PROPOSALS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF ANNIVERSARIES WITH WHICH UNESCO COULD BE ASSOCIATED IN 2012-2013, AND APPEALS BY MEMBER STATES CONCERNING THEIR PROPOSALS

SUMMARY

Pursuant to 159 EX/Decision 7.5, the Director-General submits to the Executive Board revised proposals from Member States for the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated in 2012-2013.

Further, pursuant to 186 EX/Decision 32, in order to promote these anniversaries more actively, and to provide broader opportunities, especially to developing countries, to present proposals, the Director-General also submits to the Executive Board new Member State proposals for the celebration of anniversaries in 2012-2013.

The financial and administrative implications of the activities presented fall within the parameters of the C/5 document.

Decision proposed: paragraph 6.
I. INTRODUCTION

1. According to the procedure adopted in 159 EX/Decision 7.5 (159th session of the Executive Board, May 2000) for establishing the list of anniversaries proposed by Member States with which UNESCO could be associated, the Member States concerned have had a statutory period of two months as from the last session of the Executive Board in order to reformulate, should they so desire, their requests concerning anniversaries that were rejected at its 186th session.

2. Furthermore, in 186 EX/Decision 32 the Executive Board requested the Director-General and the Secretariat to promote the anniversaries more actively, serving to increase the visibility of the Organization and of Member States, and to provide broader opportunities, especially to developing countries, to present proposals. In pursuance of these provisions, Member States were invited, through their National Commissions for UNESCO and permanent delegations, to submit to the Secretariat commemorations which their countries hoped UNESCO could be associated with during the 2012-2013 biennium, and the Director-General extended the deadline for the current biennium to permit the widest possible response.

3. In total, 15 appeals and 56 new proposals were submitted to the Secretariat by 31 Member States from all regions, ensuring an improved geographical distribution and gender balance.

4. The Secretariat has studied all of the proposals. The Executive Board is now called upon to examine the list of new and reformulated proposals that were deemed to be admissible by the Secretariat after examination inasmuch as they meet the selection criteria in force (see 159 EX/Decision 7.5, 166 EX/Decision 9.3, 176 EX/Decision 47 and 179 EX/Decision 37 of the Executive Board).

   (a) each proposed anniversary should be indisputably linked to the Organization’s ideals and missions in the fields of education, science, culture, social and human sciences and communication and should promote closer relations among peoples, tolerance and the ideals of peace, cultural dialogue and mutual understanding among peoples;

   (b) commemorations of the birth, independence or institutional regime of a State will not be eligible for consideration; similarly, the anniversaries of military events will be excluded;

   (c) the anniversary should concern personalities of genuinely universal stature, nominated posthumously only, and works or events of genuinely worldwide or at least regional significance in order to reflect the ideals, values, cultural diversity and universality of the Organization;

   (d) the anniversary should be a fiftieth anniversary, a centenary, or a multiple thereof; some flexibility should nevertheless be used in applying this criterion;

   (e) the anniversary should be the occasion for nationwide events already planned and for the organization of which certain resources have been allocated in the Member State or group of Member States directly concerned;

   (f) any anniversary proposal involving more than one State should be submitted by all;

   (g) requests relating to works of the intangible heritage – which comprise oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, social practices and rituals and festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe and traditional craftsmanship – will not be taken into consideration since they cannot be dated in time.

5. The Director-General submits to the Executive Board, for its decision, the following proposals. The descriptions of each anniversary selected, together with the relevant historical and biographical information relating thereto, are set out in document 187 EX/INF.7.
II. DRAFT DECISION

6. At the close of its discussion, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 187 EX/38 and 187 EX/INF.7,

2. Noting that the proposals sent by Member States to the Director-General listed below comply with the statutory criteria,

3. Appreciating the fact that Member States of all regions have made proposals so as to ensure an improved geographical distribution and gender balance;

4. Recommends to the General Conference:

   (a) that UNESCO also be associated in 2012-2013 with the following celebrations:

      (1) 50th anniversary of the death of Mouloud Feraoun, writer (1913-1962) (Algeria)

      (2) 900th anniversary of achievements of Mahsati Ganjavi, poetess (12th century) (Azerbaijan)

      (3) 550th anniversary of death of Seyid Yahya Bakuvi (Shirvani), philosopher and poet (ca. 1390s-1463) (Azerbaijan)

      (4) 100th anniversary of the birth of Jorge Amado, writer (1912 -2001) (Brazil)

      (5) 50th anniversary of the death of Candido Portinari, artist (1903-1962) (Brazil)

      (6) 100th anniversary of the birth of Vinicius de Moraes, poet and musician (1913 -1980) (Brazil)

      (7) 150th anniversary of the birth of Ernesto Nazareth, pianist (1863-1934) (Brazil)

      (8) 250th anniversary of the Istoriya Slavyanobolgarskaya by Paisij de Hilendar (1762) (Bulgaria)

      (9) 100th anniversary of the death of Rafael Pombo, writer (1833-1912) (Colombia)

      (10) 100th anniversary of the birth of Rita Longa, sculptor (1912-2000) (Cuba)

      (11) 100th anniversary of the birth of Virgilio Piñera, writer (1912-1979) (Cuba)

      (12) 100th anniversary of the publication of Niels Bohr's model of atom structure in Philosophical Magazine: “On the Constitution of Atoms and Molecules” (1913) (Denmark)

      (13) 200th anniversary of the birth of Søren Kierkegaard, philosopher (1813-1855) (Denmark)
(14) 150th anniversary of the birth of Ekvtime Takaishvili, historian and archaeologist (1863-1953) (Georgia)

(15) 250th anniversary of the death of Dorothea Christiane Erxleben, medical scientist (1715-1762) (Germany)

(16) 50th anniversary of the death of George N Papanicolaou, scientist (1883-1962) (Greece)

(17) 150th anniversary of the birth of Constantine Cavafy, poet (1863-1933) (Greece)

(18) 100th anniversary of the birth of Robert Capa, photographer (1913-1954) (Hungary)

(19) 100th anniversary of the birth of János Szentágothai, neuroscientist (1912-1994) (Hungary)

(20) 100th anniversary of the birth of Sir Georg Solti, conductor (1912-1997) (Hungary)

(21) 1,000th anniversary of the achievements of Abu Saeed Ab al-Kheir, writer and philosopher (978-1059) (Iran, Islamic Republic of)

(22) 500th anniversary of the achievements of Abd-ol-Ali ibn Muhammad ibn Husayn Birjandi, scientist and astronomer (born 16th century; died 1528) (Iran, Islamic Republic of)

(23) 1,100th anniversary of al-A'lāq al-Nafisa compilation of the prominent work of Iranian geographer Ebn Rosteh (Ibn Rusta) geographer and explorer (913) (Iran, Islamic Republic of)

(24) 200th anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Verdi, musician (1813-1901) (Italy)

(25) 100th anniversary of the birth of Giulio Einaudi, publisher (1912-1999) (Italy)

(26) 150th anniversary of the birth of Jāzeps Vītols, composer (1863-1948) (Latvia)

(27) 600th anniversary of the institutionalization of Kabary by King Andriamoraony (1412) (Madagascar)

(28) 200th anniversary of the foundation of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN) (1812) (Nicaragua)

(29) 100th anniversary of the death of Bolesław Prus, writer (1847-1912) (Poland)

(30) 250th anniversary of the birth of Cheong Yagyong, philosopher (1762-1836) (Republic of Korea)

(31) 400th anniversary of the publication of Donguibogam (1613) (Republic of Korea)

(32) 100th anniversary of the birth of Tatarka Dominik, writer (1913-1989) (Slovakia)
(33) 250th anniversary of the birth of Bernolák Anton, philologist (1762) (Slovakia)

(34) 50th anniversary of the Rivonia process, which led to Nelson Mandela’s imprisonment in his fight against apartheid (1962) (South Africa)

(35) 50th anniversary of the creation of the Pan African Women Organization (PAWO) (1962) (South Africa)

(36) 1,000th anniversary of the founding of the city of Granada (1012-1013) (Spain)

(37) 150th anniversary of Emancipation Day (1862) (Tonga)

(38) 50th anniversary of the foundation of the University of East Africa (1963) (Uganda)

(39) 100th anniversary of the birth of Mykola (Nikolai) Amosov, scientist (1913-2002) (Ukraine)

(40) 150th anniversary of the birth of Edith Wharton, writer (1862-1937) (United States of America)

(41) 100th anniversary of the birth of Rosa Parks, civil rights activist (1913-2005) (United States of America);

(b) that the hereby completed list of anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO is to be associated in 2012-2013, which supplements the list contained in 186 EX/Decision 32, be definitively closed, according to the procedure adopted by the Executive Board at its 159th session (159 EX/Decision 7.5);

(c) that any contribution by the Organization to these celebrations will be financed under the Participation Programme, in accordance with the rules governing that Programme.