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

Fifth ordinary session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room II
10-12 June 2015

Item 6 of the provisional agenda: Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties

The annex to this document presents the Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions to the Conference of Parties.

Decision required: paragraph 2
1. The annex to this document presents the report of the Committee on its activities and decisions adopted between the fourth and fifth ordinary sessions of the Conference of Parties. The Committee adopted the enclosed report at its eighth ordinary session in December 2014 and decided to submit it to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (Decision 8.IGC 14).

2. The Conference of Parties may wish to adopt the following resolution:

**DRAFT RESOLUTION 5.CP 6**

*The Conference of Parties,*

1. *Having examined* document CE/15/5.CP/6 and its Annex;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee on its activities and decisions submitted to the Conference of Parties and included in this document.
ANNEX

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

1. Composition of the Committee

1. Article 23 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as "the Convention"), specifies the establishment of an Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereafter referred to as the "Committee"). In accordance with this article, the members of the Committee are elected for a term of office of four years and their election is based on the principles of equitable geographical distribution and rotation. Pursuant to Rule 15.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties, the election of members of the Committee takes place based on the composition of UNESCO's electoral groups, as defined by the General Conference of UNESCO, it being understood that "Group V" is composed of two electoral subgroups: V(a) (African states) and V(b) (Arab states).

2. At its fourth ordinary session, from 11 to 13 June 2013, the Conference of Parties elected 12 members of the Committee, in accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parties.

3. The 24 States Members of the Committee and their terms of office are as follows:

| Group I |  |  |
|---------|  |  |

| Group II |  |  |
|----------|  |  |

| Group III |  |  |
|-----------|  |  |
|  |  | Uruguay | 2013-2017 |

| Group IV |  |  |
|----------|  |  |
| Australia | 2013-2017 |  |  |

| Group V(a) |  |  |
|------------|  |  |
| Guinea | 2011-2015 |  |  |

| Group V(b) |  |  |
|------------|  |  |
| Kuwait | 2011-2015 |  |  |
2. Meetings of the Committee since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (11 -13 June 2013)

4. Since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, the Committee has met twice in ordinary session. These meetings were scheduled as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seventh ordinary session, Paris, France (7.IGC)</td>
<td>10-13 December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth ordinary session, Paris, France (8.IGC)</td>
<td>9-11 December 2014</td>
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</table>

5. In accordance with Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elects a Bureau at the end of each ordinary session, whose term of office continues until the next ordinary session. At its sixth and seventh ordinary sessions, the Committee suspended application of Rule 12.1 of its Rules of Procedure to proceed with the election of the Chairperson, the Rapporteur and the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee (Decisions 6.IGC 16 and 7.IGC 15).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Members of the Bureau</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seventh ordinary session Paris (France)</td>
<td>Chairperson: Ms Arev Samuelyan (Armenia) &lt;br&gt; Rapporteur: Mr Nicolas Mathieu (Switzerland) &lt;br&gt; Replaced by: Mr Michael Shultz (Sweden) &lt;br&gt; Vice-Chairpersons: Congo, Kuwait, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden and Vietnam</td>
<td>10-13 December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Ordinary Session Paris (France)</td>
<td>Chairperson: Mr Jean-Marie Adoua (Congo) &lt;br&gt; Rapporteur: Ms Laure Rabarison (Madagascar) &lt;br&gt; Vice-Chairpersons: Austria, United Arab Emirates, Lithuania, Saint Lucia and Vietnam</td>
<td>9-11 December 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Activities of the Committee since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (11- 13 June 2013)

6. Since the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties (June 2013), the main activities and decisions of the Committee covered, in accordance with Article 23.6 (b), (e) and (f) of the Convention are:

- implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) and the first and second phases of the fundraising strategy for the IFCD;
- implementation of the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) following the evaluation of the IFCD’s pilot phase;
- analysis of the new quadrennial periodic reports;
- a draft revision of the Operational Guidelines pertaining to Article 9 ("Information sharing and transparency");
- examination of the results obtained between 2010 and 2013 concerning the implementation of the ratification strategy and its action plan;
- examination of the report on the use of the Convention’s emblem;
- examination of the information collected during the consultation concerning the implementation and impact of Articles 16 “Preferential treatment for developing countries” and 21 “International consultation and cooperation” of the Convention;
- examination of the reports from the IOS concerning the implementation of the Convention;
- examination of the report on the audit of UNESCO’s governance;
- other activities, particularly: the impact of digital technologies on the Convention; the role of public service broadcasting in attaining the objectives of the Convention; the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention; and the tenth anniversary of the Convention.

**Implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)**

7. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee approved the projects financed by the IFCD as part of the fourth funding cycle (10 projects for a total amount of USD 763,748). It also decided to launch a new call for funding requests in 2014 and to devote 70 per cent of the funds available on 30 June 2014. The Committee appointed a panel of six experts responsible for preparing the recommendations for examination by the Committee of funding requests and their approval. Six replacement experts were also designated. Lastly, the Committee requested the Secretariat to organize a meeting in Paris with the members of the Panel of Experts, following the technical examination that it will have carried out. (Decision 7.IGC 6). The meeting took place on 28 and 29 July 2014 at UNESCO Headquarters.

8. The Committee requested the Director-General to propose, to its eighth ordinary session, a cost-recovery policy based on principles identical to those applicable to other cultural conventions. (Decision 7.IGC 9). At its eighth ordinary session (December 2014), the Committee decided to apply UNESCO’s cost recovery policy when using the resources of the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 5a)

9. At its eighth ordinary session (December 2014), the Committee also approved seven new projects funded by the IFCD as part of its fifth funding cycle for a total of USD 624,296. It decided to issue a new call for funding requests in 2015 and dedicate 70 per cent of the funds available on 30 June 2015 for this purpose. Furthermore, the Committee invited the Conference of Parties to consider the most appropriate criteria for the allocation of funds from the IFCD, in particular sustainability and need, and invited Parties with the means to do so to encourage their own NGOs to refrain from submitting projects during the next cycle in light of the current financial status of the IFCD. Finally, the Committee invited the Secretariat to present to the Conference of Parties a mechanism by which Parties to the Convention could declare the amount they wish to voluntarily and regularly contribute to the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 8)

10. The Committee thanked all the contributors to the IFCD and encouraged Parties to provide regular voluntary contributions equivalent to at least 1 per cent of their total contribution to UNESCO. It also requested the Director-General to invite the Executive Board to review the Programme Support Costs for the IFCD taking into account the work undertaken by the Convention’s Secretariat to raise and manage the funds for the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 10)

**Implementation of the recommendations of the IOS**

11. Following the assessment of the pilot phase of the IFCD, at its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted the progress made in the overall implementation of the recommendations of the IOS. It also noted a certain number of challenges faced by the Secretariat in implementing some of them, and the financial impact on the results framework and the system of knowledge management related to it. (Decision 7.IGC 8)

12. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee encouraged the Secretariat to pursue its work on the implementation of the IOS recommendations. It took note of the financial implications for their full implementation, particularly related to the RBM framework and the knowledge management platform. It requested Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources to fully implement these recommendations and to support the reinforcement of the Secretariat through the appointment of an Associate Expert or a secondee to work on the implementation of the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 8)
IFCD Fundraising Strategy – first and second phases

13. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee decided to implement the specific activities corresponding to the first and second phases of the IFCD's fundraising strategy. It therefore decided to allocate USD 55,281 to the Secretariat in order to carry out the fundraising activities planned for 2014. This amount was taken from unassigned funds in the IFCD Special Account. The Committee also requested the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the IFCD fundraising strategy at its eighth ordinary session. (Decision 7.IGC 7)

14. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee decided to implement specific activities corresponding to phase two of the IFCD fundraising strategy and allocate USD 47,563 for this purpose. It requested the Secretariat to seek a specialized professional company to implement the IFCD fundraising strategy and to present a report on its implementation to the fifth ordinary sessions of the Conference of Parties and the ninth ordinary session of the Committee. (Decision 8.IGC 9)

Quadrennial periodic reports: new reports and executive summary

15. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties decided that the Parties that ratified the Convention in 2010 would submit their first quadrennial periodic report to the Secretariat before 30 April 2014. The Conference of Parties also requested the Committee to re-examine and revise, if necessary, the Operational Guidelines pertaining to Article 9, including the framework for the quadrennial periodic reports attached to these guidelines, on the basis of acquired experience, and to submit the results of its work for approval at its fifth ordinary session. (Resolution 4.CP 10)

16. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee examined and noted the information collected as a result of the second cycle of periodic reporting on the implementation of the Convention. The Committee invited Parties who were to present their required reports on 30 April 2014 to do so, and encouraged Parties who had not yet submitted their reports in 2013 to do so as well. It also invited Parties who had to present their periodic reports in 2014 and in 2015 to pay particular attention on a voluntary basis to the impact of digital technologies on the implementation of the Convention. The Committee encouraged Parties to undertake multipartite discussions when preparing their reports, in association with civil society organizations in particular, and to assign extrabudgetary resources to the Secretariat's programme for training and preparing reports, and for setting up a global system of knowledge management. The Committee requested the Secretariat to make the quadrennial periodic reports public on the Convention's website after the session and, in cooperation with the UNESCO Institute of Statistics, submit for examination, at its eighth ordinary session in December 2014, the draft revision of the Operational Guidelines on Article 9 "Information sharing and transparency". (Decision 7.IGC 5)

17. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee examined the information collected as a result of the third year of quadrennial periodic reporting on the implementation of the Convention (i.e., 6 reports submitted in 2014). It also reviewed the transversal analysis that all 71 reports received so far by the Secretariat, as well as additional sources on selected issues determined by the Governing Bodies (i.e., impact of digital technologies, role of civil society and role of public service broadcasting). The Committee invited Parties whose reports are due in 2015 and 2016 to submit them to the Secretariat in a timely manner and encouraged Parties that have not yet submitted their reports due in 2012-2014 to do so at their earliest convenience in either working language of the Committee or, if possible, in both languages, as well as in other languages. The Committee once again encouraged Parties to engage in multi-stakeholder consultations in the preparation of their reports, involving in particular, civil society organizations. The Committee invited the Secretariat to implement the capacity-building programme aiming to assist Parties in preparing their reports, funded by extrabudgetary resources. It also requested that the Secretariat, following its eighth ordinary session, make available on the Convention website the quadrennial periodic reports to the public for information. (Decision 8.IGC 7a)
18. The Committee held an important debate on the revised draft Operational Guidelines pertaining to Article 9, including the Framework for Quadrennial Periodic Reports, and after its adoption, decided to transmit it to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties for approval. The debate included a discussion on the UNESCO Global Priority Gender Equality and the Operational Strategy for Youth, which were added to the revised draft Operational Guidelines. (Decision 8.IGC 7b)

**Results of the Committee’s ratification strategy (2010-2013)**

19. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted the results obtained between 2010 and 2013 concerning the implementation of the ratification strategy and its action plan. The Committee requested the Parties and civil society to continue their efforts to promote the ratification of the Convention by widely sharing information and best practices on implementation and the advantages of ratification. It requested the Secretariat to prepare an information document reporting the results of implementing the ratification strategy and monitoring activities, and to transmit it to the Conference of Parties at its fifth ordinary session in June 2015. (Decision 7.IGC 10)

**Emblem**

20. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties chose an emblem for the Convention and decided that it may be used independently or together with UNESCO’s logo (Resolution 4.CP 12). At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee requested the Secretariat to inform all Parties to the Convention of the result of the consultation that it carried out with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) regarding the protection of the emblem. It also provisionally adopted the Request Form on the use of the emblem, the Endorsement Form and the Reporting Form. Lastly, the Committee requested the Secretariat to present, at its eighth ordinary session, qualitative and quantitative information on requests for using both the stand-alone and linked emblem, which it will have authorised in 2014, and the impact that these uses may have on the visibility of the Convention. (Decision 7.IGC 11). Through its Decision 8.IGC 17, the Committee recommended to the Conference of Parties to include the issue of visibility of the Convention on the agenda of its fifth ordinary session.

**Report on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21 of the Convention**

21. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties requested the Committee to continue its work on the implementation of Article 21 and to submit the results at its fifth ordinary session. It also requested the Committee to debate and analyse the information on the implementation of Article 21, to submit the results of the impact of this implementation, and to continue its work, including developing the database, through a biennial invitation to the Parties to complete a questionnaire. (Resolution 4.CP 11)

22. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted the preliminary information gathered concerning the impact of Article 21 of the Convention. It invited the Parties, civil society, and international organizations to use the online platform in order to continue to provide the Secretariat with all relevant information concerning the implementation of Article 21 of the Convention and its impact. The Committee requested the Secretariat to actively pursue its work of collecting and analysing the information on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21, using appropriate mechanisms and taking into account its debates, and to continue to develop the online platform and database. Lastly, the Committee requested the Parties to support the work of the Secretariat, including the online platform, through the provision of extrabudgetary resources. (Decision 7.IGC 12)

23. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to continue to actively consult Parties, international organizations and civil society on a biennial basis in order to collect and analyze information on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21, and to continue developing the online platform and database by adding Article 16. It requested the Secretariat to reschedule the exchange session planned in December 2014 on the implementation and impact of Articles 16 and 21 between economists, trade experts and Parties, with the
involvement of civil society, and organize it prior to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties in June 2015. It also requested the Secretariat to develop training modules on the implementation of Articles 16 and 21 as part of its work on the Global Capacity-Building Strategy. Finally, the Committee called on the Parties to support the work of the Secretariat, including the online platform, by providing extrabudgetary resources. (Decision 8.IGC 11)

Reports of the Internal Oversight Service

24. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee requested the Secretariat to submit, at its eighth ordinary session, a report concerning the implications of adopting the recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service for the work of the Convention. (Decision 7.IGC 13)

25. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note that the audit carried out by the IOS seeks to identify possible improvements to the working methods of all UNESCO culture conventions and their synergy. It welcomed most of its conclusions and recommendations, as well as the establishment by the Culture Sector of a Conventions Common Services Unit (CCS) to support the work of all Convention Secretariats, thus implementing Recommendation 3 of the IOS audit. The Committee looks forward to seeing its results for facilitating and alleviating the work of the Convention Secretariats and requested the Secretariat to submit at its ninth ordinary session a report on the economies generated. It considered that the annual frequency of the sessions of the Committee is appropriate and in accordance with Article 23.2 of the Convention, and recalled that at its seventh ordinary session, it determined that the number of days of this eighth ordinary session was set at three, instead of five. The Committee noted the Organization’s increasing reliance on extrabudgetary contributions and invited the Parties to provide financial resources to the Secretariat in accordance with the priorities established at its seventh ordinary session and those set by the Conference of Parties at its fourth ordinary session. It reiterated its understanding that resources and staff allocated to core activities will remain exclusively focused on those priorities and noted with satisfaction the prioritizing exercise done at its seventh ordinary session. It welcomed a similar exercise for its next workplan. The Committee acknowledged the need to strengthen the human resources capacities of the Secretariat in a sustainable manner to enable it to respond efficiently to the priorities identified by the Parties. It also noted with appreciation the experts provided by Quebec (Canada) and Italy, and invited all Parties to consider such arrangements on a lasting basis. Finally the Committee requested the Secretariat, in accordance with the practices of other culture conventions, Recommendation 1 (e) of the IOS audit and the financial regulations of the Special Account for the IFCD (Article 5), to apply UNESCO’s cost recovery policy consistently when using the resources of the IFCD. (Decision 8.IGC 5a)

26. The Committee also took note of the IOS Evaluation of UNESCO’s Standard-setting Work of the Culture Sector Part IV – 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and its recommendations. The Committee encouraged UNESCO to seek extrabudgetary funds to implement the IOS recommendations, in particular those addressing the analysis and sharing of information on the impact of the Convention, capacity-building in the area of the governance of culture and the development of an overall results framework for the Convention, including SMART indicators. (Decision 8.IGC 5b)

Audit of the governance of UNESCO

27. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee welcomed document 37 C/49 (Item 6.4), examined by the 37th session of the General Conference and addressing governance reform. It invited all Parties to participate in the self-evaluation exercise according to the common framework supplied by the External Auditor, and requested the Secretariat to facilitate this task. (Decision 7.IGC 13)

28. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the Audit of the Governance of UNESCO and Dependent Funds, Programmes, and Entities and the exercise undertaken thereon. It thanked the Chairperson of the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties and the Chairperson of the eighth ordinary session of the Committee for their diligent work in this regard. (Decision 8.IGC 6)
Other activities

Digital issues

29. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties invited the Parties wishing to do so, and civil society, to report to the Secretariat on aspects of the development of digital technologies that have an impact on the Convention and proposals for future action for examination by the Committee during its seventh ordinary session. It also requested the Committee to send the results of its work to its fifth ordinary session. (Resolution 4.CP 13)

30. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee invited the Parties expected to submit their periodic reports in April 2014 and in April 2015 to pay particular attention, on a voluntary basis, to the impact of digital technologies on the implementation of the Convention, using the current format of the framework for quadrennial periodic reports and their corresponding electronic forms (Decision 7.IGC 5). It also invited the Secretariat to analyse all relevant information contained in the periodic reports from Parties to the Convention and other relevant documents, particularly concerning the development of digital technologies (Decision 7.IGC 13).

31. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to continue its work on this theme through the analysis of quadrennial periodic reports and to share this information in the framework of the analytical report it produces biennially, as well as in the framework of the report on Articles 16 and 21. It also requested the Secretariat to submit to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties a document on all the work undertaken on digital issues in the framework of the Convention, as well as a summary of the Committee’s debate, and to continue its cooperation in this field with other relevant international organizations, as well as with experts and civil society, and keep the Committee informed. Furthermore, the Committee requested the Secretariat to add the challenges related to the implementation of the Convention in the digital age to the agenda of the exchange session scheduled to take place in the margins of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties on Articles 16 and 21. Finally, it decided to submit to the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, a proposal to mandate the Committee, in consultation with the Parties, to prepare for its ninth ordinary session draft Operational Guidelines on digital issues and the diversity of cultural expressions that will take into account, in particular, international cooperation. (Decision 8.IGC 12)

Role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention

32. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to include an item on the agenda of its seventh ordinary session on the role of public service broadcasting in achieving the objectives of the Convention (Resolution 4.CP 13). At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee invited the Secretariat to analyse all relevant information contained in the periodic reports and other relevant documents, particularly concerning public service broadcasting (Decision 7.IGC 13).

33. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the information collected on the issue as a result of the analysis of all 71 reports received so far by the Secretariat, as well as additional sources. (Decision 8.IGC 7a)

Assessment of the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention

34. At its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), the Conference of Parties invited the Committee to continue its work on the assessment of the involvement of civil society, recognised in Article 11 of the Convention, in the implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and international levels, including in the work of the statutory bodies of the Convention (Resolution 4.CP 13). At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee invited the Secretariat to analyse all relevant information contained in the periodic reports and other relevant documents, particularly concerning the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention (Decision 7.IGC 13).
35. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the information collected on the issue as a result of the analysis of all 71 reports received so far by the Secretariat, as well as additional sources, and decided to inscribe an item on the agenda of the ninth ordinary session of the Committee on the assessment of the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention (Decision 8.IGC 7a).

Tenth anniversary of the Convention

36. Several Parties raised the question of the tenth anniversary of the Convention during the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties, without it being the subject of one of its resolutions. At its seventh ordinary session (December 2013), the Committee noted that in 2015, the Convention would celebrate its tenth anniversary and accordingly invited Parties and civil society to celebrate it at a local, national, regional and international level. The Committee specified there would be no financial consequences for UNESCO, and called upon Parties and civil society to give the Secretariat information regarding the events and activities that they wished to elaborate and implement (Decision 7.IGC 13).

37. At its eighth ordinary session, the Committee took note of the Secretariat’s initiative in preparing a web page dedicated to the tenth anniversary of the Convention which will include a global Convention celebration calendar thus giving greater visibility to those activities organized by the Convention’s stakeholders. Participants shared information on events they are intending to organize in 2015, and the Committee invited all stakeholders to submit relevant information using the tenth anniversary online tool. It recommended to include the issue of the visibility of the Convention on the agenda of the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of Parties and requested the Secretariat to summarize relevant information for that discussion. (Decision 8.IGC 17)

Future activities

38. The Conference of Parties, at its fourth ordinary session (June 2013), adopted Resolution 4.CP 13 on the future activities of the Committee, requesting it to establish, at its seventh ordinary session, a work plan for its activities, including an approximate timetable and, insofar as possible, the human and financial resources available taken from the ordinary Programme and supported through extrabudgetary resources. In this context, and concerning its efforts to align the work of the Secretariat with the available resources, the Committee held a debate at its seventh ordinary session (December 2013) and reached the following conclusion on the priority activities:

- governing bodies meetings;
- capacity-building activities, in particular supporting the preparation of quadrennial periodic reports;
- implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity and its fundraising strategy; and
- knowledge management, in particular monitoring the implementation and the impact of Articles 16 and 21, and monitoring transversal issues of relevance to the Convention including digital technologies, status of the artist, public service broadcasting, and civil society.