



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

35 C/75
20 October 2009
Original: English

REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION COMMISSION

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Executive Board, at its 182nd session, recommended to the General Conference the nomination of Mr Ivan Ávila-Belloso (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of) for the office of Chairperson of the CI Commission. At the second plenary meeting of the 35th session of the General Conference, on 6 October 2009, Mr Ivan Ávila-Belloso was elected Chairperson of the CI Commission.

2. At its first meeting, on 13 October 2009, the Commission approved the proposals submitted by the Nominations Committee for the offices of Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur. The following were elected:

Vice-Chairpersons:

- Mr Tyge Trier (Denmark)
- Mr Evgeny Kuzmin (Russian Federation)
- Mr Jean-Marie Adoua (Congo)
- Mr Mohamed Razouk (Syrian Arab Republic)

Rapporteur : Mr Martin Hadlow (Australia)

3. The Commission then adopted the timetable of work submitted in document 35 C/COM CI/1 Prov.

4. The Commission devoted five meetings, between 13 and 15 October 2009, to the examination of the items on its agenda.

5. The Commission adopted its report at its sixth meeting on 20 October 2009.

DEBATE 1

Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011

6. During its first, second and third meetings, the Commission examined item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5 Rev., Vol. 1 and Vol. 2, Part II.A – Major Programme V – Communication and Information).

7. The representatives of 53 Member States, of 1 Observer, and of 2 non-governmental organizations took the floor.

Draft resolutions proposed in document 35 C/5 Rev. Volume 1

8. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 05000 of Volume 1 of document 35 C/5 Rev. Vol. 1 concerning the draft resolution for Major Programme V – Communication and Information, as amended orally by France, Mexico, and Saint Lucia and by:

(i) the following draft resolutions:

- 35 C/DR.12** (submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran) for paragraph 1. (a) (xi)
- 35 C/DR.25** (submitted by Colombia) for paragraph 2. (b) 10
- 35 C/DR.29** (submitted by Algeria, Argentina, Colombia, France, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Poland, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and co-sponsored by Bulgaria, Greece, and Ukraine) for paragraph 1. (a) (xi) and 2. (b) 7
- 35 C/DR.37** (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 2. (b) 3

- 35 C/DR.39** (submitted by the Republic of Korea and co-sponsored by Ethiopia, Uganda, Viet Nam) for paragraph 1. (a) (xiii)
35 C/DR.43 (submitted by Switzerland) for paragraph 1. (a) (ii)
35 C/DR.57 (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 1. (a) (i)
35 C/DR.61 (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 1. (a) (vi)
35 C/DR.76 (submitted by Egypt) for paragraph 1. (a) (i)
35 C/DR.78 (submitted by Azerbaijan) for paragraph 1. (a) (xi)

- (ii) the amendments recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 72 to 79, 81 and 82 of document 35 C/6.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

1. Authorizes the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the plan of action for Major Programme V, structured around the following two biennial sectoral priorities and three main lines of action, with special emphasis on the needs of Africa, gender equality, youth, LDCs and SIDS as well as the most vulnerable segments of society, including indigenous people, in order to:

Biennial sectoral priority 1: Promoting freedom of expression and information

- (i) sensitize governments, public institutions and civil society to the importance of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, in particular through the annual celebration of World Press Freedom Day and the awarding of the UNESCO Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize and raise awareness of the importance of freedom of expression and freedom of information including on the Internet for development, democracy and dialogue; monitor the situation for press freedom and the safety of journalists, with special emphasis on cases of impunity of violence against journalists;
- (ii) assist Member States in building capacity for the establishment and application of internationally recognized legal and regulatory standards for freedom of expression, freedom of information and free and independent media; assist Member States in the establishment of an enabling environment for freedom of expression and freedom of information; promote Internet governance based on the principles of openness and diversity, including cultural and linguistic diversity and transparency;
- (iii) enable media professionals to apply the highest ethical and professional standards and enable people to critically access, assess and use information; encourage the development of media accountability systems based upon self regulation;
- (iv) provide support to foster editorial independence and quality programming in public service broadcasting, community media and new digital media; provide a platform for international discussions on the public services remit of Internet-based media and the private media sector;
- (v) assist Member States in creating an enabling environment for freedom of expression and independent media including in countries in conflict, post-conflict and transition as well as in post-disaster situations; strengthen the

role of communication and information in fostering mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation; enable media to provide unbiased information, avoid stereotypes and counteract incitement to hatred and violence, especially within the framework of the *Power of Peace Network*;

- (vi) foster the contribution of media to disaster risk reduction and mitigation; build capacities of local and community media in handling information related to humanitarian issues, especially in countries with a high risk of natural disasters by taking, *inter alia*, a preventive, educational and supportive approach;

Biennial sectoral priority 2: Building capacities for universal access to information and knowledge

- (vii) promote the development of free, independent and pluralistic media in particular through the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC); apply the IPDC-approved media development indicators; address the needs identified through them;
- (viii) foster media pluralism and the inclusion of marginalized communities in policy- and decision-making processes related to sustainable development; foster community multimedia centres for rural communities to acquire, contextualize and share locally relevant content;
- (ix) strengthen the institutional capacities of media training and journalism education institutions; support the adoption by media training institutions of the UNESCO model curricula on journalism; support media training institutions in their efforts to comply with the criteria for training excellence; foster equal opportunities for both men and women in media training and journalism education;
- (x) establish enabling frameworks conducive to increasing media content that contributes to strengthening people's understanding and issues related to sustainable development and climate change; provide assistance to media organizations to impart subject-related knowledge to journalists and to strengthen their investigative capacities; foster partnerships with media to create greater awareness of the importance of education for sustainable development; develop the critical abilities of media and information users by increasing media and information literacy;
- (xi) contribute to promoting equitable and affordable access to information for all; assist Member States in the establishment and implementation of effective policy frameworks, strategies and capacity-building for fostering information literacy, information preservation, information ethics, information for development and universal information accessibility, in particular through the Information for All Programme (IFAP); enhance the international and national outreach of the Information for All Programme (IFAP); enhance information accessibility for the disadvantaged, including local communities, indigenous people, minority groups and persons with disabilities; promote the availability of diverse and multilingual content;
- (xii) reinforce infostructures for strengthening the role of libraries and archives as key institutions in disseminating and preserving information and knowledge; build capacities of information professionals to be better equipped to meet the evolving challenges in the areas of libraries and archives;

- (xiii) promote the preservation of documentary heritage by safeguarding original material and raising awareness of the importance of heritage and memory as contributors to knowledge; through such means as the Memory of the World Register and the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize contribute to the expansion of the World Digital Library to serve as a framework for national and international policy development;
 - (xiv) foster strategies for increasing the use of ICTs in knowledge acquisition and sharing; promote access to scientific information through the use of ICTs, open access policies and strategies and the increased use of open-source tools in all areas of UNESCO's competence.
- (b) to allocate an amount of \$13,108,800 for activity costs and \$20,049,200 for staff costs;

2. Requests the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the various activities authorized by this resolution, to the maximum extent possible through intersectoral platforms;
- (b) to report periodically to the governing bodies, in the statutory reports, on the achievement of the following expected results:

Main line of action 1: Promoting freedom of expression and access to information

1. Freedom of expression more broadly respected and related internationally recognized legal, safety, ethical and professional standards applied, including those related to the safety of media professionals;
2. Members States supported in creating an enabling environment for freedom of expression and independent media, including in countries in conflict, post-conflict and transition as well as in post-disaster situations;
3. Editorial independence and quality programming in public service broadcasting, private and community media and new digital media fostered;

Main line of action 2: Strengthening free, independent and pluralistic media and communication for sustainable development

4. Member States supported in the development of free, independent and pluralistic media based on IPDC media development indicators;
5. Capacities of media training and journalism education institutions increased to reach the established criteria of excellence in training, including the pursuit of gender equality;
6. Media and information literacy increased to foster informed decision-making;

Main line of action 3: Fostering universal access to information and knowledge and the development of infostructures

7. Member States supported in the development, adoption and implementation of inclusive policy frameworks for universal access to, and dissemination of, information based on the Strategic Plan for the Information for All Programme (IFAP);

8. Preservation of documentary heritage reinforced in Member States;
 9. Infrastructures for sustainable development and good governance in Member States promoted;
 10. Member States supported in developing strategies for using ICTs in knowledge acquisition and sharing and, in particular, for access to scientific knowledge;
3. Further requests the Director-General to report periodically in the same statutory reports on measures taken to optimize the use of resources in the implementation of programme activities, including travel, contractual services and publications, indicating specific demonstrated achievements per MLA;
 4. Further requests the Director-General to implement the Programme in such a manner that the expected results defined for the two global priorities, Africa and gender equality, pertaining to Major Programme V are also being fully implemented.

Recommendations of the Commission concerning draft resolutions not retained

9. The Commission informs the General Conference that the following draft resolutions were not retained:

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| 35 C/DR.11 | (submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran) for paragraph 1. (a) (xi) |
| 35 C/DR.24 | (submitted by Colombia) for paragraph 1. (a) (xi) |
| 35 C/DR.38 | (submitted by Cuba) for new paragraph 1. (a) (xv) |
| 35 C/DR.43 | (submitted by Switzerland) for new paragraph 2. (b) 4 |
| 35 C/DR.58 | (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 1. (a) (ii) |
| 35 C/DR.59 | (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 1. (a) (iii) |
| 35 C/DR.60 | (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 1. (a) (v) |
| 35 C/DR.62 | (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph 1. (a) (x) |
| 35 C/DR.68 | (submitted by Azerbaijan) for paragraph 2. (b) 4 |
| 35 C/DR.72 | (submitted by Egypt) for new paragraphs 2. (b) 11, 12 |
| 35 C/DR.76 | (submitted by Egypt) for paragraph 1. (a) (vi) |
| 35 C/DR.76 | (submitted by Egypt) for new paragraph 1. (a) (iv) |
| 35 C/DR.77 | (submitted by Egypt) for paragraph 1. (a) (vii) |
| 35 C/DR.77 | (submitted by Egypt) for new paragraph 2. (b) 4 |

General recommendations by the Executive Board

10. Having examined the Recommendations by the Executive Board on the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/6), the Commission recommends that the General Conference endorse the recommendations contained in paragraphs 1 to 28 and 80 to 82 of document 35 C/6.

Budget

11. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it approve the budget provision of \$33,158,000 in paragraph 5000 1 (b) of document 35 C/5 Rev. Vol. 1 for Major Programme V – Communication and Information, it being understood that this amount is 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 5.9 – Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (35 C/46)

12. During its third, fourth, and fifth meetings, the Commission examined item 5.9 – Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (35 C/46).

13. The representatives of 33 Member States and of 2 Observers took the floor.

14. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the Records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 39 of document 35 C/46 as amended orally by Cuba, Sudan, and Switzerland.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recognizing the importance of the commitments of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) for meeting internationally agreed development goals by 2015 and the importance of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development,

Taking note with concern of the continued imbalances and inequalities in the field of information and communication, which are being further aggravated by the current world crises, affecting development prospects, particularly those of developing countries,

Recalling 33 C/Resolution 52 and 174 EX/Decision 13 addressing UNESCO's role in the follow-up to WSIS,

Noting the important role the international community gave UNESCO as well as other United Nations organizations in the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action as one of the overall coordinators, as a facilitator of the implementation of six WSIS Action Lines in its areas of competence, and as an implementer of the WSIS Plan of Action,

Welcoming the initiatives taken by the Director-General for the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action,

1. Invites Member States and Associate Members to:
 - (a) participate actively in the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action;
 - (b) provide extrabudgetary funds in support of UNESCO's WSIS follow-up and implementation action;
2. Invites the United Nations organizations engaged in the follow-up and implementation of WSIS as well as the non-governmental organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO, the private sector and civil society to:
 - (a) work in close partnership with governments, other stakeholders and UNESCO in the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action;
 - (b) strengthen cooperation with the UNESCO Secretariat at Headquarters and in the field in the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action;

3. Requests the Director-General to:

- (a) develop the “knowledge society” concept further, with a view to operationalizing it at regional and country levels, in particular by including relevant deliverables in the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs);
- (b) ensure that UNESCO continues to play its role as one of the leading agencies for coordination, facilitation and implementation in an intersectoral and interdisciplinary manner;
- (c) strengthen UNESCO’s involvement in the international debate on Internet governance;
- (d) include in the work plans of document 35 C/5 appropriate provisions for UNESCO’s further contribution to the implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action, including the adoption of proper measures to reduce the digital divide in the field of knowledge and information and communication technologies through its intergovernmental programmes IFAP and IPDC;
- (e) ensure that the Draft Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5) includes appropriate provisions for ensuring UNESCO’s contribution to meeting the 2015 WSIS goals.

15. Within the debate on item 5.9, the Commission examined draft resolution 35 C/COM CI/DR.1 submitted by: Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, United Republic of Tanzania and the United Kingdom and co-sponsored by the United States of America.

16. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the Records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in document 35 C/COM CI/DR.1 as amended orally by Canada, Kenya, and Norway.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Having examined document 35 C/46,
2. Recalling the Organization’s mandate to promote the free flow of ideas by word and image and to maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge,
3. Also recalling the Organization’s overarching objective of securing universal access to information and knowledge,
4. Further recalling the World Summits on the Information Society in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) and the ensuing Geneva Action Plan, particularly Action Line C3: Access to information and knowledge and Action Line C7: E-science,
5. Referring to the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace,
6. Recalling Biennial Sectoral Priority 1 for Major Programme II in document 35 C/5: “Policies and capacity-building in sciences, technology and innovation for sustainable development and poverty eradication”,
7. Further recalling Biennial Sectoral Priority 2 for Major Programme V in document 35 C/5: “Building capacities for universal access to information and knowledge”,

8. Underlining the expected results in document 35 C/5 regarding the assistance to Member States in developing strategies for using ICTs in knowledge acquisition and sharing, including access to scientific information,
9. Taking into account the many initiatives and developments in the field of Open Access as well as discussions taking place in other United Nations agencies, notably the World Intellectual Property Organization,
10. Noting that UNESCO could further explore its potential in promoting Open Access to scientific information,
11. Recommends that the Director-General:
 - (a) undertake a mapping of existing Open Access initiatives and Open Access stakeholders at the regional and global levels with the aim of better defining and strengthening UNESCO's role in promoting Open Access, bearing in mind UNESCO's role as a global, normative actor;
 - (b) develop a draft strategy on how UNESCO may strengthen its contribution to the promotion of Open Access to scientific information and research, to be submitted to the 186th session of the Executive Board for approval;
12. Invites the Director-General to seek extrabudgetary resources to ensure the implementation of this initiative, and invites Member States and other funding bodies to make extrabudgetary contributions to that end.

DEBATE 3

Item 5.16 – Multicultural Library Manifesto of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) (35 C/51)

17. During its fifth meeting, the Commission examined item 5.16 – Multicultural Library Manifesto of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).
18. The representatives of 15 Member States and of 1 non-governmental organization took the floor.
19. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the Records of the General Conference, the resolution contained in paragraph 7 of document 35 C/51.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001) that states “Respect for the diversity of cultures, tolerance, dialogue and cooperation, in a climate of mutual trust and understanding are among the best guarantees of international peace and security”,
2. Noting that in order to support this goal all institutions of society, such as schools, libraries, archives, museums, etc. must actively address this issue,
3. Further noting that libraries of all types reflect, support and promote cultural and linguistic diversity at the international, national and local levels,

4. Recognizing that the Multicultural Library Manifesto prepared by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is an important tool for working with these issues,
5. Further noting that the IFLA Multicultural Library Manifesto was endorsed by the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme during its fifth session,
6. Commends IFLA for its efforts in developing the Multicultural Library Manifesto;
7. Invites Member States to endorse the Multicultural Library Manifesto;
8. Further invites Member States to take the Multicultural Library Manifesto into consideration during the planning of future strategies and programmes at national level.

Noting of the Report by the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) on its activities (2008-2009) (35 C/REP/15) and the reports on the implementation of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) (2008-2009) (35 C/REP/16)

20. Having examined the Report by the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) on its activities (2008-2009) (35 C/REP/15) and the reports on the implementation of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) (2008-2009) (35 C/REP/16 and Add.), the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it take note of these reports.