



General Conference
35th session, Paris 2009

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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

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

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Information document

35 C/INF.4
7 October 2009
Original: English/French

INFORMATION REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

SUMMARY

This document is intended to present information regarding the implementation and follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted, respectively, by the General Conference and the Executive Board at previous sessions.

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Resolution 34 C/44

Enhancing the protection of cultural objects through the fight against illicit trafficking in them, and the development of museums in developing countries

Measures taken to promote the broadest possible implementation of the 1970 Convention and to contribute to the full implementation of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention.

Since 2007, Member States have shown growing interest in the return of cultural property, which increasingly is being trafficked. To ensure the effective implementation of the 1970 World Heritage Convention and 1995 UNIDROIT Convention, over the 2008-2009 biennium the Director-General developed several measures that followed various operational, normative and awareness-raising actions.

As part of its **operational action**, UNESCO, in collaboration with UNIDROIT, ICOM, INTERPOL, specialized police and customs forces, and others, is increasing action to combat trafficking in cultural property, particularly in Mesopotamia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. Action for Iraq and Afghanistan: meeting of the Interpol Expert Group (IEG) on Stolen Cultural Property (with INTERPOL, February 2008 and 2009); improvement of legal and operational training for Iraqis (November 2008, funded by the Czech Republic); revision of the Iraqi Antiquity Law, and so on. Action for Africa: regional workshop (Bamako, April 2009) and legal and operational training for representatives from ten African countries with the Carabinieri and funding from Italy (June 2009). Action for Latin America and the Caribbean: subregional workshop on the 1970 and 1995 Conventions held in Ecuador (September 2008) and legal and operational training workshop on the looting of religious property and the safety of churches (September 2009).

Normative action involved the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation (Seoul, November 2008). The 15th ordinary session (May 2009) of the Intergovernmental Committee was held to reflect upon the efficiency of the body (mediation and conciliation), ensure a better implementation of the Conventions (development of model legal provisions for State ownership of cultural property), and study alternative means of resolving conflicts involving cultural property and the evolution of the ethical and legal principles concerning their protection.

Actions for raising awareness included the Athens International Conference on the Return of Cultural Property to its Country of Origin (proceedings published in *Museum International*); the publication of a 450-page collection of essays "Witnesses to History" on the same theme (Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and French translations are being prepared) and a short film on the activities of UNESCO and its partners in the fight against trafficking in cultural property.

Since 2007, nine more countries have ratified the 1970 Convention (including Belgium and the Netherlands), while three more countries (including Greece) have ratified the 1995 Convention.

Development of museums in developing countries within the framework of the promotion of cultural diversity.

Many teaching tools and methodologies developed by modern museums cannot be applied to museums with limited resources. UNESCO therefore launched a set of pedagogical tools and associated training activities to help such museums. These tools exist in a variety of languages and can be downloaded for free.

A museum training kit "**Running A Museum**" realized with **ICOM** deals with general museum management. Translated into seven languages, it has been used for training sessions in museums involved in pilot projects in Latin America, Russia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, etc.

Cultural Heritage Protection Handbook Series is designed for a wider public. Fully illustrated, the publications are attractive for all museum staff as well as the general public. They cover the basic principles for object care, handling of objects, security, documentation and disaster risk management. Two more volumes are under preparation (museum storage; preventive conservation). The publications presently exist in 13 languages and new language versions are currently under preparation.

UNESCO always places great emphasis on the importance of good **documentation and inventories** in museums, as a primary defence against the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural objects. In cooperation with ICCROM, the Organization has been developing user-friendly tools for assisting museums in improving their existing inventories/documentation and storage. This new material is being tested through field pilot projects (2009-2010) in Africa, the Middle East and Asia with a view to refining the selected approaches.

With regard to the preservation of cultural diversity through museum activities, UNESCO assisted Member States in establishing small-scale community-based museums designed to showcase the heritage of communities, notably in Asia and Africa, with the genuine involvement of local populations.

Resolution 34 C/60

Preparation of a special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire

Reminder of the strategy for the post-conflict overall support programme for Côte d'Ivoire

The strategy proposed by the Director-General consists of a two-phased flexible and dynamic strategy: phase 1, the pre-electoral period (initially set from July 2008 to December 2008), aimed at raising awareness and at contributing to the consolidation of social cohesion in order to hold peaceful elections, and phase 2, the post-electoral period (2009-2013), for medium-term activities. The Director-General thus considered that the Organization should focus on, *inter alia*, a major intersectoral project to raise awareness of **peace, human rights, the environment, tolerance, citizenship and sustainable development**.

The strategy, which was validated by the **high-level intersectoral mission** that went to Côte d'Ivoire in June 2008, was based on a political component with the national authorities, a consultative component with partners and a technical component consisting of meetings with experts and field visits.

Implementation of the activities of the post-conflict overall support programme for Côte d'Ivoire

The schedule of activities was adapted to Côte d'Ivoire's political situation, as the elections originally planned for 30 November 2008 were deferred and are due to be held on 29 November 2009. UNESCO has continued the initiatives launched while taking advantage of the extension of the pre-electoral period to strengthen the actions aimed at contributing to the consolidation of social cohesion. Cooperation with the country was reinforced, in particular through the work of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Accra and the Regional Bureau for Education in Africa (BREDA). Institutionally, the **establishment of the Antenna Office in Abidjan** has enhanced UNESCO's presence within the United Nations Country Team. Many projects, placed under the additional programme, were prepared on the basis of the priorities identified during the intersectoral mission and are set out below.

Education

The Organization has provided support to the **Autonomous Literacy Service (SAA)** through the extension of the project on women's literacy and girls' enrolment. The expanded vision of the **Basic Education in Africa Programme (BEAP)** was launched in Abidjan, in December 2008 and will make it possible to participate in giving new impetus to Côte d'Ivoire's education system.

Support was also provided in connection with the project for the **promotion of a culture of peace, human rights, HIV/AIDS prevention education, citizenship and quality education**. Workshops were held for identifying the best practices in HIV/AIDS prevention and strengthening the capacities of stakeholders in the project "training and coaching for inspectors and teachers in pilot schools".

The Organization is providing support to the **Examinations and Competitive Examination Board (DECO)** in the **Ministry of National Education** through the financing by the Japanese Government (US \$248,000) of a project whose objective is to computerize DECO's Diploma and Archival Service. In the **promotion of quality in education**, BREDA carried out a case study on Côte d'Ivoire, combining quality and the right to education for all learners. The Organization is lending support to the Union Nationale des parents d'élèves et étudiants de Côte d'Ivoire (UNAPEECI) (the national union of parents of pupils and students) through the project entitled "For increased and recognized effectiveness of action by parents of pupils and students in Côte d'Ivoire", financed by extrabudgetary funds from Oman (\$50,000).

In the sphere of **higher education**, Côte d'Ivoire participated in the following meetings: Third International Conference on Quality Assurance in Higher Education (September 2008, Senegal); subregional workshop on "good practices in quality human resources development" (October 2008, Senegal) and Regional Conference on Higher Education in Africa (CRESA) (November 2008, Dakar), in preparation of the 2009 World Conference on Higher Education (WCHE), (5-8 July 2009, Paris). UNESCO also backed the project of the University of Cocody-Abidjan – "Second training camp for teacher trainers" in December 2008 on environmental education for active citizenship.

The Organization has continued to support **the assessment of the education sector in Côte d'Ivoire**: the objective is to provide the country with a new education policy covering all levels of education that could help it to access external funding, in particular that of the Catalytic Fund of the EFA Fast-Track Initiative. In the framework of the application for funds under the Initiative, UNESCO/BREDA assisted the Côte d'Ivoire authorities in drafting a medium-term framework of expenditure for the education and training sector. The exercise, which began on 28 July 2009 with the participation of the Dakar Pole, should avail the country by the end of September of a budget planning instrument for the period 2010-2012. In addition, BREDA provided support to the various ministries in Côte d'Ivoire responsible for education in the devising of financial simulation models for subsectors which gave rise to a sectoral framework memorandum and an education policy statement.

Improvement of statistical data: Côte d'Ivoire is among the priority countries in Africa for the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS). Consequently, a partnership framework for cooperation was signed in 2008 with the National Higher School of Statistics and Applied Economics (ENSEA) of Abidjan. Under this partnership, UIS and ENSEA organized a national workshop on the quality of statistical data on higher education (Abidjan, September 2008). UIS also coordinated a regional workshop on education statistics for French-speaking countries (Abidjan, October 2008) on the theme of education funding as well as a national workshop on the quality of technical and vocational education (TVET) statistics in Côte d'Ivoire (Abidjan, 24-26 March 2009).

Within the **CapEFA programme "National Capacity-Building for General Secondary Education and for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)"**, a mission to audit the information and management systems of the Ministries of Education/Training took place in May 2009.

Natural sciences

As a follow-up to the feasibility study carried out by the Natural Sciences Sector in November 2008, an **African virtual campus** was established in May 2009 at the University of Abidjan.

A consultation mission from the Natural Sciences Sector was hosted in Abidjan in May 2009 with a view to spreading in West Africa the concept of the **Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT)**, which aims to strengthen national and regional capacities in the preservation of tropical forest environments and in sustainable development. It was decided that an interministerial steering and monitoring committee for this project would be created.

In the field of water, UNESCO implemented an activity on climate change and its impact on **water resources** in Côte d'Ivoire. In addition, an activity is in progress for identifying **transboundary aquifers** in the Tano system with a view to their sustainable and well-coordinated management by Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.

Lastly, activities were launched to promote **basic sciences** among young people, and more especially girls, with the aim of inviting them to embrace scientific studies and careers.

Social and human sciences

Under the UNESCO/ECOWAS/ABD regional project "**Education for the culture of peace, human rights, citizenship, democracy, intercultural understanding and regional integration in countries in crisis and post-conflict situations (Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Togo)**", activities are being carried out in conjunction with the Côte d'Ivoire National Commission for UNESCO. The purpose of this project is to help, through education, to strengthen the initiatives for the promotion of a culture of peace in the country's schools. In this framework, a situational study has been made to assess what is being done in respect of "education for a culture of peace, human rights, citizenship, democracy, intercultural understanding in initial and ongoing training programmes". Other activities are underway, particularly: an information and experience-sharing seminar, workshops for designing teaching tools, training modules for trainers, guides for teacher trainers in the Ecole Normale Supérieure (the main teacher-training college) and vocational learning and training centres (CAFOP).

A national consultation workshop for reviewing Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and a training workshop on the human rights-based approach will be held by BREDA and the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS) from 1 to 6 December 2009 in Abidjan.

Côte d'Ivoire will benefit from a new regional project financed by the African Development Bank (ABD) covering the ECOWAS region on ***the promotion of social cohesion and psychological care***.

Côte d'Ivoire participated in a regional meeting on **ethics education** in December 2008, one of whose recommendations was to create a UNESCO Chair in bioethics for West Africa. Members of the National Consultative Bioethics Committee of Côte d'Ivoire will attend a training session from 9 to 11 November 2009.

Poverty eradication: A research project entitled: "Human rights dimensions of anti-poverty policies" (\$10,000) was launched under the guidance of the University of Cocody-Abidjan. A national consultation on poverty and human rights will take place on 28 and 29 October 2009 in Abidjan, preceded by a training session on poverty eradication using a human rights-based approach (26 and 27 October 2009). A regional project on "The impact of the crisis on poverty: rethinking development and the fight against poverty in terms of human rights", involving Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Benin, will be launched on 30 October 2009 in Abidjan.

Culture

UNESCO is preparing the proposal to include the historic town of Grand-Bassam in the **World Heritage List**. The UNESCO World Heritage Centre conducted two technical missions in August and September 2008. The nomination file was examined by the Committee at its 33rd session (Seville, June 2009) and the Committee decided to inform Côte d'Ivoire of the additional elements to be included in the nomination file.

Côte d'Ivoire has submitted a request for preparatory assistance to prepare a nomination file for the inscription of the Gbofè of Afounkaha on the List of Intangible Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. This request, for an amount of \$6,000, has been approved by the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee.

Communication and information

UNESCO backed the organization of a seminar in Grand-Bassam (October 2008) on media coverage of elections. UNESCO has also provided support to the Côte d'Ivoire National Commission for UNESCO within the framework of access to information and its development, the promotion of local radio stations in the post-conflict period and the sensitization of the communication sector and civil society actors to the role of the media during electoral periods. Lastly, the Bureau of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) approved the project on "Strengthening of the capacities of Radio Boutourou for the improvement of communication around Comoé National Park", for an amount of \$30,000.

181 EX/Decision 8.7

Progress report on the implementation of the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) strategy

Following the approval of the draft strategy for TVET by the Executive Board at its 181st session, UNESCO undertook a number of activities in preparation for the implementation of the strategy.

UNESCO prepared a revised version of the strategy (182 EX/INF.5) which took into account the concerns and recommendations expressed by members of the Executive Board. The revised document was then endorsed by the Executive Board at its 182nd session.

UNESCO convened the first inter-agency meeting on TVET on 3 April 2009 in Paris. The meeting was attended by senior staff from the European Training Foundation (ETF), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and UNESCO. The meeting reviewed the UNESCO TVET strategy and identified the following possible areas of cooperation: developing a conceptual framework; developing indicators for monitoring and evaluation of TVET; monitoring of normative instruments; creating a database of good practices; creating a summer staff training programme in TVET; identifying areas for joint research; and joint participation in developing and reviewing national TVET policies.

The second inter-agency meeting was hosted by the ETF in Turin on 23 June 2009. The revised UNESCO TVET strategy was shared with the participants. All partner agencies reaffirmed their interest in working together in TVET, especially in their areas of interest.

In line with the actions recommended by the April inter-agency meeting, UNESCO is planning to carry out activities in the next few months in relation to: the conceptual clarification of the most commonly used terminologies in TVET; planning multi-agency review of national TVET policies in pilot countries; mapping of TVET indicators; creation of a database of good practices in TVET; and

the organization of a summer training programme for TVET staff from participating agencies. The third inter-agency meeting will be hosted by ILO in Geneva in October 2009.

As one of the three building blocks for EFA, alongside literacy and teachers, technical vocational education and training is proposed to be one priority area of the Education Sector in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5). During the biennium 2010-2011, UNESCO proposes to concentrate its actions on policy upstream work and capacity development, in particular by assisting Member States in reforming TVET systems and enhancing national statistical capacities for better monitoring of TVET systems.

In line with 181 EX/Decision 8, which underlined the need for enhancing the delivery capacity of the Sector in the area of TVET, the Director-General has made the necessary organizational adjustments to the Headquarters structure of the Education Sector. He decided in September 2009 to establish a new section on technical and vocational education and training within the Division of Education Strategies and Capacity-Building (ED/ESB). Additional measures are being taken, aiming at reinforcing staff capacities in the four Regional Bureaux for Education, whose function is to provide backstopping and technical guidance to UNESCO staff in the region's field offices. In order to improve synergies between all UNESCO units implementing activities in the field of TVET, the division of labour between these is being reviewed and redefined. In this connection, the UNESCO International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (UNEVOC) will be under the programme coordination of the ED/ESB Division at Headquarters.