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DRAFT RESOLUTIONS PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2002-2003 (31 C/5)

OUTLINE

This document presents a summary of the amendments proposed by Member States to Part II.A “UNESCO Institute for Statistics”, and Part II.C “Programme Related Services”, which are to be examined by Commission I, and the observations of the Director-General with regard to these amendments.

Part II.A – UNESCO Institute for Statistics

Projects relating to cross-cutting themes

1. **Draft resolution 60¹ (Peru)** seeks to modify the proposed resolutions related to the cross-cutting theme “Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty”, under all major programmes and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), paragraphs 01400, 02400, 03400, 04400, 05400 and 06400, by adding two new subparagraphs proposing that UNESCO (i) develop criteria for the evaluation and monitoring as well as for impact assessment of projects pertaining to the eradication of poverty, and (ii) ensure intersectoral cooperation and coordination with other United Nations agencies and funds in order to enhance the coherence and learning process in the execution of approved projects. The budgetary implications of this draft resolution to be financed by extrabudgetary sources would amount to \$200,000.

The Director-General fully supports this proposal, which is in line with the objectives and principles of the proposed strategy for “Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty” outlined in the Draft Medium-Term Strategy (paragraphs 173 to 196) and would

¹ This draft resolution will also be examined in Commissions II, III, IV and V.

also reinforce the related projects already envisaged under the cross-cutting themes, in particular those contained in paragraphs 03417 and 06411.

[31 C/5, para. 06400]

Part II.C – Programme Related Services

Bureau of Public Information

2. **Draft resolution 37 (Russian Federation, France, Uruguay, Saint Lucia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Philippines, Belgium, Barbados, United Arab Emirates, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Cuba, Ukraine, Cameroon)** seeks to amend the proposed resolution in paragraph 09002 by adding at the end of subparagraph (vi) concerning the implementation, through the Bureau of Public Information, of the new public information and communication strategy and orientations, the words “and also through the renewal of the UNESCO *Courier*”. The budgetary implications corresponding to the renewed estimation of \$4,000,000 (to be reduced) would be covered firstly by extrabudgetary funding, and by regular budget (public information activities).

In May of this year, the Director-General presented to the Executive Board a new communication and information strategy focusing on substantive communication and a new, proactive relationship with the media. This strategy, drawn up in light of the work of an Expert Group established following a decision of the General Conference, was endorsed by the Executive Board. The Director-General, noting that he could not finance both this new strategy and the *Courier* as published to date, proposed, as a result, to cease publishing the *Courier*.

The draft resolution appears to support continued publication of the *Courier* in its present form while acknowledging the need to make it more viable and cost-effective. Financial implications amount to an estimated \$4 million.

The Director-General considers that he cannot find such a sum within the BPI budget without putting the new communication and information strategy into jeopardy.

Should the General Conference approve this resolution as drafted and in case extrabudgetary contributions are not secured in timely fashion, the General Conference should identify those UNESCO programmes from which the funds required would have to be withdrawn.

[31 C/5, para. 09002]