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REPORT OF COMMISSION IV

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INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to 29 C/Res.87 (paragraphs 1.21 and 1.22) the Executive Board, at its 166th session (166 EX/Decision 7.4), recommended to the General Conference the nomination of Mr Olabiyi Babalola Joseph Yaï (Benin) for the office of Chairperson of Commission IV. At the second plenary meeting, on 29 September 2003, Mr Olabiyi Babalola Joseph Yaï was elected Chairperson of Commission IV.

2. At its first meeting, on 9 October 2003, the Commission approved the proposals submitted by the Nominations Committee for the offices of Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur. The following were elected by acclamation:

Vice-Chairpersons:

Mr Tullio Scovazzi (Italy)
 H.E. Mr Adolfo Castells (Uruguay)
 H.E. Mr Teiichi Sato (Japan)
 Mr Slimane Hachi (Algeria)

Rapporteur:

Mr Tomasz Orłowski (Poland)

3. The Commission then adopted the timetable of work submitted in document 32 C/COM.IV. (prov.).

4. The Commission devoted seven meetings, between Thursday, 9 October (afternoon) and Tuesday 14 October 2003 (morning), to the examination of the items on its agenda.

5. The Commission adopted its report at its eighth meeting, in the morning of Thursday, 16 October 2003. The report includes the recommendations which the Committee transmitted to the General Conference on each item on its agenda.

DEBATE 1

Item 4.2 Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005 – Part II.A: Major Programme IV – Culture (32 C/5)

6. At its first and second meetings, the Commission examined item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005 – Part II.A: Major Programme IV.

7. The representatives of 82 Member States, one observer, one intergovernmental organization and three non-governmental organizations took the floor.

Draft resolutions proposed in document 32 C/5

8. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04110** of document 32 C/5 concerning Subprogramme IV.1.1 (Promotion of the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and implementation of its Action Plan) as amended by draft resolution 32 C/DR.26 (submitted by Egypt) concerning paragraph 04110 (a)(ii).

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action on the basis of the principles of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and on the main lines of its Action Plan in order to :
 - (i) further study of the principles of cultural diversity with a view to their practical application in the implementation of cultural policies with the backing of regional observatories; undertake a feasibility study on the advisability of an international legal instrument on cultural diversity; strengthen the promotion of the Declaration by the celebration of 21 May, proclaimed World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development by the United Nations;
 - (ii) promote the implementation of policies based on cultural pluralism by regional approaches based in particular on the lessons of the General Histories and projects undertaken with indigenous peoples; identify best practices in cultural pluralism through the UNESCO Chairs networks and drawing on the achievements of the UNESCO Cities for Peace Prize; improve local capacities in this field; and enhance the Euro-Arab cultural dialogue.
 - (iii) promote under the flagship project “The Slave Route” the memory of the slave trade and slavery by means of an interdisciplinary programme based on cooperation between international scientific networks, and encourage the commemoration of 2004, International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition. The flagship project will be developed in line with the orientations proposed in the Programme of Action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$3,808,300 for programme costs and \$33,500 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

9. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04120** of document 32 C/5 concerning Subprogramme IV.1.2 (Strengthening the links between cultural policies and development policies) as amended on the recommendation of the Executive Board contained in document 32 C/6, paragraph 79.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the plan of action corresponding to this programme drawing on the principles of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the main lines of its Plan of Action in order to:
 - (i) assist Member States in the framing of their cultural policies, with particular attention given to the cultural perspective in development policies, notably in

policies relating to education, science, communication, health and tourism, so as to contribute more fully to the strategic objectives of the struggle against poverty and NEPAD;

- (ii) encourage the compilation of statistics and cultural indicators in cooperation with UIS and national statistics institutes;
- (iii) analyse the conceptual links between cultural diversity and biological diversity, with particular reference to linguistic diversity and natural world heritage sites as part of the follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg) and the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, this activity to be carried out in close cooperation with the Science Sector, and monitor the impact of any innovative cultural policies and training programmes on the sustainability of both cultural and biological diversity in the sites selected.

- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,345,200 for programme costs and \$22,300 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

10. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04210** of document 32 C/5 concerning Subprogramme IV.2.1 (Promotion and implementation of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)) as amended:

- (i) by the following draft resolutions:
 - 32 C/DR.3 (Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Jamaica, Haiti, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, supported by Saint Kitts and Nevis) concerning subparagraph 04210 (a);
 - 32 C/DR.35 (Serbia and Montenegro) concerning subparagraph 04210 (a)(ii);
- (ii) as concerns the recommendation of the Executive Board contained in document 32 C/6, paragraph 81, the Commission recommended that this paragraph was no longer required in line with the debate and the developments on this issue.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to carry out the corresponding plan of action for the implementation of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by:
 - (i) providing support to the World Heritage governing bodies, and
 - (ii) protecting the world's cultural diversity and supporting the development process through the 1972 Convention with a strategic focus on strengthening the credibility of the World Heritage List, by focusing on developing countries and under-represented regions, including Associate Members, ensuring the effective and preventive conservation of World Heritage properties, promoting the

development of effective capacity-building measures, and increasing public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through communication;

- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$2,108,900 for programme costs and \$32,400 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

11. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04220** of document 32 C/5 concerning Subprogramme IV.2.2 (Protecting cultural diversity through the preservation of cultural heritage in all its forms and through normative action) as amended by draft resolution 32 C/DR.34 (Serbia and Montenegro) concerning paragraph 04220 (a)(i).

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) protect cultural diversity through the safeguarding of sites and monuments in which the cultural identities of the peoples who built them are expressed and encourage the resumption of inter-community dialogue through the joint safeguarding of all relevant parts of the heritage in pre- and post-conflict situations, in particular concerning subregional and regional cooperation in Africa, Central Asia, Central America and South-East Europe;
 - (ii) parallel to the preparation of an international convention (see (iv) below), raise awareness among Member States, encourage and help them to safeguard and promote their intangible cultural heritage, mainly through the implementation of the “Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity”, the promotion and dissemination of the traditional and popular music of the world, as well as the reinforcement of the Endangered Languages project in line with the implementation of the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity;
 - (iii) promote the existing standard-setting instruments by providing expert advice on becoming party to and implementing these instruments (1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols; 1970 Convention on Illicit Traffic; 1995 UNIDROIT Convention; 2001 Convention on the Underwater Cultural Heritage), and on elaborating national legislation;
 - (iv) develop a new international instrument on the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$7,279,300 for programme costs and \$83,600 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

12. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04310** of document 32 C/5 concerning Subprogramme IV.3.1 (Encouraging arts and crafts for sustainable development) as amended on the recommendation of the Executive Board contained in document 32 C/6, paragraph 83.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement articles 7-9 of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and its corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) encourage the development of the arts through the organization of a world conference focusing on arts education as one dimension of quality education (formal and informal) and the adoption of a plan of action as a contribution to the improvement of quality education; the establishment of a World Observatory on the Status of the Artist; the improvement of the vocational training of artists and their international mobility; and the promotion of the arts through prizes and other institutional supports, in close cooperation with artistic NGOs;
 - (ii) foster the development of crafts and design by contributing to the acknowledgement of their importance by Member States, including for women empowerment and poverty alleviation strategies as well as for the development of cultural tourism; by enhancing professional capacity-building with a multiplier effect in this area; and through promotional activities such as prizes and contests;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,477,500 for programme costs and \$24,400 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

13. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04320** of document 32 C/5 concerning Subprogramme IV.3.2 (Strengthening the role of cultural creation in human and economic development) as amended by draft resolution 32 C/DR.67 (Barbados) concerning paragraph 04320 (a) (ii) as amended orally by the Commission.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement articles 7-9 of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and its corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) contribute to a more equitable and larger choice of diversified cultural products through the development of sustainable cultural industries in developing countries and those in transition, including policy advice, capacity-building, transfer of know-how, the development of infrastructures and piracy prevention through innovative public/private partnerships under the Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity; and promote world recognition of the contribution of all cultures to literary and cinematographic creations in their paramount expressions;
 - (ii) increase public awareness at the public policy-making levels on the fundamental role of copyright and intellectual property in UNESCO's fields of competence for the development of creativity using the e-Copyright Bulletin as a tool; upgrade the effectiveness of collecting management of the rights of authors and artists; build

consensus towards reaffirming and promoting the equitable balance between the interests of rightsholders and those of the public in the digital environment;

- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,477,900 for programme costs and \$19,500 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

14. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed in **paragraph 04500** of document 32 C/5 concerning the subprogramme relating to cross-cutting themes in the light of the recommendation of the Executive Board contained in document 32 C/6, paragraph 96.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action to execute to completion the projects related to the two cross-cutting themes Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, and The contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society;
- (b) to evaluate and monitor the implementation, as well as assess the impact of the various projects;
- (c) to ensure intersectoral cooperation within UNESCO and coordination with other United Nations agencies and funds in order to enhance the coherence and learning process in the execution of approved projects;
- (d) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,700,000 for programme costs.

Recommendations of the Commission for other draft resolutions not selected for adoption *in extenso*

- 32 C/DR.8 (submitted by Cuba) concerning paragraph 04310. Following its examination of 32 C/DR.8, the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the Director-General to meet the request of this draft resolution, given that it will be the subject of a regular budget contribution, which will be allocated to the organization of the eighth World Children’s Theatre Festival, and could also be the subject of a Participation Programme request.
- 32 C/DR.12 (submitted by Italy, Greece and India) concerning paragraph 04210. Following its examination of 32 C/DR.12, the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the Director-General to meet the request of this draft resolution, given that a reinforcement of Main Line of Action 2 in Subprogramme IV.2.1 “Promotion and implementation of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage” (1972) would be implemented up to one million dollars in accordance with the “Proposals by the Director-General concerning the use of the contribution of the United States of America for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2003” (32 C/62).
- 32 C/DR.21 (submitted by Kenya) concerning paragraph 04220. Following its examination of 32 C/DR.21, the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the

Director-General to meet the request of this draft resolution, given that it could be the subject of a Participation Programme request for a project for a subregional inventory of indigenous cultural films.

- 32 C/DR.31 (submitted by Switzerland, France, Czech Republic, Germany, Argentina, Italy, Senegal, Slovenia, Ukraine, Poland and supported by Cambodia, Canada). Following its examination of 32 C/DR.31, the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the Director-General to meet the request of this draft resolution, given that any extrabudgetary resources that may be sought will be used to supplement those that are allocated under the regular budget.
- 32 C/DR.56 Rev. (submitted by Lithuania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia) concerning paragraphs 04420 and 04310. Following its examination of 32 C/DR.56 Rev., the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the Director-General to meet the request of this draft resolution, given that it could be the subject of a Participation Programme request for the defence of the cinematographic treasures of the world and their creators.
- 32 C/DR.62 (submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran) concerning paragraph 04310. Following its examination of 32 C/DR.62, the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the Director-General to meet the request of this draft resolution, given that a Participation Programme request might be submitted for the organization of subregional and regional meetings of experts on arts education prior to the holding of a world conference on arts education.

Draft resolutions not retained

- 32 C/DR.23 (submitted by Kenya) concerning paragraph 04120
- 32 C/DR.24 (submitted by the United Republic of Tanzania and supported by Seychelles, Rwanda, Mozambique, Comoros, Kenya and Burundi) concerning paragraph 04220
- 32 C/DR.40 (submitted by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) concerning paragraph 04220
- 32 C/DR.60 (submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran) concerning paragraph 04120
- 32 C/DR.61 (submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran and supported by Afghanistan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Pakistan, Tunisia, Uzbekistan) concerning paragraph 04110. After examination of this draft resolution, the Commission recommended that the General Conference invite the Director-General, in line with his comments contained in 32 C/COM.IV/8, to seek financial resources for the activities proposed in it from within the resources allocated to Subprogramme IV.1.1, Main Line of Action 2.
- 32 C/DR.75 (submitted by the Philippines) concerning paragraph 04220.

Recommendations of the Executive Board

15. The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the recommendations of the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 9 to 29, 73 to 78, and 80 and 82 of document 32 C/6, and invited the Director-General to take them into account in the elaboration of document 32 C/5 Approved.

Total budgetary provision for Major Programme IV

16. The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budgetary provision of \$53,380,200 (para. 04001) for Major Programme IV, it being understood that that amount was subject to adjustment in the light of the decision taken by the General Conference on the budget ceiling, and by the joint meeting of the programme commissions and the Administrative Commission.

DEBATE 2

Item 3.1 Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5)

17. At its third meeting, the Commission examined item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5).

18. The representatives of 17 Member States and two non-governmental organizations took the floor.

19. The Commission recommends that the General Conference adopt the following draft resolution, as amended by Commission I, *in extenso* for the Records of the General Conference:

- 32 C/COM.I.II.III.IV.V/DR.1 (submitted by Australia, Barbados, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and supported by Aruba, Bahamas, Comoros, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Seychelles, Trinidad and Tobago)

The General Conference,

Recalling the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados in April-May 1994;

Recognizing that, within the context of the challenges of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, vulnerability to climate change and climate variability, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack and depletion of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports, waste management challenges, erosion of social and cultural values, and issues related to migration and social transformations;

Recognizing the great cultural diversity of small island states, including the multi-dimensional connections that link islands with each other and with the rest of the world;

Being aware of the significant efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral financial and trading system;

Recalling that UNESCO has had projects specifically focused on small islands for more than 30 years, with one house-wide review being prepared for the Barbados 1994 Conference, in

the form of the 131-page “Island Agenda – An Overview of UNESCO’s Work on Island Environments, Territories and Societies”;

Recalling also the more recent measures taken by UNESCO to work closely with its small island developing Member States and Associate Members in optimizing benefits from the programmes and projects of the Organization, including the cross-cutting themes of eradicating poverty and promoting information and communication technologies;

Recalling in this respect the steps taken by UNESCO to promote intersectoral, interregional cooperation in fields related to sustainable development in coastal areas and small islands, such as the establishment by the General Conference at its 28th session in 1995 of the Coastal Regions and Small Islands (CSI) platform;

Taking into account the consultation processes carried out by UNESCO during the period 1997-1999, including “Focus on the Pacific”, “Focus on the Caribbean” and “Indian Ocean Forum 2000”;

Recalling the discussions and decision by the Executive Board at its 159th session in May 2000 on the implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (159 EX/Decision 7.1.1);

Taking note of the particular emphasis given to small island developing States in the Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the call for the United Nations General Assembly to consider convening an international meeting for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action;

Noting the decision of the United Nations General Assembly in resolution A/57/262 to convene an international meeting in 2004 in Mauritius, including a high-level segment, for a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

Noting also the invitation extended by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session (CSD-11) (New York, 28 April-9 May 2003) to the international community, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental bodies to support regional initiatives and to collaborate closely in partnership with the regional organizations and institutions to expedite preparations for the review;

Noting furthermore the invitation of CSD-11 to the international donor and development community and international organizations to provide information, on or before 31 January 2004, on their activities in support of the Barbados Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, as well as on recommendations for further action in support of the full implementation of the Programme of Action;

Welcoming the initial steps taken by UNESCO to respond to these invitations, including the identification of a UNESCO Focal Point for the Barbados+10 process and the participation of UNESCO in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Barbados+10 and the preparations for the Mauritius meeting of 2004, as well as the house-wide efforts to set up an interactive website designed to facilitate public access to information on the Organization’s wide-ranging work related to sustainable living in small island developing States;

Recalling the strong emphasis placed on the importance of the sustainable development of small island developing States at the Ninth consultation of National Commissions for UNESCO, Nadi, Fiji, 7-11 July 2003.

1. Urges Member States and Associate Members to:
 - (a) participate actively in the preparation, convening and follow-up of the international meeting in Mauritius in August-September 2004, designed to provide for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
 - (b) mobilize UNESCO's programmes and networks in their respective countries and regions, in order to further promote the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, including the use of existing media and new information and communication technologies to nurture stakeholder dialogue, regional and interregional understanding, and cohesive action;
2. Urges non-governmental organizations in official relations with UNESCO to:
 - (a) work in close partnership with government and other stakeholders for the preparation of the Mauritius meeting and its follow-up;
 - (b) become actively involved in the civil society component of the international meeting in Mauritius and its preparatory process at national, regional and international levels;
3. Invites the Director-General to:
 - (a) continue to undertake concrete measures for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action in the context of UNESCO's programmes and projects, giving special attention to the synergies of various kinds of interaction and cooperation – within and between societal sectors, within and between disciplines, within and between various stakeholder groups (government, civil society, youth, private sector, research and education communities), within and between regions, within and between institutions and organizations at various levels (local, national, subregional, regional, international);
 - (b) contribute to the full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, including appropriate efforts to compile, synthesize and diffuse experience on UNESCO's past, ongoing and future contribution to sustainable development in small island developing States;
 - (c) report to the Executive Board at its 169th session on the status of and preparations for the international meeting in Mauritius (August-September 2004) and its expected outcomes;
 - (d) report to the General Conference at its 33rd session (2005) on the outcomes of and follow-up to the international meeting in Mauritius (August-September 2004), to include pertinent proposals in document 33 C/5 and in C/5 documents for subsequent biennia, and to take the results of the Mauritius meeting fully into account in preparation of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4).

DEBATE 3**Item 5.2 Proclamation of 2004 as International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition****Item 5.12 Proposal to grant the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation****Item 7.2 Draft amendments to the Statutes of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture**

20. At its third meeting, the Commission examined item 5.2 – Proclamation of 2004 as International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition; item 5.12 – Proposal to grant the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation; and item 7.2 – Draft amendments to the Statutes of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture.

21. The representatives of 15 Member States and one non-governmental organization took the floor.

Item 5.2 Proclamation of 2004 as International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition

22. Having examined document 32 C/14, the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the following resolution contained in paragraph 24 of that document, as amended during the debate.

The General Conference

Having examined document 32 C/14,

Takes note of United Nations General Assembly resolution 57/195 entitled: “The fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action”, in which the General Assembly proclaims 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition;

Recognizes the historic importance of this commemoration, particularly through the creation of an award and a medal to commemorate Toussaint Louverture and his universal and modern relevance, in view of the different forms of discrimination that still exist today;

Notes with satisfaction the UNESCO draft programme of commemoration for 2004, placing emphasis on the requisite solidarity with Haiti in all UNESCO’s fields of competence;

Requests the Director-General to take into account the programme of commemoration once finalized in the implementation of document 32 C/5 and to mobilize extrabudgetary funds for its full implementation, including through enhanced participation of civil society and of public and private sectors in Member States;

Invites the Member States, National Commissions, governmental and non-governmental organizations, the UNESCO Clubs and the Associated Schools to participate actively in the commemoration of the International Year in 2004;

Further requests the Director-General to continue the Slave Route Project at least until 2007, the 200th anniversary of the beginning of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade;

Further invites the Director-General to report to the Executive Board at its 171st session on the development and implementation of this commemoration.

Item 5.12 Proposal to grant the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation

23. Having examined document 32 C/53, the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the following resolution contained in paragraph 7 of that document, without amendment.

The General Conference,

Recalling 166 EX/Decision 3.4.4,

Welcomes the Nordic World Heritage Foundation's partnership with UNESCO;

Requests the Director-General to ensure coordination of the activities of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation with those of the World Heritage Committee;

Grants the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF) the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO;

Authorizes the Director-General to appoint to the Board of the Foundation one member and a deputy;

Also authorizes the Director-General to enter into a cooperation agreement with the Foundation, as appropriate.

Item 7.2 Draft amendments to the Statutes of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture

24. Having examined document 32 C/39 and Corr. (French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Chinese) and taken note of document 32 C/INF.4, the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the following resolution contained in paragraph 7 of document 32 C/39, without amendment.

The General Conference,

1. Having examined document 32 C/39,
2. Recalling 165 EX/Decision 6.4, in which the Executive Board recommended that the General Conference approve at its 32nd session the amendments to the IFPC Statutes, as set out in the Annex to this decision,
3. Approves the said amendments.

DEBATE 4**Item 8.4 Preliminary draft international convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage and report by the Director-General on the situation calling for standard-setting and on the possible scope of such standard-setting**

25. The representatives of 61 Member States, one observer and two non-governmental organizations took the floor during the debate.

26. After considering document 32 C/26 and Add. and the draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation, Romania, Kazakhstan and Georgia (32 C/COM.IV/DR.3 Rev.), the Commission recommended that the General Conference not take account of draft resolution 32 C/COM.IV/DR.3 Rev. and adopt by consensus the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage as a UNESCO Convention. The text of the Convention, as contained in Annex III, is reproduced below.

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization hereinafter referred to as UNESCO, meeting in Paris, from 29 September to 17 October 2003, at its 32nd session,

Referring to existing international human rights instruments, in particular to the Universal Declaration on Human rights of 1948, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966,

Considering the importance of the intangible cultural heritage as a mainspring of cultural diversity and a guarantee of sustainable development, as underscored in the UNESCO Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore of 1989, in the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of 2001, and in the Istanbul Declaration of 2002,

Considering the deep-seated interdependence between the intangible cultural heritage and the tangible cultural and natural heritage,

Recognizing that the processes of globalization and social transformation, alongside the conditions they create for renewed dialogue among communities, also give rise, as does the phenomenon of intolerance, to grave threats of deterioration, disappearance and destruction of the intangible cultural heritage, in particular owing to a lack of resources for safeguarding such heritage,

Being aware of the universal will and the common concern to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage of humanity,

Recognizing that communities, in particular indigenous communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals, play an important role in the production, safeguarding, maintenance and recreation of the intangible cultural heritage, thus helping to enrich cultural diversity and human creativity,

Noting the far-reaching impact of the activities of UNESCO in establishing normative instruments for the protection of the cultural heritage, in particular the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972,

Noting further that no binding multilateral instrument as yet exists for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage,

Considering that existing international agreements, recommendations and resolutions concerning the cultural and natural heritage need to be effectively enriched and supplemented by means of new provisions relating to the intangible cultural heritage,

Considering the need to build greater awareness, especially among the younger generations, of the importance of the intangible cultural heritage and of its safeguarding,

Considering that the international community should contribute, together with the States Parties, to the safeguarding of such heritage in a spirit of cooperation and mutual assistance,

Recalling UNESCO's programmes relating to the intangible cultural heritage, in particular the Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity,

Considering the invaluable role of the intangible cultural heritage as a factor in bringing human beings closer together and ensuring exchange and understanding among them,

Adopts this Convention on this day of 200X.

I. General provisions

Article 1 – Purposes of the Convention

The purposes of this Convention are:

- (a) to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage;
- (b) to ensure respect for the intangible cultural heritage of the communities, groups and individuals concerned;
- (c) to raise awareness at the local, national and international levels of the importance of the intangible cultural heritage, and of ensuring mutual appreciation thereof;
- (d) to provide for international cooperation and assistance.

Article 2 – Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention,

1. The “intangible cultural heritage” means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity. For the purposes of this Convention, consideration will be given solely to such intangible cultural heritage as is compatible with existing international human rights instruments, with the requirement of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and with sustainable development.

2. The “intangible cultural heritage”, as defined in paragraph 1 above, is manifested *inter alia* in the following domains:

- (a) oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage;
- (b) the performing arts;
- (c) social practices, rituals and festive events;
- (d) knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe;
- (e) traditional craftsmanship.

3. “Safeguarding” means measures aimed at ensuring the viability of the intangible cultural heritage, including the identification, documentation, research, preservation, protection, promotion, enhancement, transmission, particularly through formal and non-formal education, as well as the revitalization of the various aspects of such heritage.

4. “States Parties” means States which are bound by this Convention and among which this Convention is in force.

5. This Convention applies *mutatis mutandis* to the territories referred to in Article 33 which become Parties to this Convention in accordance with the conditions set out in that Article. To that extent the expression “States Parties” also refers to such territories.

Article 3 – Relationship to other international instruments

Nothing in this Convention may be interpreted as:

- (a) altering the status or diminishing the level of protection under the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of World Heritage properties with which an item of the intangible cultural heritage is directly associated; or
- (b) affecting the rights and obligations of States Parties deriving from any international instrument to which they are parties relating to intellectual property rights or to the use of biological and ecological resources.

II. Organs of the Convention

Article 4 – General Assembly of the States Parties

1. A General Assembly of the States Parties is hereby established, hereinafter referred to as “the General Assembly”. The General Assembly is the sovereign body of this Convention.

2. The General Assembly shall meet in ordinary session every two years. It may meet in extraordinary session if it so decides or at the request either of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage or of at least one-third of the States Parties.

3. The General Assembly shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article 5 – Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

1. An Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”, is hereby established within UNESCO. It shall be

composed of representatives of 18 States Parties, elected by the States Parties meeting in General Assembly, once this Convention enters into force in accordance with Article 34.

2. The number of States Members of the Committee shall be increased to 24 once the number of the States Parties to the Convention reaches 50.

Article 6 – Election and terms of office of States Members of the Committee

1. The election of States Members of the Committee shall obey the principles of equitable geographical representation and rotation.

2. States Members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years by States Parties to the Convention meeting in General Assembly.

3. However, the term of office of half of the States Members of the Committee elected at the first election is limited to two years. These States shall be chosen by lot at the first election.

4. Every two years, the General Assembly shall renew half of the States Members of the Committee.

5. It shall also elect as many States Members of the Committee as required to fill vacancies.

6. A State Member of the Committee may not be elected for two consecutive terms.

7. States Members of the Committee shall choose as their representatives persons who are qualified in the various fields of the intangible cultural heritage.

Article 7 – Functions of the Committee

Without prejudice to other prerogatives granted to it by this Convention, the functions of the Committee shall be to:

- (a) promote the objectives of the Convention, and to encourage and monitor the implementation thereof;
- (b) provide guidance on best practices and make recommendations on measures for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage;
- (c) prepare and submit to the General Assembly for approval a draft plan for the use of the resources of the Fund, in accordance with Article 25;
- (d) seek means of increasing its resources, and to take the necessary measures to this end, in accordance with Article 25;
- (e) prepare and submit to the General Assembly for approval operational directives for the implementation of this Convention;
- (f) examine, in accordance with Article 29, the reports submitted by States Parties, and to summarize them for the General Assembly;
- (g) examine requests submitted by States Parties, and to decide thereon, in accordance with objective selection criteria to be established by the Committee and approved by the General Assembly for:

- (i) inscription on the lists and proposals mentioned under Articles 16, 17 and 18;
- (ii) the granting of international assistance in accordance with Article 22.

Article 8 – Working methods of the Committee

1. The Committee shall be answerable to the General Assembly. It shall report to it on all its activities and decisions.
2. The Committee shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure by a two-thirds majority of its Members.
3. The Committee may establish, on a temporary basis, whatever ad hoc consultative bodies it deems necessary to carry out its task.
4. The Committee may invite to its meetings any public or private bodies, as well as private persons, with demonstrated competence in the various fields of the intangible cultural heritage, in order to consult them on specific matters.

Article 9 – Accreditation of advisory organizations

1. The Committee shall propose to the General Assembly the accreditation of non-governmental organizations with recognized competence in the field of the intangible cultural heritage to act in an advisory capacity to the Committee.
2. The Committee shall also propose to the General Assembly the criteria for and modalities of such accreditation.

Article 10 – The Secretariat

1. The Committee shall be assisted by the UNESCO Secretariat.
2. The Secretariat shall prepare the documentation of the General Assembly and of the Committee, as well as the draft agenda of their meetings, and shall ensure the implementation of their decisions.

III. Safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage at the national level

Article 11 – Role of States Parties

Each State Party shall:

- (a) take the necessary measures to ensure the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory;
- (b) among the safeguarding measures referred to in Article 2, paragraph 3, identify and define the various elements of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory, with the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organizations.

Article 12 – Inventories

1. To ensure identification with a view to safeguarding, each State Party shall draw up, in a manner geared to its own situation, one or more inventories of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory. These inventories shall be regularly updated.
2. When each State Party periodically submits its report to the Committee, in accordance with Article 29 , it shall provide relevant information on such inventories.

Article 13 – Other measures for safeguarding

To ensure the safeguarding, development and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory, each State Party shall endeavour to:

- (a) adopt a general policy aimed at promoting the function of the intangible cultural heritage in society, and at integrating the safeguarding of such heritage into planning programmes;
- (b) designate or establish one or more competent bodies for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory;
- (c) foster scientific, technical and artistic studies, as well as research methodologies, with a view to effective safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, in particular the intangible cultural heritage in danger;
- (d) adopt appropriate legal, technical, administrative and financial measures aimed at:
 - (i) fostering the creation or strengthening of institutions for training in the management of the intangible cultural heritage and the transmission of such heritage through forums and spaces intended for the performance or expression thereof;
 - (ii) providing access to the intangible cultural heritage while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of such heritage;
 - (iii) establishing documentation institutions for the intangible cultural heritage and facilitating access to them.

Article 14 – Education, awareness-raising and capacity-building

Each State Party shall endeavour, by all appropriate means, to:

- (a) ensure recognition of, respect for, and enhancement of the intangible cultural heritage in society, in particular through:
 - (i) educational, awareness-raising and information programmes, aimed at the general public, in particular young people;
 - (ii) specific educational and training programmes within the communities and groups concerned;
 - (iii) capacity-building activities for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, in particular management and scientific research; and

- (iv) non-formal means of transmitting knowledge;
- (b) keep the public informed of the dangers threatening such heritage, and of the activities carried out in pursuance of this Convention;
- (c) promote education for the protection of natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing the intangible cultural heritage.

Article 15 – Participation of communities, groups and individuals

Within the framework of its safeguarding activities of the intangible cultural heritage, each State Party shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals that create, maintain and transmit such heritage, and to involve them actively in its management.

IV. Safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage at the international level

Article 16 – Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

1. In order to ensure better visibility of the intangible cultural heritage and awareness of its significance, and to encourage dialogue which respects cultural diversity, the Committee, upon the proposal of the States Parties concerned, shall establish, keep up to date and publish a Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
2. The Committee shall draw up, and the General Assembly shall approve, the criteria for the establishment, updating and publication of this Representative List.

Article 17 – List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

1. With a view to taking appropriate safeguarding measures, the Committee shall establish, keep up to date and publish a List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, and shall inscribe such heritage on the List at the request of the State Party concerned.
2. The Committee shall draw up, and the General Assembly shall approve, the criteria for the establishment, updating and publication of this List.
3. In cases of extreme urgency - the objective criteria of which shall be approved by the General Assembly upon the proposal of the Committee - the Committee may inscribe an item of the heritage concerned on the List mentioned in paragraph 1, in consultation with the State Party concerned.

Article 18 – Programmes, projects and activities for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

1. On the basis of proposals submitted by States Parties, and in accordance with criteria to be defined by it and approved by the General Assembly, the Committee shall periodically select and promote national, subregional and regional programmes, projects and activities for the safeguarding of the heritage which it considers best reflect the principles and objectives of this Convention, taking into account the special needs of developing countries.
2. To this end, it shall receive, examine and approve requests for international assistance from States Parties for the preparation of such proposals.

3. The Committee shall accompany the implementation of such projects, programmes and activities by disseminating best practices using means to be determined by it.

V. International cooperation and assistance

Article 19 – Cooperation

1. For the purposes of this Convention, international cooperation includes, *inter alia*, the exchange of information and experience, joint initiatives, and the establishment of a mechanism of assistance to States Parties in their efforts to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of their national legislation and customary law and practices, the States Parties recognize that the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage is of general interest to humanity, and to that end undertake to cooperate at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels.

Article 20 – Purposes of international assistance

International assistance may be granted for the following purposes:

- (a) the safeguarding of the heritage inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding;
- (b) the preparation of inventories in the sense of Articles 11 and 12;
- (c) support for programmes, projects and activities carried out at the national, subregional and regional levels aimed at the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage;
- (d) any other purpose the Committee may deem necessary.

Article 21 – Forms of international assistance

The assistance granted by the Committee to a State Party shall be governed by the operational directives prepared pursuant to Article 7 and by the agreement referred to in Article 24, and may take the following forms:

- (a) studies concerning various aspects of safeguarding;
- (b) the provision of experts and practitioners;
- (c) the training of all necessary staff;
- (d) the elaboration of standard-setting and other measures;
- (e) the creation and operation of infrastructures;
- (f) the supply of equipment and know-how;
- (g) other forms of financial and technical assistance, including, in certain circumstances, the granting of low-interest loans and donations.

Article 22 – Conditions governing international assistance

1. The Committee shall establish the procedure for examining requests for international assistance, and shall specify what information shall be included in the requests, such as the measures envisaged and the interventions required, together with an assessment of their cost.
2. In emergencies, requests for assistance shall be examined by the Committee as a matter of priority.
3. In order to reach a decision, the Committee shall undertake such studies and consultations as it deems necessary.

Article 23 – Requesting international assistance

1. Each State Party may submit to the Committee a request for international assistance for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage present in its territory.
2. Such a request may also be jointly submitted by two or more States Parties.
3. The request shall include the information stipulated in Article 22, paragraph 1, together with the necessary documentation.

Article 24 – Role of beneficiary States Parties

1. In conformity with the provisions of this Convention, the international assistance granted shall be regulated by means of an agreement between the beneficiary State Party and the Committee.
2. As a general rule, the beneficiary State Party shall, within the limits of its resources, share the cost of the safeguarding measures for which international assistance is provided.
3. The beneficiary State Party shall submit to the Committee a report on the use made of the assistance provided for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage.

VI. Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund

Article 25 – Nature and resources of the Fund

1. A “Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage”, hereinafter referred to as “the Fund”, is hereby established.
2. The Fund shall consist of funds-in-trust established in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO.
3. The resources of the Fund shall consist of:
 - (a) contributions made by States Parties;
 - (b) funds appropriated for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO;
 - (c) contributions, gifts or bequests which may be made by:
 - (i) other States;

- (ii) organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, as well as other international organizations;
 - (iii) public or private bodies or individuals;
 - (d) any interest due on the resources of the Fund;
 - (e) funds raised through collections, and receipts from events organized for the benefit of the Fund;
 - (f) any other resources authorized by the Fund's regulations, to be drawn up by the Committee.
4. The use of resources by the Committee shall be decided on the basis of guidelines laid down by the General Assembly.
5. The Committee may accept contributions and other forms of assistance for general and specific purposes relating to specific projects, provided that those projects have been approved by the Committee.
6. No political, economic or other conditions which are incompatible with the objectives of this Convention may be attached to contributions made to the Fund.

Article 26 – Contributions of States Parties to the Fund

1. Without prejudice to any supplementary voluntary contribution, the States Parties to this Convention undertake to pay into the Fund, at least every two years, a contribution, the amount of which, in the form of a uniform percentage applicable to all States, shall be determined by the General Assembly. This decision of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority of the States Parties present and voting which have not made the declaration referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article. In no case shall the contribution of the State Party exceed 1% of its contribution to the regular budget of UNESCO.
2. However, each State referred to in Article 32 or in Article 33 of this Convention may declare, at the time of the deposit of its instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, that it shall not be bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. A State Party to this Convention which has made the declaration referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall endeavour to withdraw the said declaration by notifying the Director-General of UNESCO. However, the withdrawal of the declaration shall not take effect in regard to the contribution due by the State until the date of the subsequent General Assembly.
4. In order to enable the Committee to plan its operations effectively, the contributions of States Parties to this Convention which have made the declaration referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be paid on a regular basis, at least every two years, and should be as close as possible to the contributions they would have owed if they had been bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article.
5. Any State Party to this Convention which is in arrears with the payment of its compulsory or voluntary contribution for the current year and the calendar year immediately preceding it shall not be eligible as a Member of the Committee; this provision shall not apply to the first election. The

term of office of any such State which is already a Member of the Committee shall come to an end at the time of the elections provided for in Article 6 of this Convention.

Article 27 – Voluntary supplementary contributions to the Fund

States Parties wishing to provide voluntary contributions in addition to those foreseen under Article 26 shall inform the Committee, as soon as possible, so as to enable it to plan its operations accordingly.

Article 28 – International fund-raising campaigns

The States Parties shall, insofar as is possible, lend their support to international fund-raising campaigns organized for the benefit of the Fund under the auspices of UNESCO.

VII. Reports

Article 29 – Reports by the States Parties

The States Parties shall submit to the Committee, observing the forms and periodicity to be defined by the Committee, reports on the legislative, regulatory and other measures taken for the implementation of this Convention.

Article 30 – Reports by the Committee

1. On the basis of its activities and the reports by States Parties referred to in Article 29, the Committee shall submit a report to the General Assembly at each of its sessions.
2. The report shall be brought to the attention of the General Conference of UNESCO.

VIII. Transitional clause

Article 31 – Relationship to the Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

1. The Committee shall incorporate in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity the items proclaimed “Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity” before the entry into force of this Convention.
2. The incorporation of these items in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity shall in no way prejudice the criteria for future inscriptions to be established by the Committee in accordance with Article 16, paragraph 2.
3. No further proclamation will be made after the entry into force of this Convention.

IX. Final clauses

Article 32 – Ratification, acceptance or approval

1. This Convention shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Members of UNESCO in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.

2. The instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Director-General of UNESCO.

Article 33 – Accession

1. This Convention shall be open to accession by all States not Members of UNESCO that are invited by the General Conference of UNESCO to accede to it.

2. This Convention shall also be open to accession by territories which enjoy full internal self-government recognized as such by the United Nations, but have not attained full independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and which have competence over the matters governed by this Convention, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of such matters.

3. The instrument of accession shall be deposited with the Director-General of UNESCO.

Article 34 – Entry into force

This Convention shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, but only with respect to those States that have deposited their respective instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession on or before that date. It shall enter into force with respect to any other State Party three months after the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Article 35 – Federal or non-unitary constitutional systems

The following provisions shall apply to States Parties which have a federal or non-unitary constitutional system:

- (a) with regard to the provisions of this Convention, the implementation of which comes under the legal jurisdiction of the federal or central legislative power, the obligations of the federal or central government shall be the same as for those States Parties which are not federal States;
- (b) with regard to the provisions of this Convention, the implementation of which comes under the jurisdiction of individual constituent States, countries, provinces or cantons which are not obliged by the constitutional system of the federation to take legislative measures, the federal government shall inform the competent authorities of such States, countries, provinces or cantons of the said provisions, with its recommendation for their adoption.

Article 36 – Denunciation

1. Each State Party may denounce this Convention.

2. The denunciation shall be notified by an instrument in writing, deposited with the Director-General of UNESCO.

3. The denunciation shall take effect twelve months after the receipt of the instrument of denunciation. It shall in no way affect the financial obligations of the denouncing State Party until the date on which the withdrawal takes effect.

Article 37 – Depositary functions

The Director-General of UNESCO, as the Depositary of this Convention, shall inform the States Members of the Organization, the States not Members of the Organization referred to in Article 33, as well as the United Nations, of the deposit of all the instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession provided for in Articles 32 and 33, and of the denunciations provided for in Article 36.

Article 38 – Amendments

1. A State Party may, by written communication addressed to the Director-General, propose amendments to this Convention. The Director-General shall circulate such communication to all States Parties. If, within six months from the date of the circulation of the communication, not less than one half of the States Parties reply favourably to the request, the Director-General shall present such proposal to the next General Assembly for discussion and possible adoption.
2. Amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of States Parties present and voting.
3. Once adopted, amendments to this Convention shall be submitted for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the States Parties.
4. Amendments shall enter into force, but solely with respect to the States Parties that have ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to them, three months after the deposit of the instruments referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article by two thirds of the States Parties. Thereafter, for each State Party that ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to it, the amendment shall enter into force three months after the date of deposit by that State Party of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
5. The procedure set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 shall not apply to amendments to Article 5 concerning the number of States Members of the Committee. These amendments shall enter into force at the time they are adopted.
6. A State which becomes a Party to this Convention after the entry into force of amendments in conformity with paragraph 4 of this Article shall, failing an expression of different intention, be considered:
 - (a) as a Party to this Convention as so amended; and
 - (b) as a Party to the unamended Convention in relation to any State Party not bound by the amendments.

Article 39 – Authoritative texts

This Convention has been drawn up in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, the six texts being equally authoritative.

Article 40 – Registration

In conformity with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, this Convention shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations at the request of the Director-General of UNESCO.

DONE at Paris, this day of, in two authentic copies bearing the signature of the President of the General Conference, at its session, and of the Director-General of UNESCO. These two copies shall be deposited in the archives of UNESCO. Certified true copies shall be delivered to all the States referred to in Articles 32 and 33 as well as to the United Nations.

The above text is the authentic text of the Convention hereby duly adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its session, held in Paris and declared closed on

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have signed this Convention this day of

President of the General Conference

Director-General

DEBATE 5

Item 5.11 Desirability of drawing up an international standard-setting instrument on cultural diversity

27. The representatives of 81 Member States, one observer, one intergovernmental organization and two non-governmental organizations took the floor in this debate.

28. Having examined document 32 C/52, the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution contained in paragraph 6 of the document, as amended. The text of the resolution on which consensus was reached in the Commission reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Having examined document 32 C/52 containing the *Preliminary study on the technical and legal aspects relating to the desirability of a standard-setting instrument on cultural diversity*, and the observations made by the Executive Board in that regard at its 166th session,

Having taken note, in accordance with 166 EX/Decision 3.4.3, of the reference to the relevant international legal instruments with regard to cultural diversity, and more particularly the protection of the diversity of cultural contents and artistic expressions (option (d), para. 23, the preliminary study reproduced in Appendix 1 of document 32 C/52),

Recalling the efforts made by UNESCO in support of cultural diversity, including the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity,

Emphasizing the importance of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which declares that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers,

Stressing that among the fundamental purposes of UNESCO are the promotion of the free flow of ideas by word and image and the preservation of the independence, integrity and fruitful diversity of cultures,

Reaffirming the principle of openness of each culture to all other cultures,

Recognizing the importance to artists and creators of intellectual property protection,

Bearing in mind that when elaborating a new international standard-setting instrument it is essential to take account of existing international legal instruments, and it is appropriate to this end that the Director-General undertake consultations with WTO, UNCTAD and WIPO,

Decides that the question of cultural diversity as regards the protection of the diversity of cultural contents and artistic expressions shall be the subject of an international convention;

Invites the Director-General to submit to the General Conference at its 33rd session, in accordance with Article 10 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, a preliminary report setting forth the position with regard to the problem to be regulated and to the possible scope of the regulating action proposed, accompanied by the first draft of a convention on the protection of the diversity of cultural contents and artistic expressions.

29. The Commission informs the General Conference that the draft resolutions listed below were not retained:

- 32 C/COM.IV/DR.2;
- 32 C/COM.IV/DR.5.

DEBATE 6

Item 8.2 Implementation of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970): Reports by Member States and other States Parties on the action they have taken to implement the Convention

Item 8.3 Draft UNESCO declaration concerning the intentional destruction of cultural heritage

30. At its sixth meeting the Commission examined item 8.2 – Implementation of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970): Reports by Member States and other States Parties on the action they have taken to implement the Convention; and item 8.3 – Draft UNESCO declaration concerning the intentional destruction of cultural heritage.

Item 8.2 Implementation of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970): Reports by Member States and other States Parties on the action they have taken to implement the Convention

31. The representatives of 14 Member States took the floor.

32. Having examined document 32 C/24 and Add., Add.2, Add.3 and Corr., the Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt, with a view to its inclusion *in extenso* in the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 128 of document 32 C/24, as amended in the light of the debate.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Having considered the reports of States on the action taken by them to implement the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) (32 C/24),

Recognizing the importance and value of such action and the complementary activities undertaken by the Director-General,

Noting with satisfaction that the symbolic number of 100 deposits of instruments of ratification or acceptance of the Convention has been reached as at 1 July 2003,

Considering that action against illicit traffic in cultural property urgently needs to be strengthened at the national as well as international levels,

Invites the States which are not yet Parties to the 1970 Convention as well as to the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention which complements the 1970 Convention, to accede to them;

Reminds States Parties of their obligations under the 1970 Convention for an effective implementation, and in particular their obligation to report under its Article 16;

Sets the periodicity for reporting at four-year intervals with reference to Article 16 of the Convention under which the General Conference determines the dates of reporting;

Requests the Secretariat to facilitate the work of States Parties in preparing their reports by providing them with a questionnaire and appropriate categories of information and measures to be included in their reports with reference to Article 16 of the Convention under which the General Conference determines the manner of reporting;

Emphasizes that the content of such reports be as detailed as possible to enable an accurate understanding and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention;

Encourages States Parties to the 1970 Convention to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of national measures undertaken to implement the Convention so that areas of weakness may be identified and appropriate adjustments/improvements made;

Invites Member States and the Director-General to pursue activities aimed at strengthening regional and worldwide cooperation particularly by concluding agreements and encouraging an international system to facilitate the restitution of stolen or illicitly exported cultural property;

Invites Member States and other States Parties to the 1970 UNESCO Convention to submit for examination to the General Conference at its 34th session a new report on the measures taken by them in application of the Convention, after their examination by the Executive Board;

Invites the Director-General to present at the 170th session of the Executive Board a strategy to facilitate the restitution of stolen or illicitly exported cultural property by:

- (a) strengthening the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, *inter alia*, in terms of proposals of mediation and conciliation for Member States;
- (b) promoting the activities of the Committee for awareness-raising at regional, subregional and national levels;
- (c) convening its sessions annually.

Item 8.3 Draft UNESCO Declaration concerning the intentional destruction of cultural heritage

33. The representatives of 24 Member States took the floor.

34. Having examined document 32 C/25 and Add., the Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt, with a view to its inclusion *in extenso* in the Records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 3 of document 32 C/25, as amended during the debate.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 31 C/Resolution 26 which, among other things, invited the Director-General to formulate, for the 32nd session of the General Conference, a Draft Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage,
2. Having examined document 32 C/25,
3. Adopts the UNESCO Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage **as amended in the light of the debate;**
4. Urges Member States to take appropriate measures to promote this Declaration and to facilitate its application;
5. Invites the Director-General to take the necessary steps to ensure dissemination of, and follow-up to the Declaration, in particular in relation to the institutions of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

The text of the Declaration reads as follows:

DRAFT UNESCO DECLARATION CONCERNING THE INTENTIONAL DESTRUCTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization meeting in Paris at its thirty-second session in 2003,

Recalling the tragic destruction of the Buddhas of Bamiyan that affected the international community as a whole,

Expressing serious concern about the growing number of acts of intentional destruction of cultural heritage,

Referring to Article I(2)(c) of the UNESCO Constitution that entrusts UNESCO with the task to maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge by “assuring the conservation and protection of the world’s inheritance of books, works of art and monuments of history and science, and recommending to the nations concerned the necessary international conventions”,

Recalling the principles of all UNESCO’s conventions, recommendations, declarations and charters for the protection of cultural heritage,

Mindful that cultural heritage is an important component of the cultural identity of communities, groups and individuals, and of social cohesion, so that its intentional destruction may have adverse consequences on human dignity and human rights,

Reiterating one of the fundamental principles of the Preamble of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict providing that “damage to cultural property belonging to any people whatsoever means damage to the cultural heritage of all mankind, since each people makes its contribution to the culture of the world”,

Recalling the principles concerning the protection of cultural heritage in the event of armed conflict established in the 1899 and 1907 Hague Conventions, respectively, and, in particular, in Articles 27 and 56 of the Regulations of the 1907 Fourth Hague Convention, as well as other subsequent agreements,

Mindful of the development of rules of customary international law as also affirmed by the relevant case-law, related to the protection of cultural heritage in peacetime as well as in the event of armed conflict,

Also recalling Articles 8(2)(b)(ix) and 8(2)(e)(iv) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and, as appropriate, Article 3(d) of the Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, related to the intentional destruction of cultural heritage,

Reaffirming that issues not fully covered by the present Declaration and other international instruments concerning cultural heritage will continue to be governed by the principles of international law, the principles of humanity and the dictates of public conscience,

Adopts and solemnly proclaims the present Declaration:

I – Recognition of the importance of cultural heritage

The international community recognizes the importance of the protection of cultural heritage and reaffirms its commitment to fight against its intentional destruction in any form so that such cultural heritage may be transmitted to the succeeding generations.

II – Scope

1. The present Declaration addresses intentional destruction of cultural heritage including cultural heritage linked to a natural site.

2. For the purposes of this Declaration “intentional destruction” means an act intended to destroy in whole or in part cultural heritage, thus compromising its integrity, in a manner which constitutes a violation of international law or an unjustifiable offence to the principles of humanity and dictates of public conscience, in the latter case in so far as such acts are not already governed by fundamental principles of international law.

III – Measures to refrain from intentional destruction of cultural heritage

1. States should take all appropriate measures to prevent, avoid, stop and suppress acts of intentional destruction of cultural heritage, wherever such heritage is located.

2. States should adopt the appropriate legislative, administrative, educational and technical measures, within the framework of their economic resources, to protect cultural heritage and should revise them periodically with a view to adapting them to the evolution of national and international cultural heritage protection standards.

3. States should endeavour, by all appropriate means, to ensure respect for cultural heritage in society, particularly through educational, awareness-raising and information programmes.

4. States should:

- (a) Become parties to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two 1954 and 1999 Protocols and the Additional Protocols I and II to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions, if they have not yet done so;
- (b) Promote the elaboration and the adoption of legal instruments providing a higher standard of protection of cultural heritage; and
- (c) Promote a coordinated application of existing and future instruments relevant to the protection of cultural heritage.

IV – Protection of cultural heritage when conducting peacetime activities

When conducting peacetime activities, States should take all appropriate measures to conduct them in such a manner as to protect cultural heritage and, in particular, in conformity with the principles and objectives of the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, of the 1956 Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations, the 1968 Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property Endangered by Public or Private Works, the 1972 Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage and the 1976 Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas.

V – Protection of cultural heritage in the event of armed conflict, including the case of occupation

When involved in an armed conflict, be it of an international or non-international character, including the case of occupation, States should take all appropriate measures to conduct their activities in such a manner as to protect cultural heritage, in conformity with customary international law and the principles and objectives of international agreements **and UNESCO recommendations** concerning the protection of such heritage during hostilities.

VI – State Responsibility

A State that intentionally destroys or intentionally fails to take appropriate measures to prohibit, prevent, stop, and punish any intentional destruction of cultural heritage of great importance for humanity, whether or not it is inscribed on a list maintained by UNESCO or another international organization, bears the responsibility for such destruction, to the extent provided for by international law.

VII – Individual criminal responsibility

States should take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, to establish jurisdiction over, and provide effective criminal sanctions for, those persons who commit, or order to be committed, acts of intentional destruction of cultural heritage of great importance for humanity, whether or not it is inscribed on a list maintained by UNESCO or another international organization.

VIII – Cooperation for the protection of cultural heritage

1. States should cooperate with each other and with UNESCO to protect cultural heritage from intentional destruction. Such cooperation should entail at least : (i) provision and exchange of information regarding circumstances entailing the risk of intentional destruction of cultural heritage; (ii) consultation in the event of actual or impending destruction of cultural heritage; (iii) consideration of assistance to States, as requested by them, in the promotion of educational programmes, awareness-raising and capacity-building for the prevention and repression of any intentional destruction of cultural heritage; (iv) judicial and administrative assistance, as requested by interested States, in the suppression of any intentional destruction of cultural heritage.

2. For the purposes of more comprehensive protection, each State is encouraged to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, to cooperate with other States concerned with a view to establishing jurisdiction over, and providing effective criminal sanctions for, those persons who have committed or have ordered to be committed acts referred to in VII and are found present on its territory, regardless of their nationality and the place where such act occurred,

IX – Human rights and international humanitarian law

In applying this Declaration, States recognize the need to respect international rules related to the criminalization of gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular, when intentional destruction of cultural heritage is linked to those violations.

X – Public Awareness

States should take all appropriate measures to ensure the widest possible dissemination of this Declaration to the general public and to target groups, *inter alia*, by organizing public awareness-raising campaigns.

DEBATE 7**Item 5.3 Jerusalem and the implementation of 31 C/Resolution 31****Item 5.4 Implementation of 31 C/Resolution 43 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories**

35. At its seventh meeting the Commission examined item 5.3 – Jerusalem and the implementation of 31 C/Resolution 31 and item 5.4 – Implementation of 31 C/Resolution 43 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories.

Item 5.3 Jerusalem and the implementation of 31 C/Resolution 31

36. The representatives of two Member States took the floor, following the adoption by consensus and without a debate of draft resolution 32 C/COM.IV/DR.1 Rev. 3.

37. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt, with a view to its inclusion *in extenso* in the Records of the General Conference, draft resolution 32 C/COM.IV/DR.1 Rev. 3.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Referring to 31 C/Resolution 31, as well as to the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions (1949), The Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and the related Protocol and to the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO on the protection of the cultural heritage,
2. Ensures that nothing in the present resolution, which aims at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem, will in any way affect the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, in particular the relevant Security Council resolutions on the legal status of Jerusalem,
3. Taking note of document 32 C/15 concerning Jerusalem and drawing attention to the difficulties encountered in the implementation of 31 C/Resolution 31,
4. Noting that:
 - (a) despite the sustained and praiseworthy efforts of the Director-General to implement the resolutions of the General Conference and the decisions of the Executive Board on the safeguarding of Jerusalem, little or no progress has been observed in this regard,
 - (b) since it is recognized that certain dangers imperil some parts of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem (al-Quds), it is necessary to safeguard monuments and historic sites in a spiritual, cultural and demographic context that, because of both its diversity and its harmonious complementarity, constitutes the unique character of Jerusalem as a symbol of the heritage of humanity as a whole,

- (c) concerning the technical mission entrusted to Professor Oleg Grabar, the Israeli authorities have indicated that while they were willing to consider this initiative, they were not able to take any action on it for the time being,
5. Recalling its decisions on the subject and inviting the Director-General to pursue his efforts for their implementation,
 6. Reiterates its support for the initiative announced by the Director-General at the 31st session of the General Conference to prepare a comprehensive plan of action to safeguard the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem; in that connection, recalling the decision taken by the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session; invites the Director-General to set up, as soon as possible, in cooperation with the concerned parties, a highly qualified and purely technical mission to Jerusalem, concerning the state of conservation of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem and its walls and requests the Director-General to establish, within a year, an equitably composed committee of experts to be entrusted with proposing, on an exclusively scientific and technical basis, guidelines for this plan of action and proposals for its implementation; invites the Israeli authorities to take the necessary measures in this regard;
 7. Invites the start up, within a time frame compatible with the urgency of the situation, of the work to consolidate, restore and rehabilitate the interior of the al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, in particular the Ashrafiya Madrasa and the centre for the conservation of historic manuscripts, projects for which preparation is completed and funding available thanks to a generous contribution by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
 8. Requests also speeding up the establishment, within the Al-Quds University, of an archaeological training centre for which UNESCO, on the basis of a proposal by ICCROM, has developed a programme, a schedule and functioning modalities and expresses the wish that this project will reinforce the cooperation between the concerned institutions in Jerusalem;
 9. Reiterates its appeal to States, organizations, institutions, legal entities and private individuals, to contribute financially to the *Special Account for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem*, in particular for activities in favour of the preservation of all religious and historic monuments in need of restoration, in all parts of the Old City of Jerusalem as well as training and capacity-building in the field of restoration, preservation of monuments and sites, museum, archives and manuscripts, while at the same time thanking Italy for its cooperation;
 10. Requests governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions to observe UNESCO General Conference resolutions and Executive Board decisions relating to Jerusalem;
 11. Invites the Director-General to present a report to the 170th session of the Executive Board;
 12. Decides to include this item in the agenda of its 33rd session.

Item 5.4 Implementation of 31 C/Resolution 43 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories

38. The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt by consensus without a debate, with a view to its inclusion *in extenso* in the Records of the General Conference, draft resolution 32 C/COM.II-IV/DR.1 Rev., submitted by Egypt, Oman and Pakistan, as transmitted by Commission II.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Having examined the report of the Director-General (32 C/16),
2. Recalling Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with regard to the right to education and Articles 4 and 94 of the Geneva Convention with regard to the denial of the right of children to education,
3. Further recalling the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972) and The Hague Convention (1954) and its additional protocols,
4. Also recalling the role that UNESCO is called upon to play in the exercise of the right to education for all and in the protection of cultural, historic and natural heritage,
5. Considering the need for safe access of Palestinians to the educational system, particularly recalling the consequences of recent measures which affect the fulfilment of this need,
6. Deeply concerned about the safeguarding of monuments, works of art, manuscripts, books and other cultural property to be protected in the event of conflicts,
7. Highly appreciative of the efforts of the international community to halt the violence and safeguard the peace process, which is seriously threatened by tragic events,
8. Recalls paragraph 32 of the Medium-Term Strategy (31 C/4 Approved), defining a “road map for a revitalized UNESCO: principles of action and programming”, and paragraph 12 of 31 C/Resolution 43;
9. Requests the Director-General to expeditiously implement activities listed in paragraphs 10 to 15 of document 32 C/16 and parts IV and V of document 167 EX/44, and notes the efforts of the Director-General in respect of 166 EX/Decision 10.1;
10. Regrets the delays as regards the implementation of some parts of some resolutions and decisions of UNESCO, and requests the Director-General to ensure that they are fully implemented;
11. Urgently appeals for necessary measures to be taken so as to enable the functioning of the Palestinian educational establishments;
12. Profoundly regretting that the implementation of the UNESCO Programme for Palestine (UPP) has been suspended for a long time, expresses its hope that the Joint UNESCO Palestinian Authority Committee which was recently reactivated, will meet regularly on an annual basis with a view to being result-oriented;

13. Requests the Director-General to reinforce his action in favour of reconstruction, rehabilitation and restoration of Palestinian cultural heritage and archaeological sites;
14. Urges the Director-General to strengthen the plan of action, through the intersectoral coordination team, with a view to implementing the UNESCO Programme for Palestine, which is included as a priority in the Programme and Budget for 2004-2005 (32 C/5);
15. Appreciates the establishing of the Director-General's Task Force for Reconstruction and Reconciliation in the Middle East through which participation has been increased in UNESCO's fields of competence in the United Nations efforts for peace;
16. Invites the Director-General to address the needs for capacity building in all UNESCO's fields of competence by expanding the financial assistance programme for Palestinian students from both regular budget and extrabudgetary sources;
17. Calls the Joint UNESCO Palestinian Authority Committee to convene a donor meeting within a period of 12 months in order to have additional capacities to achieve the objectives set out in this resolution;
18. Expresses the hope that the Israeli-Palestinian and Arab-Israeli peace negotiations will be resumed and that a just and comprehensive peace will speedily be brought about in accordance with UNESCO's Constitution and the United Nations resolutions, particularly the relevant Security Council resolutions on this matter;
19. Also invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts he is making with a view to preserving the human, social and cultural fabric of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of this resolution;
 - (b) to undertake efforts in offering appropriate curricula, and provide more grants and special assistance to the educational institutions of the occupied Syrian Golan;
20. Decides to include this item in the agenda of the 33rd session of the General Conference.

Reports

39. Having examined the Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on its activities (2002-2003) (32 C/REP.15) and the Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage on its activities (2002-2003) (32 C/REP.14), the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of both reports.

DEBATE ON ITEM 3.1 – PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2006-2007 (33 C/5)

40. At its first meeting, Commission IV examined agenda item 3.1. In his introduction, the Director of the Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP), Mr Hans d'Orville, invited the Commission to reflect upon the priorities to be set for the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5), in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 32 C/7. He then invited the Commission to suggest new approaches, new guidelines and innovative arrangements for the

Organization, in particular in relation to the main priorities, present and future, the objectives identified in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007, and the ways of creating greater intersectorality, while taking into account the cross-cutting themes, the Millennium Development Goals, and the issues to be incorporated in all programmes, such as matters concerning women, youth, Africa and the least advanced countries.

41. The representatives of 17 Member States and two non-governmental organizations took the floor. Virtually all delegations expressed their full satisfaction with the activities of Major Programme IV thus far, and called for an overall increase in the human and budgetary resources allocated to the Culture Sector in document 33 C/5. All speakers acknowledged and hailed UNESCO's action to protect the cultural heritage as a whole by means of important standard-setting activity. In that connection, they said that what had been achieved would have to be consolidated in the future by focusing on the implementation and monitoring of existing standard-setting instruments, and on the search for greater interaction and better synergy between those instruments. As far as implementing existing standard-setting frameworks was concerned, it was emphasized by numerous speakers that the promotion and safeguarding of the heritage relied on activities of promotion, capacity-building – in particular for small States – and public awareness-raising.

42. Several delegations suggested that the principal priority for Major Programme IV in document 32 C/5 should also be retained for document 33 C/5, and that the efforts aimed at concentration and increased efficiency should be continued. After two biennia dedicated to intense standard-setting in the field of culture, many delegations expressed their satisfaction with the progress thus far achieved in the reforms. Several speakers emphasized the need to proceed with the evaluation of the activities undertaken during that period, in particular the strengthening of assessment mechanisms linked to those activities. Likewise, several delegations called for an assessment of the extent to which the strategic objectives of document 31 C/4 pertaining to the culture programme had been realized during the 31 C/5 and 32 C/5 biennia. That would help foster a better coherence and linkage between the C/4 and C/5 documents, and would make it possible to determine areas where efforts would be required in document 33 C/5 to respond fully to the strategic objectives of document 31 C/4, deploying appropriate strategies and a further concentration of financial and human resources on priority subjects. Some delegates said that they would like strategies to be defined at the regional and subregional levels, and the decentralization process to continue. One delegation suggested that UNESCO should adopt a longer budgetary cycle, as suggested in a draft resolution before the present session of the General Conference. Another delegation proposed that in document 33 C/5 sufficient resources should be earmarked for activities in countries in transition.

43. Many speakers agreed on the cross-cutting nature of culture, and expressed their desire for greater interdisciplinarity of programmes. Several fundamental interdependencies were highlighted, and it was suggested that they should be reinforced: between education and culture, which brings together three dimensions: education seen as a promoter of culture, through artistic education, as a promoter of processes of reconciliation, in particular through the teaching of interreligious dialogue at school, and the need to take into account the cultural dimension in the processes of education for all; between science and culture, in particular the links existing between cultural diversity and biodiversity; between communication and culture – in this area mention was made of the need to strengthen public service radio and television channels. Some delegates expressed their desire to see a merger between the major programmes for culture and education, on the one hand, and culture and communication, on the other.

44. Several speakers took the floor to discuss protection of the cultural and natural heritage. Some favoured continuation of efforts to strengthen the World Heritage Centre, while at the same time developing a shared vision embracing all heritage activities to benefit from conceptual and project

synergies, and improving the way in which periodic reports are handled. A suggestion was also made to create an Internet portal on the cultural heritage and to draw up heritage inventories at the national level. Others mentioned the need, in the event of the adoption of the draft international convention for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, to make provision for its implementation, bearing in mind the new responses from Member States. In that regard, some delegations felt that more emphasis would need to be given in document 33 C/5 to activities pertaining to the intangible heritage. In the framework of actions to protect the cultural heritage, the hope was expressed that a convention on the protection of cultural diversity could be adopted in 2005, and that actions with regard to its implementation would be included in document 33 C/5. A suggestion was also made that document 33 C/5 contain a more concrete plan of action for the implementation and pursuit of the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity. Other aspects proposed with regard to protection of this heritage were: broadening of the scope of the intangible cultural heritage to include contemporary cultural and artistic expression, the importance of preserving the audiovisual heritage through digital means, follow-up to actions concerning the masterpieces of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity, and follow-up to activities relating to the underwater cultural heritage.

45. Several delegations mentioned the importance of stressing the promotion of innovative cultural policies and ensuring a follow-up to and revitalization of the Stockholm Plan of Action, the follow-up to which needs to be more explicitly reflected in document 33 C/5. In general, some delegations felt that UNESCO should intensify its role as a forum for intellectual exchange in this area, and make efforts to introduce a contemporary cultural perspective. Support for the implementation of cultural policies, in particular through capacity-building, is a crucial element in development policy and in the eradication of poverty, which should also be brought to bear in the cross-cutting theme projects. In this context, special attention should be paid to the collection and use of statistical data in the cultural field. Mention was also made of the need to reinforce the ties between the cross-cutting theme on the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, and cultural diversity. With regard to helping to define development policy, several speakers were in favour of broadening the programmes for the promotion and support of cultural and ecological tourism, in particular through the definition of standards and good practices in this domain, the seeking of partners in the private sector, and support for specific projects and innovative approaches, including at the national level, such as the cultural route “Qhapac Nâu, the main Andean highway”, across six Andean countries in Latin America, the olive tree route, support for festivals organized as part of CARIFESTA in the Caribbean, and partnerships. One delegation suggested that document 33 C/5 also reflect future activities by UNESCO with respect to the Cultural Olympiad, which will be continued beyond Athens 2004.

46. Some delegates advocated the continuation of the flagship Slave Route project notably by strengthening activities in the areas of education and cultural tourism. A proposal was made to provide a flexible mutual framework of action which would also include new forms of slavery and the notion of the historic diversity of slavery, aimed at the year 2007, which marks the bicentenary. It was suggested that the programme activities in that regard be handled in a flexible manner.

47. With regard to the Organization’s cross-cutting approaches and intercultural dialogue activities, several speakers felt that it was essential to integrate young people into cultural policy implementation, and stressed the need to develop specific programmes for youth, including through the use of the new information and communication technologies. Support was expressed for UNESCO activities focusing on routes in general. One delegation suggested that document 33 C/5 include more vigorous action on interreligious dialogue.