Hundred and sixty-ninth Session

169 EX/32
PARIS, 12 March 2004
Original: English

Item 7.2 of the provisional agenda

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT SCHEME
ON THE FOLLOW-UP OF JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (JIU) REPORTS

SUMMARY

By 165 EX/Decision 9.6, the Executive Board approved a pilot scheme for the handling of JIU reports. In accordance with this decision the Director-General submits herewith a progress report on the implementation of the pilot scheme.

Decision proposed: paragraph 8.
Background

1. In document 165 EX/40 the Director-General submitted details of a pilot scheme for the handling of JIU reports in UNESCO. The paper noted that the need to ensure effective follow-up of JIU reports and recommendations had been a long-standing concern of the JIU and had also been the subject of a number of General Assembly resolutions. The JIU had proposed a follow-up system to be applied by United Nations system organizations as an annex to its annual report of 1997 (A/52/34). The system proposed emphasized: (a) that the reports should be given active and serious consideration by the legislative organs of the participating organizations; and (b) that there should be expeditious implementation of the approved/accepted recommendations, with full reporting on the implementation measures and analysis of the resulting impact. The pilot scheme proposed by the Director-General was based on the proposal from the JIU.

2. Having examined document 165 EX/40, the Executive Board by 165 EX/Decision 9.6:
   (a) thanked the JIU and the Director-General for their efforts to ensure the effective follow-up of JIU reports and recommendations contained therein;
   (b) approved the pilot scheme proposed subject to the clarification that all reports of relevance to UNESCO should include the comments of the Director-General;
   (c) invited the Director-General to report to it on the implementation of the pilot scheme at its 169th session.

Implementation of the pilot scheme

3. The Internal Oversight Service (IOS) is the focal point within UNESCO for collaboration with the JIU and as document 169 EX/28 (para. 12) shows this collaboration has been close. IOS has been pleased to provide support to the various teams of JIU Inspectors and their staff in the fieldwork for the preparation of JIU reports, and to coordinate comments from within the Secretariat on draft JIU reports and notes. In these comments IOS indicates whether the Director-General, in his opinion, considers the report in question to be relevant to UNESCO.

4. JIU reports of relevance to UNESCO are circulated to the Members of the Executive Board in full at the Board session at which they are considered. The Director-General provides comments to the Executive Board on all reports and notes of relevance to UNESCO (166 EX/36 Annex and 169 EX/33). In his comments the Director-General indicates which of the recommendations addressed to the Director-General are acceptable to him and notes which recommendations require legislative actions from the Executive Board.

5. The Executive Board reviews the comments received from the Director-General on reports of relevance to UNESCO and has been pleased to receive JIU Inspectors to introduce the reports and to give due visibility to the JIU during its attendance at the sessions.

6. The Director-General submits annually to the Executive Board a status report concerning the measures taken to implement the approved JIU recommendations (including recommendations addressed to and accepted by the Director-General). The first such status report is contained in document 169 EX/33, and uses the matrix proposed by the JIU (Annex I of the JIU annual report of 1997 (A/52/34)) as the basis for providing an overview of the current status of implementation. This matrix is compiled from a database established by IOS in the autumn of 2002 for tracking the status of implementation of JIU recommendations.
7. In conclusion, the Director-General considers that the pilot scheme for the follow-up of JIU reports is working well in practice. The processes being followed are in line with those envisaged in document 165 EX/40 and the Director-General would not propose any modifications.

**Proposed draft decision**

8. The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

   The Executive Board,

   1. Having examined document 169 EX/32, reporting on the implementation of the pilot scheme for the follow-up of JIU reports,

   2. Notes that the pilot scheme is working well in practice, and that the processes being followed are in line with those envisaged in document 165 EX/40;

   3. Approves the application of the pilot scheme on a continuing basis;

   4. Invites the Director-General to report to the Executive Board on any problems experienced in implementing these arrangements in future.