THIRD REPORT

Item 7.2 of the agenda

THIRD CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION BY MEMBER STATES OF THE 2003 RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE PROMOTION AND USE OF MULTILINGUALISM AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO CYBERSPACE

1. The Legal Committee considered the third consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 2003 Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace.

2. The Committee took note of the report together with the comments made in that regard by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations at the 197th session of the Executive Board. It also took note of the additional information provided by the representative of the Director-General.

3. A Member of the Committee proposed that all of UNESCO’s standard-setting instruments for which no specific institutional mechanism is foreseen should be addressed by a strategy to improve their visibility and their implementation by Member States. In that regard, without commenting on the relevance of the proposal, the Committee recalled that the development of such a strategy was not within the competence of the Committee.

4. The Committee made certain amendments to the text of the draft resolution contained in paragraph 33 of document 38 C/28, which should therefore read as follows:

   The General Conference,

   Recalling 33 C/Resolution 54, 34 C/Resolution 49, 36 C/Resolution 58, and 197 EX/Decision 20 (VII),
Having examined document 38 C/28,

Recalling that the submission by Member States of periodic reports on the implementation of recommendations adopted by the General Conference is an obligation under Article VIII of UNESCO’s Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,

1. Notes with concern that only 22 Member States submitted reports for this third consultation;

2. Invites Member States to submit their reports at the next consultation;

3. Reaffirms the importance of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, as well as its application by Member States, and requests the Director-General to increase efforts to strengthen the implementation of the Recommendation in cooperation with the Member States and the relevant international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

4. Urges those Member States that have not taken measures to implement the Recommendation to do so;

5. Invites the Director-General to submit to the General Conference at its 40th session the fourth consolidated report on the implementation of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, and decides to include this item in the agenda of its 40th session.