



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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

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

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Assistant Director-General for Culture a.i.

To all Permanent Delegates and
Observers to UNESCO

28 October 2016

Ref.: CLT/HER/EPR/16/7945

Subject: Consultation on an Action Plan to implement the Strategy on reinforcing UNESCO's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict

Dear Sir/Madam,

At its 38th session (Paris, 2015), the General Conference adopted 38 C/Resolution 48, which provides a *Strategy for reinforcing UNESCO's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict* (paragraph 1).

The Resolution invited the Secretariat to elaborate, in coordination with Member States and relevant actors, an Action Plan that refines further and implements the strategy, in accordance with UNESCO's mandate (paragraph 2). It also invited Member States to support the elaboration of an Action Plan for the implementation of the strategy by defining mechanisms for rapid response and the mobilization of national experts, as well as by contributing to the Heritage Emergency Fund (paragraph 3), and, invited the Director-General to explore, in collaboration with Member States, practical ways for implementing such mechanisms for the rapid intervention and mobilization of national experts (paragraph 4).

On the basis of responses to an online questionnaire, discussions held on the occasion of two intersessional meetings of the Executive Board and of three meetings of the Group of Friends "Unite for Heritage", as well as following a dedicated Information Meeting, a draft Action Plan was presented to the 200th session of the Board.

By its Decision 200 EX/5 (I, F.ADD) the Executive Board requested the Director-General to "undertake open and transparent consultations with Member States on the proposed Action Plan and to submit" (paragraph 13) to its 201st Session a revised version of this Plan, "incorporating the adjustments and enrichments presented".

In line with the above decision and with a view to ensuring a deeper consultation of Member States, please find herewith attached the Action Plan requested under 38 C/Resolution 48, as well as a proposal concerning practical ways for implementing a mechanism for the rapid intervention and mobilization of national experts, as requested in Document 200 EX/5 Part I, F. ADD. The activities proposed in the Action Plan reflect the scope of the adopted strategy and, in particular, of its two objectives (paragraph 16), as well as and various priority areas of action defined therein (paragraphs 17-36).

Member States are invited to submit their draft suggestions and/or comments using track change in the documents no later than 9 January 2017 at midnight Paris time, and to address these to the following e-mail address: epr@unesco.org. In addition, Member States are invited to inform the Secretariat in the event they do not wish their comments to be made public.

Based on the comments and suggestions received, the Secretariat will produce a revised version of the Action Plan and of the proposal concerning a rapid response mechanism. These will then be presented to on the occasion of a meeting open to all Member States, which will provide another opportunity for further discussion and clarification.

On this basis, the Secretariat will elaborate a further revised version of the Action Plan for examination by the Executive Board at its 201st session in the spring of 2017.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bandarin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Francesco Bandarin

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO

Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Actions for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the event of armed conflict

NOTE: The activities included in this Action Plan refer to the two main objectives and to all the priority areas of action of the Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Actions for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the event of armed conflict, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 38th session (38 C/Resolution 48). Activities are grouped according to their short, medium and long term priority, with long term extending to the end of the foreseen time span of the Strategy (i.e. until 2022). The estimated costs are approximate and will need to be confirmed or adjusted subject to actual needs and the specific conditions of implementation. It is also indicated in green, orange or red whether funding for each activity is fully, partially or not secured, respectively.

| # | § in 38C/49 | Activity | Estimated Costs (\$) | Funding | Preparedness | Response | Recovery |
|--|----------------|---|-------------------------|---------|--------------|----------|----------|
| Objective 1: | | | | | | | |
| Strengthen the ability of Member States to prevent, mitigate and recover the loss of cultural heritage and diversity as a result of conflict | | | | | | | |
| Short-term | | | | | | | |
| 1 | §§ 20, 25 | <p>Development of training tools and piloting of trainings for national law enforcement, armed forces and legal sectors on cultural property protection and illicit trafficking of cultural objects</p> <p>This activity will build on pilot materials developed in cooperation with the UNESCO Chair on Heritage and Peace at Newcastle University (UK), as well as on the Military Manual on the Protection of Cultural Property elaborated by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (Sanremo, Italy). It will also take into account the ongoing cooperation with UNIDROIT, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and specialized police forces such as the Carabinieri (Italy) or the Spanish specialized security forces (Guardia Civil and Policía Nacional), including in the framework of the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2199. It will see the development of toolkits, manuals, user-friendly material and other items for increasing the knowledge and capacities of military personnel, custom officers and police forces. In addition, through the development of materials and conducting tailor-made trainings, the project will enhance the knowledge of how to prevent illicit trafficking and of the relevant international instruments and build capacities of legal professionals – in particular judges, prosecutors and lawyers - as well as heritage managers, law enforcement agencies, civil servants, actors of the art market, police, customs and the financial sphere. E-learning and other innovative methods will be used in order to facilitate the sustainability of this action. These activities will be piloted in at least 5 countries in Africa and the Middle East. This activity is closely linked to activity 25.</p> | 250.000 | | | | |

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| 2 | § 20 | <p>First Aid training for the culture sector</p> <p>Building on ICCROM’s successful international course on “First Aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis” and successful experiences through UNESCO’s Libya programme, this activity will include conducting practical trainings at local level on evacuation, protection, safeguarding and recovery of cultural heritage during emergencies in partnership with ICCROM. These trainings will be conducted in at least 8 countries in Africa and the Middle East. In addition, a first aid tool box (apps, infographics, short videos, etc.) will be developed for rapid damage assessment, which will be pilot tested in these 8 countries, and later on made widely available for heritage professionals and authorities globally. UNESCO’s Movable Heritage Outreach Programme handbooks for museums will also be widely disseminated.</p> | 500.000 | | | | |
| 3 | § 20 | <p>Development of Inventorying, Monitoring and Assessment tools using ICT and social media for recording, reporting and documenting events impacting heritage in all its forms</p> <p>This will include a coordination meeting with relevant actors on technologies already mapped by UNESCO, as well as the identification of needs and possibilities. Building on this, policy guidance and concrete tools will be developed in view of better preparedness, as well as to contribute to post-conflict rehabilitation and transition, as foreseen in activities 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 23. These will include – amongst others - innovative models for heritage - tangible and intangible - databases using crowd-sourcing, social media, mobile applications and satellite imagery, as well as strengthening database systems of police and related actors to prevent looting and study trafficking routes, including through monitoring of the internet. These tools will be piloted in at least 3 countries, and will later on be made widely available. They could be used in activity 13, together with other existing tools.</p> | 100.000 | | | | |
| 4 | § 20 | <p>Risk assessment and emergency plans in areas at risk</p> <p>A comprehensive tool for the analysis and risk assessment of the cultural sector in relation to emergency preparedness and response, including the identification of gaps and opportunities, will be developed and piloted in 3 priority countries (possibly Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sudan, as a start). Tailored strategies and action plans will be developed accordingly, to mitigate risks for culture and seize opportunities to harness its potential to contribute to resilience and stability. Cooperation in the implementation of this activity will be sought from ICOM, ICCROM and the ICOMOS International Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP).</p> | 200.000 | | | | |

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| 5 | §§ 21, 23, 25, 34 | <p>Campaign for the global ratification of UNESCO Conventions</p> <p>This will include organizing and participating in international fora, such as the Un Treaty Event in 2017, the development of policies and models, as well as country-specific diplomatic initiatives. Such advocacy will draw attention to State obligations and the importance of ratifying and implementing, in times of peace and through the appropriate legal and institutional measures at national level, relevant international standards as embodied in UNESCO Culture Conventions and the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention, and promote the International Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant instruments. Particular attention will be given to regions with low ratification rates, specifically of the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two Protocols (1954 and 1999) and of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. The initiative will continue advocating for the full respect, by all parties concerned, of international humanitarian law pertaining to the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, and will therefore build on the partnerships with the ICRC and the Office of the Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights.</p> | 75.000 | | | | |
| 6 | §§ 22, 25, 36 | <p>Reinforcement of the #Unite4Heritage campaign using international, regional, and national media as well as social networks</p> <p>Building on the achievements of the global #Unite4Heritage campaign, which focused so far mainly on social media and was targeted at young people from the Middle East, communication and outreach material will be developed through a number of innovative partnerships and creative initiatives. These will have a more global scope, to foster a counter narrative to hatred and harness heritage to promote tolerance and mutual understanding. They will target countries not directly affected by armed conflict, and involve the tourism, media, art, and other industries, as well as museums and private collectors, to expand the reach of the campaign while promoting its core values of cultural pluralism and appreciation for tangible and intangible heritage in its diversity, including in relation to the issues of looting and illicit trafficking.</p> | 275.000 | | | | |
| 7 | § 24 | <p>Comprehensive review of legal and policy frameworks on safe havens for cultural property</p> <p>Based on a needs assessment conducted in consultation with Member States, and in order to address the current lack of a legal and policy framework for the implementation of safe havens, a comprehensive legal review concerning their setting up and operationalization will be undertaken, as well as case studies examined from which principles and best practices will be drawn. Building on the work already carried out by the International Law Association and other initiatives, these findings will then be compiled into specific guidelines. In parallel, it is proposed to promote institutions ready to temporarily host movable heritage evacuated during armed conflict in respect of national law and relevant international Conventions. This activity is closely linked to activity 16.</p> | 75.000 | | | | |

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| 8 | § 24 | First aid and mitigation measures This activity includes the emergency stabilization of damaged monuments, the creation of emergency inventories and salvaging of cultural artefacts as well as their conservation, and enhanced security at museums and sites. Whenever possible, a capacity-building component targeting local personnel will be integrated in this activity. | 300.000 | | | |
| 9 | § 24 | Establishment and maintenance of a Rapid Response Mechanism (Roster “Unite4Heritage”) Based on the provisions of 38 C/Resolution 48 (§§ 3 and 4), and building on the "Unite4Heritage" task force established by Italy, this activity will include preparatory consultations with potential operational partners and staff- or fund-contributing Member States, the establishment and maintenance of a roster of cultural heritage experts, the organization of induction and training courses for pre-selected members of the roster, as well as the deployment of rapid assessment and advisory missions to affected countries, as needed. | 400.000 | | | |
| 10 | § 26 | Formulation and coordination of international efforts for country-based Emergency Response Pursuant to its coordination mandate, UNESCO will continue ensuring technical coordination among all stakeholders to formulate Emergency Action Plans for the Safeguarding of Culture in affected countries, as well as for the implementation of new and existing Action Plans, with a view to review progress, identify emerging challenges and determine the appropriate response. | 300.000 | | | |
| 11 | §§ 27, 28 | Development of recovery plans Subject to the improvement of security in the concerned areas, this activity involves working with relevant authorities and stakeholders in at least 3 countries in the Middle East to plan for heritage rehabilitation or restitution in selected locations and to have these efforts integrated as a part of peacebuilding and reconciliation strategies. Activities will include all relevant preparatory work, such as collecting documentation, convening stakeholders, and planning. This activity will build the basis for the mid- to long-term implementation of programmes for cultural heritage rehabilitation and preservation, again subject to enabling security conditions. | 300.000 | | | |
| 12 | §§ 30, 33 | Post-Conflict and Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PCNAs and PDNAs) In the framework of UN-wide PCNA (to be possibly renamed “Recovery and Peace Building Assessment”) and PDNA exercises, this activity aims at strengthening their culture component and training UNESCO staff, NGOs in the cultural sector and relevant government officials in their methodology and implementation, through 5 dedicated regional workshops, as well as supporting UNESCO's participation for culture in an estimated 3-4 PDNAs and 2 PCNAs (RPBAs) exercises per year. | 350.000 | | | |
| Mid-term | | | | | | |

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| 13 | § 20 | <p>Preparatory documentation, risk assessment and emergency plans for heritage in peripheral zones</p> <p>As a preventive measure, inventory and documentation work will be undertaken in countries affected by conflict or potentially at risk, including the development of community-based inventories (notably for intangible cultural heritage). This will include the development of no-strike maps. In at least 3 countries, these activities will develop comprehensive inventories and the related documentation of tangible and intangible heritage (these countries will also receive the First aid training under activity 2), which will include the use of digitization, 3D-scanning and related methodologies, such as those developed in the framework of activity 3. They will also introduce tools such as the object ID for movable heritage as a preventive measure, which is promoted by UNESCO and ICOM, as well as the development of comprehensive risk preparedness plans for sites and cultural institutions.</p> | 350.000 | | | | |
| 14 | §§ 22, 36 | <p>Learning through heritage: promoting cultural pluralism and enhancing youth engagement around culture</p> <p>This activity will contribute to the larger "Learning through heritage: enhancing youth engagement" project, specifically through educational activities, including informal ones, promoting cultural pluralism and the respect for cultural heritage, with an aim to build more tolerant and inclusive societies. Building on the World Heritage in Young Hands Programme and jointly with UNESCO's Education and Communication and Information Sectors, relevant partners, and the NET-MED Youth and Youth 2.0 projects, the larger project foresees the development of a comprehensive programme for heritage education, with a long-term view to strengthening the protection of heritage in all its forms, facilitating access to and enjoyment of heritage among the younger generation as related to the development of their self-identities, including through history and commemoration. This will contribute to improved learning outcomes through two intertwined steps: 1) At the global level, UNESCO will develop a generic "teacher's resource pack on using all forms of heritage in education". 2) At the local level, pilot countries will use these resources to train a team of facilitators, which will then work with teacher-training institutions on developing adapted educational resource materials (teacher training materials, lesson plans, sample curricula and content) to fit their respective contexts. In countries affected by crises, this may involve working together with local actors operating in refugee and IDP camps, including national Red Cross and Red Crescent movements, and specifically those managing child-friendly spaces and similar child- and youth-oriented efforts. This activity will be closely linked to activity 27, and will concentrate initially on the current Syrian refugee crisis, but will also develop activities for communities of at least 4 other countries.</p> | 1.200.000 | | | | |

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| 15 | § 24 | <p>Establishment of a Global Observatory of Cultural Heritage to monitor and document attacks against cultural heritage sites</p> <p>This activity will build on the experience with the EU-funded Syria Observatory, and aim to collect systematic, reliable and verified data on damage, destruction, looting and misappropriation of cultural property, essential to define priority mitigating measures, prevent further loss and engage in longer-term planning for recovery. On the basis of the collected data, regular reports will analyze the situation on the ground. In partnership with UNOSAT and other relevant research projects, data and documentation of deliberate attacks on cultural heritage will also be collected, which are critical to address impunity and ensure that perpetrators of such acts are held accountable, while systems and tools will be developed to maximize the value of documentation efforts for transitional justice purposes. This activity will be piloted in 3 countries and then expanded to global scale. It will feed into activity 23.</p> | 400.000 | | | |
| 16 | § 24 | <p>Facilitate the creation of safe havens for cultural property</p> <p>Based on activity 7 concerning a comprehensive legal review regarding the setting up and operationalizing of safe havens, the development of specific guidelines, and the establishment of an international roster of institutions ready to temporarily host movable heritage evacuated during conflict in respect of national legislation and relevant international Conventions and agreements, this activity will facilitate the actual evacuation of cultural assets from sites, museums and other cultural repositories to domestic safe havens or abroad, if and when requested by the countries concerned. To this end, UNESCO may, if and when requested, assist by liaising between source and host countries, developing agreements, and where required, providing coordination and technical support for moving collections.</p> | 500.000 | | | |
| 17 | §§ 22, 28 | <p>Community-based recovery projects</p> <p>Whenever possible, and within the framework of broader UN-led peacebuilding efforts, it is proposed to implement a number of relatively small, but empowering, culture rehabilitation or recovery initiatives owned and implemented by local communities at their request. Such efforts will aim to reconcile communities, foster dialogue or contribute to enhancing conditions for return through cultural rehabilitation, tangible or intangible – linked to broader peacebuilding efforts. This activity could complement activity 11 as part of the overall recovery effort.</p> | 300.000 | | | |
| 18 | § 22 | <p>Culture creation for inclusion and peaceful societies</p> <p>This will involve working with artists and the performing art sector in post-conflict situations and with displaced communities in at least 5 countries to ensure greater inclusion and social stability, as an enabling factor for other activities related to transition and peacebuilding efforts. This activity is linked to activities 11 and 17.</p> | 250.000 | | | |

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| 19 | §§ 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36 | Evaluation and continuation of short-term activities Following an evaluation, relevant elements (e.g. trainings, awareness-raising, advocacy, etc.) of short-term activities 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 will be continued in the mid-term as well, as appropriate. | 1.975.000 | | | | |
| Long term | | | | | | | |
| 20 | § 19 | Strengthen Conventions' operational guidelines and build synergies in their implementation Building on ongoing initiatives within the relevant statutory processes, this activity involves the analysis, in consultation with all relevant actors and in particular the Governing Bodies of the Conventions and associated mechanisms, of the gaps and opportunities – specifically related to the protection of culture in armed conflict - associated with all the Conventions and with their possible synergies, which would lead to proposals for strengthening the effectiveness of the Conventions. This would include, for example, exploring options for strengthening reporting and monitoring the implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols within their statutory processes. | 100.000 | | | | |
| 21 | §§ 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36 | Evaluation and continuation of short and mid-term activities Following an evaluation, relevant elements (e.g. trainings, awareness-raising, advocacy, etc.) of short-term activities 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, as well as mid-term activities 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 will be continued in the long term as well, as appropriate. | 3.825.000 | | | | |
| Objective 2: Incorporate the protection of culture into humanitarian action, security strategies and peacebuilding processes by engaging with relevant stakeholders outside the culture domain. | | | | | | | |
| Short-term | | | | | | | |
| 22 | §§ 25, 33 | Strengthened cooperation in the fight against illicit trafficking In the framework of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2199, this activity will aim at reinforcing on-going cooperation with INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, UNODC, national specialized police units, research initiatives, university networks and other partners, including from the cultural sector such as UNIDROIT and ICOM, for the tracking, authentication, seizure, conservation and restitution of objects stolen and illegally exported, including the joint development of tools and international as well as domestic policies. This activity is closely linked to activities 1, 3, 6, 7, and 16. | 100.000 | | | | |

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| 23 | § 29 | <p>Cooperation and exchange of information with the International Criminal Court (ICC) Based on the data collected via the Global Observatory of Cultural Heritage (activity 15), UNESCO will support the ICC in the investigations concerning perpetrators of attacks against cultural heritage, if and when a legal case is opened, by sharing relevant factual information, including gathered and analyzed in cooperation with partners from the IT sector.</p> | 100.000 | | | | |
| 24 | §§ 33, 34 | <p>Cooperation and exchange of information with the Human Rights Council and the UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights In order to mainstream culture into Human Rights policies, in particular in the context of armed conflicts, this activity could include research, assessments, the development of guidelines, and the organization of special advocacy events in the framework of the Human Rights Council and in cooperation with the UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights. It could also involve cooperation with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the Prevention of Genocide for the development of tools that would take consideration of violations of cultural rights and attacks against culture for early warning of possible genocidal processes.</p> | 150.000 | | | | |
| 25 | §§ 33, 35 | <p>Integration of the protection of cultural heritage and diversity in military notably UN peace-keeping operations (including their police and civilian components) This activity will include training and sensitization activities, building on the experience of UNESCO in working with MINUSMA in Mali but also with other UN peacekeeping missions in Lebanon, Haiti and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as well as on the work carried out in the past by the International Blue Shield Committee and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), pilot training materials developed in cooperation with the UNESCO Chair on Heritage and Peace at Newcastle University (UK), as well as the Military Manual on the Protection of Cultural Property prepared by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (Sanremo, Italy). These will be adapted to the specificities of armed forces (national or regional, e.g. NATO) and peacekeeping forces that could be deployed or mandated by the UN Security Council and have a mandate for the protection of cultural heritage. The training modules will be tested in pilot capacity-building initiatives in cooperation with UNDPKO and UNITAR. They are aimed at enhancing, among mission personnel, awareness of the basic principles of International Humanitarian Law related to cultural property and more in general of the importance of culture and heritage and the need to safeguard them. Furthermore, also building and expanding on the MINUSMA precedent, this activity will include the exchange of information (e.g. provision of no-strike lists) and advising on cultural property protection, as well as, if and when explicitly foreseen within their mandate as determined by the UN Security Council, cooperation with UN peacekeeping missions on the ground for the protection of cultural and natural heritage, through the deployment of technical experts under UNESCO's coordination. This activity is closely linked to activity 1.</p> | 400.000 | | | | |

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| 26 | § 35 | <p>Promoting the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict of a non-international character - as part of International Humanitarian Law - among non-State armed groups</p> <p>In the context of an increase in armed conflicts of a non-international character with strengthened engagement of non-State armed groups, this activity will aim at raising these groups' awareness and promoting their respect of basic principles of International Humanitarian Law related to cultural property and more in general of the importance of culture and heritage and the need to safeguard them, in line with expressed priorities of the UN Secretary-General and in full application of UN rules and regulations. This will involve the preparation, in cooperation with the NGO Geneva Call, of a scoping study and the development of capacity-building and awareness-raising materials, which could be used by relevant NGOs and other humanitarian actors having interaction with non-State armed groups.</p> | 100.000 | | | | |
| Mid-term | | | | | | | |
| 27 | §§ 33, 34 | <p>Integration of culture into humanitarian relief efforts related to displacement</p> <p>This will include research, promotional materials, assessments, development of guidelines, training and the organization of special events with the relevant UN Agencies (Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), UNHCR, IOM) and selected humanitarian actors at global and grassroots levels. A particular focus – as a priority - will be on displacement and migration, addressing access to culture in situations of displacement, including through the development of dedicated tools (such as the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix) with a view to a possible return. With a pilot effort focusing in particular on the Syrian refugees, assessments will be conducted for the safeguarding and importance of intangible cultural heritage for community resilience during humanitarian crises, leading to the development of concrete tools. This activity will be closely linked to activity 14.</p> | 200.000 | | | | |
| 28 | §§ 33, 34 | <p>Integration of culture into peacebuilding efforts</p> <p>Against the background of the ongoing review of the UN Peace architecture, as decided by the UN General Assembly, this activity will aim at integrating a culture component into policies and tools used by UN actors involved in peacebuilding efforts. This will involve the development of research, promotional materials and guidance, for example for UNDP Advisors and Peace Building Support Office staff; the inclusion of culture into vulnerability assessments tools (such as the Conflict and Development Analysis (CDA) recently elaborated by the UN Working Group on Transition); the organization of thematic meetings (e.g. at the Peace Building Council's sessions); and ultimately the elaboration of proposals for projects to be supported under peacebuilding funding mechanisms. This will be done at a global level, and subject to the availability of funds, piloted in at least 5 countries in cooperation with the relevant humanitarian actors.</p> | 200.000 | | | | |
| 29 | §§ 33, 35 | <p>Protected cultural zones</p> <p>Building on the legal bases provided within the 1954 Convention and its Second Protocol, as well as on the right of initiative granted to UNESCO therein, the activity will explore, through consultations with UNDPKO and UNDP, the legal framework for the possible establishment of protected cultural zones in conflict-affected countries, as well as the practical implementation modalities on the ground, including through UNESCO partners such as the ICRC.</p> | 75.000 | | | | |

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| 30 | §§ 25, 29, 33, 34, 35 | Evaluation and continuation of short-term activities Following an evaluation, relevant elements (e.g. trainings, awareness-raising, advocacy, etc.) of short-term activities 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 will be continued in the mid-term as well, as appropriate. | 750.000 | | | | |
| Long term | | | | | | | |
| 31 | §§ 25, 29, 33, 34, 35 | Evaluation and continuation of short and mid-term activities Following an evaluation, relevant elements (e.g. trainings, awareness-raising, advocacy, etc.) of short-term activities 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, as well as mid-term activities 27 and 28 will be continued in the long term as well, as appropriate. | 1.250.000 | | | | |
| General | | | | | | | |
| 32 | § 51 | Management and promotion of the Heritage Emergency Fund This will include the development of procedures and assessment and evaluation mechanisms, the coordination of the implementation of activities, the reporting as well as initiatives for outreach, fund-raising and communication. These activities may include the preparation of promotional and fund-raising materials, the organization of information meetings and the development and maintenance of a comprehensive webpage – within the website of UNESCO - on the programme with updated information on current activities. | 250.000 | | | | |
| Human Resources (over 6 years) | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 (P3) Coordination of Heritage Emergency Fund and of Rapid Response Mechanism - CLT/HER/EPR | 1.103.976 | | | | |
| | | 1 (P3) Development and implementation of innovative partnerships and tools - CLT/HER/EPR | 1.103.976 | | | | |
| | | 1 (P1/P2) Research, Knowledge management and Communication - CLT/HER/EPR | 725.976 | | | | |
| | | 1 (P2) 1970 - Project Officer - CLT/HER/MHM | 936.000 | | | | |
| | | 1 (P2) 1954 - Project Officer - CLT/HER/CHP | 936.000 | | | | |
| | | 1 (P2) 1972 - Project Officer - CLT/HER/WHC/ARB | 936.000 | | | | |
| | | 3 (P3) Project Officers - Field Offices covering priority areas (e.g. Iraq, Syria, Libya) | 3.576.024 | | | | |
| | | GRAND TOTAL | 24.917.952 | | | | |

ANNEX II

Proposal for the establishment and maintenance of a mechanism for the rapid intervention and mobilization of national experts (Roster “Unite4Heritage”)

Introduction

Resolution 48 adopted by the General Conference at its 38th session (38 C/Resolution 48) calls, in its paragraph 3, on Member States to define mechanisms for the rapid mobilization of national experts, as a way to support the elaboration of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy on the reinforcement of UNESCO’s action to protect culture and promote cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict. In its paragraph 4, moreover, the resolution invited the Director-General to explore, in collaboration with Member States, practical ways for implementing such mechanism for the rapid intervention and mobilization of national experts.

The Secretariat welcomes the wealth of suggestions, comments and best practices shared by Member States in the context of the online consultation put in place. The comments received point to the need to carefully assess various legal and financial implications. In further developing the concept for the establishment and maintenance of a mechanism for the rapid intervention and mobilization of national experts, the Secretariat will give these issues careful consideration.

The following describes how such mechanism could be set up within UNESCO, resulting from preliminary consultations both with Member States as well as potential partner organizations.

Establishment and operation of the rapid response mechanism

In order to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of the response, the proposed mechanism for the rapid intervention of national experts should be based on a roster that UNESCO would establish, containing pre-selected experts in fields related to the protection and safeguarding of culture, ready to be deployed.

Experts of the Roster would be used to assist in the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage from threats that may arise in emergency situations associated to possible armed conflicts and/or natural disasters. To this end, they might be employed at anyone of the three stages of the emergency management process, that is before, during and after, to contribute to preparedness, immediate response and recovery initiatives.

The members of the Roster, when deployed on mission, will assist in the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage by exercising their relevant professional expertise of a legal or technical nature, i.e. not by enforcing laws and security (e.g. ensuring the physical protection of people, a heritage site or Museum).

Among the possible activities that the experts of the Roster might be asked to undertake, always in full consultation with and at the request of the concerned national authorities, are the following:

- Rapid assessment of damage and other needs related to cultural heritage and in line with relevant national legislation, and identification of urgent safeguarding measures;
- Technical support to the implementation of urgent safeguarding measures, including emergency documentation, stabilization of structures at risk, salvaging and storage of collections, transport of movable cultural properties at risk to safe havens, legal counselling;

- Capacity building, including through training of relevant staff from national authorities, NGOs and volunteers;
- Legal advisory services to national authorities on measures to strengthen the protection of cultural property;
- Culture-related activities in support of internally displaced and refugees, such as psycho-social and educational programmes, vocational training, etc.

Candidatures would be screened against a set of pre-determined profiles and qualifications, drawn from past experience, and selected with the help of an advisory panel established on purpose. Desired competencies will not be limited to knowledge and skills within a specific area of knowledge related to the protection of culture, but also include the ability to work under stress and within a multicultural environment in emergency situations with security challenges, when applicable. Special attention would be put to ensure a diversity in profiles, regional experience, language skills, and gender. In selecting and deploying experts of the Roster, moreover, the United Nations-agreed humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and operational independence will also be applied. Within UNESCO, the roster would be managed by the Unit for Emergency Preparedness and Response of the Culture Sector.

The selected experts will become members of the roster and will be asked to guarantee, and reconfirm every two years, their readiness to be deployed within a short period of time and provide their services, possibly in areas affected by a critical situation. Once selected, the expert members of the roster will be required to undergo an induction course and specific training programme, possibly drawing from existing practices. These will be aimed at providing them with relevant information on the context in which they may be deployed, focusing on institutional and security arrangements, but also on culture-related processes to which they may be asked to contribute, such as the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) for Culture. In addition, as customary for all UNESCO experts, the members of the Roster will be required to undertake – and maintain updated - the standard online security training courses provided by the United Nations, and will receive specific country-briefings when deployed. The quality of their contribution to the mission will be evaluated after the latter's completion, in view of a future redeployment on behalf of UNESCO.

The actual deployment of the members of the Roster will be subject to the granting of security clearance by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and require the formalization of certain legal and administrative arrangements, to comply with United Nations established standard procedures. There exist different options, depending on the timeframe and the funding source, but in all cases the deployed experts will have to sign some form of individual contractual arrangement with UNESCO and, when on mission, will have the status of "UNESCO experts", not UNESCO staff. These options may include:

- UNESCO taking complete charge of the deployment;
- UNESCO relying on a governmental organization to deploy its national experts, through various arrangements (loans or stand-by agreement); or
- UNESCO relying on an external Stand-by Partner¹.

¹ Stand-by Partners are organizations which maintain large rosters of qualified personnel that can be deployed rapidly to field offices on UNESCO's request. The related procedures are outlined in the User guide: "The Stand-by Partnership Users' Guide", accessible online from: http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/BSP/pdf/standby_partnerships.pdf

Experts from the roster could be also deployed in the framework of a United Nations mission, whether led by the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO) or the United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA), which would include in its mandate the protection of cultural property and which would request UNESCO to assist in implementing this particular aspect of its mandate. In such circumstances, and based on the specific terms establishing the United Nations Mission, UNESCO may wish to define specific arrangements with UNDPKO or UNDPA whereby the experts of the roster, would cooperate with the United Nations mission in protecting cultural and/or natural heritage. Such arrangement would require further formal agreements to be completed between UNESCO and UNDPKO/UNDPA in accordance with the rules and regulations of both parties and in consultation with the authorities of the concerned country. The terms of the arrangement would depend on various factors, including the required scope of work, the presence of a UNESCO Office in the country hosting the Headquarters of the United Nations mission and the availability of funds to support the deployment of the experts. The contribution by the UNESCO experts might focus on training and awareness raising of the mission personnel (notably police and military) on cultural property protection; capacity building of national authorities and local communities; and technical support for assessment and urgent protection and safeguarding measures. The United Nations Mission could, as was the case for MINUSMA in Mali, contribute by ensuring logistics and security support, as well as in monitoring the situation related to cultural heritage, through its military and police personnel.

Similarly, the deployment of experts on the Roster could also be considered in the framework of missions carried out by other international organizations such as the EU, OSCE or NATO.

The establishment and operationalization of the roster would require significant resources for UNESCO, on a structural and permanent basis. Ideally, these should be foreseen within the regular programme and budget of the Organization, at least to maintain its basic capacity to manage the roster. Extrabudgetary contributions, however, will be also critical. Interested donors could contribute through the recently established Heritage Emergency Fund or through specific Funds-in-Trust agreements.