

**39TH SESSION - UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE  
DELEGATES INFORMATION BUREAU**

<b>CULTURE COMMISSION</b>			
<b>Date</b>	8 November 2017	<b>Room</b>	II
<b>N° meeting</b>	2	<b>Hour</b>	From: 3 p.m. To: 6 p.m.
<b>Chairperson(s)</b>	H.E. Ms Vincenza Lomonaco	<b>Country</b>	Italy

<b>SUMMARY OF DEBATE(S)</b>			
-----------------------------	--	--	--

<b>Items examined</b>	Item 3.2 on the Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5) Part II A – Major Programme IV Culture.		
<b>Debate no</b>	1	<b>Debate status</b>	Continuation and closure
<b>Related documents</b>	39 C/5 and Addendum 39 C/6 and Addendum		
<b>DRs examined</b>	39 C/COM.JM/DR.1		
<b>Countries that took floor</b>	Norway, Ghana, the Netherlands, Poland, Madagascar, Cuba, Spain, Kuwait, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Republic of Korea, Zimbabwe, Greece, People's Republic of China, Sweden, Tunisia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, Nigeria, Hungary, Romania, United Arab Emirates		
<b>Summary of debate</b>	<p>The Chairperson resumed the discussion on the Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5) Part II A – Major Programme IV Culture.</p> <p>Member States endorsed the Major Programme IV Culture of the 39 C/5 and its 8 expected results. They expressed their recognition of the UNESCO Culture Conventions and stressed the importance of their universal ratification for the effective implementation of the Culture Programme. Several Member States expressed their intent to ratify the Culture Conventions, particularly the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.</p> <p>Member States expressed a joint commitment to the promotion of the role of culture for sustainable development and a rights-based implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable, as well as a common support to the importance of protecting culture in the event of armed conflict, disasters and crises. In this context, Member States praised the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347, the first resolution to address exclusively the protection of cultural heritage in the event of armed conflict, and endorsed the Appeal proposed by Italy on 'Protecting Culture and Promoting Cultural Pluralism: The Key to Lasting Peace'.</p> <p>Member States also congratulated the Secretariat for their initiatives in the field of culture, notably the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, which as they expressed, puts culture forward as a strategic factor for sustainable development. They also highlighted the importance of integrating culture in their national policies, and provided examples of their efforts in this regard.</p> <p>The recommendations raised by Member States to the Culture Commission included the need to provide technical assistance and support capacity building at the national level, the importance of strengthening synergies between all Culture Conventions and the need to enhance data collection mechanisms.</p>		

	<p>Concerns were raised regarding the Organization's current financial situation and clarifications were requested on the budgetary information provided in the 39 C/5.</p> <p>The Holy See and the International Music Council intervened as an observer state and a non-governmental organisation, respectively.</p> <p>Following these interventions, the discussion was closed by the Chairperson and the representative of the Director-General, Mr Francesco Bandarin, Assistant Director-General for Culture, provided responses to the Member States, including an explanation of the actual budgetary situation of the Culture Sector, as well as a clarification concerning the UNESCO Institute of Statistics.</p> <p>The Chairperson proceeded to the adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5) Part II A – Major Programme IV Culture without objection.</p> <p>The Chairperson closed the debate on Item 3.2.</p> <p>To conclude the first Debate, the Chairperson invited Ms Sabrina Ho, a young cultural entrepreneur and philanthropist to take the floor and present her willingness to side by UNESCO in safeguarding cultural heritage, fostering creativity and nurturing the creative potential of youth through a generous contribution, which will be donated on 9 November 2017.</p>
--	---

<b>Items examined</b>	Item 4.12 Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict		
<b>Debate no</b>	4	<b>Debate status</b>	Start and closure
<b>Related documents</b>	39 C/57		
<b>DRs examined</b>			
<b>Countries that took floor</b>	Italy, Switzerland, Armenia, Thailand, Canada, Japan, the Russian Federation, Libya, Denmark, Greece, Finland, Norway, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Sweden, Serbia, Ghana, Namibia, Mexico, Gambia, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, France, Paraguay		
<b>Summary of debate</b>	<p>As agreed in the morning session, the Chairperson presented the Fourth Debate on the Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict.</p> <p>The Assistant Director-General for Culture provided an introductory presentation on the Strategy and its Addendum concerning emergencies associated with disasters caused by natural and human-induced hazards. He also introduced the Appeal on Protecting Culture and Promoting Cultural Pluralism: The Key to Lasting Peace, which recalls UNESCO's efforts in this field and aims to raise awareness among the international community of the role of culture as a humanitarian and security imperative.</p> <p>The Chairperson opened the floor for Member States, who unanimously supported the Addendum to the Strategy, in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347, and presented an overview of their recent achievements for the protection of culture and, in particular, the safeguarding of cultural heritage in crises situations.</p> <p>Following this discussion, Mr Bandarin expressed his satisfaction towards the consensus of Member States regarding the Strategy and stressed the importance of contributing to the Emergency Heritage Fund in order to ensure its effective implementation.</p> <p>The United Arab Emirates were given the floor to share its recent progress, together with France, in fundraising for the protection of culture in the framework of the Strategy.</p> <p>Following this intervention, the Chairperson opened the Consideration and adoption of the</p>		

	<p>draft resolution. As requested by several Member States, the resolution was considered paragraph by paragraph and an amendment was approved by consensus to advance the paragraph recalling the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2347 to the beginning of paragraph 8.</p> <p>The Commission approved Resolution 39 C/57 by Consensus.</p> <p>The Chairperson closed the debate.</p>
--	---

#### DETAILS NEXT MEETING

<b>Date</b>	9 November 2017	<b>Room</b>	II
<b>N° meeting</b>	3	<b>Hour</b>	From: 10 a.m. To: 1 p.m.
<b>Items to be examined</b>	Item 4.4 on the Establishment of a Regional Centre for Human Evolution, Adaptations & Dispersals in Southeast Asia (CHEADSEA) Item 4.2 on Jerusalem and the implementation of 38 C/Resolution 52		
<b>Debate no</b>	2 and 3	<b>Debate status</b>	Start
<b>Related documents</b>	39 C/18 Part XIII 39 C/COM CLT/DR.2		
<b>DRs to be examined</b>	39 C/COM CLT/DR.2 Jerusalem and the implementation of 38 C/Resolution 52		

<b>Date</b>	9 November 2017	<b>Room</b>	II
<b>N° meeting</b>	5	<b>Hour</b>	From: 3 p.m. To: 6 p.m.
<b>Items to be examined</b>	<p>Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage on its activities (2016 – 2017)</p> <p>Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage on its activities (June 2014-June 2016)</p> <p>Report on the activities of the Subsidiary Committee of the Meeting of the States Parties to the 1970 Convention (2016-2017)</p> <p>Report on the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in case of Illicit Appropriation (2016-2017)</p> <p>Item 4.14 on Strengthening the implementation of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property</p> <p>Item proposed by Honduras on behalf of the Latin America and Caribbean Group</p>		
<b>Debate no</b>	4	<b>Debate status</b>	Start
<b>Related documents</b>	39 C/COM CLT/DR.1 39 C/REP/19 39 C/REP/21 39 C/REP/23 39 C/REP/20		
<b>DRs to be examined</b>	39 C/COM CLT/DR.1 Strengthening the implementation of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property		