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CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

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INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Progress of ratifications of the Convention and implementation of the ratification strategy

This information document was prepared in compliance with Decision 4.IGC 4. It outlines the progress of the strategy for encouraging ratifications of the Convention and contains updated information on the specific activities undertaken in this context by the Secretariat, the Parties, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations.

Annex I presents the state of ratifications. Annex II lists the specific activities undertaken by the Parties and civil society as part of the strategy for encouraging ratifications.

1. At its second extraordinary session (March 2009), the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) requested the Secretariat to submit a strategy for encouraging ratifications of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) (Decision 2.EXT.IGC 7). At its second ordinary session (June 2009), the Conference of Parties invited the Parties to continue and intensify their efforts with a view to achieving broader ratification of the Convention (Resolution 2.CP 7).
2. At its third ordinary session (December 2009), the Committee adopted a strategy for encouraging ratifications and its action plan for the 2010-2013 period, contained in document CE/09/3.IGC/211/4, as amended. The strategy encourages the Parties, the Secretariat and civil society to intensify their efforts and improve cooperation so that it may be implemented as soon as possible, in a coordinated and consistent manner. The Committee also requested the Secretariat to submit to it at its fourth session a document reporting on progress in ratifications of the Convention and on steps taken and actions carried out in 2009-2010 (Decision 3.IGC 4).
3. With a view to the implementation of Decision 3.IGC 4, on 18 August 2010, the Secretariat sent a letter to the Parties to the Convention and the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee asking them to forward any relevant information about activities undertaken to implement the strategy to promote ratification.¹
4. At the end of this consultation, the Secretariat submitted to the Committee at its fourth session (December 2010) a working document on the progress of ratifications (CE/10/4/IGC/205/4) and an information document (CE/10/4.IGC/205/INF.4) with detailed information on activities undertaken to implement the ratification strategy. The Committee examined these documents and requested the Secretariat “to prepare an information document on this matter and transmit it to the Conference of Parties at its third ordinary session (June 2011)” (Decision 4.IGC 4).
5. In compliance with this decision, on 8 February 2011, the Secretariat sent a letter to the Parties, the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) inviting them to update the relevant information on actions they have undertaken to implement the strategy for encouraging ratifications.²
6. The present document briefly outlines the action plan for the strategy for encouraging ratification of the Convention and its state of progress, and updates the information presented in document CE/10/4.IGC/205/4 on specific activities undertaken in this context by the Secretariat, the Parties, IGOs and civil society organizations.

State of ratifications

7. As of 30 April 2011, 117 States and regional economic integration organizations had ratified the Convention (11 additional ratifications in 2009, 11 in 2010 and 1 in 2011). In terms of geographical distribution, of the 23 States that ratified the Convention, 1 belonged to Group I, 5 to Group II, 9 to Group III, 3 to Group IV, 4 to Group V(a) and 1 to Group V(b). A breakdown of ratification by electoral group is provided in Annex I.

¹ The Secretariat received responses from 30 Parties (Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Montenegro, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the European Union) and from three civil society organizations (International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD), International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) and the International Music Council (IMC)).

² The Secretariat received responses from 13 Parties (Australia, Austria, China, Croatia, Greece, Jordan, Mexico, Montenegro, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Portugal and the European Union) and from three IGOs (Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF), Council of Europe, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)).

Key elements of the Action Plan (2010-2013)

8. The strategy for encouraging ratifications (2010-2013) and its action plan are intended to maintain the momentum of ratifications, improve geographical balance, particularly in under-represented regions and subregions such as Asia and the Pacific, as well as the Arab States, and raise the visibility of the Convention. The ratification strategy's success depends on the active involvement of all stakeholders (the Parties, UNESCO and its field offices, as well as intergovernmental organizations and civil society) and their coordinated efforts to promote the Convention. According to the action plan, 35 to 40 additional ratifications are expected over the 2010-2013 period, particularly in under-represented regions and subregions.

9. Under this strategy, the Parties are called upon to define at the national, regional and subregional levels measures designed to encourage ratifications and activities to be carried out in collaboration with their National Commissions, points of contact and civil society. Moreover, they are invited to promote ratification (i) within the framework of their bilateral agreements and (ii) in international forums, in particular through the different regional – including ministerial – platforms.

10. UNESCO is invited (i) to ensure coordination with the other sectors concerned by this strategy; (ii) to establish close and active cooperation between field offices and the Convention Secretariat by encouraging, in particular, awareness-raising activities in UNESCO Member States that are not Parties to the Convention, especially in under-represented regions and subregions. In collaboration with field offices, the Convention Secretariat is called on to: (i) develop new information tools according to the needs identified; (ii) inform the Parties of the state of progress of ratifications, the steps taken and the actions carried out by all stakeholders; (iii) disseminate the brochures contained in the information kit, in particular on the Convention's website in UNESCO's six working languages.

11. Civil society is invited to play a key role in promoting the ratification of the Convention, particularly in under-represented regions and subregions, by disseminating information about the Convention and through networking activities and events, and by organizing information and awareness-raising workshops.

Steps taken and actions carried out (2010-2011)

Promotion of ratification within the framework of multilateral and bilateral agreements and exchanges

12. The analysis of the results of the consultations conducted on 18 August 2010 and 8 February 2011 (see paragraphs 3 and 5 above) shows that Parties' interventions to promote the ratification of the Convention have facilitated the implementation of the action plan at different levels (national, regional and international), involving civil society and all the Convention stakeholders and building on a variety of tools and resources. Most Parties ensure the promotion of ratification by communicating information about the principles and objectives of the Convention within other regional and international organizations of which they are members, particularly at meetings such as forum of Ministers of Culture. In particular, a large number of Parties make reference in their bilateral agreements to compliance with the principles and provisions of the Convention. Some of them have made ratification of the Convention a prerequisite to the entry into force of a protocol on cultural cooperation: in these cases, the bilateral agreements signed by Parties contain clauses relating to compliance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, including for countries that have not yet ratified it. References to compliance with the principles of the Convention are also included in multilateral cultural cooperation agreements and development cooperation agreements. For specific activities undertaken by the Parties and civil society, see Annex II.

Priority activities in under-represented regions and subregions

13. In 2010, the Director-General of UNESCO made a significant contribution to the implementation of the ratification strategy by encouraging UNESCO Member States that were not Parties to the Convention to ratify the latter, especially in under-represented regions. On her first official visit to the Asia Pacific region (April-May 2010), where she travelled to Singapore, Australia and the Solomon Islands, and during her meeting with the Minister of Culture of Lebanon in March 2010, she stressed the benefits of ratifying the Convention. The importance of UNESCO's standard-setting mechanisms in the field of culture has also been recalled, in her address to the Fourth ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting that took place in Poznan, Poland, from 8 to 10 September 2010 and during the European Council Working Group for the United Nations (February 2011).

14. UNESCO and the Convention Secretariat have established a process of collaboration and cooperation with field offices to implement the ratification strategy. The Culture Sector retreat in September 2010 enabled the Convention Secretariat to organize an information session on the Convention (26 September 2010) and to have in-depth discussions with programme specialists in field offices concerning timetables and arrangements for activities to be carried out and/or planned in 2011-2013. A consultation with all field offices on the implementation of the ratification strategy followed, between January and March 2011. The many activities to which UNESCO field offices contributed during 2010 included two awareness-raising workshops that were organized in Jakarta (Indonesia) by the Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (HIVOS) with the assistance of the Bangkok Office and Jakarta Office, representatives of which participated as resource persons. In addition, a workshop on the Convention was organized in Cambodia by the Phnom Penh Office, in cooperation with the Convention Secretariat (October 2010). Field office representatives also participated in and/or contributed to a number of events in which emphasis was placed on the Convention, including: the Fourth ASEAN Arts Festival (Clark, Pampanga, Philippines, March 2010); the First Conference on Cultural Policies in the Arab Region (Beirut, Lebanon, June 2010); the National Workshop on a Cultural Strategy for the Solomon Islands (October 2010). Initiatives have been scheduled for the second half of 2011 as a result of the consultation carried out between January and March 2011.

15. Important activities for implementing the ratification strategy have also been undertaken by intergovernmental organizations, particularly in under-represented regions. For example, the Commonwealth Foundation, in cooperation with the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD), organized a meeting on the Convention with representatives of cultural organizations from Asia and the Pacific in Sydney, Australia in July 2010. In September 2010, the Foundation also organized in Singapore the sixth "Diversity Matters" conference on the theme of social cohesion and the arts, aimed partly at raising awareness of the Convention. As for activities in the Arab States, it should be noted that in February 2009, the Director-General of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) sent a letter to ministers in charge of culture in all Arab countries, inviting them to ratify the Convention. The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) has also been actively involved in the promotion of the Convention. In the context of its partnership with UNESCO, it contributed to the Arabic translation of the Convention's information kit. Studies on the Convention and its implementation have also been commissioned by ISESCO and distributed to policymakers and other key actors in the field of culture in Arab States.

Awareness-raising activities and information tools

16. As 2010 marked the **fifth anniversary** of the Convention's adoption, a number of stakeholders organized *awareness-raising activities* (workshops, round tables and other events) on the Convention, including: a meeting of the Working Group on Cultural Diversity and Globalization of the International Network on Cultural Policy (INCP), one of the key themes of which was the implementation of the ratification strategy; a round table organized by the French Coalition for Cultural Diversity (Paris, November 2010); a celebration by the European Union of the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention (Brussels, December 2010); and an *In Focus* feature on the Culture Sector portal of the UNESCO website.

17. Field offices have participated in several events to promote the Convention such as the Fourth World Summit on Arts and Culture (Johannesburg, South Africa, September 2009); meetings of the MERCOSUR Cultural Parliament; the International Seminar on Cultural Industries as Factors of Social and Cultural Rights (Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 2010); the Training Seminar on Management of Cultural Institutions and Projects (Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, July 2010); the Seminar on the Convention and the Challenges of Cultural Management (Uruguay, September 2010). It should also be noted that the Slovenian Government, with the support of the UNESCO Venice Office, organized the regional forum "Writing, publishing, translating: building cultural diversity in South-East Europe" within the framework of the World Book Summit (Ljubljana, 31 March-1 April), focused largely on themes relating to the promotion of the Convention.

18. Pursuant to Decision 3.IGC 4 and the action plan, the Convention Secretariat, in collaboration with the field offices, has continued its work in the field of communication by developing a strategy for the production and publication of tools for different target group.

19. With regard to new information tools, the Convention website has been reorganized and its form and content continue to be updated regularly; it now contains videos and new sections (such as those concerning operational projects and the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)). The Spanish Government provides substantial financial support in this regard. A new PowerPoint presentation with an accompanying guide and fact sheets on the Convention, the ratification strategy and on the IFCD have been developed for all Convention stakeholders. These tools are also available on the Convention website. Interviews have been conducted with the Director-General and the Convention Secretary, and the Assistant Director-General for Culture has contributed the foreword to a publication on the Convention.

20. The two brochures of the Convention's information kit – *10 Keys to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions* and *30 Frequently Asked Questions Concerning the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions* – have been translated into Arabic (in cooperation with the Rabat Office and ISESCO), Chinese (in cooperation with the Beijing Office), Russian (in cooperation with the Moscow Office) and Spanish. The information kit is now available in the Organization's six working languages and can be downloaded from the Convention website. The English, French, Spanish and Arabic versions have been circulated widely. In addition, the site offers versions translated in Khmer (by the Phnom Penh Office), Albanian (by the Venice Office) and Portuguese (*10 Keys ...* only). A Thai version (Jakarta Office) is being prepared and versions in Croatian, Bosnian and Serbian (Venice Office) have been published.

21. Information and communication tools relating to the Convention have also been developed by international organizations and civil society organizations, including: a briefing note by the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA); a video and brochure by the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD) and brochures by national coalitions for cultural diversity (Chile, France, Germany, Paraguay and Switzerland). A best practices guide entitled *Mapping Cultural Diversity* has been published by the German National Commission for UNESCO in collaboration with the Asia-Europe Foundation and the U40 Cultural Diversity 2030 network.

Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations

22. Pursuant to Decision 3.IGC 4, the Secretariat invited to the fourth session of the Committee all the intergovernmental organizations that could play a role in promoting the Convention and the ratification process (CE/10/4.IGC/205/INF.2). Awareness-raising among intergovernmental organizations is also consistent with Article 21 of the Convention, which requires the Parties to promote its objectives and principles in other international forums.

23. In this context, UNESCO has established partnerships and conducted various cooperation projects with intergovernmental organizations.

- On 14 June 2010, UNESCO and the Latin Union signed an action plan to increase cooperation and coordination on matters of joint interest to both organizations, including the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions and ratification of the Convention by all Member States of the Latin Union. The specific terms of cooperation were determined at a meeting held in September 2010 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. Mention should also be made of the adoption of Resolution No.12 by the Congress of the Latin Union (7 December 2010), which invites Member States of the Organization to ratify the Convention.
- The Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie, the International Organization of the Francophonie (IOF) and UNESCO established a partnership within the framework of the Interparliamentary Conference on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (CIDECE) held in Quebec, Canada, on 2 and 3 February 2011. This Conference brought together some 300 participants, parliamentarians from French-speaking countries, cultural experts and observers from interparliamentary organizations and civil society. At the end of the proceedings, the parliamentarians adopted the Quebec Declaration in which they undertook to promote the ratification of the 2005 Convention.
- ISESCO and UNESCO have signed a new cooperation agreement for the 2010-2011 biennium, which includes joint projects to promote the Convention and will be implemented by ISESCO, in close cooperation with the Rabat Office.

24. Other activities implemented by intergovernmental organizations to promote ratification are:

- The Secretary-General of **IOF** has made ratifying the Convention a prerequisite to becoming a member or observer of the Organization. Moreover, at all of its meetings, the Permanent Council working group of the Francophonie urges members, associate members or observers of the IOF that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as quickly as possible. The Secretary-General himself recalls at all times the urgent need to ratify the Convention. IOF also mobilizes its networks to encourage ratification and carries out activities to raise awareness of the value of the Convention in the light of its programmes of action aimed at developing national cultural policies in countries of the global South and supporting their cultural industries.
- The **Commonwealth Foundation**, in close cooperation with civil society, has widely circulated its Commonwealth Statement on Culture and Development, published in 2009, urging its members to ratify the Convention.
- The **Council of Europe** has produced information and advocacy material to promote the Convention.
- The **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** is actively involved in promoting discussion on the issue of cultural expressions, including at international conferences on creative markets and cultural diversity (December 2010, Rio de Janeiro).

Next steps

25. Throughout the second half of 2011, the Convention Secretariat will continue to implement the strategy and will coordinate and organize priority activities in under-represented regions and subregions, such as Asia and the Pacific, and the Arab States, by planning awareness-raising activities (meetings and/or development of new information tools) in collaboration with UNESCO field offices.

26. In its Decision 4 IGC.4, the Committee requested the Secretariat to organize “an information session before the third ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, and to invite to it Member States that are not Parties to the Convention and civil society so that the Parties may present and share their experience since ratification and the benefits they have derived from it”. Pursuant to this decision, the Secretariat has organized an information session on this theme that will take place in June 2011. The discussions held during this session will be taken into account in the future implementation of the strategy.

ANNEX I

State of Ratification by UNESCO Electoral Groups³

Group I	
States Parties to the Convention ⁴	States not parties to the Convention
Andorra	Belgium
Austria	Israel
Canada	San Marino
Cyprus	Turkey
Denmark	United States of America
Finland	
France	
Germany	
Greece	
Iceland	
Ireland	
Italy	
Luxembourg	
Malta	
Monaco	
Netherlands	
Norway	
Portugal	
Spain	
Sweden	
Switzerland	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	

³ The classification of countries by electoral groups is based on the UNESCO document *Grouping of Member States for the purpose of elections to the Executive Board*.

⁴ The European Union is a Party to the Convention under Article 27.3 of the Convention.

Group II	
States Parties to the Convention	States not parties to the Convention
Albania	Russian Federation
Armenia	Uzbekistan
Azerbaijan	
Belarus	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Bulgaria	
Croatia	
Czech Republic	
Estonia	
Georgia	
Hungary	
Latvia	
Lithuania	
Montenegro	
Poland	
Republic of Moldova	
Romania	
Serbia	
Slovakia	
Slovenia	
Tajikistan	
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	
Ukraine	

Group III	
States Parties to the Convention	States not parties to the Convention
Argentina	Antigua and Barbuda
Barbados	Bahamas
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Belize
Brazil	Colombia
Chile	Dominica
Costa Rica	El Salvador
Cuba	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Dominican Republic	Suriname
Ecuador	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Grenada	
Guatemala	
Guyana	
Haiti	
Honduras	
Jamaica	
Mexico	
Nicaragua	
Panama	
Paraguay	
Peru	
Saint Lucia	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Uruguay	

Group IV	
States Parties to the Convention	States not parties to the Convention
Afghanistan	Bhutan
Australia	Brunei Darussalam
Bangladesh	Cook Islands
Cambodia	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
China	Fiji
India	Indonesia
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Mongolia	Japan
New Zealand	Kazakhstan
Republic of Korea	Kiribati
Viet Nam	Kyrgyzstan
	Malaysia
	Maldives
	Marshall Islands
	Micronesia (Federated States of)
	Myanmar
	Nauru
	Nepal
	Niue
	Pakistan
	Palau
	Papua New Guinea
	Philippines
	Samoa
	Singapore
	Solomon Islands
	Sri Lanka
	Thailand
	Timor-Leste
	Tonga
	Turkmenistan
	Tuvalu
	Vanuatu

Group V(a)	
States Parties to the Convention	States not parties to the Convention
Benin	Angola
Burkina Faso	Botswana
Burundi	Cape Verde
Cameroon	Central African Republic
Chad	Comoros
Congo	Eritrea
Côte d'Ivoire	Gambia
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Ghana
Djibouti	Guinea-Bissau
Ethiopia	Liberia
Equatorial Guinea	Rwanda
Gabon	Sao Tome and Principe
Guinea	Sierra Leone
Kenya	Somalia
Lesotho	Swaziland
Madagascar	Uganda
Malawi	United Republic of Tanzania
Mali	Zambia
Mauritius	
Mozambique	
Namibia	
Niger	
Nigeria	
Senegal	
Seychelles	
South Africa	
Togo	
Zimbabwe	

Group V(b)	
States Parties to the Convention	States not parties to the Convention
Egypt	Algeria
Jordan	Bahrain
Kuwait	Iraq
Oman	Lebanon
Qatar	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Sudan	Mauritania
Syrian Arab Republic	Morocco
Tunisia	Saudi Arabia
	United Arab Emirates
	Yemen

ANNEX II

Contributions from the Parties and civil society

Introduction

This annex presents the contributions to the implementation of the ratification strategy received by the secretariat. Countries are listed in alphabetical order.

It provides an update of the information contained in document CE/10/4.IGC/205/INF.4 and was prepared following the consultations initiated by the Secretariat on 8 February 2011 with the Parties and the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee.

The Parties' responses show that the activities undertaken are in line with the strategy adopted by the Committee at its third session (December 2009).

Most Parties promote ratification by communicating information on the principles and objectives of the Convention within other regional and international organizations of which they are members, as well as within the framework of relations, meetings and bilateral and multilateral agreements, at the regional and international levels.

Other initiatives conducted in 2010 and during the first quarter of 2011 by the Parties include the development of new information and communication tools and the translation of those that already exist in the official language(s) of their country, such as the Convention text and the information kit.

An analysis shows that several Parties have actively involved civil society in their ratification strategy at the national and international levels, maintain frequent exchanges and contact, and fund projects and activities linked to the ratification of the Convention.

The responses from *civil society organizations* provide an update on their efforts in under-represented regions.

I. Summary of information by country (in alphabetical order)

Australia has implemented initiatives in the field of communication, through:

- the establishment of an English-language website on the Convention (<http://www.arts.gov.au/culturaldiversity>);
- exchanges with civil society organizations at the international level, in particular with the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD) and with intergovernmental organizations, particularly the Commonwealth Foundation.

The activities undertaken by **Austria** as part of the ratification strategy have been undertaken within:

- bilateral and regional coordination mechanisms and the multilateral networks to which it belongs e.g.:
 - promotion of the Convention is included in bilateral agreements on cultural cooperation as well as in cultural cooperation work plans;
 - the European Union, as part of the “European agenda for culture in a globalizing world”;

- the Council of Europe, under its Steering Committee for Culture (CDCULT);
 - the SEE Council of Ministers of Culture (South-East Europe);
 - meetings of ASEM Culture Ministers (Asia-Europe Meeting);
 - the Cotonou Agreement, where development cooperation, for example, includes measures on the promotion of cultural heritage, local cultural industries and access to European markets.
- An active network of civil society organizations at the international level: the Austrian National Commission for UNESCO has coordinated the activities of the Austrian Working Group on Cultural Diversity (ARGE Kulturelle Vielfalt), which is a member of the European Union and the networks of coalitions. Financial support enables members of the Austrian working group to contribute to meetings of the International Network on Cultural Diversity.

Brazil also promotes the ratification of the Convention through:

- bilateral and multilateral cultural cooperation agreements, including the associated work plans: all international agreements signed by the Brazilian Ministry of Culture contain clauses on respect for the principles and provisions of the Convention, including those concluded with countries that have not yet ratified it;
- adopting the theme of cultural diversity within the Mercosur (community of South American countries) Cultural Parliament and placing it on the agenda of every technical meeting of “Mercosur on Cultural Diversity” held thus far.

Canada has been active in many intervention areas designed to encourage ratification, both through communication initiatives and by including the principles and objectives of the Convention in the relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements and action plans, including:

- a website and a bimonthly newsletter in English, French and Spanish, hosted through the Secretariat for Cultural Diversity of the Ministry of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women of the Quebec Government, which are devoted entirely to issues relating to the Convention and are consulted by visitors from more than 100 countries (<http://www.diversite-culturelle.qc.ca>);
- advocacy events, debates and analysis conducted within the framework of bilateral meetings and in various international forums of which Canada is a member (the Commonwealth; the International Organization of the Francophonie – through the Working Group on Cultural Diversity; and the Organization of American States – through the Inter-American Committee on Culture, and UNESCO), for example:
 - the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (CIDEDEC 2011), organized by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie in cooperation with the National Assembly of Quebec (Quebec, 2-3 February 2011), which examined the implementation process of the Convention and the promotion of ratification, *inter alia*;
 - a meeting in Jakarta (24-25 June 2010) held alongside a two-day workshop organized by the HIVOS Institute together with representatives from the Indonesian Government and Indonesian civil society in order to promote ratification of the Convention among non-States Parties.

- support for a number of institutions and civil society organizations that play a role in promoting ratification, such as the International Network on Cultural Policy (INCP) and the International Network of Lawyers for the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (RIJDEC).

China has undertaken a series of activities relating to the implementation of the Convention and the ratification strategy. It promotes the ratification of the Convention within the framework of festivals, forums and international seminars held in the country, such as the International Festival of Cultural Diversity in May 2010 and the International Forum on Cultural Industries in November 2010.

Croatia highlighted that its advocacy action was conducted at the bilateral and multilateral levels within the framework of the Council of Ministers of Culture of South-East Europe and within different multi-partner networks and civil society, such as the International Network on Cultural Policy (INCP), the International Network for Cultural Diversity (INCD) and the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD). Several awareness-raising initiatives have been implemented covering publications and the organization of festivals and information meetings.

Cuba has undertaken several activities, particularly in the field of communication, including:

- organizing some 20 international events (publishing, cinema, music, digital art, traditional art, ballet, etc.) focusing on safeguarding and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions in order to encourage countries that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention;
- promoting awareness of the Convention and calling for ratification among specialists, senior managers and officials of the Ministry of Culture and its cultural institutions in the various international meetings:
 - Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Bolivarian Alliance of the Peoples of Our America (ALBA) in Dominica;
 - Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean (Ecuador);
 - Second World Conference on Arts Education (South Korea);
 - Executive Committee of the Regional Centre for Book Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (Colombia);
 - Youth Meetings for Latin American and Caribbean Integration “Participation, Culture and Development” (Ecuador);
 - Second Ibero-American Congress on Culture (Colombia);
- support for activities conducted by civil society and the international non-governmental organizations in Cuba that play a role in promoting ratification.

The **Czech Republic** has undertaken advocacy work in various meetings and negotiations in which Czech experts consulted their partners from other countries – including those which have not yet ratified the Convention – and spoke in favour of ratification and implementation of the Convention.

The activities of the **European Union** concerning the strategy to promote ratification have been based on:

- communication and awareness-raising activities, including a celebration in Brussels, on 8 December 2010, of the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, with the participation of relevant Commissioners, the Director-General of UNESCO, the Ministers of Culture and/or Development of the European Union Member States and developing countries, and renowned figures from the cultural sector who are from or have close ties with developing countries;
- integrating the principles and objectives of the Convention in the European Union's regional, bilateral and international relations, in particular:
 - the requirement for countries wishing to join the European Union to have ratified the Convention and to respect its principles and objectives;
 - the establishment of the “European agenda for culture in a globalizing world”;
 - the work carried out by the European Union within the framework of the Euromed Partnership (27 European Union Member States and 12 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea) and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). The European Commission supports the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in this regard;
 - the establishment of a new “Protocol on Cultural Cooperation”, which promotes the principles and implementation of the Convention: the partner country must have ratified the Convention before the Protocol can enter into force;
 - an interregional programme of support for cultural programmes (cooperation with third countries) in which the principles and objectives of the Convention and its potential ratification play a relevant role.

France undertakes to promote the Convention both at the national level – by involving territorial and local institutions and the ministries concerned – and at the international level. The action of France is also fulfilled over all its diplomatic relations in order to encourage States to ratify the Convention. The ratification of the Convention has been made a prerequisite to the signing of cultural cooperation agreements. France also supports civil society organizations that may play a role in the promotion of ratification, such as the French Coalition for Cultural Diversity, which conducted such missions in Thailand and Viet Nam in the spring of 2010, and which have been active in North Africa in 2011.

Greece has underlined its advocacy action for the ratification strategy in its bilateral and multilateral exchanges and within diverse multi-partner networks, particularly in South-Eastern Europe, but also in the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). It has also highlighted the importance given to the book sector as a priority element of the cultural industries in its subregion.

Jordan has carried out its advocacy action for the ratification of the Convention within the framework of its bilateral and multilateral negotiations.

Mexico has provided a detailed report on all of the activities implemented by the National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA) within the framework of the Convention. Several conferences, forums and seminars have been organized to inform and raise awareness.

With a view to encouraging ratification, **Montenegro** hosted the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe, which focused mainly on raising awareness and promoting the objectives and principles of the Convention. A working group was set up to focus specifically on strengthening regional cooperation, including through the implementation of Articles 12 and 13 of the Convention.

Nigeria reported that its President, His Excellency Mr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, has been working actively for the Convention, particularly within the framework of the African Union Ministers of Culture Meeting (Abuja, November 2010), and within the Economic Community of West African States.

Norway has highlighted the positive role that the strengthening of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity may play in supporting the operational implementation of the Convention and demonstrating its value to potential Parties.

Oman has taken steps at the national and international levels to encourage countries that have not ratified the Convention to do so, particularly the Gulf and Arab States. This has been done during ministerial meetings (General Cultural Assembly of the Gulf Cooperation Council; meetings of culture ministers from the Arab States) and through the cultural committees of international organizations.

In addition to some specific communication activities (systematic dissemination of the Convention information kit, including *10 Keys to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions*, and the translation, together with Brazil, of the summary of the report on “Investing in Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue”), **Portugal’s** efforts to promote ratification were focused on its consultations with international organizations: at the seventh Meeting of Culture Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP), Members adopted a paragraph promoting ratification of the Convention in their Final Declaration. Portugal has highlighted that its recent action to promote ratification was carried out within its bilateral relations with Portuguese-speaking countries such as Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Timor-Leste.

Spain’s commitment to the implementation of the strategy for encouraging ratifications took the form of:

- support for the development of communication tools for the promotion of the Convention (including through the development of a global campaign for the visibility of the Convention, the production, translation and dissemination of information tools and training in cultural policy);
- references to the principles and objectives of the Convention and the benefits of ratification during regional and international exchanges such as the Ibero-American Congress on Culture (held annually), the bicentenary commemorations of the independence of Latin American republics, and during the Spanish Presidency of the European Union;
- support for a number of projects run by the Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity.

II. Summary of information from civil society organizations

The **International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity** (IFCCD) has undertaken action in the area of communication and awareness-raising (through meetings or provision of information materials), especially in under-represented regions such as the Asia and the Pacific region:

- event-based communication activities included the following meetings:
 - July 2010 – Meeting of representatives of professional cultural organizations from Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, the Solomon Islands, and Tonga;

- March 2010 – Meetings with cultural organizations in Japan to identify the key cultural organizations for promoting ratification of the Convention and to establish a coalition for cultural diversity;
 - May 2010 – “U40 Americas” Meeting in Montreal, bringing together a regional network of professionals from different disciplines willing to promote ratification of the Convention;
 - regular events held on key dates for the Convention (17 March – the anniversary of entry into force; 21 May – World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development; and 20 October – anniversary of the adoption of the Convention);
- In addition, the IFCCD has :
 - undertaken missions in Indonesia, Turkey and Morocco to encourage the ratification of the Convention;
 - contributed to a project by the regional offices of UNESCO Asia-Pacific region to hold a meeting Autumn 2011 to promote the Convention;
 - produced disseminated information materials (brochures, websites, videos) to promote the Convention ;
 - prepared the *Coalitions in Movement* bulletin, which is distributed to over 1,500 addresses worldwide. Arabic and Chinese versions are regularly published.

The **International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies** (IFACCA) has developed initiatives in the area of the production and dissemination of communication materials, including:

- a report in English, French and Spanish produced in July 2010 to help its members and other agencies to gain a better understanding of the principles, objectives, benefits and terminology of the Convention;
- a website containing a number of pages relating to the promotion of the Convention.

The **International Music Council** (IMC) has developed advocacy initiatives which involve drawing on its membership to relay information in all the countries in which it is represented. In this context, the IMC has undertaken a number of activities to inform its members and make them better advocates (dissemination of materials prepared by the UNESCO Secretariat, preparation and dissemination of promotional materials for its members, introducing the theme of ratification in the most recent IMC World Forum, etc.). Most of its members are now able to undertake awareness-raising and communication initiatives at the national level, including advocacy work with the National Commissions of countries that are likely to ratify the Convention, and by participating in the programmes of national coalitions for cultural diversity.