Item 13 of the provisional agenda: Date of the next session of the Committee

Decision required: paragraph 7
1. Article 23.2 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) stipulates that the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) shall meet annually.

2. At its first session, the Conference of Parties decided that, as a general rule, the Committee would meet at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris (Resolution 1.CP 6, paragraph 3).

3. The determination of the date and duration of sessions is the prerogative of the Committee. However, the Committee should also take into account the external evaluations and audits of the Culture Sector and the recommendations made to UNESCO to improve its working methods and to avoid the back to back organization of statutory meetings, especially in odd years when the General Conference is being held.

4. To recall, from the entry into force of the Convention in 2007 until the twelfth session of the Committee in 2018, the ordinary sessions of the Committee have been held in December each year.

5. At its twelfth session, the Committee took into account Recommendations 79 of the Open-ended Working Group on the Governance, Procedures and Working Methods of UNESCO’s Governing Bodies, which states that “IIBs and their Secretariats are requested to enhance coordination in scheduling of meetings to avoid overlap.” (See Document 39 C/20 Annex I - Part 2, paragraph 79), and proposed to hold its annual meetings six weeks later, in February.

6. In June 2019, the seventh session of the Conference of Parties approved the recommendation to hold future sessions of the Committee in February (Resolution 7.CP 10 paragraph 7).

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

DRAFT DECISION 13.IGC 13

The Committee,

1. Having examined Document DCE/20/13.IGC/13,

2. Decides to convene its fourteenth session at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 2 to 5 February 2021.