Item 32 of the provisional agenda

PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF ANNIVERSARIES WITH WHICH UNESCO COULD BE ASSOCIATED IN 2014-2015

SUMMARY

Pursuant to 159 EX/Decision 7.5, the Director-General submits to the Executive Board the proposals by Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries in 2014-2015 with which UNESCO could be associated.

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

Decision proposed: paragraph 9.
I. INTRODUCTION

1. In 154 EX/Decision 7.7, the Executive Board adopted the criteria and procedures for consideration of the proposals by the Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated in each biennium, which were further developed in 159 EX/Decision 7.5 and amended at the 166th, 176th and 179th sessions of the Executive Board.

2. In accordance with these arrangements, the Director-General, in a letter dated 6 August 2012, invited the National Commissions for UNESCO to transmit to her their proposals for 2014-2015 for the celebration of the anniversaries of eminent personalities and historic events with which the Organization could be associated, the deadline being 15 January 2013.

3. As at 19 February 2013, the Secretariat had received 149 requests, from 51 Member States. Although Member States from all regions made proposals, geographical distribution and gender balance were not satisfactorily reflected in these proposals. It should be noted, for example, that of the total 149 proposals there were only 10 concerning female personalities.

4. 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, the Director-General decided to extend the deadline for the current biennium to 15 March 2013 so that under-represented and non-represented countries could submit proposals in order to improve the balance and representativeness of the list.

5. In total, 159 proposals were submitted to the Secretariat by 55 Member States and one Associate Member, from all geographical regions, of which 93 have been selected and form the subject of this document, in accordance with the established criteria. Despite all the efforts made by the Secretariat, the situation remains a cause of concern because only two anniversaries were selected for the Africa region and only 55 Member States and one Associate Member participated out of the total 195 Member States and eight Associate Members.

6. The Member States concerned have a new period of two months from the end of the present session to revise, if appropriate, the proposals that have not been selected, in accordance with 159 EX/Decision 7.5 and 166 EX/Decision 9.3 of the Executive Board. The revised proposals must be submitted by 25 June 2013 at the latest, and will then be re-examined by the intersectoral committee in order to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 192nd session if they meet the criteria in force.

7. The Executive Board is called upon to examine the list of 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, the values, the cultural diversity and the 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 crafts – will not be taken into consideration since they cannot be dated in time.

8. 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 191 EX/32.INF.

II. DRAFT DECISION

9. 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 191 EX/32 and 191 EX/32.INF,

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

3. Recalling 186 EX/Decision 32 of the Executive Board, which requested "the Director-General and the Secretariat to promote these anniversaries more actively, and to provide broader opportunities, especially to developing countries, to present proposals",

4. Encourages the Member States of all regions to make proposals ensuring an improved geographical distribution and gender balance;

5. Recommends to the General Conference:

(a) that UNESCO be associated in 2014-2015 with the following celebrations (listed in the English alphabetical order of the names of the Member States):

(1) 600th anniversary of the foundation of al-Thaâlibiya School, heart of the Casbah of Algiers and centre of cultural influence in the Maghreb (1414) (Algeria)

(2) 100th anniversary of the death of Scheik Abdelkader al-Medjâwî, astronomer, reformer and defender of the Arabic language (1848-1914) (Algeria)

(3) 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Alawi Sufi order, a school for tolerance and interreligious social interaction (1914) (Algeria)

(4) 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Lazarev Institute of Oriental Languages (1815) (Armenia, with the support of the Russian Federation)
(5) 150th anniversary of the birth of Toros Toramanian, architect and archaeologist (1864-1934) (Armenia)

(6) 400th anniversary of the birth of Archbishop Voskan Yerevantsi (Voskan Vardapet) Ghlichents, publisher and linguist (1614-1674) (Armenia)

(7) 100th anniversary of the birth of Ilyas Afandiyev, writer and playwright (1914-1996) (Azerbaijan)

(8) 1100th anniversary of the death of Ahmad Al-Bardiji, philosopher and scholar (834-914) (Azerbaijan)

(9) 250th anniversary of the birth of Michał Kleofas Ogiński, composer, writer and diplomat (1765-1833) (Belarus, Lithuania, Poland)

(10) 200th anniversary of the birth of Iosif Goshkevich, scientist and diplomat (1814-1875) (Belarus with the support of Japan and Russian Federation)

(11) 100th anniversary of the birth of Dorival Caymmi, composer and singer (1914-2008) (Brazil)

(12) 50th anniversary of the death of Brazilian modernist artists Anita Malfatti, painter (1889-1964) and Cecília Meireles, poet (1901-1964) (Brazil)

(13) 100th anniversary of the birth of Antônio Houaiss, writer and teacher (1915-1999) (Brazil)

(14) 100th anniversary of the birth of Grande Otelo, actor and composer (1915-1993) (Brazil)

(15) 100th anniversary of the death of Augusto dos Anjos, poet (1884-1914) (Brazil)

(16) 100th anniversary of the birth of Boris Christoff, opera singer (1914-1993) (Bulgaria)

(17) 100th anniversary of the death of Peyo Yavorov, poet and playwright (1878-1914) (Bulgaria)

(18) 1200th anniversary of the birth of Saint Methodius (815-885), creator, with his brother Cyril, of the first Slavic alphabet (Bulgaria)

(19) 100th anniversary of the birth of Professor Tzvetana Romanska, ethnographer (1914-1969) (Bulgaria)

(20) 50th anniversary of Cook Islands Library and Museum Society (1964) (Cook Islands)

(21) 50th anniversary of the intellectual career of Professor Zadi Zaourou, politician and writer (1938-2012) (Côte d'Ivoire)

(22) 200th anniversary of the birth of Josip Juraj Strossmayer, statesman and humanist (1815-1905) (Croatia, with the support of Montenegro and Serbia)

(23) 200th anniversary of the birth of Ivan Mažuranić, poet (1814-1890) (Croatia)
(24) 100th anniversary of the death of Antun Gustav Matoš, poet and writer (1873-1914) (Croatia)

(25) 400th anniversary of the publishing of the book “Machinae novae” (New Machines) by the inventor Faust Vrančić (1615) (Croatia)

(26) 500th anniversary of the foundation of the first towns in Central and Eastern Cuba (Cuba)

(27) 100th anniversary of the death of Carlos J. Finlay, scientist (1833-1915) (Cuba)

(28) 200th anniversary of the birth of Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda, writer (1814-1873) (Cuba)

(29) 100th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Feijóo Rodríguez, writer (1914-1992) (Cuba)

(30) 100th anniversary of the birth of Costas Montis, poet (1914-2004) (Cyprus)

(31) 100th anniversary of the birth of Bohumil Hrabal, writer (1914-1997) (Czech Republic)

(32) 50th anniversary of the death of Gonzalo Zaldumbide, writer (1882-1965) (Ecuador)

(33) 150th anniversary of the birth of Jean Sibelius, composer (1865-1957) (Finland)

(34) 100th anniversary of the birth of Marguerite Duras, writer (1914-1996) (France)

(35) 100th anniversary of the birth of Romain Gary, writer (1914-1980) (France)

(36) 100th anniversary of the death of Akaki Tsereteli, poet and writer (1840-1915) (Georgia)

(37) 100th anniversary of the death of Paul Ehrlich, physician (1854-1915) (Germany)

(38) 150th anniversary of the birth of Max Weber, sociologist and philosopher (1864-1920) (Germany)

(39) 100th anniversary of the death of August Macke, painter (1887-1914) (Germany)

(40) 250th anniversary of the birth of Johann Gottfried Schadow, sculptor (1764-1850) (Germany)

(41) 400th anniversary of the death of Doménikos Theotokopoulos (known as El Greco – “the Greek”), painter, sculptor and architect (1541-1614) (Greece and Spain)

(42) 200th anniversary of the birth of Miklós Ybl, architect (1814-1891) (Hungary)

(43) 100th anniversary of the death of Ödön Lechner, architect (1845-1914) (Hungary)
(44) 150th anniversary of the death of Ignác Semmelweis, physician (1818-1865) (Hungary)

(45) 200th anniversary of the birth of Flóris Rómer, archaeologist and professor (1815-1889) (Hungary)

(46) 600th anniversary of the compilation of Maqāsed al-Alhān, work in the field of musicology (c. 1414) (Islamic Republic of Iran)

(47) 800th anniversary of the compilation of Fawāʾih al-Jamāl wa Fawātīh al-Jalāl, work of philosophy and mysticism (c. 1214) (Islamic Republic of Iran)

(48) 800th anniversary of the birth of Fakr-al-Dīn Ebrāhīm Erāqī, poet and sufi (c. 1214-1289) (Islamic Republic of Iran)

(49) 1350th anniversary of the death of al-Khansa, poetess (575-664) (Jordan)

(50) 100th anniversary of the birth of Ilyas Yesenberlin, writer (1915-1983) (Kazakhstan)

(51) 100th anniversary of the birth of Shaken Aimanov, film-director and actor (1914-1970) (Kazakhstan)

(52) 50th anniversary of the death of Sheikh Abdullah Al-Jabir Al-Sabah, educational reformer (1895-1965) (Kuwait)

(53) 200th anniversary of the birth of Janis Cimze, composer (1814-1881) (Latvia)

(54) 150th anniversary of the birth of writers Rainis (1865-1929) and Aspazija (1865-1943) (Latvia)

(55) 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Courland (also Kurzeme) Society for Literature and Art (1815) (Latvia)

(56) 300th anniversary of the birth of Gothards Frïdrihs Stenders, writer (1714-1796) (Latvia)

(57) 300th anniversary of the birth of Kristijonas Donelaitis, writer (1714-1780) (Lithuania)

(58) 200th anniversary of the official creation of the National Archives of the Republic of Mauritius (1815) (Mauritius)

(59) 100th anniversary of the birth of Octavio Paz, writer (1914-1998) (Mexico)

(60) 100th anniversary of the birth of Tsevegmid Dondogiin, educator, writer, scientist and politician (1915-1991) (Mongolia)

(61) 400th anniversary of the death of Rashid Ibn Omairah, physician (?-1615) (Oman)

(62) 50th anniversary of the publication of the novel “Todas las Sangres” (All the Bloods) by Jose Maria Arguedas (1964) (Peru)

(63) 100th anniversary of the birth of Andrzej Panufnik, composer (1914-1991) (Poland)
(64) 100th anniversary of the birth of Tadeusz Kantor, artist (1915-1990) (Poland)

(65) 200th anniversary of the birth of Oskar Kolberg, ethno-musicologist (1814-1890) (Poland)

(66) 200th anniversary of the death of Jan Nepomucen Potocki, writer (1761-1815) (Poland)

(67) 300th anniversary of the death of Prince Constantin Brâncoveanu, patron of culture and arts (1654-1714) (Romania)

(68) 150th anniversary of the birth of Elena Văcărescu, writer (1864-1947) (Romania)

(69) 50th anniversary of the death of George (Gogu) Constantinescu, scientist (1881-1965) (Romania)

(70) 250th anniversary of the foundation of the State (formerly Imperial) Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg (1764) (Russian Federation)


(72) 200th anniversary of the birth of Mikhail Lermontov, poet and painter (1814-1841) (Russian Federation)

(73) 300th anniversary of the foundation of the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (1714) (Russian Federation)

(74) 100th anniversary of the birth of Sir William Arthur Lewis, economist, Nobel prize laureate (1915-1991) (Saint Lucia)

(75) 150th anniversary of the birth of Jovan Cvijić, geographer (1865-1927) (Serbia)

(76) 100th anniversary of the death of Stevan Mokranjac, composer (1856-1914) (Serbia)

(77) 200th anniversary of the birth of Josif Pančić, scientist (1814-1888) (Serbia, with the support of Croatia)

(78) 300th anniversary of the birth of Edmund Pascha, composer (1714-1772) (Slovakia)

(79) 150th anniversary of the birth of Jozef Murgaš, scientist (1864-1929) (Slovakia)

(80) 100th anniversary of the birth of Ediriweera Sarachchandra, philosopher, writer and diplomat (1914-1996) (Sri Lanka)

(81) 1500th anniversary of the foundation of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice (Valais, Switzerland) (515) (Switzerland)

(82) 600th anniversary of the birth of Abd ar-Rahman Jami, poet, philosopher and humanist (1414-1492) (Tajikistan)
(83) 150th anniversary of the birth of Her Majesty Queen Sri Bajarindra (1864-1919) (Thailand)

(84) 100th anniversary of the birth of Princess Prem (Ngarmchit) Purachattra (1915-1983) (Thailand)

(85) 450th anniversary of the death of Matrakçı Nasuh, scientist (1480-1564) (Turkey)

(86) 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts (1914) (Turkey)

(87) 100th anniversary of the death of İsmail Gaspıralı, journalist and publisher (1851-1914) (Turkey, with the support of Ukraine)

(88) 50th anniversary of the death of Halide Edip Adıvar, teacher and social philosopher (1884-1964) (Turkey)

(89) 200th anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko, poet (1814-1861) (Ukraine)

(90) 150th anniversary of the birth of Pavlo Grabovsky, poet (1864-1956) (Ukraine)

(91) 150th anniversary of the birth of Mykhaylo Kotsyubynsky, writer (1864-1913) (Ukraine)

(92) 200th anniversary of the birth of Mykhailo Verbytsky, composer (1815-1870) (Ukraine)

(93) 250th anniversary of the birth of Nguyen Du, poet (1765-1820) (Viet Nam)

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