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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

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Executive Board, at its 181st session, recommended to the General Conference the nomination of Ms Salwa Saniora Baassiri (Lebanon) for the office of Chairperson of the SHS Commission. At the second plenary meeting, on 6 October 2009, Ms Salwa Saniora Baassiri was elected Chairperson of the SHS Commission.

2. The Commission approved the proposals submitted by the Nominations Committee for the offices of Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur as follows:

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr J. Lavados (Chile)
Ms D. F. Anwar (Indonesia)
Mr B. Wanyama (Kenya)
Ms D. Baltiņa (Latvia)

Rapporteur: Mr L. van Langenhove (Belgium)

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

4. The Commission devoted seven¹ meetings, between 16 October 2009 and 20 October 2009, to the examination of the items on its agenda.

5. The Commission adopted its report at its eighth meeting on 21 October 2009.

DEBATE 1 (jointly with the SC Commission)

Item 5.12 UNESCO and the Global Action on Climate Change

6. At its second meeting the SHS Commission examined item 5.12 – Global action on climate change, jointly with the SC Commission. The representatives of 35 Member States and of two Observers took the floor.

7. During this session, the SHS and SC Commissions examined the resolution proposed in document 35 C/COM SC/DR.1 (submitted by: Austria, Belgium, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Finland, Iceland, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Samoa, Senegal, Slovenia, Sweden, Tuvalu, Uruguay; co-sponsored by: Barbados, Costa Rica, Germany, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Monaco, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Suriname, and Zambia), requesting the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's specialized capacity on climate change, building upon UNESCO's unique interdisciplinary profile.

8. The SHS and SC Commissions recommend to the General Conference that it adopt *in extenso*, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution contained in document 35 C/COM SC/DR.1. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular Article 6 on Education, Training and Public Awareness, and *recognizing* the important work done by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Referring to the report of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination "Acting on Climate Change: the United Nations System Delivering as One", and UNESCO's leading role together with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on cross-cutting areas such as

¹ The 2nd meeting was held jointly with the SC Commission.

climate knowledge, and *welcoming* the signed Memorandum of Understanding between UNESCO and UNEP, underlining the importance of identification of comparative advantages and avoidance of duplications,

Recognizing that climate change efforts play an important role in achieving sustainable development worldwide, and to that end welcoming educational responses to climate change as an integral part of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, as confirmed by the Bonn Declaration,

Acknowledging UNESCO's Strategy for Action on Climate Change and the Intersectoral Platform on Climate Change as essential tools for UNESCO's contribution to global action on climate change, and *emphasizing* the importance of and need for a results-oriented platform in order to ensure quality action on climate change,

Recalling 179 EX/Decision 15, 180 EX/Decision 16 and 181 EX/Decision 15 on UNESCO's Strategy for Action on Climate Change, and *also recalling* 179 EX/Decision 16 on the development and management of intersectoral platforms,

1. *Requests* the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's specialized capacity on climate change, building upon UNESCO's unique interdisciplinary profile, by:
 - taking the necessary measures to ensure recognized legitimacy of the Intersectoral Platform on Climate Change as an effective and efficient coordinator, within UNESCO as well as in relation to other United Nations agencies, in the implementation of UNESCO's Strategy for Action on Climate Change;
 - delivering proposals on how UNESCO within the framework of the approved Strategy for Action on Climate Change will ensure an effective, targeted and impact-focused contribution to the implementation of the outcome of COP15;
2. *Further requests* the Director-General to report, in a clear and concrete format, on the above-mentioned measures and proposals to the Executive Board at its 184th session.

9. During this session, the SHS and SC Commissions also examined the resolution contained in document 35 C/COM SC/DR.3 (submitted by Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Fiji, Germany, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Kiribati, Mauritius, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, and co-sponsored by Bahrain, Benin and Dominican Republic), calling upon Member States and Associate Members, non-governmental organizations in official relations with UNESCO, and the Director-General to take a set of actions in relation to SIDS and Global Action on Climate Change.

10. The SHS and SC Commissions recommend to the General Conference that it adopt *in extenso*, for the Records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in document 35 C/COM SC/DR.3. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling the adoption at its 32nd and 33rd sessions of resolutions specifically addressing the sustainable development of small island developing states (SIDS) and the further implementation and review of the Barbados Programme of Action (Barbados+10), with its operative paragraphs addressed to Member States and Associate Members, non-governmental organizations in official relations with UNESCO, and the Director-General,

Taking note that implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS (Mauritius Strategy for Implementation) adopted at the United Nations International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS, held

in Port Louis (Mauritius) from 10 to 14 January 2005, has now progressed for five years and is due for a mid-term review next year,

Welcoming the priority status assigned to SIDS in the Organization's Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4) and the decision by the Director-General to formalize the coordination of UNESCO inputs to the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation process, through the creation of the Intersectoral Platform on UNESCO's contribution to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Sustainable Development of SIDS,

Recalling the distinctive contribution made by UNESCO to date through the Intersectoral Platform on UNESCO's contribution to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Sustainable Development of SIDS towards implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in such areas as culture, climate change, and education for sustainable development,

Noting the growing international concern over the increased vulnerability of SIDS as a result of climate change and the recent world economic crisis,

Also noting the endorsement in July 2005 of the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy by the United Nations General Assembly, and UNGA resolution 63/213 that agreed to hold a review of this programme in September 2010,

Noting furthermore the invitation by the General Assembly to all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional economic commissions, among others, to take timely action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

1. *Calls upon* Member States and Associate Members to:
 - (a) participate actively in the continued development and further implementation of the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy;
 - (b) mobilize UNESCO's programmes and networks in their respective countries and regions to promote further the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy by taking advantage of synergies of action and expertise across the Organization's programmes and programme sectors, the Intersectoral Platform for SIDS, and the opportunities presented by the Participation Programme, IPDC and other sources of extrabudgetary support;
2. *Urges* non-governmental organizations in official relations with UNESCO to:
 - (a) work in close partnership with governments and other stakeholders in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy;
 - (b) strengthen cooperation with National Commissions and civil society in SIDS in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to:
 - (a) continue to incorporate the Mauritius Strategy in the Organization's activities and work programmes in line with the priority status assigned to SIDS in the Organization's Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4), with particular reference to, *inter alia*, climate change, sea-level rise and risk mitigation, sustainable capacity development and education for sustainable development, cultural heritage awareness and preservation and knowledge management;

- (b) take appropriate steps to reinforce the Intersectoral Platform on UNESCO's contribution to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Sustainable Development of SIDS to ensure that UNESCO is able to sustain its delivery on the ground of essential intersectoral and interregional contributions to the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;
- (c) collaborate fully with the United Nations family of institutions and with other international and regional organizations, in contributing to the timely follow-up and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy while avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort;
- (d) facilitate the securing of extrabudgetary funds to enable experts from SIDS to participate in key conferences and other forums of relevance held under the auspices of UNESCO;
- (e) feed the progress of the Organization's SIDS-related activities into the UNGA review process and ensure the active participation of UNESCO in the meeting itself and its preparatory process.

DEBATE 2

Item 4.2 Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 – Part II.A: Major Programme III – Social and Human Sciences

11. At its third, fifth, sixth and seventh meetings, the Commission examined item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011, Part II.A – Major Programme III – Social and Human Sciences.

12. After a general overview of Major Programme III by the representative of the Director-General, the debate was organized in three parts. The first part addressed biennial sectoral priority 2 – main line of action 4; the second part addressed biennial sectoral priority 1 – main line of action 1; and the third part addressed biennial sectoral priority 1 – main lines of action 2 and 3.

13. The conclusions and recommendations of the Youth Forum contained in document 35 C/INF.5 were presented during the sixth meeting of the Commission.

14. During the discussion on biennial sectoral priority 2, the representatives of 31 Member States and of 2 Observers took the floor. For the discussion on biennial sectoral priority 1 – main line of action 1, the representatives of 28 Member States, of 2 Observers and 1 non-governmental organization took the floor. As for the discussion on biennial sectoral priority 1 – main lines of action 2 and 3, the representatives of 31 Member States and of 2 non-governmental organizations took the floor.

Resolution proposed in Volume 1 of document 35 C/5 Rev. and draft resolutions relating to the Draft Programme and Budget

15. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03000 of document 35 C/5 Rev. Volume 1 concerning Programme III – Social and Human Sciences, as amended orally by the Commission and by :

- (i) the amendments recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 58 to 61 of document 35 C/6 and Add.;
- (ii) the following draft resolutions:
 - 35 C/DR.6 (submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran), after clarification that it has no budgetary implications;

- 35 C/DR.31 (submitted by France, supported by Argentina, and co-sponsored by Italy, the Netherlands and Poland), as amended by the Commission;²
- 35 C/DR.50 (submitted by the Dominican Republic), as amended by the Commission.

The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the plan of action for Major Programme III, structured around the following two biennial sectoral priorities and four 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: Responding to critical global social challenges and the exigency of building a culture of peace and promoting intercultural dialogue, on the basis of human rights and philosophy

- (i) promote policy-oriented research on the main obstacles and challenges to the implementation of human rights in the domains of UNESCO, including through the establishment of the rule of law;
- (ii) pursue the research-policy work on the human rights-based approach to respond to the evolving global financial, economic and social crisis, strengthen poverty eradication and promote gender equality;
- (iii) pursue the implementation of UNESCO's Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, in particular through the development of research-policy linkages on fighting racism and discrimination, encouraging initiatives to combat all forms of racial and/or religious intolerance, reinforcing regional coalitions of cities against racism and discrimination and combating HIV/AIDS-related discrimination;
- (iv) support the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme with a view to responding to the current global crisis and in the development of policy-oriented research and related capacity-building in such fields as poverty eradication, migration, regional integration and urban issues, SIDS, youth, sport and gender equality policies, in close cooperation with existing international and regional research networks, through support for and strengthening of networks of both government (including the fora of Ministers of Social Development) and civil society experts and research institutions;
- (v) disseminate cutting-edge research results and improved methodologies through publications and online databases;
- (vi) foster dialogue between policy-makers, researchers and youth organizations in the field of youth, with particular focus on empowering young women and men to fully participate in policy development and implementation at all levels and supporting Member States to develop effective youth policies, by promoting research, dialogue, exchange of best

² France and Germany expressed a reservation on this point which will be included in the Records of the General Conference.

practices and capacity-building measures on emerging challenges such as the economic crisis, social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and youth violence, in cooperation with organizations of the United Nations system, IGOs, researchers and youth organizations and networks;

- (vii) contribute to the elaboration and improvement of physical education and sports policies, monitor the implementation of the International Convention against Doping in Sport (2005), in close cooperation with States Parties and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA);
- (viii) contribute to the elaboration of national and regional policies for the social and human sciences, within the framework of UNESCO's intersectoral platform on strengthening national research systems, with emphasis on the contribution of national research systems and science policies to overall national strategies for sustainable development and with an initial focus on Africa;
- (ix) strengthen the contribution of research in the human sciences to the culture of peace through fostering dialogue (including the Greater Horn Horizon Forum of Intellectuals for the Horn of Africa; the civil society dialogue between Israel and Palestine), linking it to relevant initiatives of the Alliance of Civilizations and with special emphasis on the promotion of South-South and North-South-South cooperation, within the framework of the intersectoral platform on contributing to the dialogue among civilizations and cultures and a culture of peace;
- (x) pursue the implementation of the Integrated Strategy on Democracy, through initiatives including the Arab and Asian philosophical dialogue on democracy and social justice, the dialogue on democracy and human rights between the Arab world and Africa as well as through the research of the International Centre for Human Sciences in Byblos, Lebanon, under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
- (xi) pursue the implementation of the three pillars of UNESCO's Intersectoral Strategy on Philosophy, with emphasis on the promotion of philosophy teaching and learning at all levels, and the contribution of philosophy to debate on key contemporary issues relating in particular to the dialogue among civilizations and cultures and the promotion of a culture of peace; promote the international and national celebration of World Philosophy Day in coordination with UNESCO National Commissions, relevant international and regional NGOs, as well as academic networks, the interregional philosophical dialogues and the activities of international networks, with particular emphasis on the International Network of Women Philosophers and on identification, preservation, appreciation and promotion of the philosophical heritage of each region.

Biennial sectoral priority 2: Addressing emerging global ethical issues

- (xii) foster international, regional and national debate on ethical issues relating to the development of science and technology, in particular through:
 - the work of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST);
 - support to national ethics committees;

- awareness-raising and study of key ethical issues, including social responsibility and more equitable sharing of the benefits of science and technology, environmental ethics and the ethical principles contained in the Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers, as well as in the Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge; and
 - the availability of teaching expertise and teaching materials and of capacity-building, including training in developing countries, as well as of updated databases on ethical principles;
- (xiii) enhance national and international debate and action in the field of bioethics, in close cooperation with the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC), including through:
- support to national bioethics committees and to international networks for exchange of experiences and best practices;
 - support to the creation of national bioethics committees;
 - dissemination and promotion of UNESCO declarations in the field of bioethics;
 - the development of the Global Ethics Observatory and the availability of teaching expertise and teaching materials, in close cooperation with COMEST; and
 - regional and international cooperation in the field of bioethics and strengthened cooperation with the relevant regional centres and intergovernmental institutions active in the field of bioethics, for example the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) through PAHO's Regional Bioethics Programme based in Santiago, Chile, and the UNESCO REDBIOETICA;
- (xiv) ensure interdisciplinary cooperation through the intersectoral platforms, in particular for climate change, science education, education for sustainable development and strengthening of national research systems, with emphasis on the elaboration and dissemination of educational materials for the teaching of the ethics of science and technology in higher education, in close cooperation with the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE), the ethical dimensions and components of education for sustainable development, and the reinforcement of the ethics of science and technology in national research systems;
- (b) to allocate an amount of \$9,671,800 for activity costs and \$19,982,300 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 human rights within UNESCO's fields of competence, philosophy and philosophical dialogue on emerging social and human issues, as well as intercultural dialogue

1. Evidence-based policy recommendations to empower people deprived of their basic human rights formulated and disseminated;
2. Philosophical exchanges reinforced with a view to addressing new challenges to democracy and a culture of peace;

Main line of action 2: Enhancing research-policy linkages in the field of social development and the management of social transformations, including emerging issues relating to youth

3. Member States supported in the development of policies in fields related to social transformations, such as regional integration, migration, SIDS, urban development and youth;
4. Research policies and capacities in the social and human sciences in Member States supported;

Main line of action 3: Ensuring the effective implementation and monitoring of the International Convention against Doping in Sport, as well as providing upstream policy orientations on physical education and sport

5. Member States supported in the development of policies for physical education and sports and in the implementation of the International Convention against Doping in Sport;

Main line of action 4: Supporting Member States in developing policies in the ethics of science and technology, especially bioethics, and disseminating the existing declarations in the field of bioethics

6. Policy advice provided and bioethics programmes strengthened;
 7. Ethics infrastructures in Member States developed and reinforced;
 8. Overarching framework for an ethical approach to the use of science and technology and other scientific activities that respect human dignity and human rights further developed;
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. *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 MP III are also being fully implemented.

Draft resolutions withdrawn or not retained

16. The Commission informs the General Conference that the draft resolutions listed below were withdrawn by their authors or not retained:

- 35 C/DR.2 (submitted by Cuba);
- 35 C/DR.23 (submitted by Colombia);
- 35 C/DR.49 (submitted by the Dominican Republic);
- 35 C/DR.75 (submitted by Egypt).

General recommendations by the Executive Board

17. 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.

Budgetary provision for Major Programme III

18. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it approve the budget provision of \$29,654,100 in paragraph 03000 of document 35 C/5 Rev. Volume 1 for Major Programme III – Social and human sciences, corresponding to \$9,671,800 for activities and \$19,982,300 for staff costs, 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 3

Item 5.22 Examination of the advisability of preparing a draft universal declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change

19. During its third meeting, the Commission examined item 5.22 – Examination of the advisability of preparing a draft universal declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change.

20. The representatives of 50 Member States and of 1 Observer took the floor.

21. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt *in extenso*, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 22 of document 35 C/60 Corr.

22. At the request of the United Kingdom, the Representative of the Director-General, gave an assurance that, before submission to the Executive Board at its 185th session, the report on the desirability of preparing a draft declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change, required by the resolution, will be circulated for comment to all Member States. A summary of the comments received will be attached as an appendix to the aforementioned report.

The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling 29 C/Resolution 13, paragraph 2.C(d), 30 C/Resolution 20, 31 C/Resolution 21.1(a) and 32 C/Resolution 26, calling upon UNESCO to promote ethical reflection associated to the advancements of science and technology, with the advice of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST),

Having taken note of 169 EX/Decision 3.6.1,

Considering the UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change, as approved by the Executive Board at its 180th session (180 EX/16 Rev.),

Taking note of the request by the Executive Board, at its 181st session (181 EX/Decision 15), that the Director-General enhance the Plan of Action on Climate Change, in particular through focus on the social and ethical implications thereof,

Taking note of the recommendation made by COMEST at its Sixth Ordinary Session (16-19 June 2009), "In view of the nature and extent of the scientific, social and human challenges of global climate change, which necessitate adoption of policies at the global level to address the pressing needs of the most vulnerable in the face of major uncertainties and

the exigencies of international cooperation, it is urgent to determine universal ethical principles to guide responses to such challenges. COMEST therefore recommends that UNESCO should develop an ethical framework of principles in relation to climate change”,

Considering that the ethical principles in relation to climate change may be the subject of a declaration and that further study of this issue is necessary,

1. *Requests* the Director-General, following consultations with Member States and other stakeholders, including relevant United Nations agencies, further study on the matter by COMEST and the UNESCO Secretariat, to submit to the Executive Board at its 185th session, a report on the desirability of preparing a draft declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change and to prepare, if found appropriate by the Executive Board, a draft declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change, taking into account the conclusions reached at the 15th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 15) to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009, and to submit the outcome to the General Conference at its 36th session, provided that the cost of the study can be covered by reallocation within the approved programme and budget for MP III and extrabudgetary funding.

DEBATE 4

Item 5.7 Report by the Director-General on the activities carried out to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

23. During its fourth meeting, the Commission examined item 5.7 – Report of the Director-General on the activities carried out to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

24. The representatives of 17 Member States and of 1 Observer took the floor.

25. Having considered 35 C/COM SHS/DR.2 Rev. (submitted by Austria), proposing to add the words “the facilitation of youth participation” after “capacity-building of UNESCO staff”, in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution contained in document 35 C/44, the Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt an alternative amendment, inserting the same words in paragraph 9 as amended orally by the Commission, and leaving paragraph 4 unchanged.

26. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt for the Records of the General Conference the resolution proposed in paragraph 22 of document 35 C/44 as amended orally by the Commission. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling 34 C/Resolution 38 concerning the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Underlining the significance of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for giving new impetus to international and national efforts aimed at ensuring universal respect for and enjoyment of all human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social – and fundamental freedoms, recognizing that all human rights are equal and mutually reinforcing,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, and in particular the principles of the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness and interdependence of all human rights therein proclaimed,

Stressing UNESCO's commitment to the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction of race, sex, language or religion in line with its Constitution, the UNESCO Strategy on Human Rights (32 C/Resolution 27), the Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (32 C/13) and the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4),

Recognizing the increasing importance of the rights to education, the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to seek, receive and impart information, the right to take part in cultural life, the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications, in the era of globalization, unprecedented scientific and technological progress and growing movement of people,

Reaffirming UNESCO's commitment to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and the need for additional emphasis on the promotion of gender equality – a global priority of UNESCO – and the struggle against poverty,

Concerned by the negative impact of global economic and financial crises on the enjoyment of all human rights, with particular attention to those within the UNESCO mandate,

Having examined document 35 C/44,

1. *Welcomes* UNESCO's contribution to the year-long United Nations system-wide campaign to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through the activities carried out in the framework of the UNESCO refined plan of action;
2. *Commends* UNESCO Member States, as well as all traditional and new partners, for their contribution to the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
3. *Recommends* that UNESCO intensify human rights activities in line with the UNESCO Strategy on Human Rights and the Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, both adopted by the General Conference in 2003;
4. *Further recommends* that efforts be pursued to mainstream human rights into all UNESCO programmes, in particular through training, capacity-building of UNESCO staff and programme reviews with a view to applying a human rights-based approach at all stages of programming, and to submit to the Executive Board at its 185th session a plan on human rights mainstreaming;
5. *Invites* the Director-General to further promote research-policy linkages and knowledge-sharing on the rights within UNESCO's competence, including on gender equality and women's rights, on the relationship between access to safe drinking water, sanitation and human rights, and on the struggle against poverty, in full conformity with universal human rights standards;
6. *Calls for* further development of human rights education both in formal and non-formal settings, and sensitization of public opinion on emerging problems in this field;
7. *Welcomes* efforts to monitor the implementation of UNESCO standard-setting instruments related to human rights and to raise awareness about these instruments and the 104 EX/3.3 procedure;

8. *Invites* the Director-General to further increase coordination and cooperation in the field of human rights and gender equality within UNESCO's core mandate, in particular with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights;
9. *Urges* all public and private institutions within the Member States, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and educators, National Commissions for UNESCO, as well as human rights institutions to build on the momentum created during the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by undertaking activities to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a special emphasis on facilitation of youth participation, particularly at a time of global economic and financial crises;
10. *Invites* the Director-General to reinforce the implementation of the UNESCO Strategy on Human Rights and the Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, by taking due account of lessons learned from the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration, and to present a report thereon to the Executive Board at its 185th session.

DEBATE 5

Item 5.6 Establishment of category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO

Part XI – Proposal for the establishment in Praia, Cape Verde, of a West Africa institute for international research on regional integration and social transformations, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO

27. During its seventh meeting, the Commission examined item 5.6 – Establishment of category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO, with particular focus on the establishment of a West African institute for international research on regional integration and social transformations in Praia, Cape Verde, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

28. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt *in extenso*, for the Records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 2 of document 35 C/20 Part XI.

The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling 33 C/Resolution 90 and 181 EX/Decision 17, Part IX,

Having examined document 35 C/20 Part XI,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Government of the Republic of Cape Verde to establish the West Africa Institute for International Research on Regional Integration and Social Transformations under the auspices of UNESCO which is in line with the principles and guidelines for the institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as adopted by the General Conference in 33 C/Resolution 90;
2. *Approves* the establishment of the West Africa Institute for International Research on Regional Integration and Social Transformations, in Praia, Cape Verde under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 181st session (181 EX/Decision 17, Part IX);

3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign the corresponding Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Cape Verde contained in the Annex to document 181 EX/17 Part IX.

29. During its seventh meeting, the Commission also examined 35 C/COM SHS/DR.1 (submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and co-sponsored by Algeria, Angola, Belgium, Benin, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia), inviting the Executive Board, at its 184th session, to analyse the finalized feasibility study, to decide on its behalf on the granting of category 2 status to the regional centre, and to authorize the Director-General to sign an Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on behalf of the Great Lakes Countries, establishing the regional centre.³

30. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopt *in extenso*, for the Records of the General Conference, the resolution contained in document 35 C/COM SHS/DR.1. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling 21 C/Resolution 40 and 171 EX/Decision 23 (in particular para. 9, in which the Executive Board invites the General Conference to authorize it to decide, when appropriate, on its behalf, on the granting of category 2 status to new institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO), and in conformity with the existing principles and guidelines (33 C/Resolution 90) and the proposed strategy for this category of institutes and centres (171 EX/18),

Further recalling document 33 C/5, paragraph 03212 relating to main line of action 2 on gender equality, document 34 C/5, paragraph 03013 on the response to the needs of Africa and paragraph 03014 on gender equality and women's empowerment,

Also recalling the UNESCO Strategy on Human Rights and in accordance with the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of the governments of the Great Lakes Countries (Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia) to establish a research and documentation centre for women, gender and peace-building in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo) under the auspices of UNESCO;
2. *Invites* the Executive Board, at its 184th session, to analyse the finalized feasibility study, to decide on its behalf on the granting of category 2 status to the regional centre, and to authorize the Director-General to sign an Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on behalf of the Great Lakes Countries, establishing the regional centre.

³ Concerns were expressed regarding the insufficient information available to the Commission on 35 C/COM SHS/DR.1, which hampered informed judgment on whether to delegate to the Executive Board the decision, on the basis of the proposed feasibility study, whether to grant category 2 status to the regional centre in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. It was stressed that adoption without amendment of 35 C/COM SHS/DR.1 should not constitute a precedent with regard to future agenda items of a similar nature.

DEBATE 6

Item 5.8 **Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport**

31. During its seventh meeting, the Commission examined item 5.8 – Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport.

32. The representatives of 22 Member States took the floor.

33. Having examined document 35 C/45 and the draft resolution contained therein, and in view of the debate on the item, the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the following resolution as presented orally by the Commission:

The General Conference,

Having examined document 35 C/45 – Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS), and the draft resolution contained in paragraph 7 thereof,

Considering that an assessment of the current situation of CIGEPS along with further consultations are necessary to finalize the document and the draft resolution therein,

1. *Requests* the Director-General to conduct the required studies and consultations and to submit, after consideration by CIGEPS, a report thereon containing, if appropriate, a proposal for revision of the Statutes to the Executive Board at its 185th session;
2. *Includes* in the agenda of the 36th session of the General Conference an item on the matters referred to in paragraph 1.

Reports of CIGEPS, COMEST, IBC and IGBC, and MOST

34. Having examined the reports of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and of the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) (35 C/REP/12), the Intergovernmental Council on the activities of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme (35 C/REP/17), the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) (35 C/REP/18), and the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST) (35 C/REP/20), the Commission recommends that the General Conference take note of these reports.