society in Convention implementation, to reinforce capacity-building, and to increase the Convention's visibility among States not Parties to the Convention. The Czech Republic underscored the importance of references and concrete examples of partnerships with civil society such as the positive impact of the Creative City's title. The delegate noted that this initiative has fostered a series of activities in Prague such as an International Residence for Artists in Central Europe. She affirmed that several Convention objectives have found their place in strategic documents such as in the Czech Republic's national cultural policy for 2015-2020. The Czech Republic drew attention to paragraph 50 of the Secretariat's report and asked if it would be possible to apply for IFCD funding as an aid for specific projects such as in the deployment of a new technical assistance programme.
24. The delegation of **Germany** observed that UNESCO's general budgetary constraints particularly affect the cultural sector and can limit the Convention's achievement to basic tasks. The delegate noted that the trust and confidence in the Secretariat's work has inspired many Member States to support the Convention and its capacity-building programme. Germany thanked its Nordic and Austrian colleagues for their contributions to the Global Reports remarking that these innovative elements bring new life into the Convention in its second decade of implementation. Germany characterized the Secretariat as the hub of the Convention and highlighted the usefulness of Annex III of the Secretariat's Report. Germany commended the nomination of the Goodwill Ambassador associated with the Convention and noted encouraging evidence that the notion of artistic freedom being relevant to the Convention is increasingly understood and supported.
25. The delegation of **Ethiopia** thanked the Secretariat for its assistance in the preparation of its first quadrennial periodic report with the capacity-building support provided by the government of Sweden. The delegate characterized the production of Ethiopia's first report as both an achievement and the result of a process that provided an opportunity to identify gaps in accessibility, to consider solutions together with civil society, and to better understand the opportunities obtained through the Convention and its implementation. Ethiopia thanked the UNESCO Addis Ababa Liaison Office for its support to the Ethiopian Ministry of Culture throughout the capacity-building process.
26. The delegation of **Madagascar** shared information on its current reforms and the implementation of a new national cultural policy as well as the importance it placed on the Convention for the development of a sustainable development strategy. Madagascar called upon the Secretariat to provide capacity-building opportunities for its cultural actors.
27. The delegation of **Tunisia** thanked the government of Sweden and UNESCO for initiating a capacity-building programme in 2016 that brought assistance to the creation of its first quadrennial periodic report. The delegate underscored the lack of transparency, a challenge Tunisia is facing, as it defines culture as a vector of sustainable human and economic development during the period of transition from a centralized government to a system of

co-participation with cultural actors in the elaboration and implementation of policies and programmes inspired by the Convention's objectives. Tunisia noted that since 2012, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs has been creating policies and institutions to promote the attainment of these objectives and to improve the social conditions of artists, such as the National Center for Cinema and Images and the Tunisian Society for the Protection of Author's Rights. The delegate highlighted several laws in development which position cultural industries as a priority economic sector. The delegate affirmed Tunisia's desire to continue building a platform to support Convention's implementation and to further integrate civil society participation. To this end, Tunisia asked the Secretariat if it could provide experts and further capacity-building assistance for the preparation of IFCD and other funding requests to initiate Convention-related projects.

28. The delegation of the **Côte d'Ivoire** underscored the importance of the mobility of cultural actors and encouraged the Secretariat to continue working on the challenges that impede the movement of artists between the global North and South. The delegate highlighted a capacity-building workshop in the Côte d'Ivoire that was organized by the UNESCO Field offices in Abidjan and Abuja to train cultural actors in the preparation of quadrennial reports and which included participants from Togo and Guinea. The Côte d'Ivoire congratulated the new Parties to the Convention.
29. The **Secretary of the Convention** thanked the Committee Members for their positive comments on the Secretariat's work and thanked the individual members of the Secretariat for their dedication and passion. In response to Nigeria's question, Ms Cliche emphasized the Secretariat's close work with the Field offices in delivering capacity-building activities, depending on extra-budgetary resources. She noted that the Secretariat develops workplans and activities in close cooperation with the Field offices every two years corresponding to the C/5 in order to implement the Members' decisions. She highlighted the Secretariat's recent work with regional offices in order to bring its work programme closer to local stakeholders. In reference to the decreasing number of participants in Annex II, she observed that the decreased number of participants since the eighth Intergovernmental Session corresponds to a decrease in the number of Parties that are not members of the Committee and an increased number of NGO participants. She outlined the increase from 10 participating NGOs in the eighth Committee Session in December 2014, to 26 participating NGOs in 2015 session, to 40 NGOs participating at the 2016 session. The Secretariat thanked Australia for its willingness to sponsor artists from developing countries and thanked Austria for hosting and supporting the discussions around the 2015 Global Report in September 2016. The Secretariat congratulated Ethiopia, Tunisia and the other Members who submitted their periodic reports and expressed its appreciation for the feedback received on the support provided by the Swedish government. She re-emphasized the need for a long-term commitment to a program of capacity-building activities that would require funding.
30. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention, and invited the Parties to the Convention not members of the Committee to take the floor.

[Observers]

31. The delegation of **Finland** thanked the Secretariat for their fruitful cooperation in the organization of a side-event entitled Reshaping Cultural Policies for development held in Helsinki during the World Press Freedom Day Conference in May 2016. The delegate highlighted the adoption, by the Nordic Ministers of Culture, of a declaration promoting the diversity of cultural expressions and artistic freedom in the digital age during this event. This declaration reaffirms the centrality of artistic freedom within the broader system of

fundamental rights and supports monitoring activities undertaken by UNESCO in the areas of artistic freedom, gender equality, civil society participation, and the challenges of the digital age. Finland reaffirmed its strong commitment to the Convention.

32. The delegation of **Serbia** thanked the Secretariat for its work and congratulated the Committee. Serbia reaffirmed its status as a Party to the Convention as well as its efforts to promote the Convention's spirits and goals on its regional and national levels. Serbia noted that it has been both a recipient of and a contributor to the IFCD and its assistance. Serbia expressed its gratitude for the inclusion of its positive experiences and tangible results from this cooperation in the new IFCD brochure. The delegate recalled that Serbia's permanent representative is the chair of the Committee for Non-Governmental Partners of the Executive Board of UNESCO and welcomed additional efforts to strengthen the participation of civil society in the work of UNESCO's governing bodies and in the implementation of the Convention.
33. The delegation of **Cuba** emphasized the importance of the Committee's consideration of the Secretariat's report and work in light of the preparations of UNESCO's budget for the next four-year period. The delegate noted that the Committee must be informed of the budget allocations and identify links between the work of the Convention and the decisions of the General Conference. Cuba emphasized the importance of the items in the agenda concerning governance, to be included in a report sent by the UNESCO sub-group on Governance. The delegate characterized this as a key opportunity for the Secretariat to present the important nature of the Committee's work and the Convention's potential contribution to the UNESCO budget allocation exercise as well as governing bodies working methods. .
34. The **Chairperson** invited the civil society observers to take the floor.
35. A **Member of the Expert Facility**, Mr Charles Vallerand, underscored the rigorous methodology of the technical assistance programme financed by the Swedish government and the size and diversity of countries that have benefited from this programme. He emphasized UNESCO's work with the Expert Facility mobilizing civil society and promoting dialogue with Ministers outside of the cultural sphere to promote culture for sustainable development. He commented on the immensity of the initiatives for cultural policies and measures in all Member countries resulting from the coherence created by the Convention. He invited the Committee to reflect on the exchange of good practices through the periodic reports and the Global Monitoring Report and recalled the work that remains to be done. He urged reflection on Convention's implementation capacity-building for administrators and financing to create markets for cultural industries able to expand cultural policy beyond the efforts of one ministry or civil society organization and reiterated the need for the sharing of good practices.
36. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** affirmed Zimbabwe's interest in developing a strategy for culture as inspired by the Convention. The delegate confirmed the African Union's signing of the Agenda 2063, which includes an expectation for African countries to explicitly show how various cultural goods can contribute to the development of their national industries. Zimbabwe underscored its hope for further assistance from the Secretariat and other countries on how to build and implement strategies for the development of partnerships with NGOs, the business sector, and the cultural industry sector. The delegate concluded by emphasizing the need to learn from UNESCO and other countries.
37. The **Chairperson** thanked the delegations and asked the Secretariat to put the text of draft decision 10.IGC 4 on the screens. He proceeded with a paragraph by paragraph reading of the decision for its adoption. Following his reading of paragraph 2, the Chairperson gave the floor to the Czech Republic.

38. The delegation of the **Czech Republic**, seconded by **Brazil** and **Germany**, proposed that the paragraph read “takes note of and underlines the quality of the Secretariat’s report on its activities for the period 2016 and congratulates them for their work.” The delegation of **Australia** proposed that the word “souligne” in the French version be translated as “underscores” in the English version of the paragraph. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** accepted the modification.
39. The **Chairperson** asked if paragraph 2 of the decision could be adopted and seeing no objections, declared it adopted as amended. He continued reading the decision for adoption and following his reading of paragraph 5, gave the floor to Nigeria.
40. The delegation of **Nigeria** asked if the Secretariat had circulated criteria for the appointment of the Associate Expert or secondee as specified in paragraph 4 of the decision. In response, the **Secretary of the Convention** proposed adding, “to support the reinforcement of the Secretariat by the appointment of an Associate expert or a secondee with experience on the implementation of the Convention” to the paragraph. She affirmed that the Secretariat could provide more specific criteria at a later time.
41. The **Chairperson** asked if the draft decision 10.IGC 4 could be adopted as amended. Seeing no objections, the Chairperson declared the decision adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 4 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 5 – SECRETARIAT’S REPORT ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR’S REPORT “ON THE GOVERNANCE OF UNESCO AND DEPENDENT FUNDS, PROGRAMS, AND ENTITIES”

Documents DCE/16/10.IGC/5 and its Annex and DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.7

42. The **Chairperson** moved to examine item 5 recalling its inclusion on the agenda in response to the UNESCO General Conference Resolution 38C/101 inviting all intergovernmental programs, committees, and convention bodies to include an item related to the follow-up of the recommendations from the External Auditor’s report on their agendas if possible, in 2016. The Chairperson invited the Secretary of the Convention to introduce this item in detail.
43. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled that in 2013 - 2014 the governing bodies were invited to participate in a self-assessment exercise and to respond to questions on its working methods put forth by the External Auditor. The Chairpersons of the governing bodies were asked to take charge of this exercise and gathered feedback from the members of the Committee and the Conference of Parties to complete the questionnaire. The Secretariat also helped to facilitate this work upon the request of the Committee. Among the main results of this exercise was an awareness among the governing bodies of the numerous decisions taken to improve the institutional model over the last years. The final report on the audit of the governance of UNESCO was examined in 2015, both by the Executive Board and the General Conference. Based on these findings, the General Conference decided to establish an open-ended working group on the governance procedures and working methods of UNESCO’s governing bodies. The Secretary recalled the General Conference’s decision to implement the recommendations 1, 11, and 13 and Resolution 38 C/101 inviting the examination of the Secretariat’s report on the follow-up to the recommendations contained within the External Auditor’s report. The Secretariat created a table, in Annex to working document 5, on the status of the Auditor’s recommendations

that have an impact on the work of the Committee. The table confirms that the Convention's governing bodies have already implemented, on a technical level, several of the Auditor's recommendations in practice, such as recommendation 2 which underlines the need to shorten the length of statutory meetings and agendas. Since 2013, the number of days for the Committee meetings has been reduced from 5 days to 3 days and the number of agenda items has been reduced from 16 items to 12 items in order to better focus the discussions on the main priorities as outlined in the Committee's workplans adopted in 2013 and 2015. The table also shows that some of the Auditor's recommendations have been considered and rejected by the Committee, such as recommendation 3.2 on grouping sessions. She recalled that in 2013, the Committee underlined the importance of allowing sufficient time between governing bodies' meetings of the different cultural Conventions to allow members of the different Committees adequate time to prepare and increase efficiency in decision-making.

44. The **Secretary of the Convention** also recalled the distribution of a survey on the preparation and organization of its statutory meetings and transmission of the responses collected from the governing bodies at the end of each statutory meeting. She confirmed that this survey would be conducted at this session and underscored the importance of the survey results to the Secretariat's work and efforts to take the Committee's suggestions into account. Ms Cliche drew attention to several of the elements presented in the table of Annex in working document 5, highlighting the need to go beyond the technical details on governance to organize more content related discussions. She drew the Committee's attention to the recommendations on knowledge-management and to harmonize the actions of the Secretariat and the Convention's governing bodies with the priorities of the C/5, its performance indicators, and targets including those implemented at the country-level. Ms Cliche characterized this as evidence of the Convention's governing bodies' significant effort to realign the discussions held during its sessions with the overall priorities and budget allocations of UNESCO.
45. All Parties and observers thanked and congratulated the Secretariat for the excellent quality of its work on this issue and on the elements included in working document 5.
46. The delegation of **Peru** characterized this item as being among the most important issues discussed by the UNESCO Member States underscoring the importance of referring to the General Conference Resolution 38 C/101 and the necessity of discussing this issue at the next Conference of the Parties.
47. The delegation of **Brazil** agreed with the comments made by **Peru** and emphasized the Secretariat's good and reasonable work on this issue, which it noted has not been a problem for this Convention.
48. **H.E. Fernando Griffith, Minister of Culture of Paraguay** echoed **Peru** and **Brazil** underscoring the importance of this issue within UNESCO and the need to extend this exercise to all conventions. The Minister proposed the inclusion of this issue on the agenda of the next Conference of Parties. This proposal was supported by the delegation of **Uruguay**.
49. The **Chairperson** opened the floor to the observers.

[Observers]

50. The delegation of **Cuba** affirmed its support of a comprehensive review of UNESCO's governance to improve the Organization's efficiency, effectiveness, and contribution to the 2030 Agenda. Cuba affirmed its commitment to the responsible use of information and

communication technologies underscoring Cuba's use of the opportunities offered by the digital environment. Cuba identified its need to improve its technological infrastructure within the context of lacking the necessary resources as well as the importance its Ministry of Culture places on the responsible use of digital technologies as an important factor in social transformation. The delegate gave the floor to his colleague.

The second delegate of Cuba highlighted the opportunity to review and optimize the governance and working methods of the Convention, noting that some of the External Auditor's recommendations were not suited to the functioning of this Convention and thanked the Secretariat for its efforts to improve the quality of the important work of this Convention. Cuba underscored the need to find ways of resolving the Secretariat's lack of human resources and to better support its work. The delegate encouraged reflection on governance questions to identify how to assist the Secretariat, improve the overall functioning of the Convention, and how to position the Convention in the current international context.

51. The delegation of **Denmark** spoke on behalf of **Finland, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden** underscoring the importance of the issues presented in the Secretariat's report and expressed satisfaction in seeing that a number of recommendations have already been examined or implemented. The Nordic countries characterized this as clear evidence of the willingness to reform and noted the visible progress made in this area. The delegate mentioned a few examples of evidence of good practice noting that the last two Committee meetings demonstrate UNESCO's convening power and ability to foster the Parties' informed decision making. The delegate highlighted steps taken for strong results frameworks, the innovative approach to periodic reporting, and the value of the Global Report as evidence of how working methods within formal governance structures can make a difference when approached strategically. The delegate recalled that a cross-cutting review will be launched by the UNESCO Governance Group in spring 2017 relating to all of UNESCO's intergovernmental bodies and programmes including the Culture Conventions. Finland, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden confirmed their participation in this important work to enable UNESCO's governance structures to better implement the 2030 Agenda and intent to highlight the good practices of this Convention as a source of inspiration.
52. The **Chairperson** thanked Denmark and reflected on his experience working with UNESCO, demonstrating the Convention's governing bodies' strong tradition of working together to further international cooperation, emphasizing this Convention's clear focus on and progress made in its implementation as evidenced through the testimonies of the Parties shared at this session. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to put draft decision 10.IGC 5 on the screens. He noted the Committee's request to add a paragraph to the decision and suggested that it be added as a new paragraph 7.
53. **H.E. Fernando Griffith, Minister of Culture of Paraguay** proposed the formulation, "Requests the Conference of Parties to include in its sixth session in June 2017 an item on governance procedures and working methods of the governing bodies." Paraguay supported **Peru's** suggestion to include mention of Resolution 38 C/101 in the text of the decision, proposing its addition as a new paragraph 2, reading, "considering Resolution 38 C/101 of the General Conference." The delegation of **Brazil** suggested that the proposed mention be added to the end of the original paragraph 2 and that the verb, "Suggests," be used at the beginning of the new paragraph 7. This was supported by the delegations of **Peru and Morocco**.
54. The **Committee** adopted paragraphs 1 through 6 of the decision. The delegation of **Australia** proposed a small grammatical modification of the English version of paragraph 7. Seeing no more comments, the Chairperson adopted paragraph 7 as amended. He moved to adopt draft decision 10.IGC 5 as amended in its entirety and seeing no objections,

declared it adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 5 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 6 – REPORT ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/6

55. The **Chairperson** moved to consider agenda item 6, recalling this item's inclusion on the agenda following the Committee decisions taken during its ninth ordinary session. He emphasized the key role of civil society and the steps taken for its further involvement in the work of its governing bodies; such as the previous day's informal exchange session with civil society representatives and the Bureau members, which he noted was well-attended and extremely useful. He reiterated the key themes resulting from that exchange, civil society interest in the Committee's adoption of the Operational Guidelines, the need to continue awareness-raising about the Convention across various governmental departments, and the importance of civil society's future report on its activities. The Chairperson thanked the Secretariat for organizing the exchange session and recalled the events planned for the Committee's afternoon session. He informed the Committee that special guests from Dakar would feature an artistic installation projected on the walls outside of the conference room; the featured artists were among the first NGOs to receive assistance from the IFCD in 2011 for a digital arts training programme, making the art installation a visual display of the results of that investment. He thanked the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) for their financial support of the day's events and invited all participants to attend a celebratory reception that evening hosted by the Permanent delegation of Canada to UNESCO, whom he thanked. The Chairperson asked the Secretary of the Convention to introduce agenda item 6.
56. The **Secretary of the Convention** characterized this Committee session as setting new standards for governance through its working methods. She recalled the importance of the governing bodies' insistence on informing their work through Expert papers, information documents, and requests for original research on issues that are of importance to them. The Secretary highlighted transparency as a Committee priority implemented through requests for the Secretariat to engage in activities to monitor their decisions. She framed the day's events as innovation in participatory governance. Ms Cliche underscored the Secretariat's use of new digital tools for the session, including webcasting and a twitter wall, in order to promote the participation of those not physically present at the session. She introduced working document 6, a report on civil society's participation in Convention's implementation including its participation in the sessions of the governing bodies and an overview of their achievements and decisions taken since the Convention entered into force in 2007. Ms Cliche listed several of these achievements and observed that challenges remain despite many advances made namely, increasing the participation of diverse civil society and professional organizations in the work of the governing bodies. She confirmed the 30 September 2017 as the final submission date for civil society's first report on its activities in preparation for the eleventh ordinary session of the Committee.
57. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary for her presentation and announced that he would open the floor to civil society observers before opening the floor to Committee Members for debate due to the special nature of this agenda item.
58. All observers and Committee members thanked and congratulated the Secretariat for the organization of the exchange session between Bureau members and civil society

organizations as well as for its efforts to promote civil society participation in the implementation of the Convention.

[Observers]

59. The representative of the **International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies**, Ms Diane Dodd, welcomed the Committee's decision to involve civil society in the implementation of the Convention. She posited that civil society organizations could act as a support mechanism to help raise awareness about the Convention.
60. The representative of **Culture et Développement (Culture and Development)**, Ms Valeria Marcolin, thanked all Convention stakeholders for their collaborative work with civil society and underscored the usefulness of the exchange session. She confirmed that since December 2015, several civil society organizations have been working among themselves to organize the production of the report on their activities. She noted that this report would be inclusive as it would associate the work of civil society organizations not present at this session in order to represent the diversity of the sectors and its associated actors in both the profit and non-profit sectors worldwide. Ms Marcolin suggested the cooperative creation of a database by the Secretariat with civil society actors associated with the trainings in countries that have benefitted from Sida and IFCD programmes; an initial group of civil society partners already trained in the mechanisms of the Convention. She highlighted data in the Secretariat's report indicating a decrease in support to the cultural sector through ODA from 1 to 0,23% and called on all partners to address this challenge.
61. The director of the **UNESCO Chair on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions at Laval University**, Ms Véronique Guèvremont, thanked the Secretariat for the place accorded to the work of universities and the Convention experts. She explained the orientation of the Chair on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and listed the four axes of its research: cultural policies; the cultural dimension of sustainable development; cooperation mechanisms to support developing countries in the attainment of Convention objectives; and the promotion of the principles and objectives of the Convention in other international forum. She confirmed that while this reflection will remain independent, it will take into account the priorities identified by the Parties to the Convention as well as the interests and concerns of the NGOs and all other actors interested in the Convention. She thanked the Secretariat for its openness to this research and for sharing the results through the Convention website.
62. A **Member of the Expert Facility**, Mr Charles Vallerand, characterized the exchange session as an opportunity to show the progress made, the current state, and the future direction for the structuring of civil society participation. He underscored civil society's motivation and the diversity of the issues that are of interest. He emphasized the importance of structuring civil society participation and characterized the exchange session as a parallel to the 2003 Convention on intangible heritage, which includes a meeting with civil society before the Committee meeting to coordinate their collaboration. He suggested that the format of the exchange session with civil society be formally integrated into the process of the 2005 Convention in order to create a visible platform for NGOs that can evolve over time.
63. The **Chairperson** thanked the civil society observers and invited the members of the Committee to take the floor.
64. The delegation of **Morocco** underscored the involvement and progress of Moroccan civil society in Convention implementation. The delegate highlighted several key actions recently organized in Morocco: 1) a Bureau for the Export of Moroccan Music (MoMEx) organized by two civil society representatives with the support of the Moroccan Minister of Culture for the promotion and support of artists; 2) a collaboration between l'association Racines with

the support of the IFCD and the Ministry of Culture to evaluate cultural policies, to elaborate an action plan for the freedom of expression, and to give a networking space for exchange between civil society and artistic professionals from a variety of countries; and 3) a programme of support for creative industries piloted by the Ministry of Culture with 60 million dirhams supporting capacity-building for civil society for the realization of activities that generate revenue linked to culture.

65. The delegation of **Slovakia** reaffirmed its long-standing support for the Convention and emphasized the need for more awareness-raising. The delegate highlighted the organization of an international conference, “Slovakia and Cultural Diversity”, organized by the Slovak Commission of UNESCO in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the Slovak Coalition for Culture under the auspices of the Slovakian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This conference focused on two main topics: Slovakia in the digital era; and issues related to artists such as their status, mobility, and development. On behalf of Slovakian civil society, the delegate announced a plan to develop an analytical publication on this topic within the next year.
66. The delegation of **Uruguay** affirmed its support of civil society participation in Convention’s implementation and commended the Secretariat for its organization of a meeting of artists who benefitted from IFCD assistance. Uruguay underscored the importance of exchanges with artists on the impact of the Fund, noting that monitoring the impact of IFCD implementation is fundamental. The delegation supported the invitation for civil society to prepare an activities report, characterizing it as a gauge to measure Convention implementation in different countries and emphasized the usefulness of the previous day’s exchange session.
67. The delegation of **France** supported the inclusion of civil society in this agenda item and the invitation for civil society to prepare a report on its activities for the next Committee session. It characterized the active involvement of civil society in the Convention as essential to increase the Convention’s visibility and to create stable relations between States and civil society to develop policies to face new challenges. France highlighted the importance of civil society participation with the French National Commission in the elaboration of its quadrennial periodic report submitted in 2016. The delegate highlighted a conference, the New Fabric of Curiosity, organized in the context of the Convention’s 10-year anniversary in partnership with the Secretariat and several international businesses. France characterized this as an activity intended to take stock of online means to distribute cultural goods and to raise awareness among private actors in cultural and creative industries of all sizes to replicate these efforts on the regional and other levels.
68. The delegation of **Australia** affirmed the fundamental role of civil society and its robust mechanisms for the engagement of civil society in the development and implementation of policy and programmes. The delegate emphasized the benefits of presenting civil society’s views to the Committee in an informal setting, welcomed the overall goal for greater civil society engagement in the Convention, and recognized the time needed to develop clear mechanisms for this engagement. Australia supported the invitation for civil society to present a report during the next Committee session and expressed interest in the proposed scope of the report and in the civil society bodies that will draft it in light of their interests. Australia emphasized the need to clarify the roles and responsibilities in the engagement between the Secretariat, Parties to the Convention, and civil society groups. Australia underscored the critical importance of avoiding the disengagement of civil society and confirmed that it would continue raising the Convention’s visibility and supporting civil society participation in its implementation.
69. The delegation of **Germany** welcomed the new space for civil society action and reiterated the long-term timeframe of this endeavor. The delegate affirmed that the preparation of its

periodic report furthered cooperation between civil society and the German Foreign Office on the issues of artistic mobility and visas for producers from the global South, underscoring the need for concrete follow-up of this initiative. The delegate confirmed Germany's organization of a core civil society group through the Federal Coalition and emphasized the importance of their contributions to identify the most important action points for the future. The delegation affirmed its availability to collaborate with other countries as a knowledge-partner and recalled the pressure put on civil society in areas where legal and fiscal conditions are not empowering, characterizing it as a mixed landscape in need of realistic expectations.

70. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** asked if the proposal to hold a civil society forum before each Committee session would be feasible within the available funds for the Statutory Meetings and asked if there was a proposed framework to assist civil society with the preparation of its report.
71. The **Chairperson** thanked the observers and Committee Members for their remarks and asked the Secretary to respond.
72. The **Secretary of the Convention** thanked the Czech Republic for its question. She confirmed it was up to civil society to develop a framework for the preparation of its report. She outlined several Secretariat's suggestions for various frameworks including the Operational Guidelines on the role of civil society for Article 11 of the Convention. The Secretariat also suggested a framework included in a Committee decision in 2015, to relate the civil society's report to an agenda item for the Committee's session in 2017. In regards to funding, Ms Cliche confirmed that one of the reasons for webcasting this session was the importance of reaching out to those who could not be physically present. She recalled that this Convention does not have a Fund available to support the participation of civil society at the meetings. She also informed that the Civil Society Forum would be organized ahead of each session of the Conference of Parties.
73. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary for her response and invited the observers to take the floor.

[Observers]

74. The delegation of **Denmark** speaking on behalf of **Finland, Norway, Sweden,** and **Denmark** affirmed the instrumental role of civil society as a cultural watchdog and crucial partner in raising awareness of the Convention. Finland, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark underlined the importance of diversity brought through non-governmental sources of information, in particular regarding key issues such as trade agreements, human rights protection, censorship, and gender equality. They recalled the need to generate more and better data for the Convention's monitoring framework and welcomed the invitation of civil society members to submit annual reports including recommendations for future action. They characterized these reports as a pragmatic way of tackling the issue of data availability and underscored the significant gap between available data and the information needed to measure the impact. The delegations recalled that the 2015 Global Report's finding demonstrated that specific data are needed on independent institutions to promote artistic freedom as well as on registered trade unions and associations. They encouraged a reporting framework for civil society representatives that takes into consideration such specific data gaps in order to broaden the empirical base required to realize the Convention's new monitoring framework and to better understand what Parties are doing to implement their commitments. The Nordic countries welcomed the formal recognition of the role and responsibilities of civil society.
75. The **Chairperson** moved to the adoption of the decision asking the Secretary to put the draft

decision 10.IGC 6 on the screens and read the decision paragraph by paragraph for adoption. Following his reading of paragraph 2, he gave the floor to Nigeria.

76. The delegation of **Nigeria** proposed that paragraph 3 read “civil society organizations.” In response, the **Secretary of the Convention** noted that there was a second reference to civil society in the third line of paragraph 3, which would now read, “to strengthen the participation of civil society organizations.”
77. The **Chairperson** confirmed the adoption of paragraphs 2 through 5. He moved to paragraph 6 of the decision and gave the floor to Nigeria.
78. The delegation of **Nigeria** asked that paragraph 6 also include the wording “civil society organizations.” The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat for confirmation of the modification and asked if there were any other suggestions.
79. The delegation of **Australia** returned to paragraph 5 and asked if a timeframe was needed for the last line of the paragraph. The **Chairperson** confirmed that the last line of paragraph 5 referred to each Committee session and that no timeframe needed to be added.
80. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** asked for the addition of “asks the Secretariat to organize a working session between the representatives of civil society and the Bureau,” as was done in the previous day’s session. The **Chairperson** proposed the addition not be made due to its inclusion in a decision adopted in the Committee’s ninth session and the reference made to it at the beginning of the decision. He read the previous year’s decision 9. IGC 9 and gave the floor to the Secretary.
81. The **Secretary of the Convention** proposed that the wording from decision 9.IGC 9, which is referred to in paragraph 2, be included in this decision. She asked if this suggestion was acceptable. The **Chairperson** accepted this as a means of reaffirming the previous year’s decision. In response, the **Secretary of the Convention** proposed the addition of a new paragraph 7 reading “Further requests the Secretariat to organize a working session between civil society representatives and the Bureau prior to each of the meetings of the governing bodies.” She specified that this wording would make it a permanent activity not requiring an annual decision.
82. The **Chairperson** asked if there were any comments or suggestions from the Committee concerning the new paragraph added to the decision, seeing none, declared it adopted. He asked the Committee to consider draft decision 10.IGC 6 in its entirety as amended and seeing no objections declared the decision adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 6 was adopted as amended.

MINISTERIAL PANEL: RE|SHAPING DIGITAL POLICIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

83. **Mr Francesco Bandarin, Assistant Director-General for Culture a.i.** opened the Ministerial Panel and introduced the panel participants. He explained that the panel would feature a series of questions and answers on themes related to cultural policies in the digital environment and underscored the importance of the discussion. He then gave the floor to the Director-General of UNESCO to deliver the opening remarks.

84. **Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO** thanked all of the panel participants for their presence at this round table dedicated to the elaboration of Operational Guidelines for the Convention in the digital environment. She noted that these Guidelines are a response to the considerable transformations of digital technology that affect the cultural sector across all creative domains. She underscored the profound effects of this transformation for the remuneration of artists and cultural professionals, as well as the importance of the specificity of cultural products in the digital environment. In light of this specificity, she emphasized the need for new tools to allow Member States to benefit from this transformation. As an example, Ms Bokova noted that the 7 billion USD in global sales of digitally transmitted music in 2014 represented approximately half of the music industry's total revenue, while the digital revenue of artists represented only 4%. She characterized the content accessible via smartphones and other devices as being at the heart of the new economy. Ms Bokova affirmed that the Operational Guidelines would offer a set of guiding principles for Parties to use in order to adopt or update their policies for culture in the digital environment and that they address the four major goals of the Convention. She observed that while new technologies can strengthen local industries, large internet platforms can weaken local markets, undermine diversity, and increase the imbalanced flow of cultural goods and services. She characterized the Operational Guidelines as an innovative and strategic framework for implementing the Convention in the digital environment and for reshaping the debate on culture and development.
85. **Mr Bandarin** thanked Mrs Bokova for her remarks and introduced the first set of questions. He underscored that important changes in the ecosystem of the creative economy are at the core of the Convention and the Operational Guidelines raising questions over how to adapt policies and legislation, how to support creativity in the digital environment, and how to avoid market concentration. Mr Bandarin invited the Minister of Canadian Heritage to speak and emphasized Canada's interest for creative production in this new area.
86. **H.E. Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage**, thanked UNESCO for hosting this important panel. She reaffirmed Canada's engagement with the Convention and its significant investments for culture in the 2016 budget. Minister Joly presented Canada's belief in a social contract that binds citizens together, based on three main pillars: the importance of their two official languages; pluralism, which includes multiculturalism and the protection of minority rights; and Canada's reconciliation process with indigenous peoples. Minister Joly confirmed the government's new vision in which investments in culture will promote creativity and generate more innovation and economic growth. She affirmed the importance of digital platforms and new information for Canadian citizens, noting that 99% of Canadian citizens have access to the internet and that infrastructure improvements are addressing disparities in the quality of that access. Furthermore, 70% of Canadians have a smartphone and 90% of its citizens between the ages of 18 and 34 have smartphones; 42% of Canadians are on Netflix, and at peak times, Netflix use constitutes 32% of the total Canadian bandwidth. She underscored the need to modernize and adapt Canadian public policies, legislation, and regulations for culture to the realities of digital technology. Minister Joly detailed a vast public consultation plan to engage Canadian citizens in 16 cities in discussions about supporting the visibility and exportation of Canadian content in the digital age. She listed four main vectors identified through these consultations: 1) the fluidity of the digital environment and its definitions of artists, creators, and users; 2) the appearance of important new players and intermediaries; 3) the need to acknowledge the new content being produced worldwide in the era of abundance; and 4) citizens' new means and expectations for content consumption. She affirmed consultations with cultural producers, unions, businesses, youtubers, and representatives of large digital platforms. She noted that these consultations included principles adopted by the Committee in its Operational Guidelines; notably the concept of discoverability, issues related to artists' remuneration, and the promotion of dialogue between private operators and public authorities. She

confirmed that operators in the private sector are giving a larger place to diversity of cultural content. Minister Joly identified the need for sustained capacity to support the development and promotion of Canadian content as one of the biggest priorities of Canadian Cultural Ministers and confirmed Canada's willingness to work with others on this issue.

87. **Mr Bandarin** thanked Minister Joly observing that she had touched the core of the discussion. He then gave the floor to the Minister of Culture of Paraguay.
88. **H.E. Fernando Griffith, Minister of Culture of Paraguay**, underscored the different situation of Paraguay and the region he represents, which he characterized as faced with more challenges than achievements. He expressed a hope that the new Operational Guidelines will help the region to achieve many goals such as the reduction of Paraguay's digital literacy gap. He related this gap to the fact that 22% of people in Paraguay still live in poverty with roughly 11% living in extreme poverty. Minister Griffith cited that the fact that 11 million smartphones are circulating among their population of 7 million people is an evidence that access is not the biggest problem in Paraguay. He emphasized the need for equity, positing that many of the people with smartphones are not able to understand the content available. He identified the fair remuneration of artists and creators as a challenge along with the need to increase the impact of the creative industries on Paraguay's GDP. He noted that 7.4 % of the GDP in Latin America is produced by the creative industries, which is significant because only 3% of the population is involved in its creation. He underscored the need to increase the percentage of creators, noting that 4% of Paraguay's population is involved in creative industries. He further noted that around 9% of the production of wealth in Mexico is due to creative industries. He highlighted the importance of using audio and visual technologies as an urgent measure to protect Paraguay's endangered cultural and linguistic diversity. He highlighted the issues of excess in data and information and the speed of change. He underscored creativity's potential as a human resource to address challenges such as escaping from poverty and the problem that rise from education to technology and prevent many people with access to information from understanding it.
89. **Mr Bandarin** thanked H.E. Griffith for addressing the specificities of the region he represents and for raising so many important points that would need to be addressed in the discussions on the Operational Guidelines. He gave the floor to H.E. Stéfani asking him to address the challenges of the digital environment for policy makers.
90. **H.E. Laurent Stéfani, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of France to UNESCO** apologized for the absence of Mrs Audrey Azoulay, the French Minister of Culture and Communication, who could not be present due to her national parliamentary responsibilities, and confirmed her interest in the digital issue. He framed the French activities in the digital domain as protecting the interests of creators within the context of the Convention and characterized the Operational Guidelines as important for ensuring their rights in the digital age. He cited the principle of territoriality and urged each country to use its national systems to implement common rules for culture. He affirmed that Minister Azoulay was particularly engaged on this issue within the European framework and underscored the need to avoid transforming creative goods and services into commodities for trade.
91. **Mr Bandarin** thanked H.E. Stéfani and underscored the importance of cultural cooperation in light of the global scope of the digital economy. He characterized this as a cornerstone of the Convention and asked how governments can use the Operational Guidelines to shape the new world of exchange in the digital environment.
92. **Minister Joly** noted that governments have the responsibility to modernize public policies to take into account the digital reality and to stimulate dialogue among their cultural industries on the national and international levels. She presented four principles guiding the

development of Canada's cultural policy. The first is to ensure support for its citizens' preferences in content consumption and creation in an age where content is abundant, where the digital environment surpasses national boundaries, and in which governments need to include large internet actors such as Google, Apple, and Amazon in discussions about the development of national policies. Minister Joly emphasized the importance of including net neutrality in public policy to ensure that all data is treated equally and the importance of remuneration for artists and content developers. The second is to support the diversity of cultural expressions and the development of democracy, which Minister Joly related to Canada's social contract and cultural diversity. She noted that the recent public consultation in Canada identified the importance of citizens' rights to access local content and trustworthy information that can be used for their democratic decision-making processes. She affirmed that this was a government priority. Third, she mentioned the social and economic innovations fostered through investments in culture, creative industries, and infrastructure for the internet and telecommunications. She reiterated the clear link between culture, creativity, innovation, and economic growth underscoring the integration of policy that is in line with digital content and consumption as part of Canada's innovation agenda. Finally, she underlined the use of trade to promote cultural diversity. Minister Joly characterized the digital transformation as a paradigm shift that necessitates the development of a cultural export strategy able to support and promote Canadian content in a world of abundance. She highlighted the importance of the national development of quality content for export. Minister Joly indicated the importance of cultural exemptions in progressive free trade agreements and confirmed that some of them specifically mention the Convention. She underscored the close links between commerce and creativity and the potential role played by commerce as a vector for cultural diversity.

93. **Mr Bandarin** thanked Minister Joly and asked Minister Griffith how the Government of Paraguay saw itself dealing with the giants of the internet industry, such as Google, on issues of content and visibility.
94. **Ministero Griffith** confirmed his recent meeting with the internet industry leaders and his impression of the scope of their work. He recalled Convention Articles 16 and 21, which address the role of developed nations in terms of cooperation. H.E. Griffith noted that developing countries have many things to offer, including their artists and creativity, that go beyond money and technical assistance. He read the guiding principle under paragraph 8.4 of the draft Operational Guidelines, which he supported and hoped would succeed when the time came to provide resources, voluntary funds, and fees needed to cover technical assistance and the necessary support to the IFCD. He characterized the digital environment as a challenge, an opportunity, an advantage, and the responsibility of the governments. H.E. Griffith echoed Mr Bandarin's consideration of culture as a cornerstone and an opportunity to generate examples of cooperation. He urged those receiving IFCD funding to organize and promote fundraising activities or other contributions in order to create a cooperative environment noting that doing so would generate visibility for the Fund.
95. **Mr Bandarin** asked H.E. Stéfani how France would enter into negotiations with large internet companies.
96. **H.E. Laurent Stéfani** reiterated the dual nature of cultural goods and services and the importance of protecting them through public policies and existing multilateral and bilateral agreements, which he noted was one of the goals of the Operational Guidelines. He confirmed the French Ministry of Culture and Communication's implementation of different systems of support for digital cultural products over the last 10 years. He cited the National Film and Moving Image Centre and facilities for multimedia and digital artistic creation supported by the New Media Fund as examples of a laboratory that opens new creative spaces and interactions between creators and distributors. He mentioned aid for innovation and the digitization of recorded music, as well as a variety of other measures such as a tax

credit for video games that support French producers. H.E. Stéfani affirmed that France seeks to present the importance of tax credits to the European Commission, citing French tax forms as examples of instruments to encourage creativity in independent audiovisual productions.

97. **Mr Bandarin** asked Minister Joly how Canada would pay for the infrastructure required to develop access.
98. **Minister Joly** noted that Canada's current system is based on legislation that does not take into account new digital systems and is in need of modernization. She confirmed that national regulations are in place for various public private partnerships for independent producers in the audiovisual sector and underscored the fundamental role of public institutions and international agreements for coproduction. Minister Joly noted that while questions on how to finance support systems for the development and promotion of Canadian content are important, its current focus is on addressing national variances in the quality of access and infrastructure. She reiterated the significance of permutations in the definitions of various aspects of the culture sector and the need for governments to recognize the larger aspects of the cultural industries, such as virtual reality and video games, as a part of the cultural ecosystem. She emphasized the Canadian interest in developing quality content and recognized UNESCO's promotion of principles that are also fundamental to Canada. Minister Joly encouraged governmental dialogue with big internet players so that governments can maintain their capacity to support the development and promotion of content. She confirmed Canada's modernization of its cultural policy in 2017 in the context of Canada's 150th anniversary.
99. **Mr Bandarin** asked Minister Griffith for his perspective on the issue of access and resources to support access to infrastructure.
100. **H.E. Fernando Griffith** reiterated the changes in cultural goods due to digital technologies. He posited that while access is a problem, issues concerning the creation, production, and effective participation in digital content are the biggest problems in Paraguay. As such, he highlighted the need to ask questions about the number of creators, their participation in cultural life, and their positive influence via digital technologies. He underscored South America's struggle with issues of ethical content. He suggested the inclusion of specific actions in policies to ensure that citizens develop human skills that will allow them to create, produce, and participate more effectively in cultural life. He highlighted education and encouraged the Secretariat to promote intersectoral work.
101. **Mr Bandarin** thanked all of the participants for their contributions and concluded the Ministerial Panel. He introduced the next panel session featuring artists and NGOs. He recalled the video installation waiting outside of the room following the panel session and thanked the International Organisation of the Francophonie for their support of the exhibition.

CIVIL SOCIETY PANEL: CREATIVITY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

102. **Mr Charles Vallerand, a Member of the Expert Facility**, thanked the Secretariat for organizing this opportunity to hear about digital issues from civil society's perspective in leading up to the adoption of the Operational Guidelines on digital issues. He introduced the panel participants, noted its particular focus on youth, and explained the format for the panel. Mr Vallerand introduced Mr Djiby Ba, his work as a digital artist and organizer of the Afropixel festival, and the designation of Dakar as a UNESCO Creative City. He affirmed that Mr Ba

was sharing his mastery of mapping software with Montreal and Canada.

103. **Mr Djiby Ba, a digital artist**, introduced the digital map display to be projected following the panel session in cooperation with other artists and Kër Thioossane. He introduced the Afropixel festival, which began in 2008, and explained that a gap exists between developments in traditional forms of art and digital art as well as Kër Thioossane's work to establish a link between the two through this festival.
104. **Mr Vallerand** recalled that Mr Ba was a beneficiary of the IFCD and that the featured digital map exhibit would be the first projection of his work for UNESCO. Mr Vallerand asked about the considerable equipment needed for the projection.
105. **Mr Ba** affirmed that he and his team had been working for several days on the installation of the projection and that organizing the exhibit at UNESCO was the result of his collaboration with Fausto Morales, a Spanish director. He explained that his team members are all independent graphic artists or videographers who work in collaboration to deepen their knowledge of videomapping.
106. **Mr Vallerand** recalled the questions concerning the Convention and contemporary expressions of culture as well as its potential interaction with immaterial heritage. He highlighted Mr Ba's artistic choice to integrate elements of traditional Senegalese heritage in his art asking how Mr Ba made this choice as a contemporary digital artist.
107. **Mr Ba** explained that the choice to use Senegalese and African images came naturally because they are a part of his daily life. He characterized his choice as something that he did not need to look for, as it is the transformation of his daily life into digital technology. He and his team worked with the National Orchestra of Dakar and with traditional Senegalese and African instruments to compose the music for the mapping.
108. **Mr Vallerand** characterized Mr Ba as walking proof of the connection between tangible and intangible heritage and the transformative power of contemporary artistic expressions. He asked Mr Ba what his plans were for the UNESCO videomap following its exhibition and how he would use his expertise to share digital forms of art.
109. **Mr Ba** affirmed that youth from Senegal are already impregnated with all that is digital. He characterized his exhibition as ephemeral, because it needs to be adapted and reconstituted for projection in a different context. Using this exhibition as an example, he explained that several months earlier it was projected on building walls in Dakar, today it was being projected at UNESCO, and tomorrow he and his team could be somewhere else developing it even more.
110. **Mr Vallerand** characterized Mr Ba's exhibition as a new form of expression, observing that anything is possible and realizable once artists have the technology. He introduced Mr Diego Vassaux and affirmed that his project, which focuses on social inclusion, new technology, and indigenous groups has benefited twice from IFCD assistance. Mr Vallerand asked Mr Vassaux to introduce himself.
111. **Mr Diego Antonio Padilla Vassaux, a Digital Project Manager**, presented his project, which trains youth on audiovisual production. Mr Vassaux characterized his project as an original programme of audiovisual capacity-building that focuses on representatives from three indigenous groups in Guatemala. He explained that the project also aimed to deepen knowledge of digital technology, work on post-production and special effects, marketing on social media, and includes a module on starting a business. Mr Vassaux noted that following the trainings, participants are given initial capital to use in order to open their own businesses. He confirmed that some of the participants created their own productions and

to share their vision of the world.

112. **Mr Vallerand** asked about the national response to the needs and desires of the digital age in Guatemala and asked how it affected the project's realization.
113. **Mr Vassaux** specified that his project began with the idea to give the technical and technological conditions needed for youth to tell their own story. He acknowledged that many countries do not yet have the means to promote culture and the cultural industries. Through his experience, Mr Vassaux realized that he would need to develop his project in line with market realities in order to ensure its sustainability.
114. **Mr Vallerand** remarked that the experiences of both Mr Vassaux and Mr Ba indicate that there is a desire among youth to appropriate digital tools and to develop new means of production.
115. **Mr Vassaux** agreed adding that this occurs through learning and accompaniment which gives youth confidence and inspires them to initiate their own projects.
116. **Mr Vallerand** underscored the importance of allowing youth to see the opportunities and potential of creating their own projects. He then introduced Ms Laurence Hugues and the International Alliance of Independent Publishers, which promotes “bibliodiversity,” the freedom of expression, capacity-building, and the appropriation of digital technologies among its members.
117. **Ms Laurence Hugues**, a representative of the **International Alliance of Independent Publishers**, explained that the Alliance is a professional network of 400 independent publishers worldwide. It initially focused on print publishers, but in 2010, they began accompanying publishers in their digital transition and in working on a digital strategy. Ms Hugues highlighted the strong demand for these activities, notably among publishers in Sub-Saharan Africa due to digital technology's ability to address difficulties in the distribution of books throughout Africa. She underscored the importance placed on these publishers to make content accessible in digital form. In order to better accompany publishers, thanks to the support of the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF) and the Prince Claus Fund, the Alliance has translated its action plan into a digital laboratory that provides capacity-building and trainings to reinforce the capacity of local publishers.
118. **Mr Vallerand** remarked on the scope of digitization and the effects throughout the publishing value chain spanning research to production. He asked Ms Hugues which part of the value chain the Alliance focused on.
119. **Ms Hugues** specified that the Alliance offered concrete support to shift publishers from print to digital publishing and transforming printed books into digital books. She observed that the creation aspect of publishing constituted another domain and required yet another form of support.
120. **Mr Vallerand** asked if this digital transformation facilitated book distribution, visibility, profitability, and sales.
121. **Ms Hugues** underscored the importance of marketing books following their digitization and confirmed the presence of an open software internet site, available for download, that gave publishers a sales platform. Ms Hugues emphasized on the difficulty attached to online payments. She noted that while in Africa payment options via telephones are developing, cross-country book purchases from local publishers are a big challenge for digitized product sales.

122. **Mr Vallerand** associated this difficulty with the issue of territoriality and signaled the importance of its consideration by the Committee members and the NGOs present. He introduced Mr Octavio Kulesz and his publishing business in Argentina. Mr Vallerand asked how digital publishers could become successful.
123. **Mr Octavio Kulesz, a Researcher and Digital Publisher**, spoke about his conversion from print publishing to digital publishing and the creation of one of the first digital publishing houses in his region, Teseo. He specified that his company publishes books for Kindle, Ipad, cellphones, and the web through digitized print editions. He characterized this as a change in the publishing model in which print books are available on the web and accessible in multiple forms. Mr Kulesz emphasized the philosophical foundations underlying digitized publishing, his diversified background that led to his current commercial model, and the need for experimentation.
124. **Mr Vallerand** asked Mr Kulesz to discuss the success of digital and online book sales and his digital business model. He asked about the difficulties presented by territoriality issues, prices, and monetization.
125. **Mr Kulesz** underscored the size of the Latin American market, the demand for Spanish-language books, and the significant buying power and demand among the region's population; roughly 90% of his sales occurred outside of Argentina.
126. **Mr Vallerand** referred to arguments positing that internet access issues in the global South are being resolved through expansive telephone use that provide internet access. He asked the participants if they felt that phones have resolved the question of access to culture.
127. **Mr Ba** replied that while the youth of Dakar are well-connected, in rural areas, the situation changes and there is no more connection. Phones have not yet resolved the problem and there remains much to do on the connectivity issue.
128. **Ms Hugues** replied that having a phone does not resolve problems related to the variety and availability of content. She observed that having a phone in Africa and access to content published in France or Quebec does not guarantee access to local content. As such, the Alliance prioritizes access to local content and creativity.
129. **Mr Vassaux** agreed that the issue is unrelated to possessing a phone or device. He cited the high cost of the available phone plans in Southern countries and the services offered by big international companies, called zero rating services, which provide free access to certain selectively-filtered content. Mr Vassaux noted that these services were recently banned in India on the basis of net neutrality and posited that the real issue is the diversity of access.
130. **Mr Vallerand** asked Mr Ba what his experience was with free access services in Dakar.
131. **Mr Ba** recalled that when Google wanted to put free internet access into place in Dakar it was blocked by certain operators. He confirmed that youth in Dakar have portable phones, but are blocked from accessing some content. In the absence of net neutrality, the market is controlled by three of four businesses fighting to impose their conditions. He emphasized on the importance of framing the issue to improve people's lives and their access to internet as to promote different cultural expressions. He advocated working with market regulations to include cultural diversity and to valorize what people deem valuable.
132. **Mr Vallerand** referred to big data and asked if the digital environment necessitated new approaches and models of publishing. He asked if a book needed to be known about in print or in stores before it gained its success in digital form.
133. **Mr Kulesz** warned against the temptation of entering into the propositions that come from

big monopolies in which commercial digital book sales attained the same successes as print book sales. This has started to change and new logics are appearing. Mr Kulesz emphasized the importance of networks and communities for the creation of sustainable digital models. He noted that even self-created communities with open source book tools can benefit from the digital potential.

134. **Mr Vallerand** asked about the use of long tail for finance and its risks, particularly for young creators.
135. **Mr Kulesz** replied that long tail can work to a certain extent, but urged caution. He remarked that a very large scale is needed in order to benefit from long tail, which creates difficulties for individual creators and small businesses to profit from it. He cited Spotify and Youtube as examples indicating the small share of profits gained from these services. Mr Kulesz identified experimentation as the key to the digital environment.
136. **Mr Vallerand** asked for the panel participants' perspective on the Convention in relation to innovation in the digital environment.
137. **Mr Vassaux** highlighted the good results coming from collaboration and transdisciplinary work. He remarked that his experience indicated the importance of helping entrepreneurs see the interest in collaborating with artists, rather than trying to turn artists into entrepreneurs. He advocated for the creation of conditions for creativity and innovation, such as through transdisciplinary laboratories, that are oriented around experimentation rather than commercialism.
138. **Mr Ba** emphasized the importance of training and capacity-building to allow artists manage their own businesses. He confirmed that the lack of training remained an issue for him and his team.
139. **Ms Hugues** cited the high demand for training and support among publishers adapting to the digital environment. She underlined the cost of digitization and the inability of publishers, in some countries, to invest. Ms Hugues highlighted France as an example of providing important financial support to the digitization of books.
140. **Mr Kulesz** drew attention to the important movements occurring in public policies and the positive influence of the Convention in these developments. He emphasized the need to understand the basic problems of both entrepreneurs and artists. For example, he cited the absence of a solid legal basis for digital contracts in Argentina and the importance of States in resolving such basic problems.
141. **Mr Vallerand** summarized the responses as indicating a need to look along the digital chain where the State can support and accompany the production and digitization of content, and young creators. He echoed the call for public policies that are adapted for the digital environment and national digital strategies centered on culture. He recalled the challenges in maintaining the cultural and artistic aspects of creativity and the social implications of digitization amidst the discussions on economy and competitive advantage.

ITEM 7 – PRELIMINARY DRAFT OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

Documents DCE/16/10.IGC/7 and its Annex and DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.4

142. The **Chairperson** opened agenda item 7. He drew the Committee's attention to information document 4, recalled the Committee's request at its ninth session for similar studies, and reiterated the Secretariat's efforts to fund studies of this nature in the African and Arab regions. He outlined the discussions that led to the draft Operational Guidelines on digital

issues, underscored the importance of their adoption, and recalled the requirement of the Committee to transmit the outcome of its work to the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties. He confirmed that the discussions would be limited to the proposed text, presented in the Annex of working document 7, and reminded everyone of the time limits for the adoption of the text, asking the Committee members to work collaboratively.

143. The **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed that Committee members would receive a printed copy, in English and in French, of all of the amendments received by the Secretariat as of that morning and explained how the amendments had been integrated into the draft. Ms Cliche noted that the preliminary draft of the Operational Guidelines was distributed in August 2015, three months before the statutory deadline, and thanked Véronique Guèvremont, and Octavio Kulesz for their work on the draft text. She recalled that the draft Operational Guidelines take into account the legal framework of the Convention and the provisions of other Operational Guidelines approved since 2009, particularly around the principles of technological neutrality and the sovereign right of Parties to implement policies supporting creativity whatever the means or technology used. She reiterated that the language proposed for the Operational Guidelines cannot go beyond the language and goals of the Convention; recalling the 2014 decision not to reopen the text of the Convention itself. Ms Cliche underscored the goals of the Operational Guidelines and confirmed that the recent issues on artistic freedom, net neutrality, big data, and algorithms were also taken into account in the draft. The draft Guidelines are structured according to the framework of the 2015 Global Report on the implementation of the Convention in order to harmonize this transversal reading of the Convention with its general considerations and guiding principles in the digital environment.
144. All Parties and observers thanked and congratulated the Secretariat for the quality of their work and for the clarity and comprehensiveness of the draft Operational Guidelines. All Parties and observers expressed support for the adoption of the Operational Guidelines.
145. The delegation of **Madagascar** speaking on behalf of the **Francophone Group** recalled the Convention's principles: technological neutrality; the dual nature of cultural goods and services; the fair remuneration of cultural creators and professionals; and cooperation between online platforms and rights holders. The Francophone Group underscored the importance of including digital technology in educational programmes and ensuring universal access to online cultural content and the promotion of local culture. **France, Australia, Nigeria, Morocco, Peru, Quebec,** and **Brazil** supported the Francophone Group's proposed amendments.
146. The **Chairperson** thanked Madagascar and invited the Committee members who had proposed amendments to take the floor.
147. The delegation of **Brazil** underscored the importance of cultural industries to sustainable development. It affirmed that its amendments concerning paragraphs 7, 8.5, and the new paragraph 8.7 were intended to improve coherency with other norms of the international community including: the 2030 Agenda, the Human Rights Council Resolution 2.13; and the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes presented during the World Summit on the Information Society. While Brazil welcomed the contributions of civil society and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the delegate suggested that civil society proposals for amendments be presented in a separate document. This proposal was supported by **Peru** and **Paraguay**.
148. The delegation of **Australia** confirmed that the proposed amendments were primarily technical changes. It reiterated the Guidelines' purpose as a permissive guide to support the Convention. The delegate confirmed that activities demonstrating Australia's commitment to action in this area were already occurring and that the adoption of the

Guidelines would reinforce Australia's resolve and commitment to support creativity in the digital era.

149. The delegation of **Nigeria** explained its amendments as dealing mainly with training and the issue of online content in a culturally sensitive environment.
150. The delegation of **Morocco** underscored the importance of international cooperation to reduce inequalities between Parties in the areas of access to digital technology and the capacity of its management and exploitation.
151. The delegation of **Slovakia** expressed agreement with the amendments proposed by civil society on five issues: 1) the strengthening of the positions of creators and their fair remuneration; 2) the availability of local cultural productions and local cultural content; 3) trade liberalization and specific treatment of cultural goods and services in digital form; 4) mechanisms in digital media; and 5) the ethical use of digital content and actions against online piracy. Slovakia framed its proposed amendments within the European Union Council discussions on policies supporting the cross-border circulation of audiovisual content to better align audiovisual services with the digital age. The delegate underlined the need to respect cultural and linguistic diversity as well as the freedom and the pluralism of the media.
152. The delegation of **Uruguay** highlighted the Guidelines' respect of the principles of technological neutrality, human rights protection, and the freedom of expression, information, and communication in the digital environment. Uruguay expressed its satisfaction of the Guidelines' inclusion of gender equality and the support of women in digital cultural industries. Uruguay underlined the importance of promoting multilingualism in cyberspace and highlighted the Declaration of the Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Culture in May 2016, in which the Ministers accepted to create a working group to reflect on actions stimulating the Ibero-American agenda for linguistic diversity. Uruguay characterized the Ibero-American Cultural Charter and the Convention as complementary.
153. The delegation of **Lithuania** characterized the Operational Guidelines as a good point of reference for Member States to use to reinforce their systems of cultural governance and to include culture in sustainable development strategies.
154. The **Chairperson** opened the floor to the observers for general comment. He gave the floor to Canada.

[Observers]

155. The delegation of **Canada** recalled its emphasis on the importance of adapting cultural policies to digital technology and the participation of the Minister of Canadian Heritage in the Ministerial Panel as proof of the importance of these issues for the Canadian government. It expressed satisfaction with the draft text's inclusion of the concept of discoverability. The delegate emphasized the importance of promoting local content in the digital environment, the fair remuneration of artists and creators, and increased transparency for algorithms. Canada thanked the **Francophone Group** for its proposed amendments, confirmed its participation in the group's discussions and its willingness to share expertise with other Parties.

The **representative of Quebec within the permanent delegation of Canada to UNESCO** underlined the importance of local culture affirming that the basis of its proposed amendments drew from Quebec's experiences implementing a digital culture plan. Quebec is particularly concerned with the speed of technological change, especially as related to the protection of content and emphasized the need to protect cultural diversity in the long-term. Quebec related the Guidelines' recognition of sustainability to local cultural content. Quebec

- recalled the establishment of the first UNESCO Chair for the Diversity of Cultural Expressions at Laval University and its confidence in the Chair's ability to contribute to these important discussions. Quebec advocated implementing the Operational Guidelines in cooperation with civil society and confirmed its willingness to participate in this process.
156. The delegation of **Senegal** recalled its participation in the adoption of a Declaration at the International Forum in Mons, Belgium in 2015 organized in partnership with UNESCO and the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF).
 157. The delegation of **European Union** (EU) noted that the general approach and commitments of the Operational Guidelines were closely aligned with policy developments in the context of the EU's digital single market plan and for the development cooperation. The President of the EU Commission characterized artists and creators as the EU's crown jewels and presented a draft reform of EU's copyright rules for the digital age that included the principles of fair remuneration for artists and greater transparency with their contractual partners. The delegate recalled Ms Bokova's comments on the gap between digital music sales and artists' revenues confirming that the EU copyright rules aim to tackle this gap through a mechanism for creators to rebalance contracts in cases of a disproportionately low remuneration compared to the revenues generated by their work. The delegate noted that the EU Member States recently adopted Council resolutions on mainstreaming digital technologies in EU development policies and highlighted some of the key Council conclusions. The delegate confirmed that these elements will be included in the EU's quadrennial periodic report. The delegate highlighted **Australia's** amendments in reducing mandatory language and expressed its desire to see more multilingualism.
 158. The delegation of **Finland** underscored the importance of considering trust, transparency, and an ethos of equal participation when formulating Guidelines for cultural policies and remarked on the potentially positive benefits of digitization. Finland drew attention to the need to ensure the fair remuneration of creators and to build digital infrastructure and services for the inclusion of all metadata. The delegate emphasized the issues concerning the visibility and discoverability of local cultural content and stressed the importance of fostering digital literacy skills, especially among young people, in order to engage societal participation in cultural activities via digital means.
 159. The delegation of the **Netherlands** expressed its satisfaction with the Guidelines' inclusion of net neutrality and internet universality principles. The delegate highlighted paragraph 16.4 in the context of adapting and modernizing methods for online transaction mechanisms and processes, noting the importance of considering the new business models represented by organizations like Youtube and Spotify. The Netherlands remarked on intellectual property rights and copyrights, noting that it may be better for minor players not to have too many restrictions so that artists in developing countries can reach larger audiences through open access to cultural expressions.
 160. The delegation of **Palestine** underlined the importance of mentioning the free mobility of artists and the instruments in Article 16 of the Convention in compliance with the recommendation made by the 38th session of the General Conference.
 161. The delegation of **Sweden** recalled the importance it placed on the principle of technological neutrality during the last Committee session and welcomed the Guidelines' inclusion of this principle. Sweden appreciated the Guidelines' incorporation of human rights and fundamental freedoms including artistic freedom and the freedom of expression. It characterized paragraph 13.5 on governance systems for culture as especially important

and the inclusion of fair remuneration for artists and creators. Sweden also highlighted appropriate copyright legislation and connected measures as being among the core issues for the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment.

162. The delegation of **Chile** commented on the section dealing with the exchanges of cultural goods and services, noting that it considered cultural goods and services in the digital environment as a key concept that needed defining and indicated the lack of a precise definition of this notion in Convention's Article 4.4. The delegate remarked that this becomes very important in practice due to the clear distinction between goods and services in national policies and in international trade agreements. The delegate explained that the lack of these conceptual definitions is rendered more important due to the conceptual fluidity in the dematerialized digital culture sector. Chile proposed the term "cultural service" as best adapted to the virtual world, highlighting the larger conceptual map needed for norms and trade agreements where obligations may become more flexible in the digital environment. Chile suggested adding precision to this section for the benefit of international law, especially since the concept of cultural goods and services is used in various sections of the Operational Guidelines.
163. The **Chairperson** thanked Chile and gave the floor to the civil society observers who had proposed suggestions to the Guidelines asking them to explain their proposals to the Committee.
164. The representative of the **European Music Council**, Ms Ruth Jakobi, confirmed that she was also representing the **International Music Council (IMC)** and explained that the IMC's suggestions were the result of a consultative process conducted among more than 131 of its members. She recalled the total transformative effect of digitization and the importance of the Guidelines' steering actions of Parties in respect to economic rights of artists and creators. She noted that the IMC considers the rights of musical expression, education, and access, as complimentary to the rights and remuneration of musical artists and vital for the sustainability of the music sector. She noted that its proposed suggestions strongly reflected the IMC's bid for greater fairness in the music sector through measures that ensure transparency in artists' remuneration including regular reporting obligations for those who assign or license authors' and performers' rights. She noted that some IMC members advocated for the introduction and use of the terms "creator" and "artists and cultural professionals" underscoring the importance of inclusivity in the Guidelines' wording. She expressed agreement with paragraph 23 and suggested that it be retained in its original numbering to maintain the role of civil society.
165. The representative of **Diversidad Audiovisual**, Mr Luis Albornoz, expressed the support of his research group representing the scientific association **Latin Union for Political Economy of Information Communication and Culture (ULEPICC)** with specific statements in the document and agreed with the Guidelines' transversal approach to the Convention. He underlined the importance of participation in the creation and distribution of cultural productions and the role of micro, small and medium businesses and non-profit organizations in the promotion of equitable access and balanced flows of digital cultural goods and services. He advocated the inclusion of concepts related to discoverability and visibility, as well as to local and multilingual content.
166. The representative of **Multimedia Art Research Centres and Electronic Laboratories (MARCEL)**, Mr Don Foresta, introduced MARCEL and underscored the need for extensive cross-disciplinary research involving arts, science, and technology. He confirmed MARCEL's support of the general principles of paragraphs 13 to 16, which reflect the development of research and tools necessary for new forms of creative expression and professions. He advocated for the development of an educational program that responds to these needs, citing French initiatives to build laboratories with international partners in order to develop communication software and training to expand innovation.

167. **Mr Alexandre Cloutier, Deputy of the National Assembly of Quebec**, representing **Carole Poirier, Rapporteur on Cultural Diversity at the Commission of Education, Communication, and Cultural Affairs of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie** (APF) and of Francophone Parliamentarians, underscored the expansion of cultural content including the de-structuring of the cultural value chain occurring in the digital environment, calling it a fourth industrial revolution. He characterized the role of parliaments and national legislation in Convention's implementation. He cited the Declaration of the 16th Francophonie Summit concerning digital governance as one of several texts guiding Parliamentarians and reaffirmed the need to promote new forms of financing, recognizing and valorizing the cultural and creative industries.
168. The representative of the **European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** (ECCD), Mr Guillaume Prieur, underscored the importance of the Operational Guidelines and their ability to bring additional clarity to the text of the Convention and its application to digital technologies. He explained that the ECCD proposals were intended to clarify and account for significant issues dealing with creation, in particular cultural policies contributing to creation, the fair remuneration of creators and performers, and the distribution of cultural works. The ECCD underscored the principles of discoverability, visibility, and accessibility of local cultural content.
169. The representative of the **World Intellectual Property Organization** (WIPO), Ms Carole Croella, expressed WIPO's satisfaction with the Operational Guidelines and their recognition of the importance of intellectual property rights and just remuneration issues. She underscored WIPO's implementation on 30 September 2015 of a legislative framework to support the viability of creative industries that takes into account the impact of globalization, the dematerialization of goods and services, and the principle of territoriality. She detailed WIPO's work on the implementation of the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances and on two propositions in discussion at the Copyright Council, as well as an international initiative on the rights of visual artists with the support of Senegal and Congo. She gave the floor to her colleague for further comment.
- Ms Daphné Johnsson Zografos, provided an update on the protection of traditional cultural expressions and outlined WIPO's work to create a balanced legal instrument on this issue. She confirmed the inclusion of draft articles on the protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions in WIPO's negotiation and its related technical capacity-building programme providing policy advice, legislative education and training on the effective use of existing intellectual property rights systems and cultural documentation. She confirmed WIPO's availability to assist in discussions on the implementation of the Convention.
170. The **Chairperson** thanked those who took the floor for their contributions to the debate and support for adopting the Guidelines. He asked the Secretariat to put the draft text of the Operational Guidelines on the screen and announced that he would work through the document paragraph by paragraph for adoption. The Chairperson asked the Secretariat to put paragraph 1 on the screen and invited the Committee members to comment.
171. The delegation of **France** presented its proposed amendments. France recalled the importance of the Operational Guidelines, its 2014 non-paper with Belgium, Canada, and Quebec on the draft framework, and its awareness-raising activities. It underscored the importance of the sovereign right of states to regulate the digital space to protect their culture and support creativity and advocated for public policies that work in favor of diversity, culture, development, and the accessibility of digital technology. France highlighted the influence of algorithms on the production of and access to cultural goods and services and on media diversity. It emphasized the need for online search engines and results to reflect diverse cultural content that is not predetermined by internet filters.

172. The delegation of **Madagascar** recalled the Declaration of Antananarivo made at the 16th Francophonie Summit in Madagascar in November 2016. It emphasized the importance of addressing education and the development of digital capacities and favouring cultural diversity in algorithms used by online search engines to ensure the permanent and free access to digital content. It underscored the need for rebalancing exchanges for the fair trade of cultural goods and services and preferential treatment in favor of developing countries. It also considered intellectual property and the fair remuneration of artists as indispensable conditions for a diverse digital environment.
173. The **Chairperson** asked if there were any comments or objections to adopting paragraph 1 of the draft Operational Guidelines. Seeing no objections or comments, he declared paragraph 1 adopted and moved to adopt paragraph 2 noting a proposal from civil society. Seeing no objections, he adopted paragraph 2 as amended and paragraph 3 as drafted. He asked for comments or suggestions on paragraph 4.
174. The delegation of **France** asked for clarification on which formulation of paragraph 2 would be adopted; considering the presence of two different formulations in the French version of the document. France expressed preference for the wording proposed by the **Francophone Group** reading, “vaut également pour.” The delegation of **Brazil** supported the choice of paragraph made by France. At the request of the **Chairperson** to translate this wording into English, the **Secretary of the Convention** proposed the phrase “is also applicable to.”
175. The **Chairperson** accepted the Secretariat’s formulation of paragraph 2 and moved to adopt amended paragraph 4. Seeing no comments he declared it adopted as amended and moved to the new paragraph 5, which was adopted as drafted. He noted that paragraph 6 contained a suggestion from civil society and gave the floor to France for comment.
176. The delegation of **France** asked for clarification of the paragraph, especially in regards to the French version. At the request of the Chairperson to explain its suggestion, the representative of the **European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** confirmed that its suggestion did not clarify the text nor did it add anything to the paragraph and could be discarded.
177. The **Chairperson** thanked the ECCD for its cooperation and declared paragraph 6 adopted as drafted. He moved to paragraph 7 and noted the numerous amendments made to the paragraph. He asked the Committee members for comment. The delegation of the **Côte d’Ivoire** seconded by **France** asked that the expression in the paragraph read “à l’horizon 2030” instead of “programme 2030.”
178. The delegation of **Brazil** noted the confusion in the paragraph’s wording following the phrase “Non-governmental organizations.” The delegate suggested putting a full-stop after “public authorities” and asked the **Secretary of the Convention** to read the paragraph with this suggestion to verify its coherence. Brazil expressed preference for the second formulation reading “cultural and creative industries from the public and private sectors”.
179. The delegation of the **Côte d’Ivoire** asked for clarification on Brazil’s proposed amendment for the first part of paragraph 7, noting that the expression “droits de l’homme” appeared twice. The delegation of **Brazil** explained that its amendment was intended to indicate the paragraph’s consideration of all other international human rights instruments and principles in addition to the United Nations Guiding Principles on businesses and human rights specifically mentioned in the paragraph. The **Chairperson** confirmed **Côte d’Ivoire**’s acceptance of the formulation and he declared paragraph 7 adopted as amended. The **Chairperson** proposed considering the guiding principles for adoption paragraph by paragraph and moved to paragraph 8.1.

180. The delegation of **Germany** confirmed its submission of an amendment dealing with the issue of the Parties' sovereign rights for insertion between paragraph 8.4 and paragraph 8.5.
181. The **Chairperson** thanked Germany and declared paragraphs 8.1 and 8.2 adopted. He gave the floor to Nigeria for comment on paragraph 8.3.
182. The delegation of **Nigeria** asked the Francophone Group to verify this paragraph to ensure that there was no word missing. Nigeria read the phrase "encourage the development and use of digital" and asked what digital was specifically referring to. The delegation of **France** responded to Nigeria with a proposal to add a compliment to this paragraph reading the French version of, "encourages the development, the use, and the mastery of digital tools in educational programmes." France affirmed that this would go beyond use and consummation by encouraging people to become masters and actors.
183. The **Chairperson** clarified the paragraph in English proposing, "encourage the development of digital tools and the use of these tools in education programmes." The delegation of **France** suggested using the word "literacy" to capture the sense of the paragraph. She read in English "encourage the development and the use of digital tools and digital literacy."
184. The delegation of **Brazil** approved the formulation in the French version calling for a good translation of the English text able to encompass the sense of the French word "matrîse." Brazil proposed "proficient use" or "skillful use" and asked for assistance to find better wording. In response, the **Chairperson** proposed, "encourage the development of digital tools and their proficient use in education programmes."
185. The delegation of **Indonesia** asked for clarification from Brazil on the meaning of "encourages the development of digital tools." Indonesia posited that "literacy" might be more relevant by putting focus on the content rather than on the tools. The delegation of **Brazil** reiterated **France's** explanation of the paragraph's intent to go beyond developing software by helping students to master digital tools and use them intelligently. Brazil suggested "encourage the use of digital tools and their mastery in education programmes" and asked if Indonesia accepted this wording.
186. The **Secretary of the Convention** asked if the intended idea was to acquire digital competencies. She suggested "encourage the use of digital tools and provide for digital competencies through education programmes" which reflects the idea of education programmes creating competencies in digital technologies. The **Chairperson** confirmed the consensus on the Secretariat's formulation and declared paragraph 8.3 adopted as amended. He gave the floor to Australia for comment on paragraph 8.2.
187. The delegation of **Australia** commented that the phrase in 8.2 "whether they are digital or not" could cause confusion in respect to other international legal obligations related to trade. The delegate recalled that the concept of digital products and digital goods is highly contested internationally and suggested that this Convention avoid that debate. **Australia** and **Germany** jointly proposed wording from the Convention reading "whatever the means and technologies used" to maintain neutrality. The **Chairperson** thanked Australia for ensuring consistency with the text of the Convention and seeing no objections declared paragraph 8.2 adopted as amended. He moved to paragraph 8.4 and declared it adopted as amended.
188. The delegation of **Morocco** returned to paragraph 8.3 in order to reformulate the French version of the text. Morocco proposed the wording "encourager l'utilisation des outils numériques et assurer l'acquisition des compétences." The **Chairperson** thanked the

delegation of Morocco and confirmed support among the Francophone members for this amendment. He moved to the adoption of paragraph 8.5 and gave the floor to Germany to present its amendment.

189. The delegation of **Germany** expressed that there seemed a missing link between addressing general policies in the digital environment and the specific issue of preferential treatment provisions. Germany posited that the new policies must account for the detrimental effect of the equal and non-discriminatory nature of internet traffic on local cultural productions in languages unable to meet the traffic criterion. The delegate proposed including three lines from the EU regulation on net neutrality as a new paragraph inserted between paragraphs 8.5 and 8.6. The delegate read the text of the proposed new paragraph underscoring its relation to the sovereign right of Parties to formulate adequate solutions to the circulation of cultural goods and services on the internet.
190. The **Secretary of the Convention** asked if “traffic” referred to data and confirmed Germany’s positive response, by suggesting that the word “traffic” be replaced by the word “data” for the sake of clarity. The delegation of **Germany** specified its preference for the formulation agreed upon by the EU countries dealing with this issue and suggested “data traffic” to reflect the transformation of cultural goods and services into data and the means for its circulation and discoverability. The **Chairperson** suggested that “data traffic” be temporarily retained in the text to give the Committee time to reflect while it examined the other paragraphs in the guiding principles.
191. The delegation of **Brazil** asked Germany for clarification on the necessity of the second part of its amendment. The delegation of **Germany** responded that the bracketed portion was a representation of the challenges policy-makers face when implementing the Convention due to the difficulties in promoting equal access to a broad range of multilingual local cultural services and products in the digital environment that requires new policy ideas. Germany noted that consultations among EU Member States identified the need for specific attention to many different local cultural products and that the bracketed portion was important to clarify. Germany expressed its openness to receive inputs from others on this matter and underscored the equal and non-discriminatory core of this issue.
192. The **Chairperson** thanked Germany for its explanation and moved to adopt the proposed paragraph. Seeing no comments, he declared the new paragraph 8.5 adopted and proceeded to paragraph 8.6.
193. The delegation of **Brazil** expressed its preference to remove the wording “micro, small, and medium sized enterprises” proposing “enterprises and independent organizations from developing countries.” The delegation of **Peru** expressed preference for the original wording of this paragraph. The delegation of **Australia** supported **Brazil’s** amendment of the paragraph.
194. The **Chairperson** proposed accepting Brazil’s and Australia’s preferred formulation of the text for the sake of clarity. He asked if there were any objections to adopting the paragraph with this wording and seeing none, declared paragraph 8.6 adopted as amended. Seeing no objections, the Chairperson adopted paragraphs 8.7 and 8.8 as drafted. He moved to paragraph 8.9 and invited the Committee members to comment on the paragraph’s suggestions from civil society.
195. The delegation of **Brazil** highlighted the references to “moral rights” suggested by civil society in this and other paragraphs. He affirmed the absence of international agreement on this concept and asked for the concept’s removal from the text. The delegation of **Australia** proposed broadening the “right to privacy” to “and for privacy and other human rights” in order to be consistent with the terms used in wider instruments. The delegation of **Brazil**

supported this suggestion.

196. The **Chairperson** declared paragraph 8.9 adopted as amended. He moved to consider paragraph 8.10 as drafted. The delegation of **Brazil** specified that this paragraph came from the Human Rights Council Resolution 26/13. The Chairperson thanked Brazil for the clarification and declared paragraph 8.10 adopted. He moved to consider paragraph 8.11 as amended by Brazil.
197. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** signaled the absence of a verb in the French version of the paragraph. The delegation of **Tunisia** asked Brazil for further explanation of the paragraph and the reason for its addition to the text. The delegation of **Brazil** explained that its amendment comes from the first paragraph of the Human Rights Council Resolution 26/13 on the Promotion, Protection and Enjoyment of Human Rights on the Internet. The delegate underscored its applicability to the Operational Guidelines and explained that it was added to strengthen the text on the issue of the freedom of expression. The **Chairperson** confirmed Tunisia's acceptance of the clarification and declared paragraph 8.11 adopted as amended. He moved to paragraph 9, giving the floor to Australia to present its proposed amendment.
198. The delegation of **Australia** proposed removing the "shall" obligation in this paragraph and in paragraphs 18, 19, and 20. Australia explained that this was to prevent the Guidelines from overreaching the nature of their embodied legal commitments and to avoid conflict with other obligations in public international law. Australia confirmed that this respected the role of the Guidelines as explained by the Secretariat and proposed changing the wording in this paragraph and the other three that mentioned to "should" or "shall aim to." This amendment was supported by **Brazil**. The delegation of **France** corrected the verb tenses in the French version of the paragraph.
199. The **Chairperson** declared paragraph 9 adopted as amended. Seeing no objection, he adopted paragraph 10 as drafted and moved to the consideration of paragraph 11.
200. The delegation of **Austria** supported the proposal to introduce the concept of private media organizations for media diversity, but asked for clarity on the exact meaning of the term. The delegate outlined the distinctions made between public service media, private or commercially operated media, and non-commercial or community media. **Austria** proposed that the non-commercial aspect of media be encompassed in the paragraph and asked for further explanation for its introduction in the paragraph. The delegation of **France** noted that the French version of the paragraph included media pluralism rather than the diversity of media. The **Chairperson** proposed the wording "for public service, private, and community media" and Austria accepted the Chairperson's proposal. The Chairperson asked the Committee if it wanted to retain the suggested inclusion of "and independent media organizations" and seeing no objections declared paragraph 11 adopted as amended. He moved to paragraph 12, a new paragraph proposed by the Francophone Group and Brazil.
201. The delegation of **Australia** asked that the word "competencies" be used in the English version of the paragraph. The **Chairperson** confirmed that there were no more comments on paragraph 12 and declared it adopted as amended. The Chairperson adopted paragraph 13 as amended. He proposed considering paragraph 14 in its totality and gave the floor to Lithuania for comment.
202. The delegation of **Lithuania** commented favorably on information document 4 and proposed adding a new paragraph 14 with the wording "encourage Member States to conduct national or regional studies allowing them to analyze the impact of digital technologies on the

diversity of cultural expressions keeping in mind local and regional contexts.” The **Chairperson** noted that the proposed issue is already included in previous Committee decisions.

203. The delegation of **Morocco** commented on paragraph 14.3, confirming its preference to keep the word “education” in the paragraph. Morocco underscored the importance of discussing the use of digital technology in education without specifying the target educational level. The delegation of **Nigeria** explained that establishing new training programmes would include embedded curricula. Nigeria specified that it preferred the original text if the intention is to have training programmes and separate curricula for use in formal educational institutions.
204. Regarding paragraph 14.2, the delegation of **France** asked that the word “performers” be included in the English version of the text signaling that it must be translated as “artistes interprètes,” in French in order to be legally precise. The **Chairperson** read the version of the text and declared paragraph 14.2 adopted as amended.
205. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** proposed adding “for artists and other cultural professionals” to paragraph 14.3 following the proposed amendment of **Morocco**. The delegate affirmed that since paragraph 14.1 already referred to cultural professionals, it was logical to make the same reference here. The **Chairperson** adopted paragraph 14.3 as amended and adopted paragraphs 14.4 and 14.5 as drafted, seeing no objections.
206. The delegation of **Brazil** seconded by **Australia** asked that the suggestion for paragraph 14.6 be deleted, as it was already covered in the first line of the paragraph and created more confusion than clarity. The **Chairperson** noted the deletion and read a suggestion submitted by WIPO for the paragraph. The delegation of **Australia** asked a WIPO representative to explain the suggested text. The representative of the **World Intellectual Property Organization** explained that the suggestion related to the exercise of rights in cases where rights holders are not able to get licenses and remunerations on an individual basis. She noted that in these cases, the two options available to create respect for intellectual property rights are collective bargaining and collective management. The WIPO suggestion accounted for both of these options to ensure respect of intellectual property rights.
207. The **Chairperson** thanked the WIPO representative for her clarity and confirmed Australia’s satisfaction with the explanation. The delegation of **Côte d’Ivoire** proposed removing the intellectual property rights aspect from the paragraph. The Chairperson noted that doing so would remove the meaning of that paragraph. He explained the paragraph’s intention for Parties to respect the intellectual property rights of creators.
208. The delegation of **Paraguay** posited that “respect” and “protection” are synonymous making the text redundant. The **Chairperson** underscored the importance of acknowledging that Parties both respect and protect intellectual property rights. At the request of the Chairperson, the representative from the **European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** remarked that if one respects something, one should also create the conditions to protect it. The **Chairperson** confirmed the Committee’s acceptance of the inclusion of “protection.” The delegation of **Tunisia** signaled repetition in the paragraph’s formulation and proposed using the wording “allowing for.”
209. The delegation of **Côte d’Ivoire** expressed concern over the inclusion of the collective management concept in paragraph 14.6 and asked if it could be removed. The delegation of **Germany** recalled the WIPO’s explanation of this concept and expressed preference for keeping the concept in the text. The **Chairperson** further explained Germany’s suggestion reiterating the concept’s importance in situations where artists are unable to represent themselves. The delegation of **Madagascar** proposed removing the word “necessary” from

the formulation. The delegation of **Brazil** supported by **France** indicated that the original intent of the WIPO's suggestion was the use of collective management "if applicable" and not in a restrictive sense. The **Chairperson** confirmed the acceptance of the formulation suggested by France and Brazil, declaring paragraph 14 adopted in its entirety as amended.

210. The delegation of **Germany** signaled variances in the English version of the draft's qualification of cultural goods and services and cultural expressions in the digital environment. Germany asked the Secretariat to harmonize the versions to ensure that they unambiguously carry the intended meaning of these notions. It noted that the French version consistently refers to "les biens et services culturels dans la distribution digitale" whereas the English version alternates between "cultural expressions in the digital environment" and "digital cultural goods and services," which has a different meaning and creates blurred ground in some policy areas. The **Secretary of the Convention** asked the Secretariat to change all references to "digital cultural goods and services" and "digitized cultural expressions" to "cultural goods and services in the digital environment" and "cultural expressions in the digital environment" throughout the text. The **Chairperson** confirmed the Committee's acceptance of the Secretary's proposition and moved to consider paragraph 15.
211. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** proposed adding a continuation to paragraph 15.3 that read "and encourages new types of partnerships between the public and private sectors in the digital environment."
212. The **Chairperson** declared introductory paragraph 15 adopted as amended and moved to paragraph 15.1. The delegation of **Belarus** signaled that "medium-sized enterprises" was missing from the English version of this paragraph confirming the French version's inclusion of "petites et moyennes entreprises." The **Chairperson** adopted 15.1 as corrected. He moved to 15.2 confirming the change in formulation to "cultural and creative industries in the digital environment" and adopted the paragraph as amended. Paragraph 15.3 was adopted as amended by the Czech Republic, and paragraph 15.4 adopted as drafted. The introductory paragraph 16 was adopted. The Chairperson moved to paragraph 16.1 that contained a suggestion from the ECCD and rephrasing from the Francophone Group and Brazil.
213. The delegation of **Brazil** proposed reformulating the ECCD suggestion in the English version of the paragraph for coherency if the Francophone Group accepted it in the French version. If not, Brazil proposed deleting the ECCD's suggestion from the text. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** noted that the wording in the French version read "la diversité des médias" instead of "la pluralité des médias" asking that the formulations be harmonized. The delegation of **Germany** seconded by **France** and **Australia** recalled that Convention's Article 6 refers to the "diversity of the media" expressing preference for using this formulation in order to relate the paragraph to the Convention. The **Chairperson** agreed that the Guidelines should stay as consistent as possible with the wording of the Convention.
214. In response to Brazil, the delegation of **France** confirmed the coherency of the French translation of the suggestion and asked for clarification on its intention. A representative of the **European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** suggested a reformulation of its suggestion related to implementation. The delegation of **Brazil** opposed this reformulation noting that the Guidelines should not be excessive. The delegation of **Australia** affirmed the sufficiency of "visibility" and proposed discarding the new text. The delegation of **France** underscored the need to go beyond discoverability to include a reference point for the adequate positioning of local cultural content in internet search results and suggested "good exposure." The **Secretary of the Convention** proposed the English wording "while also

ensuring prominent visibility and discoverability of national and local cultural content.” The delegation of **France** reaffirmed its preference for “une bonne visibilité”. The delegation of **Brazil** proposed replacing “prominent” with “adequate” or “appropriate.” In light of the difficulties of finding the proper formulation, the **Chairperson** suggested adopting the paragraph as originally drafted with the wording proposed by the Francophone Group and Brazil. Seeing no objections, he declared paragraph 16.1 adopted. He then adopted paragraphs 16.2 through 16.4 as amended. The Chairperson asked for comment on paragraph 16.5.

215. The delegation of **Australia** commented that the ECCD’s suggestion stepped beyond the proper role of the Guidelines and risked coming into conflict with a debate on the role of cultural goods and services in the digital environment. Australia supported the amendments proposed by Brazil and Germany and asked that the suggestion following “digital environment” be discarded, which was seconded by **Brazil**. The **Chairperson** confirmed agreement on paragraph 16.5 and declared it adopted as amended by Brazil and Germany. He moved to paragraph 16.6.
216. The delegation of **Côte d’Ivoire** expressed preference for the wording “act” instead of “fight” in the last line of the paragraph. The delegation of **France** questioned the relevance of the word “legitimate” in reference to cultural goods and services. The delegation of **Brazil** seconded by **Australia** asked that “legitimate” be discarded as it does not apply in the context of the Operational Guidelines and supported the WIPO’s suggestion to the paragraph. The delegation of **Australia** suggested the use of the word “combat” instead of “fight” in the English version of the text. The **Chairperson** agreed with Australia’s suggestion and adopted paragraph 16.6 as amended. He moved to new paragraph 16.7 proposed by the Francophone Group and Brazil.
217. The delegation of **Nigeria** proposed adding “in order to” as to ensure consistency. The delegation of **France** highlighted a point of redundancy in the French version and suggested the wording “pour améliorer.” The **Chairperson** noted that Nigeria’s submitted proposals appeared to go beyond the scope of the Operational Guidelines and asked Nigeria to give the Committee more details about the intent of its proposed amendments.
218. The delegation of **Nigeria** explained that its amendments referred to the issue of unsolicited and undesired pop-up advertisements on the internet, some of which are inappropriate to the cultural context in which they are consumed. Nigeria wanted to draw attention to the need of examining this aspect of internet use and the issues involved. Nigeria confirmed its willingness to withdraw its proposals from consideration, should the Committee decide to.
219. The delegation of **Brazil** recognized and acknowledged the seriousness of the problem highlighted by Nigeria but did not find the Operational Guidelines the appropriate place to deal with this issue and did not feel that the formulation suggested adequately encompassed the problem. The **Chairperson** confirmed the adoption of paragraph 16 as amended in its entirety and moved to the adoption of the introductory paragraph 17.
220. The delegation of **Indonesia** did not object to the addition of the “moral rights of artists and cultural professionals” and proposed adding, “which do not conflict with the national interests of parties” in order to reaffirm the sovereign rights of the Parties included in paragraph 8.4. The **Chairperson** proposed removing the civil society’s suggestion due to the potential of it conflicting with the spirit of the Convention. The delegation of **France** supported the removal of the term “moral” recalling the debates held in earlier discussion of this term. Seeing no objection, the **Chairperson** adopted introductory paragraph 17 as amended and paragraphs 17.1 and 17.2 as drafted. He moved to consider paragraph 17.3.

221. The delegation of **Australia** asked for an explanation of the suggested addition, in particular its reference to regulation. A representative from the **European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** recalled its proposition for paragraph 15.2 underscoring its intent to ensure efficacy in the treatment of this issue. The **Chairperson** affirmed that the suggested wording was not consistent with the rest of the text and proposed a formulation beginning with “support,” “promote,” or “encourage.” The delegation of **Tunisia** suggested the use of “establish,” “conceive of,” or “promulgate” in addition to suggesting simplifying the French version of the paragraph.
222. The **Chairperson** signaled that this suggestion would constitute the establishment of legislation, expressing doubts over the regulation of this issue. The delegation of **Brazil** commented on the inadequacy of the verb and disagreed with telling the Member States to establish regulation in the Operational Guidelines. Brazil underscored the potential for complications and misunderstanding surrounding the concept of “public interest”, noting that in certain cases, its definition is against diversity or the freedom of expression. The **Chairperson** suggested discarding the proposed amendment and seeing no objection, adopted paragraph 17.3 as drafted. The Committee adopted the new paragraph 17.3 proposed by the Francophone Group and Brazil and paragraphs 17.4 through 17.7 as drafted. The Chairperson moved to consider paragraph 17.8.
223. The delegations of **Australia** and **France** supported the text proposed by the **Francophone Group** and **Brazil**. Paragraph 17.8 was adopted as amended, and the Chairperson moved to consider paragraph 18 including a proposal from Australia to amend the title of this section and several other proposed amendments to its introductory paragraph.
224. The delegation of **Germany** asked for clarification on who amended each of the two versions of this paragraph. In response, the **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed that some proposed amendments were from **Australia** and others were proposed by the **Francophone Group** and **Brazil**. The delegation of **Germany** supported the amendments proposed by the **Francophone Group** and **Brazil**.
225. The delegation of **France** seconded by **Tunisia** expressed preference for the word “rebalancing” in the section title. France confirmed that the proposed word “facilitate” was intended to relate this paragraph to Article 16. The delegation of **Morocco** supported this proposition and expressed preference for the formulation “assuring more balanced exchanges.” The delegation of **Australia** accepted the use of the term “rebalance” in the title.
226. The delegation of **France** underlined inconsistencies between the French and English versions of the texts. In response to France’s request for clarification on its position, the delegation of **Australia** confirmed its satisfaction with the amendments proposed by the **Francophone Group** and **Brazil** asking for inclusion of the wording “shall aim to.” The **Chairperson** asked the Committee to confirm introductory paragraph 18 as formulated with Australia’s two amendments to the text proposed by the Francophone Group and Brazil and seeing consent, declared it adopted. He moved to consider paragraph 18.1.
227. The delegation of **Brazil** recalled its comment concerning paragraph 8.5 and asked to delete the reference to “micro, small, and medium-sized” and leave “enterprises and independent organizations”.
228. The **Secretary of the Convention** returned to introductory paragraph 18 in order to harmonize the language and proposed the reformulation “more balanced flow of cultural goods and services in the digital environment.”
229. The **Committee** adopted paragraph 18.1 with the suggestion of **Brazil**. It then adopted

paragraphs 18.2, 19, and 19.1 as drafted. Paragraph 19.2 was adopted with the harmonization of language signaled by **Germany**, paragraphs 19.3 and 19.4 were adopted as amended by the **Francophone Group** and **Brazil**, paragraph 19.5 as drafted, paragraph 20 as amended, and paragraph 21 as drafted. The Committee moved to consider paragraph 22.

230. The delegation of **France** signaled incoherency in the French translation of paragraph 19.4 and requested clarification. In response, the **Secretary of the Convention** specified that “consideration of cultural clauses” was a proposal made by **Australia** as an amendment to the original text “the introduction of cultural clauses.” The **Chairperson** proposed the wording “consider including cultural clauses” to address the issue with the French translation. The delegation of **Australia** accepted the Chairperson’s suggested wording underscoring the need for prudence in regards to future negotiations and multi- and bilateral negotiations in other contexts.
231. The delegation of **Brazil** noted that the chapeau of paragraph 19 prevented using a verb to start paragraph 19.4 and proposed that it should begin directly with “cultural clauses” as a way of addressing Australia’s concerns. The delegation of **Australia** affirmed that “promoting cultural clauses” does prejudice the scope of the Convention’s work in other forums and expressed preference for its proposal of “consideration” advocating that a suitable translation be found. The delegation of **France** supported the pertinence of Australia’s formulation. The delegation of **Côte d’Ivoire** seconded by the **Czech Republic**, **Paraguay**, **Morocco** and **France** proposed using the Secretariat’s formulation beginning with “the introduction.” The delegation of **Tunisia** proposed beginning with “adoption.”
232. The delegation of **Australia** shared that Australia’s approach to negotiating trade commitments prevented it from accepting the formulation “promote the introduction of”. Its approach to negotiating global services trade commitments are the reasons for its proposal “promote the consideration of” in order for it to adhere to the Operational Guidelines in other international public law contexts. In light of the broad support for its proposal in English, Australia suggested a cooperative effort to find an acceptable French translation while the Committee continued its debates.
233. The delegation of **Brazil** proposed two possible formulations to address Australia’s concerns, “the introduction, as appropriate, of” or “the negotiation of”. The delegation of **Australia** thanked the delegation of Brazil noting that the first formulation tilts the balance towards a certain type of trade negotiating outcome, underscoring the relevancy of this issue to other countries with a negative list oriented approach to trade. Australia posited that Brazil’s second formulation also tilts the balance by promoting engagement. It affirmed the importance of language tending towards the neutrality as to avoid changing the balance in global trade negotiations or in public international law and reiterated its willingness to continue working on this issue while the Committee considered other paragraphs. The delegation of **France** agreed to return to this issue later in the debates and the **Chairperson** moved to the consideration of paragraph 22.
234. The delegation of **France** suggested changing “connaissances,” to “savoir-faire” for the sake of consistency with the language of Article 14 of the Convention. The delegate asked if “des technologies écologiquement rationnelles,” was referring to sustainability and suggested that it be reformulated for clarity and proposed adding “the development of” in front of the word “infrastructure”. The delegation of **Brazil** supported France’s proposals and suggested their English translations: “know-how,” “sustainable technologies,” and “development of infrastructure”. Paragraph 22 was adopted as amended by France and Brazil and the Committee moved to consider paragraph 23.

235. The delegation of **Slovakia** proposed adding “and regional level” in the introduction of paragraph 23 to account for cross-border cooperation. The delegation of **Brazil** underscored that the measures mentioned in the paragraph are very specific to the national level and national sovereignty. Brazil proposed adding “and regional level” to the chapeau of paragraph 24. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled a Committee discussion during its ninth ordinary session, in which “regional” was interpreted as the regional level within countries. As such, she suggested putting the reference to “regional” in paragraph 23.1 and keeping paragraph 24 focused on the international level. The chapeau of paragraph 23 was adopted as drafted and paragraph 23.1 as amended by Slovakia. The Committee then adopted paragraphs 23.2 through 23.4 as drafted.
236. The **Chairperson** confirmed that following a Bureau meeting discussion, Nigeria agreed to withdraw its suggestion for paragraph 23.5 and invited Nigeria to explain its position for the benefit of the Committee. The delegation of **Nigeria** explained that its suggestion was intended to draw attention to the issue of the quality of content, for which the Operational Guidelines make no provisions. In light of the Convention’s implementation at the national level in collaboration with multiple stakeholders, Nigeria felt that there should be a discussion about the quality of content and the possibility of developing some kind of framework that guarantees a minimum of quality. The **Chairperson** thanked Nigeria and summarized the Bureau discussion, which reaffirmed the Convention’s priority to promote the freedom of artistic expression over all other considerations. As such, the Bureau felt that a content quality framework was inconsistent with the spirit of the Convention, although it did acknowledge the importance of the issue of quality raised by Nigeria. Paragraphs 24.1 through 24.4 were adopted as drafted.
237. The delegation of **France** with the support of **Australia** announced its proposal for paragraph 19.4, suggesting “the consideration of introducing” with the French translation “la possibilité d’introduire.” The delegation of **Tunisia** noted the grammatical imperfection of the proposed formulation.
238. The **Chairperson** affirmed that in this case, there was no further way of simplifying the wording and asked the Committee to consider adopting the proposal from France, thanking everyone for working together. Paragraph 19.4 was adopted as amended and the Committee returned to the consideration of paragraph 24.5. Seeing no objections, the Chairperson declared paragraph 24.5 adopted, the chapeau of paragraph 25 adopted as amended by the Francophone Group and Brazil, and paragraphs 25.1 through 26.1 adopted as drafted. Upon reaching paragraph 26.2, the Chairperson gave the floor to the Czech Republic.
239. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** proposed including the word “comparative” before the word “statistics” to promote the comparison of statistical data. The **Chairperson** asked if there were any concerns with the amendment and seeing none, adopted paragraphs 26.2 and 26.3 as amended; the introductory paragraph 27 as amended; and paragraphs 27.1 through 27.3 as drafted. The Chairperson gave the floor to Morocco to present its proposed new paragraph 27.4.
240. The delegation of **Morocco** read its proposed paragraph in French, “promote synergies between cultural Conventions notably concerning the protection of cultural goods from illicit online trafficking.” The **Chairperson** remarked that Morocco’s proposed addition went beyond the scope of the Convention and entered the territory of other international agreements. The delegation of **France** agreed with the Chairperson and proposed including a mention to the illicit trafficking of cultural goods online following the word “combat” in paragraph 16.6. The delegation of **Morocco** accepted France’s proposal and expressed approval of the inclusion of this issue and of the notion of synergy with other Conventions in the Operational Guidelines.

241. The **Chairperson** confirmed the Committee's approval to adopt the amended paragraph 16.6 as re-amended by Morocco and France. He confirmed the removal of Morocco's proposed paragraph 27.4 and seeing no comments on the original paragraph 27.4, declared it adopted. The Chairperson moved to confirm the adoption of the amended Operational Guidelines in their entirety and seeing no objections, declared the Operational Guidelines adopted as amended in their entirety. He thanked the Committee members and other participants for their cooperative work, characterizing the adoption of the Operational Guidelines as a historic moment for the Convention. The Secretariat put the draft decision 10.IGC 7 on the screen, and the Chairperson read the decision paragraph by paragraph for adoption. The Chairperson declared paragraphs 1 through 3 adopted and gave the floor to Brazil for comment.
242. The delegation of **Brazil** proposed adding a paragraph congratulating the Secretariat for its three years of work allowing the Committee to achieve this important result. Brazil proposed a new paragraph 3 reading "Commends the Secretariat for the work in elaborating the draft Operational Guidelines and favoring debates between the Member States and Civil Society." The **Chairperson** agreed and added this suggestion to acknowledge the Secretariat's work. He suggested a slight rewording of part of Brazil's proposal reading "facilitating debates between the Parties and Civil Society." The delegation of **Brazil** agreed and suggested adding, "the excellent work done" to highlight the quality of the work done by the Secretariat.
243. The **Chairperson** thanked Brazil for its suggestion and seeing no objections, declared the new paragraph 3 and paragraph 4 adopted. The Chairperson formally requested that the Committee adopt draft decision 10.IGC 7 in its entirety and seeing no objections, declared it adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 7 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 8 – THE SECRETARIAT'S REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY (IFCD)

Documents DCE/16/10.IGC/8 and its Annexes and DCE/16/10.IGC/INF.5

244. The **Chairperson** moved to item 8 and confirmed the translator's willingness to stay beyond the scheduled time for the session in order to allow the Committee to complete this item before ending the session for the evening.
245. The delegation of **Brazil** asked to make a statement before moving to item 8. The delegate thanked the Secretariat for all of their hard work and highlighted the **Francophone Group's** collaboration and contribution to the session, expressing satisfaction with the Operational Guidelines on digital issues. Brazil formally requested that there be a stricter application of procedure that limits the submission of amendments from the Member States only during Committee debates. Brazil requested that suggestions coming from civil society or other international organizations be discussed with Member States and Committee members before entering into Committee debates. Brazil confirmed its openness to these suggestions and welcomed civil society's input, emphasizing the importance of channeling these suggestions through the appropriate means specified by procedure.
246. The delegation of **France** thanked the Secretariat for their work, all Committee members for their spirit of cooperation, and the Chairperson for his excellent leadership of the debate.
247. The **Chairperson** thanked France and responded to Brazil by confirming that the Secretariat

had taken note of its request. He moved to consider agenda item 8 underscoring the importance of the Secretariat's report on the IFCD and asked the Secretary to introduce the agenda item.

248. The **Secretary of the Convention** introduced the document presenting a complete overview of the implementation of the IFCD (hereinafter referred to as "the Fund"). Ms. Cliche recalled the expectations identified in the C/5 for the Secretariat to process international assistance requests and monitor project implementation. The results produced by the Secretariat help to ensure the longer-term impact of the Convention, namely by promoting information sharing at the global level and strengthening the capacities of Parties in developing countries to design cultural policies, measures and programmes. Ms Cliche outlined the parts of the document, which includes: an overview of the 2016 call for funding requests; the results from the Panel of Experts; a list of recommended projects for the Committee's approval; and an examination of the status of the IOS recommendations on the Fund made as a result of the evaluation of the Fund conducted several years ago. She confirmed the launch of the Fund's second evaluation in 2017 noting that the Committee would be asked to review and approve the terms of reference for this evaluation. Ms Cliche explained that she would also report on the implementation of the fundraising and communications strategy and on the use of the financial resources of the Fund. In light of the depth of the Secretariat's report on these issues, the Secretary suggested that breaks be taken throughout her presentation to allow the Committee to make comments or ask questions on the issues concerned.
249. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention and supported her suggestion of an interactive engagement with Committee members. Seeing no objections to her suggestion, he asked Ms Cliche to give more information about the Fund in 2016.
250. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the expectation for the Committee to examine the overall implementation of the Fund in 2016 and decide on the projects to be supported. In 2016, the Secretariat received 451 funding requests through the online platform from 98 countries, the highest amount to date. Highlighting Annex VIII of the report, Ms Cliche noted that 78% of the requests were submitted by NGOs, which represents a significant increase from the 59% share of NGO funding-requests submitted in 2014. In 2016, 98 funding requests, or 22%, were pre-selected by the National Commissions from 52 countries. Of the 98 submitted to UNESCO, 36 requests from 24 countries passed the Secretariat's technical assessment on their eligibility, the high majority of which were from Africa. The Secretary confirmed that the total worth of the projects submitted was just over 3 million USD, while the total IFCD budget available for funding projects is approximately 500,000 USD. There has been an increase of 53% in the number of projects submitted to the seventh call for funding requests, which Ms Cliche suggested is evidence that the communications efforts undertaken by the Secretariat and its partners has contributed to raising awareness about the Fund and encouraged more partners to apply. She underscored a tripling in the number of funding requests to support digital arts projects, which is coherent with the direction of the future priorities set by the governing bodies of the Convention. Ms Cliche emphasized a decrease in the number of funding requests that do not comply with the Fund's objectives nor the scope of its intervention. Additionally, the National Commissions from around 30 countries did not participate in a pre-selection of projects as eligible for UNESCO's evaluation. In recognition of these challenges, the Secretariat has developed a series of practical training modules on how to make funding requests for the Fund and on how the National Commissions can pre-select projects. Ms Cliche confirmed the testing of these modules at regional workshops organized in: Barbados for the Caribbean region, Ecuador, Viet Nam, and in the People's Democratic Republic of Laos. These workshops were organized with the support of the National Commissions and in close cooperation with the Field offices in Kingston, Quito, and Hanoi. The Secretary cited these workshops as one example of how the Secretariat works closely with the Field offices in implementing the Fund.

Following the Secretariat's technical assessment, each eligible funding requests was sent to the Panel of Experts to be reviewed independently by two different Panel Experts who entered directly into an online evaluation platform a qualitative and quantitative evaluation result for each funding requests. This is undertaken strictly against the criteria established in paragraph 19 of the Guidelines on the Use of the Resources of the Fund. Ms Cliche emphasized the evaluation of projects in reference to their sustainability over the longer-term as has been identified as important by the Committee. Once both results were received, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts reviewed and validated the results prior to submitting the final list of recommended projects to the Committee. Once finalized, all documents for each project were made publicly available by the Secretariat on the Convention's website. Ms Cliche drew attention to Annex I of the report including the 6 project recommendations made by the Panel of Experts for the Committee's consideration and noted that out of these 6 recommended projects **Colombia** and **Palestine** would receive Fund support for the first time. She drew attention to the Secretariat's summaries on each recommended project, including summaries of the Panel of Expert assessments, in Annex II.

251. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention and commended the Secretariat on behalf of the Committee for its excellent work on the Fund's seventh call for applications. He invited Ms Ouafa Belgacem to present the Panel's experiences with the project evaluations and asked the Secretariat to put the list of recommended projects on the screens.

252. Ms Ouafa Belgacem, a **member of the Panel of Experts**, spoke on behalf of Ms Yarri Kamara the Coordinator of the Expert Panel, who could not be present due to health reasons. Ms Belgacem thanked the Secretariat on behalf of the Panel of Expert for its availability and excellent work. She confirmed that the Panel of Expert had benefited from training in 2016 on the Fund's objective, the updated evaluation process, and on the new communications tools. She characterized this training as an opportunity to meet the new members of the Expert Panel and as a space for the Panel members to exchange experience and expertise. In response to the 2016 call for funding requests, the Panel examined 25 funding requests from NGOs representing 70% of the total funding requests submitted, 8 from Parties to the Convention representing 22% of the funding requests, and 3 from international NGOs representing 8% of the funding requests. Among the funding requests evaluated by the Panel of Experts, 42% came from Africa and 28% from Latin America and the Caribbean. Ms Belgacem noted an increase from the previous year in the number of funding requests from the Asia and Pacific and Arab regions, representing 11% of the funding requests. She provided a brief overview, organized by scoring, of the 6 projects recommended for the Committee's consideration for a total allocation of 503, 243 USD. Ms Belgacem noted that the funding requests from Colombia and Palestine both had evaluation scores totaling 32.5:

- Project number 9209 in Colombia entitled, "Cartography and capacity building for cultural industries in Bogota," is proposed by the Chamber of Commerce, Bogota and recommended for 99,987 USD in funds. This project aims to consolidate and sustainably develop the cultural industry in Bogota by mapping them and providing training for 150 cultural start-ups. It will document best practices and lessons learned with the intent of creating public policy and a benchmark for other cities. The evaluation summary showed this to be a clear, coherent and well-structured project to improve support for cultural enterprises. The project analysis of needs is detailed and nuanced and the project's strong focus on learning gives it the potential of becoming a case study for other cities. The Panel underscored the applicant's long record of support to cultural industries as a positive indicator of the project's potential sustainability and the significant self-funded investment in the project.
- Project number 9073 in Palestine entitled, "Promoting startups in cultural and creative industries in Palestine," is proposed by Leaders Organization and recommended for

99,350 USD in funds. This project aims to develop and promote entrepreneurship, primarily among young people, in Palestine's cultural industries. It focuses on startups and addresses structural problems restraining cultural industry development. It elicits seed investments to incubate startups through international partnerships and enable young entrepreneurs to reach customers across the Arab world. The project shows long-term sustainability thanks to: the potential to enhance the applicant's specialty in the cultural sector through its experience; the project's support of networks for creative and cultural industries; and its design to actively engage on the policy level through a study and policy briefs on constraints for creative and cultural entrepreneurs in Palestine. The Panel found the project well-designed and the applicant well-placed to guarantee the project's sustainability and follow-up.

- Project number 9068 in Togo entitled, "Regional capacity building workshops for artists, cultural promoters and local administrators on the implementation of local cultural policies" is proposed by the Regional Institute for Higher Education and Research in Cultural Development and recommended for 31,600 USD in funds. This project is headed by an institution linked to the Ministry of Culture in Togo and aims to give local-level players the necessary tools for local development. It proposes organizing six workshops in six regions and is a short-term project aiming to further the decentralization of cultural policies and the development of synergies between local and sectoral policies. The project is well-focused with a clear methodology and an approach to identify beneficiaries that can apply their acquired capacities. The Panel recommended this project with a reduced budget to better rationalize its expenses.
- Project number 9133 in Madagascar entitled, "Encourage the use of cinema as a means of expression among youth with a view to developing a film industry" is proposed by T-movie and recommended for 99,975 USD in funds. This project aims to professionalize the cinema industry in Madagascar and encourage youth engagement. It envisions intensive workshops for groups of 35 youths, the production and exhibition of their films, and the development of a cinematographic database. The Panel esteems the trainings capable of professionalizing youths by developing their competencies along the entire cinematographic value chain. It aims to foster youth leadership and auto-entrepreneurship, and its links with the University of Antananarivo institutionalizes the training, giving it the potential to become an example for the national development of the film industry. It will also respond to the societal need for youth self-expression.
- Project number 7773 in Namibia is entitled, "Engage disadvantaged communities in Namibia in the international music market" proposed by Museum's Association of Namibia and recommended for 87,125 USD in funds. This project aims to empower musicians in marginalized communities to find audiences through practical experience with international-level music production. Their recordings will also serve as archives of traditional and contemporary Namibian music. The project blends several key cultural issues to boost musical expression and access to markets. The project will increase musical diversity both nationally and internationally and will develop music markets as an alternative livelihood strategy to contribute to the socioeconomic development of disadvantaged groups.
- Project number 8817 in Paraguay entitled, "Voices of the ASU: emerging cultural expressions of young people in Asuncion" is proposed by the Directorate-General of Culture and Tourism-Municipality of Asuncion and recommended for 85,205 USD in funds. The project aims to strengthen local cultural policies through youth inclusion in local cultural expressions. It will identify and map cultural needs and expressions and enhance public spaces with emerging cultural expressions. The project experience is intended for use in the development of a local government policy for youth access to

cultural expressions. The project's focus on youth gives it the potential for long-term impact, is well aligned with local and national policy needs, and has a participatory design. The applicant has proposed qualified contractors and has self-invested funds for the project. The Panel significantly modified the budget of this project and urges the applicant to avoid creating imbalances in overall cultural policies. The budget was cut by 11,475 USD.

Ms Ouafa Belgacem, **member of the Panel of Experts**, went on to make several final remarks about trends and changes in relation to the last call for proposals:

- The seventh call resulted in projects of quality that reaffirm the relevance of the Fund's impact that far outreaches its relatively modest financial resources and confirm the quality of the reputation of the IFCD. There is an increasing number of funding requests from renowned international actors working in areas beyond the creative and cultural industries.
- The overall quality of the funding requests remains in need of improvement, particularly in terms of budget, logic of intervention, and project feasibility. Relevant projects that are well anchored in their contexts and able to meet real needs with a potential for long-term structural and sustainable impact had to be omitted, as a result of these issues. This indicates a need for technical assistance for training in project elaboration.
- Several tools were provided to the Panel of Experts in 2016 in light of previous recommendations for the improvement of the Panel' evaluation procedures. There were improvements made to the online platform, a review of the submission forms, and the publication of guides for evaluations. Nevertheless, additional efforts are still needed, notably regarding the work of National Commissions, the first link of the evaluation procedure. Their expertise is crucial for those Experts who cannot go into the field. It is essential for the National Commissions to provide information on the local context to promote a more informed evaluation. In several cases, their evaluations constituted a copy/paste directly from the funding requests.
- In light of the Fund's increasing role as a facilitator of dialogue and innovation, improvement in its implementation is needed. Due to the efforts of the Secretariat to showcase project results and impact, the Experts were able to see the materialization of projects they had only read about on paper; thus strengthening their wish to see more projects materialize. The Experts were disappointed to reject several quality projects of relevance simply because they did not have the right project design or demonstrate adequate efficiency; as such, the Experts recommended the extension of technical support to include potential Fund beneficiaries.

253. The **Chairperson** thanked the Panel of Experts on behalf of the Committee for their work ensuring the Fund's continued support of projects that advance the Convention. He invited the Committee to make comments or ask questions and seeing none opened the floor to the observers.

[Observers]

254. The delegation of **Canada** recalled the Minister of Canadian Heritage's remarks reiterating Canada's support of the IFCD and announced the Government of Canada's additional contribution of 100,000 USD in order to help the Fund to respond to the growing demands for support. The delegate emphasized the importance of IFCD fundraising and ensuring the continued availability of its resources. Canada noted that beyond supporting artistic projects, the implementation of the IFCD addresses the needs for capacity-building, institutional

infrastructure, and innovative projects able to advance the creative industries in countries in the global South. Canada welcomed the Secretariat's continued efforts to build partnerships with the private sector, in order to enlarge the base of the IFCD beyond the Parties to the Convention. In this context, Canada offered to give its recommendations to the Secretariat in order to help further these partnership-building efforts. Canada gave the floor to the representative of the Government of Quebec.

The **representative of Quebec within the permanent delegation of Canada to UNESCO** reiterated the IFCD's goal and the diversity of the projects supported. Quebec congratulated the Secretariat for its efforts to implement the IFCD fundraising and communication strategy. Quebec affirmed that despite the 7% reduction in the support to the Fund in 2016, it appreciated the growing number of contributing countries, especially the growing number contributions from of developing country. Quebec confirmed its long-standing support to the Fund and its recent contribution of 30,000 USD. Quebec announced a new measure in Canada's digital culture plan allowing for a study of issues concerning international cooperation in the digital age in Francophone African countries. It will contribute to the implementation of a Committee decision taken in 2015 and will add to the two studies realized on this matter in both Spain and Hispanic America and in South East Asia.

255. The delegation of **France** recalled the importance it gives to the international cooperation fostered by the Convention and the IFCD evidenced by its annual contributions to the fund since its launch. . France announced that it would give a supplementary contribution of 70,000 Euros this year bringing its total Fund contribution in 2016 to 190,000 Euros. France thanked the Secretariat for its fundraising efforts and the Panel of Experts for their work. France confirmed that it had shared the projects not able to be funded in 2015, due to the lack of resources, throughout its cultural network with the hopes of finding funding for them and affirmed that it would continue these efforts with this year's relevant projects.
256. The delegation of **Australia** congratulated the Panel of Expert for its work and confirmed that it provided an additional voluntary contribution of nearly 68,000 USD to its third contribution to the Fund bringing its total 2016 contribution to 223,000 USD. Australia commended the Fund's support of projects: from a good geographic balance of countries; contributing to policy environments conducive to diverse cultural expressions; focused on strengthening institutional, organizational and individual capacities in the cultural sectors; and building on the capacity for change.
257. **H.E. Fernando Griffith, Minister of Culture of Paraguay**, acknowledged the important contributions of **Canada, France, and Australia**. He characterized the Fund as a point of global importance recalling, as evidence, Ms Cliche's confirmation of the disparity between Fund requests and available Fund resources.. H.E. Griffith expressed concern for the rejection of excellent projects due to flaws in their design and underscored the need to consider capacity-building and increase IFCD's visibility in order to further implement its objectives.
258. The **Chairperson** thanked H.E. Griffith and gave the floor to the observers.

[Observers]

259. **Mr Alexandre Cloutier, Deputy of the National Assembly of Quebec**, confirmed the great importance the APF places on the IFCD and its objectives. He affirmed that the APF has repeatedly recommended providing annual contributions to the IFCD to the heads of state and government in the Francophonie. Their APF action plan provides for seminars and training modules to improve the capabilities of Members of Parliament to develop cultural strategies, a good practice in the context of the Convention Article 21.

260. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretary of the Convention to read out the list of recommended projects for final Committee approval. The **Secretary of the Convention** read out the recommended projects individually. All 6 projects recommended by the Panel of Experts were approved by the Committee. The **Chairperson** applauded the 6 projects and thanked Ms Ouafa Belgacem and the members of the Panel of Experts for their work. He invited the Secretary of the Convention to continue with her presentation of working document 8.
261. The **Secretary of the Convention** presented the follow-up to the implementation of the IOS recommendations on the Fund presented in Annex III of the document. The Secretary confirmed that the Secretariat has implemented the majority of the IOS recommendations and recalled that the next IOS evaluation of the Fund would start in 2017. She recalled that the Committee would decide on the evaluation's terms of reference presented in Annex IX of the document. Ms Cliche confirmed the full application of the framework in recommendation 7 to the seventh call for funding and listed the mechanisms of its implementation. She affirmed that efforts were made to align the IFCD's framework with the framework designed to monitor the overall implementation of the Convention as presented in the 2015 Global Report. Additional efforts were also made to align the IFCD's framework with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to demonstrate how the Parties to the Convention also contribute to the implementation of the SDGs when they contribute to and implement the Fund. The next stage of the Secretariat's results-based management work is to introduce indicators for each of the expected results to measure further project progress and impact. Once completed, data will be collected from all of the projects financed since the beginning of the Fund to determine its overall impact. Ms Cliche affirmed that the Secretariat has seen concrete evidence of how the Fund's investments in medium and longer-term projects have had an impact beyond the funding period. As an example, she highlighted Kër Thiossane's development from being one of the first NGOs to receive IFCD support in 2011 into a key player in Senegal, which has now become an African hub in digital arts and the capital city of Senegal, Dakar, has become one of UNESCO's Creative Cities for Media Arts in 2014. Ms Cliche recalled that the Secretariat's impact timelines show the projects that went on to attract new sources of financing following their support periods affirming that these projects have gone well beyond the space of Fund intervention. She emphasized the need for support and extra-budgetary resources to continue this type of impact work, to see the longer-term impacts of the IFCD projects, and to do in-depth analyses that show results, which the Secretariat is currently unable to do due to its lack of human and financial resources.

The Secretary confirmed the progressive implementation of the five-year fundraising and communications strategy recalling the expectation for the Committee to review progress made during phase 2 of the strategy's implementation, to take note of the strategy's results and challenges, and to assign a budget for strategy-related activities in 2017. The Fund entered into phase 2 of its fundraising strategy in July 2014 with the goal of working to expand the Fund's donor base beyond governmental donors. To do so, the Secretariat conducted research and created a database identifying 37 potential private sector partners. The Secretariat has prepared an action plan for implementing a private sector fundraising strategy, has published a brochure on the basis of this strategy, and is trying to produce various communication tools to be used with the private sector, currently being tested for effectiveness. Based on the recommendations of the professional fundraising organizations, the names of three companies that meet most of the criteria in the fundraising strategy and whose objectives are closely aligned with those of the Fund have been selected: The New York Times, Vivendi Group, and the Richmond Group. Ms Cliche highlighted the Secretariat's recent first meeting with representatives of the Vivendi Group in which they learned about the Group's policy to promote cultural diversity in content production and distribution and Vivendi's explicit mention of the Convention in its "Sphere of Influence in

Human Rights.” Vivendi has promised to give the Secretariat awareness-raising assistance through access to its network for the distribution of the Fund’s project documentaries. Additionally, the Assistant-General for Culture, Mr Bandarin, promoted the Fund and its values at a conference in Doha hosted by the New York Times.

In the context of the communications strategy, the Secretariat has developed tools to accompany the fundraising efforts that have been widely distributed through different media channels. The Secretary underscored the importance for the Parties to distribute these communications materials to help raise awareness of the Fund and its fundraising campaign. Ms Cliche showed a short impact film produced by the Secretariat and reiterated the availability of these free, multilingual communications materials. She recalled the fundraising strategy’s goal of receiving regular voluntary contributions by at least 50% of the Parties noting that the total cumulative amount reached by the Fund since the opening of its special account is 8.2 million USD. The Secretariat has calculated that approximately 43% of the Parties have given at least one contribution to the Fund. Ms Cliche indicated a large increase in the number of countries who contributed to the Fund in 2016, 35 countries contributed in the first six-months of the year, and there are 8 more promises of future contributions.

262. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary and noted that the fundraising letter sent to the Parties by the Director-General of UNESCO seems to have had a good effect. He suggested that the Committee consider continuing that practice in the future recalling initial suggestion made by Brazil. He asked the Secretariat for more details on the Parties contributing to the Fund and about the effectiveness of the official appeal.
263. The **Secretary of the Convention** asked the Secretariat to put the list of Fund contributors on the screens and listed the countries that regularly contribute to the Fund: Andorra, China, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Mexico, Monaco, Serbia, Slovenia, and Sweden. She confirmed that two letters were sent out following the Committee’s decision at its ninth ordinary session: one before the end of the year, resulting in 178,000 USD raised from 22 countries; and one sent out in April 2016, resulting in 526,000 USD raised from 20 countries. She listed the countries that contributed for the first time in 2016: Belize, Bulgaria, Cambodia, El Salvador, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, Mali, Paraguay, Togo, and Viet Nam. She related this to the intention of the governing bodies to be a platform for international cooperation where all Parties to the Convention could contribute. The Secretary noted that many countries have become both beneficiaries and donors to the Fund. She recalled that if all Parties contributed 1% of their UNESCO contribution to the Fund as requested in the letter, approximately 2 million USD would be raised per year. Ms Cliche noted that the Fund raised 677,000 USD in 2016, not including the new contributions announced during this session from the Governments of: **Canada, Quebec, and France**. Working document 8 provides all of the Fund’s financial statements from the period 1 January 2016 to 30 June 2016 and the proposed budget for 2017, for the Committee’s consideration and adoption. The Secretary outlined the 2017 budget structure and recalled the Parties’ priority on project funding rather than on fixed costs. As such, the Secretariat makes efforts to minimize the fixed costs where appropriate. The funding for projects in 2016 totaling 510,500 USD and the cost recovery of 70,248 USD for 2017 needs Committee approval. The 30% margin, as determined by the Committee, for unassigned funds totals 295,939 USD. Ms Cliche confirmed the Secretariat’s request of 53,416 USD from the unassigned funds to continue its fundraising and communication activities in 2017.
264. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary of the Convention for her presentation and for the screening of the Secretariat’s video. He commended the Fund and the Secretariat for their accomplishments and acknowledged the generous contributions from the Committee members that announced their contributions during the session calling for further contributions from other States Parties where possible. The Chairperson opened the floor

for debate and gave the floor to the Minister of Culture of Paraguay.

265. **H.E. Fernando Griffith, Minister of Culture of Paraguay** proposed reflection on ways to encourage the Fund's beneficiaries to organize fundraising activities and to include this as an activity in the contracts of project beneficiaries. This would lessen the donors' reliance on appeals to goodwill for fundraising and would increase the Fund's sustainability in the long-term. The Minister affirmed that this suggestion was not intended for decision during this session characterizing it as a seed for Committee's reflection.
266. The **Chairperson** confirmed that the Secretariat would take note of his suggestion. He asked the Secretariat to put the decision 10.IGC 8 on the screens in preparation for its adoption and gave the floor to Lithuania.
267. The delegation of **Lithuania** thanked the Secretariat for its work in facilitating Member States contributions to the Fund and confirmed Lithuania's recent decision to contribute to the Fund. The delegate welcomed the Secretariat's continued fundraising efforts.
268. The **Chairperson** offered the floor to the observers for comment.

[Observers]

269. The representative of **Culture et Développement**, Ms Valeria Marcolin, congratulated the Fund recipients underscoring the importance of the projects supported by the Fund, which show the real impact of the Convention. She supported the Secretariat's fundraising strategy, communicating the strength of the Fund to private partners in order to help attract private donors. She underscored the capacity-building that civil societies from developing countries receive and their shared investment of time in the preparation of projects noting that the inability to fund good projects due to the Fund's limited resources can create frustration in the long-term, thus potentially reducing interest in the Convention.
270. The **Chairperson** proceeded to adopt draft decision 10.IGC 8 paragraph by paragraph. Paragraphs 1 through 6 were adopted as drafted. Upon reaching paragraph 7, the Chairperson proposed an amendment for consideration: that the amount of 40,000 USD for the evaluation of the Fund be paid from the unassigned funds. He asked the Secretariat to include this proposal in the decision text for the sake of clarity. He asked the Committee if it would adopt paragraph 7 as amended and seeing no objections, declared it adopted. Paragraphs 8 through 13 of the decision were adopted as drafted. The Chairperson declared Decision 10.IGC 8 adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 8 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 9 – QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORTS: TRANSMISSION OF NEW REPORTS

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/9 and its Annex

271. The **Chairperson** opened agenda item 9 drawing the Committee's attention to the working document showing that 33 new quadrennial reports received by the Secretariat by June 2016. The summaries of these reports are presented in the Annex to working document 9

and the full reports are available online. The Chairperson invited the Secretary of the Convention to introduce the item.

272. The **Secretary of the Convention** presented the contents of working document 9. She recalled one of the main actions of the Secretariat and its work to receive and process the Parties' quadrennial periodic reports. The results produced through the quadrennial periodic report programme contribute to the Secretariat's implementation of the 38 C/5, and all of the reports submitted by the end of 2016 will be taken into account in the analysis of the 2017 Global Report. In 2016, the Secretariat worked closely with the Expert Facility, UNESCO Field offices, and civil society to finalize a training module on participatory policy monitoring and periodic reporting. This training module has been tested in various countries and constitutes an essential tool for the implementation of the Secretariat's capacity-building programme supported by the Government of Sweden. The efforts undertaken by the Secretariat in 2016 have resulted in the elaboration of periodic reports in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cuba, Colombia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Morocco, Rwanda, Senegal, Tunisia, Viet Nam, and Zimbabwe. The Secretary confirmed the expansion of the capacity-building programme in Ecuador, Madagascar, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Guinea, and Mozambique. Ms Cliche characterized this as evidence of the programme's effectiveness. She underscored the importance of the periodic reporting process and the feedback from many Parties confirming its usefulness, including initiating benchmarking and identifying priorities for future actions. The Secretary screened a video produced by the Secretariat featuring activities related to the periodic reporting process.
273. The **Chairperson** commended the Secretariat for its report and film. He thanked the Government of Sweden for its support of the Secretariat's periodic reporting activities.
274. The **Secretary of the Convention** underscored the Field offices' close cooperation with the Secretariat to support the capacity-building programme and thanked them for their assistance and for the footage included in the video. Ms Cliche noted that the innovative 2015 Global Report has been presented around the world, that it had been translated into more than 8 languages, and has served as a framework for cultural policy reviews and structural evaluations in various countries. The Secretary thanked Austria for supporting the exchange on the Global Report in Vienna. She confirmed that out of the 100 reports expected in 2016, 31 were received in time for use in the preparation of the Secretariat's report identifying this discrepancy as an issue of concern. Ms Cliche confirmed receipt of periodic reports from Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Poland, Portugal, and the United Arab Emirates in the weeks leading up to the Committee's tenth session and reports received from Ecuador and Canada during this session. She congratulated all the Parties who submitted reports, acknowledged the difficulty in the reports' preparation, and affirmed that the Secretariat would share as much data from the reports as possible in the 2017 Global Report. The Secretary emphasized the importance of the workplan for capacity-building set by the Conference of Parties and the Committee and confirmed the Secretariat's continued work with the Field offices to provide training as requested by the Parties. In this context, she underscored the need to raise extra-budgetary funds to support these efforts. Ms Cliche confirmed the April 2017 submission date for 19 periodic reports and asked the Secretariat to put the list of Parties included in this deadline on the screen noting the list's inclusion of expected reports from 2016. She affirmed that the reports received in the next few months would be included in the 2017 Global Report.
275. All Parties and observers commended the Secretariat's report and thanked the Secretariat for its capacity-building efforts and assistance to Parties in the preparation of their periodic reports. All Parties and observers thanked the Government of Sweden for its support of the capacity-building programme. All Parties and observers underscored the importance of the periodic reporting process.

276. The delegation of **Austria** highlighted the concern over the disparity in the number of reports expected and received in consideration of the Global Report. Austria recalled the value of the debates inspired at the Vienna exchange to underscore the need for sufficient numbers of periodic reports to ensure the Global Report's accurate reflection of the global level. The delegate asked if the Secretariat had received any feedback on the reasons for the disparity. Austria confirmed the 2016 submission of its second report characterizing the reporting process as an awareness-raising tool, a feedback mechanism, and as a mechanism for engagement with civil society. Austria expressed interest in exchanging with other Parties on report preparation and civil society engagement practices. Austria asked if the Secretariat's training modules on reporting would be made available online.
277. The delegation of **Indonesia** thanked Ms Anupama Sekhar and Mr Charles Vallerand of the Expert Facility and the Jakarta Field office for their assistance with its report. Indonesia noted that preparing its report resulted in the emphasis of the role of culture on Indonesia's sustainable development and the establishment of a Creative Economy Agency. Indonesia identified the most significant challenges encountered in the preparation of its report and offered possible solutions for these challenges including: the improvement of awareness-raising strategies on the goals of the Convention; the effective coordination of Ministries and government agencies; the involvement of civil society; the development of a national survey to capture relevant statistical data; a database recording cultural programmes in Indonesia; support for capacity building; and access to private funding. Indonesia highlighted the October 2016 World Cultural Forum in Bali following the submission of its report and the four major outcomes of this event that were related to the Convention.
278. The delegation of **France** echoed the concern over the lack of report submissions acknowledging the work involved in the report preparations. France thanked civil society for their contributions and its National Commission for the synthesis of its 2016 report. France underscored the importance of the capacity-building initiatives implementing indicators permitting data collection, a challenge in report preparation. France expressed interest in the exchange of good reporting practices among the Parties noting the value of such exchanges. In regards to the online platform for report submissions, France noted the value of the platform's direct integration of data into databases and requested that the size limit be expanded or that the Parties be informed of the size limitations in advance of the next round of reporting.
279. The delegation of **Germany** echoed interest in identifying the reasons for submission delays sharing **Austria's** concern over the potential lack in the geographic scope of the 2017 Global Report. The delegate confirmed Germany's submission of its 2016 report underscoring its close work with public authorities as National Contact Point and the learning opportunities provided by its report preparation. Germany identified the challenge of coordinating the timeframes of the extensive stakeholders needed to prepare the reports. Germany confirmed that its report has been used to plan its work for the next four years including its Action Point Process 2017-2020 using chapter 7 on the issues of preferential treatment and the mobility of artists. Germany proposed working within the Convention's regional groups to share experiences in the reporting process.
280. The delegation of **Uruguay** anticipated its support of the initiatives in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the decision 10.IGC 9 to make the periodic reports public before the Committee's meeting.
281. The delegation of the **Czech Republic** reiterated the disparity in the number of reports expected and submitted in 2016 noting that only 5 of the 18 expected reports from Group II were submitted. It echoed the question concerning the identification of the major obstacles to report submissions asking what further measures could be developed to address this issue. The Czech Republic joined **Germany** in encouraging the shared reflection of States Parties in regional groups and beyond on their report preparations.

282. The delegation of **Lithuania** confirmed the submission of its second periodic report with the assistance of its interinstitutional working group established two years in advance of its report submission date. This working group collected data from various stakeholders and prepared a list of recommendations for policy makers. Lithuania affirmed that the process of preparing its report initiated a discussion on maintaining its working group as a permanent instrument. Lithuania confirmed the engagement of civil society in its reporting process and the sending of recommendations to various funding organizations that reflected the Convention objectives. Lithuania noted that its reporting process identified the issues of gender equality and sustainable development resulting in the organization of a workshop on culture and sustainable development by its Ministry of Culture and Experts from **Canada**.
283. The delegation of **Côte d'Ivoire** confirmed the final stages of its report's preparation by the Ministry of Culture and National Commission. It expects to submit its report in the first trimester of 2017. The delegate outlined the organization of a meeting by the Minister of Culture involving various Ministries, enterprises, civil society organizations, and actors from the cultural sector to participate in the report's preparation. In view of the difficulties encountered, a workshop was organized jointly with the Abuja Field office for capacity-building assistance benefitting Côte d'Ivoire and its neighboring countries.
284. The delegation of **Morocco** thanked Ms Christine Merkel of the Expert Panel for assistance in the preparations of its first periodic report, which is at the final stages of completion.
285. The delegation of **Brazil** confirmed the submission of its second periodic report. The delegate shared her experience working as an Expert with **Colombia** and **Mozambique** in order to highlight some of the larger difficulties involved in the preparation of the periodic reports, namely the lack of data and statistics due to the emerging status of the cultural industries in some countries and data gathering difficulties in others. The delegate also underscored the organizational and communicational difficulties experienced by governments less accustomed to working with civil society as well as the challenge of developing interdisciplinary work between the Ministries of Culture and other government bodies. Brazil affirmed that it is studying possible ways to assist Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa with reporting.
286. The delegation of **Ethiopia** noted that both the informal and formal discussions in this Committee session have identified the issue of statistics as one of the main difficulties in the preparation of periodic reports. Ethiopia recalled the 2009 UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics (FCS) asking how it could be used to address the statistics issue. Ethiopia suggested using the FCS as a basis for a data-collection format to assist the Parties with the preparation of reports.
287. The **Chairperson** invited the Secretary to address the Committee's comments.
288. The **Secretary of the Convention** characterized this tenth Committee session as an important milestone in the history of the Convention, underscoring the quality of the issues examined and the cooperative problem-solving efforts of the Committee. She acknowledged the Parties' evidence of great progress in cultural policy and the dialogue occurring throughout the countries. Ms Cliche noted the need for the Secretariat to expand its efforts to capture the Parties' consultative processes in Convention's implementation through its "video tutorials" and encouraged the Committee members to share their experiences with the Secretariat. In response to Austria's question, Ms Cliche confirmed that the training modules would be made available online. She underscored the considerable time needed for the preparation of reports going beyond the Secretariat's six-month invitation for report preparations and highlighted the goodwill efforts to address the report submission rates. In response to France's remarks about the character limit of report submissions, Ms Cliche recalled the Secretariat's need to manage the report process to ensure readability. She

suggested a potential future structure involving the preparation and online submission of the 30-page report with the invitation for Parties to submit a longer-version to the Secretariat for inclusion in the periodic reporting database. The Secretary encouraged all Parties to share their experiences, information, and report results noting the different mechanisms and platforms provided by UNESCO to do so such as at the World Radio Day in February 2017, the World Press Freedom Day in May 2017, and World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development in May 2017.

289. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary for drawing attention to the global progress in Convention's implementation and the constructive nature of the session. He opened the floor to the observers, inviting Viet Nam to take the floor.

[Observers]

290. The delegation of **Viet Nam** confirmed the timely submission of its report, underscoring the effectiveness of the capacity-building training, which helped them to form interministerial groups bringing together representatives from 9 different Ministries, the media, arts and cultural organizations, and independent artists in the preparation of its report. Viet Nam highlighted the awareness raised through the reporting process and its creation of a platform for the discussion of national cultural policies between its Ministries and civil society. Viet Nam outlined the creation a National Strategy for Cultural Industry Development by its Prime Minister following the EU-funded Expert Facility programme and its calls for donors to support the implementation of this National Strategy.
291. The delegation of **Senegal** confirmed the submission of its first report highlighting the usefulness of the reporting process in fostering the communication of cultural policies and measures. In light of the need for continued awareness-raising about the Convention identified by the reporting process, Senegal created a permanent frame for exchange and dialogue between the Senegalese Government and the cultural sector.
292. The delegation of **Cuba** confirmed its adoption of a set of policies and measures for access to cultural goods and services that protect artists and community participation in cultural activities and characterized the periodic reporting process as an essential mechanism for data collection and information exchange. Cuba detailed its cultural policy priorities and affirmed the preparation of its second report led by its Ministry of Culture and including data on measures taken from 2012 – 2016.
293. The delegation of **Burkina Faso** recalled its 2006 ratification of the Convention and the 2013 submission of its first periodic report. The delegate confirmed the preparations of its second report, due in 2017, through the efforts of a 22-member pluridisciplinary National Committee including its administration, cultural civil society organizations, and scientific research community. Burkina Faso highlighted the organization of a seminar for its journalists to respond to the need for awareness-raising identified through the preparations of its report. Burkina Faso thanked UNESCO and the African States for the operationalisation of a UNESCO Category 2 Regional Centre for the Living Arts in Africa in Bobo-Dioulasso,
294. The delegation of **Portugal** thanked the Secretariat for including the submission of its report in December 2016 on the list of report submissions. Portugal identified the high number of national and international requests made to central administrations as one issue that prevents timely report submissions. Portugal kindly asked the Secretariat to include its report summary in the documents for this session and expressed satisfaction that its report would be among those incorporated into the 2017 Global Report. Portugal reiterated its efforts on the national level to engage with stakeholders in Convention's implementation and the wide

range of actions taken to prepare its report. Portugal noted its cooperation with the Portuguese speaking countries, as mentioned by **Brazil**, and congratulated **Timor-Leste** for its recent Convention ratification.

295. The delegation of **Barbados** thanked the Secretariat for the organization of a sub-regional workshop for the English-speaking Caribbean Small Island Developing States furthering the communication between civil society organizations and culture policy makers in the region. Barbados affirmed that while there has not yet been improvement in report submissions from the region, there is considerable activity occurring between civil society, cultural practitioners, and policy makers. Barbados confirmed its expected report submission in early 2017 and identified several issues that could be preventing other Small Island States from submitting their reports: reduced human resources in cultural departments, late submissions from key cultural agencies, and the need to help new and smaller civil society organizations with reporting. Barbados highlighted its organization of a reporting workshop for civil society.
296. The delegation of **Greece** underscored the usefulness of the reporting process confirming the submission of its second periodic report in November 2016 and inviting the Secretariat to update its submissions list.
297. The delegation of **Zimbabwe** confirmed the submission of its first periodic report and noted the presence of some mistrust between the government and civil society identified in the reporting process and the opportunity it represents to bridge these gaps. Zimbabwe thanked the Swedish Government for its assistance with the capacity-building programme and for funding some of its organizations, such as the Culture Fund of Zimbabwe.
298. The delegation of **Canada** commended the quality of the periodic reports prepared by the Parties and the quality of the Secretariat's analytical summaries underscoring the usefulness of the reporting results for the Global Report. In the context of the events organized for the first Global Report launch, Canada highlighted its participation in the International Symposium on the Measurement of Digital Cultural Products, organized by the Government of Quebec in May 2016. Canada reiterated the recent submission of its second periodic report indicating the active engagement of the Governments of Quebec and Canada encouraging a diversified cultural sphere and developing tools supporting local cultural content. Canada noted its new Digital Culture Plan on the discoverability of cultural content, its work to further gender and youth inclusion, and the multi-stakeholder elaboration of its periodic report. Canada confirmed Quebec's submission of its own periodic report, as was the case in 2012.
299. The delegation of **Italy** confirmed the submission of its second report. In consideration of the measures-centered report format, Italy suggested the inclusion of a new and size-limited section in the report format allowing the Parties to explain the dynamic aspects of their Convention implementation processes. Italy underscored the statistics issue and suggested working with the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) to harmonize the statistical data in the reports with that of UNESCO. Italy reflected on the possibility of the UIS working directly with the statistical administration of each country. The delegate announced his role as Chair of an EU working group on art and culture as instruments for refugee integration and intercultural dialogue in migration issues, confirming that he would inform the Secretariat of these activities in 2017.
300. The delegation of **Colombia** confirmed the preparations on its first report, which it characterized as an opportunity to generate capacities among actors of government and civil society. Colombia held two workshops in November and December 2016, the first to create a National Committee for the elaboration of its periodic report and the second to work on the scope and framework of the periodic report and on the issues of gender equality and the role of culture in sustainable development. Colombia thanked Sida, the Expert

Facilitators involved in the project, the Quito Field office, and the Secretariat for their assistance with these workshops.

301. The representative of **Conarte**, Ms Beatriz Barreiro, spoke in partnership with the representative of **Culture et Développement**, Ms Valeria Marcolin, to congratulate the Committee for its adoption of the Operational Guidelines and their appreciation of being part of the process. The representatives underscored the need for continued work on various international issues and the important role of UNESCO in promoting peace and creativity.
302. The **Chairperson** thanked all of the observers for their comments and asked the Secretariat to put the decision 10.IGC 9 on the screens for adoption. Paragraphs 1 through 5 were adopted as drafted. Upon reaching paragraph 6, the Chairperson gave the floor to the Secretary.
303. The **Secretary of the Convention** drew from the Committee's discussions to suggest adding, "encourages the Parties to engage in consultations" and "and to share their experiences," remarking on the strong support among the Committee members for sharing their experiences. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary for her suggestion and seeing no objections, he declared paragraph 6 adopted as amended. Paragraphs 7 and 8 were adopted as drafted. The Chairperson invited the Secretary to explain the reason for the inclusion of paragraph 9 in the decision.
304. The **Secretary of the Convention** explained that paragraph 9 was a response to the Parties' requests for the Secretariat to make the periodic reports public as soon as possible for information-sharing purposes. Ms Cliche recalled that within the Operational Guidelines for the periodic reports, there is a restraint on publishing the reports before the annual Committee meeting. As such, the report can only be made available to Committee members in a password protected space, after the Secretariat places all of the documents online and before November, which is the statutory deadline. In regards to the feedback received from the Parties, the Secretariat suggested that the Committee should consider proposing to the Conference of Parties an amendment to the Operational Guidelines for the periodic reports to ensure that the reports become publicly available as quickly as possible once they are received by the Secretariat. She underscored that the online publication of the periodic reports is as submitted, without editing by the Secretariat, recalling the publication of the analysis and synthesis of the periodic reports in the Global Report.
305. The **Chairperson** thanked the Secretary for her explanation and asked the Committee members if they would like to adopt the proposed paragraph. Seeing no objections he declared paragraph 9 adopted as drafted. The Chairperson moved to adopt draft decision 10.IGC 9 in its entirety and declared it adopted.

Decision 10.IGC 9 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 10 – REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND DECISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/10REV and its Annex

306. The **Chairperson** thanked the Committee and asked the Secretary to introduce the agenda item 10.

307. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the upcoming end of the Committee's two-year mandate and request for the Committee to draft a report on the actions taken in accordance with its work plan to be presented at the sixth session of the Conference of Parties. Ms Cliche confirmed the Secretariat's preparation of a draft report for the Committee's consideration providing important messages for the Conference of Parties to take into account. She highlighted the Annex of working document 10 including a table featuring a summary of the Committee's decisions taken to meet the priorities and actions set out at the beginning of the Committee's mandate. She highlighted the Committee's effectiveness and efficiency in meeting the majority of the priorities established by the fifth session of the Conference of Parties. The report shows that the Committee has taken the necessary decisions in accordance with its work plan and has met its targets. The Secretary noted that some decisions have yet to be fully implemented, including extra-budgetary contributions to support the Secretariat under the capacity-building strategy or the full implementation of the IOS recommendations. She noted that the Committee may want to add ideas to its report, such as recommendations to the Conference of Parties for the setting up of the work plan for the Committee's next mandate. Ms Cliche recalled that half of the Committee members' mandates would end and that elections would be held for new Committee members at the Conference of Parties in June 2017. She outlined as an example, a possible recommendation concerning the Operational Guidelines for sustainable development passed in 2009. Ms Cliche underscored the evolution of the context in which these Guidelines were adopted including the new 2030 Agenda and targets noting that the Committee may want to consider recommending a reflection by the Conference of Parties on including a review of those Guidelines in light of their new context within its priority list of activities. She confirmed that the table of the Committee's progress and decisions taken would be displayed on the screens for their consideration. She kindly requested that any proposed additions to the report be submitted to the Secretariat in writing in order to facilitate their inclusion on the screens.
308. The **Chairperson** asked the Secretariat to display the draft report on the screens inviting the Secretary of the Convention to present the proposed text to the Committee.
309. The **Secretary of the Convention** presented the text of the Committee's draft report detailing the contents of each of its sections. She drew attention to page 5 of working document 10 and read the 7 priority activities requested by the Conference of Parties for the Committee's work. She outlined the table's inclusion of these categories of decisions including references to the requests made by the Conference of Parties and the Committee's actions taken and decisions made during its ninth and tenth sessions. Ms Cliche drew attention to the section dealing with the global capacity-building strategy including the Committee's requests to the Conference of Parties to support the Secretariat in these efforts, especially in terms of the human resources needed for the Secretariat to fully implement all of the decisions expected by the Conference of Parties. She introduced the section on the implementation of the IFCD, highlighting its inclusion of the summary of decisions concerning the review and nomination of the new Experts for the Panel of Experts and the terms of reference for the next evaluation of the Fund and the allocation of its budget. Ms Cliche presented the section on the assessment and impact of the Convention, recalling the Committee's emphasis on the importance of the periodic reporting process and decisions concerning the Global Report's potential as a platform for cooperation and information-sharing. The section includes the decisions taken by the Committee regarding the involvement of civil society, which are in line with the activity requested by the Conference of Parties. She commended the Committee's clear focus on the types of issues it would like to explore further such as the issues concerning the impact of Articles 16 and 21, which was a priority set by the Conference of Parties. She recalled the Secretariat's development of a database to share experiences and knowledge and the Committee's examination of the first international study of the Convention's impact on trade agreements. Ms Cliche underscored

the Committee's work on digital issues and adoption of the draft Operational Guidelines. She presented the section on the major activities set for the Committee by the Conference of Parties, highlighting the Committee's pioneering work engaging civil society. She noted that no other treaty took the kinds of decisions on civil society as those taken by this Committee, characterizing this as important to share with the Conference of Parties. The Secretary drew attention to the Committee's work on the status of artists recalling the various side-events organized and work to further develop programmes on this issue. Ms Cliche noted that the IOS recommendations have been included in many different aspects of the work of the Convention and listed several actions taken by the Committee to put those recommendations to action. She noted that the report ends with conclusions and next steps and also includes the challenges to address. Ms Cliche recalled that some of the areas mentioned by the Committee are included in the report to give precise indications to the Conference of Parties of its experience on certain issues that it deems important for the Conference of Parties to consider in its future workplan and work-cycle.

310. The delegation of **Austria** shared some general observations about the Committee's work over the past two-years commending the shared commitment of the States Parties to the Convention and the progress achieved. Austria commended the Secretariat for fulfilling the Committee's workplan despite its limited resources including the organization of an exchange session with civil society and the panel discussions during Committee sessions. Austria highlighted the work remaining to be done, particularly the need to continue increasing the IFCD's resources, to continue implementing the second phase of the fund-raising strategy, and the need to approach the periodic reporting targets. Austria recalled the priority placed on the implementation of the global capacity-building strategy in the context of the Secretariat's limited financial and human resources.
311. The delegation of **Australia** asked the Secretariat where a recommendation to consider updating the 2009 Operational Guidelines could feature in the report. The **Secretary of the Convention** suggested adding it to paragraph 13 of the draft report saying that the Committee would like to recommend to the Conference of Parties to consider this suggestion. Australia noted that it would also like to add something related to the 2030 Agenda and suggested, "The Committee would like to recommend to the Conference of Parties to consider requesting the future Committee to review Operational Guidelines on Sustainable Development, adopted in 2009, in the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals."
312. The delegation of **France** supported the proposition made by **Australia** and asked if the text at the end of the first paragraph could be modified to reflect that the implementation of certain decisions has not been able to fulfill all of the Committee's expectations. The delegate asked for a suggested formulation. The **Chairperson** suggested using the word, "aspirations."
313. The **Secretary of the Convention** recalled the importance of Articles 16 and 21 throughout the Committee's sessions and the new information and indicators on these issues that is now available.
314. The **Chairperson** confirmed the Committee's decision not to include a request to consider reviewing the Guidelines concerning Articles 16 and 21 at this time and moved to adopt draft decision 10.IGC 10. He asked the Secretariat to put the decision on the screens and informed the Committee that the Secretariat signaled the need for paragraph 2 to say, "as amended," at the end of the paragraph. The Chairperson asked if there were any comments or objections to the decision and seeing none, declared Decision 10.IGC 10 adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 10 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 11 – DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/11

315. The **Chairperson** referred the Committee to working document 11 recalling that in conformity with Rule 4.1 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee selects in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO, the date of its next session. In accordance with Rule 4.2 of its Rules of Procedure, Committee sessions are to take place at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. Following IOS recommendations on the working methods of the cultural conventions issued in 2013, three-day lengths for Committee meetings have become a common practice. The proposed dates for the eleventh session in the working document are 11 – 14 December 2017. The Chairperson suggested that this Committee session take place from 12 – 14 December 2017 to allow sufficient time between the meetings of the governing bodies of the Cultural Conventions.
316. The **Secretary of the Convention** confirmed the availability of the dates and suggested scheduling an informal exchange with civil society on the 12th of December 2017 and the formal Committee session on the 13 – 15 December 2017.
317. Noting no objections, the **Chairperson** confirmed the amended dates and proposed the civil society exchange session to take place on the 12th of December in the draft decision 10.IGC 11. The Chairperson declared the decision adopted as amended.

Decision 10.IGC 11 was adopted as amended.

ITEM 12 – ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU OF THE ELEVENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

Document DCE/16/10.IGC/12

318. The **Chairperson** invited the Committee to refer to working document 12, which proposes they elect a Bureau of six members, one per each electoral group, in order to respect the principle of equitable geographic distribution and in conformity with Rule 11.1 of the Rules of Procedure. He noted that in conformity with Rule 12.1 and established practice, the Committee would be electing a Bureau composed of a Chairperson, four vice-Chairpersons, and a Rapporteur. He noted informal consultations among Committee members concerning the candidates for this election and invited the Committee to propose a Chairperson.
319. The delegation of **Tunisia** nominated **Morocco** for the position of Chairperson.
320. The delegation of **Brazil** supported **Morocco** for the position of Chairperson and nominated **Paraguay** for vice-Chairperson from Group III.
321. The delegation of **Morocco** confirmed the nomination of Mr Mohammed Lotfi M'Rini, the General Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, for the position of Chairperson.
322. The delegation of **Australia** nominated **Indonesia** for the position of Rapporteur.
323. The delegation of **Indonesia** confirmed the nomination of Mr Aman Wirakartakusumah in the role as Rapporteur.

324. The delegation of **Austria** nominated **France** for the position of vice-Chairperson from Group I.
325. The delegation of **Slovakia** nominated the **Czech Republic** for the position of vice-Chairperson from Group II.
326. The delegation of **Nigeria** nominated the **Côte d'Ivoire** for the position of vice-Chairperson from Group V(a).
327. The **Chairperson** recapitulated the Committee decision to suspend Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure in order to elect **Mr Mohammed Lotfi M'Rini** of **Morocco** as Chairperson of the Committee, **Mr Aman Wirakartakusumah** of **Indonesia** as Rapporteur of the Committee, and **Paraguay, France, Czech Republic, and Côte d'Ivoire** as vice-Chairpersons. He moved to adopt draft decision 10.IGC 12 as amended and seeing no objections declared the decision adopted congratulating the new Bureau.

Decision 10.IGC 12 was adopted as amended

328. The **Chairperson** thanked all of the Committee members for their excellent work and constructive contributions to the debates of the session. He thanked all of the observers and civil society members who participated in the session and for their efforts to implement the Convention around the world, expressing anticipation for the civil society report in 2017. The Chairperson invited the Rapporteur to present a summary of the decisions taken over the course of the session.
329. The **Rapporteur** presented an oral report, summarizing the discussions and outlining the decisions that had been adopted.
330. The delegation of **France** congratulated the Chairperson for his leadership and the Secretariat for their work during the session. France underscored the spirit of teamwork and cooperation and commended the Secretary's insistence that the members of the Secretariat stand for applause. She thanked the interpreters for their translations and assistance of the Committee members during the debates. France thanked the Committee members for their collaborative and cooperative work.
331. The delegation of **Brazil** thanked the Chairperson and the Secretariat for their excellent work. Brazil underscored all of the work achieved during the session and the adoption of the Operational Guidelines, emphasizing the importance this adoption represented. Brazil thanked the Committee members and everyone involved in the Convention.
332. **H.E. Fernando Griffith, Minister of Culture of Paraguay** thanked the Chairperson and all those involved with the session.
333. The delegation of **Côte d'Ivoire** congratulated the Chairperson, the Secretariat, the translators, and all of the Committee members.
334. The delegation of **Madagascar**, speaking in the name of the **Francophone Group** thanked the Chairperson and underscored the importance of the adoption of the Operational Guidelines. The Francophone Group thanked the Secretariat for its excellent work confirming its support for and continued engagement in the Convention.
335. The **Chairperson** concluded the session and declared the Rapporteur's report formally adopted. He thanked the Director-General of UNESCO on behalf of the Committee for her

involvement in the Committee's work. He thanked the participants of the Minister's and Civil Society Panels for their insights. He thanked the Secretary and her team for their extraordinary work and expressed his appreciation for the honor of chairing the meeting.

336. The **Secretary of the Convention** thanked her team for their dedication and tremendous work and underscored the historic nature of this meeting for the Convention, which she characterized as entering into a new phase of life recalling the worldwide impact of the Convention's implementation through the teamwork of civil society, Parties, and many others working together around the world. The Secretary thanked all of the partners to the Convention, the Committee members for their collaborative work, and the Expert Facility members for their support in implementing the Convention. The Secretary thanked the Chairperson for his excellent leadership and Ms Jyoti Hosagrahar, the new Director of the Division of Creativity at UNESCO for her support.
337. Ms Jyoti Hosagrahar, the **Director of the Division of Creativity at UNESCO**, commended the level of commitment among the Convention's Parties, characterizing it as one of the most important Culture Conventions. Ms Hosagrahar thanked the Committee Members, the Parties and civil society representatives for their participation underscoring the importance of their engagement in the implementation of the Convention.
338. The **Chairperson** concluded the session.

CLOSING OF THE SESSION