



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Diversity of  
Cultural Expressions

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Diversité  
des expressions  
culturelles

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Diversidad  
de las expresiones  
culturales

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

Разнообразие форм  
культурного  
самовыражения

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

تنوع أشكال التعبير  
الثقافي

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

文化表现形式  
多样性

# 5 CP

CE/15/5.CP/9a  
Paris, 23 March 2015  
Original: English

## CONFERENCE 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 9a of the provisional agenda:** Analytical summary of the quadrennial periodic reports of Parties to the Convention submitted in 2013 and 2014

In accordance with paragraph 10 of Resolution 4.CP 10 of the Conference of Parties, this document presents a summary of the debates of the Committee following its deliberation of the Parties' reports at its seventh (2013) and eighth (2014) ordinary sessions. The strategic and action-oriented analytical summaries of the Parties' 2013 and 2014 reports are presented in document CE/15/5.CP/INF.5. The Executive Summaries of the Parties reports are presented in document CE/15/5.CP/INF.4. Full reports are available on the website of the Convention at: <https://en.unesco.org/creativity/mr/periodic-reports-available-reports>.

Decision required: Paragraph 26

## Background

1. Article 9 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter “the Convention”) on *Information sharing and transparency* stipulates in paragraph (a) that the “Parties shall provide appropriate information in their reports to UNESCO every four years on measures taken to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions within their territory and at the international level.”
2. At its seventh (December 2013) and eighth (December 2014) ordinary sessions, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (hereinafter “the Committee”) examined, respectively, 20 and 6 reports and the Secretariat’s analytical summaries thereof.
3. The Conference of Parties is invited at this session to examine:
  - (i) the reports submitted in 2013 and 2014, available at <https://en.unesco.org/creativity/mr/periodic-reports-available-reports>;
  - (ii) the Secretariat’s analytical summaries of those reports set in document CE/15/5.CP/INF.5;
  - (iii) summary of the debates of the seventh and eighth ordinary sessions of the Committee on the reports and the Secretariat’s analytical summary;
  - (iv) executive summaries of the those reports set out in document CE/15/5.CP/INF.4;
  - (v) innovative examples on the implementation of the Convention identified in the reports and set out in document CE/15/5.CP/INF.5.

## Summary of actions taken by the Secretariat in 2013 – 2014

4. In implementation of Resolution 4.CP 10 of the Conference of Parties, of Decisions of the sixth, seventh and eighth ordinary sessions of the Committee and of the Operational Guidelines on Article 9, the Secretariat undertook the following activities in 2013-2014:
  - (i) sent out letters and email reminders inviting the Parties concerned to submit their reports to the Secretariat;
  - (ii) worked with international experts to carry out a transversal analysis of the 25 new reports<sup>1</sup> according to the five themes set out in the Framework for Periodic Reports. Their contributions have informed the updated analytical summary presented in Annex I of this document. They have also helped establish a solid roster of 81 good practices, varied both geographically and thematically, which is published online (<https://en.unesco.org/creativity/mr/periodic-reports/innovative-examples>) to provide inspiration to all Convention stakeholders;
  - (iii) worked with international experts to carry out a transversal review of the 2012-2014 reports and additional sources according to the emerging priority themes identified by the seventh ordinary session of the Committee, i.e., status of the artist; gender equality; public service broadcasting and media diversity; role of civil society; and impact of digital technologies;
  - (iv) worked, in close cooperation with the UNESCO Field Offices (especially, Bangkok and Dakar) and international experts, on delivering pilot training workshops and elaborating a training module for Parties on the preparation of quadrennial periodic reports;
  - (v) developed proposals and engaged in fundraising for the capacity-building programme prioritized by the Convention’s Parties. As a result of these efforts, a generous contribution was made by Sweden that would allow the Secretariat and Field Offices to build national capacities for the monitoring of the Convention in over a dozen developing countries and produce the first two editions of the Convention’s Global Monitoring Report;

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<sup>1</sup> An additional report was submitted by Guatemala in 2013. This report was submitted only in Spanish and, therefore, could not be included in the Secretariat’s analytical summary.

- (vi) undertook a review of the Operational Guidelines and the Framework for Periodic Reports, including the Statistical Annex and produced a proposal for revisions based on the comments of the Governing Bodies, international experts and the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) desk study on the implementation of the Convention. This proposal was further elaborated and adopted by the Committee and is presented to the Conference of Parties for approval in document CE/15/5.CP/9b.

#### Overview of the reports received by the Secretariat in 2013 - 2014

5. A total of 26 reports were received by the Secretariat<sup>2</sup>. Of these, two-thirds were submitted in English, a third in French and one report in Spanish<sup>3</sup>.
6. The Secretariat registered the reports and acknowledged their receipt, reminding the Parties who had submitted only the electronic version of their report to also send the printed version signed by the designated official.
7. Ten Parties, representing 38% of the reports, submitted statistical data using either the Sources and Statistics Annex, or incorporating some cultural statistics in their main report.
8. The total number of reports received by the Secretariat in the 2012-2014 period is 71<sup>4</sup> (i.e., 61% of the 116 reports expected during that period). The table below shows the number and share of the reports that were expected and received by region. The Annex to this document provides a list of the countries whose reports are expected in the 2015-2016 period including those overdue.

*Number and Share of Quadrennial Periodic Reports Expected and Received (2012-2014)*

Region	Expected	Received
Group I	23	21 (91%)
Group II	23	17 (74%)
Group III	23	12 (52%)
Group IV	11	6 (55%)
Group Va	28	9 (32%)
Group Vb	8	6 (75%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>71 (61%)</b>

9. The majority of the reports were submitted by **European countries** (a total of 38 reports from Groups I and II, including the European Union's report). Twelve reports have been submitted by **Latin America and Caribbean** countries representing half of the reports that were expected. The **Asia-Pacific** region submitted six reports – a little over half of the expected reports. Nine reports were received from **Africa**, corresponding to only a third of the reports that were expected from that region; indeed the highest number of reports due to the high rate of early ratification of the Convention. The **Arab States** submitted six reports, representing over two-thirds of the expected number.

<sup>2</sup> The following Parties submitted their reports between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2014: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Guatemala, Guinea, Kenya, Kuwait, Malawi, the Netherlands, Romania, Serbia, Togo, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

<sup>3</sup> Guatemala.

<sup>4</sup> Including the report by the European Union.

## Summary of debates of the seventh and eighth ordinary sessions of the Committee

10. At its seventh ordinary session in December 2013, the Committee examined 19 quadrennial periodic reports received before 31 August 2013 and the Secretariat's analytical summary of those reports. At its eighth ordinary session in December 2014, the Committee examined 6 quadrennial periodic reports received before 31 August 2014 and the Secretariat's analytical overview of those reports.
11. While unanimously commending the the Parties' reports, the experts' contributions and the quality of the Secretariat's working documents, the Committee members and Observers made a number of comments and suggestions that are summarized below.
12. Several **emerging themes** were identified, including digital issues, the status of artists and freedom of artistic expression, the role of public service broadcasting and independent media. UNESCO priorities gender equality and youth were underlined as important policy foci with regard to the Convention. One of the existing themes – the role of civil society – was highlighted as a crucial area and recommended as a continued focus of periodic reports and the Secretariat's analysis. This theme was also identified as a separate agenda item at the ninth ordinary session of the Committee. The importance of reinforcing the focus on Article 16 on preferential treatment, which is at the core of concerns of developing countries, was equally underscored.
13. Among the **challenges** raised by the Committee with respect to periodic reporting was the lack of **financial resources**, as well as the continued lack of **awareness** of the scope and objectives of the Convention, both in governmental circles and among the general public. This, according to several Committee members, was one of the major factors responsible for delays in fulfilling the Parties' reporting obligation. The Committee requested the Secretariat to actively execute outreach operations and help Parties enhance the visibility and understanding of the Convention among all relevant stakeholders.
14. Another challenge faced by Parties is the **lack of data** and **human resources** and information collection infrastructure to produce adequate reports. Indeed, many Parties either did not submit their reports or the reports they submitted were incomplete. In this context, **capacity-building** was highlighted by the Committee as a priority for the coming years. Committee members stressed that capacities should be developed not only for the periodic reporting but also for policy making, and that capacity development is a long-term process that requires regular extra-budgetary contributions.
15. Capacity building for periodic reporting was understood by the Committee members as the organization of **in-country trainings** in order to work directly with national teams composed of Ministry of Culture officials, representatives of other Ministries and civil society organizations, to complete the reporting framework and build their capacity for the production of the report. Based on the experience with pilot workshops conducted in 2013, this modality was highly effective, and the preparation of the periodic reports proved to be a valuable tool for raising awareness, building capacities and promoting cooperation between different stakeholders.
16. The Committee also recognized the importance of knowledge management and efforts by the Secretariat to develop a system that would make better use of the existing information and data including innovative policy and programme examples.
17. Some Committee members indicated that preparing a report was labor-intensive and put an additional burden on the already thinly stretched resources of national Ministries responsible for culture. Taking into account that the Convention does not have a "list", which often serves as an incentive in other UNESCO Conventions, the Committee members highlighted the importance of **identifying other incentives**. One way to motivate Parties to compile their reports would be to ensure a wider distribution of the good practices identified in the reports and to better promote them, for instance, through the Global Monitoring Report whose first edition is expected to be published at the end of 2015.

18. The Committee also discussed the need to develop a **results monitoring framework** for the Convention, while encouraging all Parties to contribute to the global monitoring exercise by submitting their reports. While some of the Parties' reports present information on a range of individual impact indicators that measure levels of funding or levels of participation in cultural activities, they do not form a comprehensive and relevant system of indicators to measure and monitor policy impact over time.

### Secretariat's analysis

19. The seventh session of the Committee adopted a decision that invited the Secretariat to continue its analysis of the Parties' periodic reports and to use **additional relevant sources**. In order to benefit from a greater number of reports and geographic balance, the Committee agreed that the Secretariat's analysis be prepared on a **biennial basis**, requiring a revision to the Operational Guidelines on Article 9 that was adopted by the eighth ordinary session of the Committee.
20. The Secretariat's analysis of the Parties' reports submitted in 2013 and 2014 is presented to the Conference of Parties in the document CE/15/5.CP/INF.5. The analysis of reports demonstrates lines of continuity in the direction the Convention's implementation is taking at the country level, in particular, regarding the adoption of new measures to support creativity, to expand domestic markets and to strengthen cultural production and distribution capacities. New policies and programmes that integrate culture in both international and national growth and development strategies are being designed, coupled with the establishment of new coordination mechanisms and governance models. The analysis of the reports has also revealed that developing countries are increasingly active in South-South or regional cooperation, through programmes to support the mobility of artists or in the exchange of cultural goods and services.
21. Additional transversal studies from recognized international experts were commissioned to complement the Secretariat's analysis of the reports in response to the decisions of the Committee (7.IGC 5 and 7.IGC 13) to examine all periodic reports received to date and provide information on measures Parties have taken related to the status of artists, digital technologies and public service broadcasting as well as to assess the role of civil society in the implementation of the Convention. The Secretariat also commissioned a separate analysis on measures taken to promote gender equality. The findings were integrated into UNESCO's newly published report on gender and culture.
22. The results of the transversal analysis show that Parties have taken a wide range of measures to promote the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital era. For example, measures to support digital literacy programmes as a means to promote equitable access to culture or measures to promote digital creativity such as the modernisation of certain sectors of publishing, music or cinema as well as support to new forms of electronic art. The unique role of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity has been highlighted as providing support to projects that involve digital training and technology transfer as well as multimedia arts production. Issues identified for the future consideration range from the emergence of new giants in cultural markets to the rapid progress of big data and social media to the increasing dynamism of the digital south that necessitates a rethinking of international cooperation strategies.
23. The transversal analysis on media diversity and public service broadcasting, found that over one third of the Parties reported specific measures taken in the last 3 to 5 years in the field of independent production, public service media and audiovisual-connected policy and regulatory measures. This points to the relevance of media diversity as an objective when implementing the Convention and illustrates the political will to promote the diversity of cultural expressions through the production of high-quality media content. The analysis identified a number of trends in the types of measures reported on by Parties including those that address digitisation of content and media convergence. With the rise of digital networks and online platforms, the analysis noted new types of media

actors of relevance to the implementation of the Convention such as citizen journalists and amateur film producers that may also be considered as key stakeholders. The study concludes with the observation that media diversity cannot be enhanced where media freedom and related basic fundamental freedoms are absent, highlighting the importance and relevance to this Convention of national freedom of information laws.

24. The civil society assessment provides quantitative evidence of the correlation between the strength of civil society generally and its involvement in the implementation of the Convention in particular. Ways and means of creating, maintaining or improving meaningful dialogue between civil society and public authorities are required as a means to overcome the fragile networking between them. In order to overcome some of the challenges related to periodic reporting, a series of recommendations were put forward, including further work on the identification of best practices on state-civil society cooperation and the development of new North-South-South partnerships.

### **Parties identify next steps in the implementation of the Convention**

25. In their reports, Parties described priority areas to implement the Convention over the next four years. They included:

- explicit integration of the Convention in relevant policy documents, including through cultural policy frameworks and inter-ministerial arrangements (revision of National Cultural Policy and elaboration of action plan in Burundi; creation of an inter-ministerial working group on the implementation of the Convention in Ukraine; allocation of specific budget for the implementation of the Convention in Kenya; establishment of National Arts and Heritage Council in Malawi);
- developing the capacities of local governments for the implementation of the Convention, including information about the Convention in the educational curricula and setting up a National Center for Cultural Diversity (Albania);
- raising awareness of the Convention among governmental and civil society actors, as well as conducting an evaluation of its implementation (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea);
- Improvement of the availability of information and data (setting up of cultural statistics Office in Burundi) and evaluation and monitoring of the implemented measures (Serbia);
- identifying better metrics for informing national governments and civil society stakeholders as to whether sufficient efforts are being made to ensure the diversity of cultural expressions (United Kingdom);
- provision of training and awareness-raising at several levels (establishing of a national ballet, publishing house, and musical education centre in Burundi; private arts center to train artists, especially youth and women, in Kenya);
- Strengthening of civil society platforms, networks or organizations (strengthening of the National Coalition for Cultural Industries in Malawi);
- promotion of cross-border collaboration and regional partnerships (promotion of mobility of artists and organization of Arts and Culture Biennial Fair in Burundi).

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

**DRAFT RESOLUTION 5.CP 9a**

*The Conference of Parties,*

1. *Having examined document CE/15/5.CP/9a and its Annex, as well as information document CE/15/5.CP/INF.4;*
2. *Recalling its Resolution 4.CP 10 and the Decisions 7.IGC 5 and 8.IGC 7a of the Committee;*
3. *Takes note of the Secretariat's analytical summary of Parties' Quadrennial Periodic Reports 2013 and 2014, as presented in document CE/15/5.CP/INF.5;*
4. *Also takes note of information documents CE/14/8.IGC/INF.4, CE/14/8.IGC/INF.5 and CE/14/8.IGC/INF.6 containing the analysis of selected issues identified by the Governing Bodies (i.e., impact of digital technologies, role of civil society and role of public service broadcasting);*
5. *Decides that the Parties that ratified the Convention in 2012 shall submit their first quadrennial periodic reports to the Secretariat before 30 April 2016 and that those that ratified in 2013 shall submit their reports before 30 April 2017;*
6. *Further decides that the Parties that ratified the Convention in 2005-2008 shall submit their second quadrennial periodic reports to the Secretariat before 30 April 2016 and that those that ratified in 2009 shall submit their second reports before 30 April 2017;*
7. *Requests the Secretariat to invite the Parties concerned to compile their quadrennial periodic reports no later than six months before the deadline set for their submission, as stipulated in paragraphs 5 and 6 above;*
8. *Further requests the Secretariat to submit to the ninth ordinary session of the Committee in December 2015 its first biennial Global Monitoring Report on the implementation of the Convention worldwide on the basis of the quadrennial periodic reports and other sources;*
9. *Encourages the Parties to provide extrabudgetary resources for a training programme on the preparation of the reports and for the implementation of a global knowledge management system designed to implement Articles 9 and 19 of the Convention;*
10. *Invites the Committee to submit to it at its next ordinary session in 2017 the quadrennial periodic reports together with its comments and the Secretariat's analysis in the form of a Global Monitoring Report.*

**ANNEX**

**Countries whose reports are expected in the 2015-2016 period,  
including those overdue**

Party	Due date	
	2015	2016
<b>A - Z</b>		
Afghanistan	overdue	
Albania		second report
Andorra		second report
Angola		first report
Argentina		second report
Armenia		second report
Australia	overdue	
Austria		second report
Azerbaijan	overdue	
Bangladesh		second report
Barbados	overdue	
Belarus	overdue	
Benin	overdue	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		second report
Brazil		second report
Bulgaria		second report
Burkina Faso		second report
Burundi		second report
Cambodia		second report
Cameroon	overdue	
Canada		second report
Central African Republic		first report
Chad	overdue	
Chile		second report
China		second report
Congo	overdue	
Costa Rica	first report	
Côte d'Ivoire		second report
Croatia		second report
Cuba		second report
Cyprus		second report
Czech Republic		second report
Democratic Republic of the Congo	overdue	
Denmark		second report
Djibouti	overdue	
Dominican Republic		second report
Ecuador		second report
Egypt		second report
Equatorial Guinea	overdue	

Party	Due date	
	2015	2016
A - Z		
Estonia		second report
Ethiopia	overdue	
European Union		second report
Finland		second report
France		second report
Gabon	overdue	
Gambia	first report	
Georgia	overdue	
Germany		second report
Greece		second report
Grenada	overdue	
Guatemala		second report
Guinea		second report
Guyana	overdue	
Haiti	overdue	
Honduras	overdue	
Hungary		second report
Iceland	overdue	
India	overdue	
Indonesia		first report
Ireland		second report
Italy		second report
Jamaica	overdue	
Jordan		second report
Kenya		second report
Korea (Republic of)		second report
Kuwait		second report
Lao PDR	overdue	
Latvia		second report
Lesotho	overdue	
Lithuania		second report
Luxembourg		second report
Madagascar	overdue	
Mali	overdue	
Malta	overdue	
Mauritius	overdue	
Mexico		second report
Monaco		second report
Mongolia		second report
Montenegro		second report
Mozambique	overdue	
Namibia		second report

Party	Due date	
	2015	2016
Netherlands		second report
New Zealand		second report
Nicaragua	overdue	
Niger	overdue	
Nigeria		second report
Norway		second report
Oman		second report
Palestine	first report	
Panama	overdue	
Paraguay		second report
Peru		second report
Poland		second report
Portugal		second report
Qatar	overdue	
Republic of Moldova	overdue	
Romania		second report
Rwanda		first report
Saint Lucia	overdue	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	overdue	
Senegal	overdue	
Serbia		second report
Seychelles	overdue	
Slovakia		second report
Slovenia		second report
South Africa	overdue	
Spain		second report
Sudan	overdue	
Swaziland		first report
Sweden		second report
Switzerland		second report
Syrian Arab Republic		second report
Tajikistan		second report
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	overdue	
Togo		second report
Trinidad and Tobago	overdue	
Tunisia		second report
Ukraine		second report
United Arab Emirates		first report
United Kingdom		second report
United Republic of Tanzania	first report	
Uruguay		second report
Viet Nam		second report
Zimbabwe	overdue	