



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and ninety-ninth session

(Paris, 4-15 April 2016)*

199 EX/Decisions

PARIS, 16 May 2016

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 199th SESSION

* Including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies before the plenary meetings.



All the terms used in this collection of texts to designate the person discharging duties or functions are to be interpreted as implying that men and women are equally eligible to fill any post or seat associated with the discharge of these duties and functions.

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ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1 **Agenda and timetable of work, report of the Bureau and election of the Chairperson of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR)** (199 EX/1 Rev.; 199 EX/2)

The Executive Board adopted the agenda and timetable of work as set out in document 199 EX/1 Rev.

The Executive Board decided to refer the following items of its agenda to the commissions:

1. **Programme and External Relations Commission (PX):** items **4.I, 5.I (D, E, F and G), 6, 7, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26** and **28**,
2. **Finance and Administrative Commission (FA):** items **4.II and III, 5.II (B, C and D)**, and **III, 10, 15**, and **17**

and to refer the following items to the **PX and FA Commissions at their joint meeting:** items **5.I (A, B and C)** and **II (E and F), 8, 9, 11, 16** and **25**.

The Executive Board approved the proposals by the Bureau contained in document 199 EX/2.

In accordance with Rule 16, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Procedure, the Executive Board elected Mr Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury (Bangladesh) Chairperson of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) to replace Mr M. Shahidul Islam for the remainder of his term of office.

(199 EX/SR.1 and 199 EX/SR.5)

2 **Approval of the summary records of the 197th and 198th sessions** (197 EX/SR. 1- 8; 198 EX/SR. 1-2)

The Executive Board approved the summary records of its 197th and 198th sessions.

(199 EX/SR.1 and 199 EX/SR.7)

3 **Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board** (199 EX/PRIV.1)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject in private meeting.

(199 EX/SR.5)

REPORTING ITEMS

- 4 Execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference** (199 EX/4 Part I, 199 EX/4.INF; 199 EX/4.INF.2; 199 EX/4.INF.4; 199 EX/4 Part II and Corr.; 199 EX/4 INF.3; 199 EX/4 PART III; 199 EX/32; 199 EX/33)

4.I Programme execution

4.I.A Programme implementation report (PIR)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 89, 196 EX/Decision 4 (I), and 38 C/Resolution 99,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/4 Part I (A),
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the quality of information and evidence presented in it, and requests that further reference be made to the performance indicators and targets;
4. Notes with satisfaction the progress made towards the achievements of outputs, and the measures taken to ensure programme delivery despite the difficult financial situation;
5. Invites the Director-General to continue her efforts to ensure the full and efficient implementation of the programme taking into consideration the discussions during the 199th session of the Executive Board;
6. Requests the Director-General to present to it at its 201st session a programme implementation report (PIR) covering the period 2014-2016, in accordance with 38 C/Resolution 99.

(199 EX/SR.7)

4.I.B Strategic results report (SRR)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 37 C/Resolution 5, 196 EX/Decision 4 (I), 197 EX/Decision 5 (IV, E) and 38 C/Resolution 99,
2. Having examined documents 199 EX/4 Part I (B), 199 EX/4.INF, 199 EX/4.INF.2 and 199 EX/4.INF.4,
3. Expresses its appreciation for the Director-General's efforts in conducting reviews of the major programmes and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS);
4. Welcomes the analysis, preliminary findings and proposals for the way forward contained in the strategic results report;
5. Stresses that the programme assessment exercise is an important phase in the overall process of strategic decision-making and programme priority-setting for the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5);
6. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the content of this report and related information (INF) documents, the summary of the Executive Board's debates and its

decision thereon are duly taken into account in the preparation of her preliminary proposals for document 39 C/5;

7. Also requests the Director-General to ensure that document 39 C/5 presents clear quantitative and qualitative baselines for each expected result, performance indicator and target, as described in 196 EX/Decision 15 (II).

(199 EX/SR.7)

**4.II Budgetary situation of the Organization for 2014-2015 (37 C/5) as at 31 December 2015 (unaudited), budget adjustments arising from donations and special contributions received and Management Chart for Programme Execution in 2014-2015 (37 C/5 Approved)
Status as at 31 December 2015 (unaudited)**

4.II.A Report by the Director-General on the budgetary situation of the Organization for 2014-2015 (37 C/5) as at 31 December 2015 (unaudited)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Director-General's report in document 199 EX/4 Part II on donations and special contributions received during the period July-December 2015 and appropriated to the regular budget and the transfers made between appropriation lines, in accordance with the terms of the Appropriation Resolution approved by the General Conference at its 37th session (37 C/Resolution 98, paras. (b), (d) and (e)),
2. Notes that the Director-General has, as a consequence of these donations and special contributions, increased the appropriations to the regular budget by a total amount of **\$2,330,102 for the period 1 July to 31 December 2015** as indicated in Annex II of document 199 EX/4.INF.3 and summarized as follows:

	\$
Part II.A – Education (ED)	924,378
Part II.A – Natural Sciences (SC)	398,813
Part II.A – Social and Human Sciences (SHS)	1,985
Part II.A – Culture (CLT)	225,187
Part II.A – Communication and Information (CI)	266,257
Part II.A – Management of field offices	268,113
Part II.B – Coordination and monitoring of action to benefit Africa (AFR)	168,000
Part II.B – Coordination and monitoring of action to implement gender equality (Gender)	11,249
Part II.B UNESCO's response to post-conflict and post-disaster situations (PCPD)	23,605
Part II.B Strategic planning, programme monitoring and budget (BSP)	23,446
Part II.B External Relations and Public Information (ERI)	11,626
Part III.C – Management of Information Systems and Communications (BKI)	7,443
Total	<u>\$2,330,102</u>

3. Expresses its appreciation to the donors listed in Annexes II, III.A and III.B of document 199 EX/4.INF.3;
4. Takes note of the revised 37 C/5 Appropriation Table in Annex I of 199 EX/4.INF.3 and notes that the unspent balance of Part V as at 31 December 2015 will be used in accordance with 38 C/Resolution 103;
5. Also notes that the Director-General has made transfers between appropriation lines for reallocation of regular programme resources and for staff movements effected during the period July-December 2015 (net impact \$0), as detailed in paragraph 7 of document 199 EX/4 Part II.A;
6. Also having examined the Director-General's report on the overall regular budget situation of the Organization for the 2014-2015 biennium at the closure of accounts (199 EX/4 Part II),
7. Takes note of the budgetary situation (unaudited) of the Organization for the 2014-2015 regular budget (37 C/5) as at 31 December 2015.

(199 EX/SR.7)

4.II.B Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference – Management Chart for Programme Execution as at 31 December 2015

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/4 Part II (B),
2. Notes with satisfaction that the Secretariat remained within the \$507 million expenditure plan ceiling and absorbed a deficit of \$10.8 million;
3. Notes:
 - (i) that 4.7 % of UNESCO's total budget was funded by private donors in 2015;
 - (ii) that the provisional 2% target for cost recovery set by 195 EX/Decision 5 (IV,C) has not been achieved, while acknowledging that the application of UNESCO's cost-recovery policy requires a much higher percentage;
4. Requests the Director-General to take the necessary measures to attain the provisional 2% target for cost recovery, and to report to it at its 201st session on the implementation of these measures and their impact.

(199 EX/SR.7)

4.III Annual report of the Ethics Office (2015)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/4 Part III,
2. Takes note of its content;
3. Acknowledges the importance of a work culture founded upon integrity, accountability, transparency and respect, which are essential values;

4. Reaffirms its commitment to promoting and reinforcing a work culture based on ethics and these values at UNESCO;
5. Stresses the importance of mandatory ethics training for all employees and encourages the organization of training sessions on a more regular basis;
6. Affirms the need to provide the Ethics Office with adequate resources;
7. Requests the Ethics Office to further enhance its visibility and facilitate a common understanding of universal ethical values;
8. Calls on the Director-General and senior officials to be visible and active in contributing to the promotion and reinforcement of the culture of ethics at UNESCO;
9. Recommends that the Bureau of Human Resources Management incorporate the recommendations of the Ethics Office, in particular in relation to the Human Resources Manual and the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules;
10. Requests the Director-General to present to it at its spring sessions the annual report of the Ethics Office;
11. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 200th session a report on the ethics policies of UNESCO vis-à-vis the universal references adopted by the United Nations Secretariat, together with options for aligning or developing the policies as necessary and appropriate.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5. Follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and the General Conference at their previous sessions (199 EX/5 Part I, 199 EX/5.INF Rev. and Corr. (*French only*); 199 EX/5.INF.2; 199 EX/5 Part II and Corr.; 199 EX/5 Part III and Corr. and Add.; 199 EX/31; 199 EX/32; 199 EX/33; 199 EX/34)

5.1 Programme issues

5.1.A Finalized small island developing States (SIDS) action plan and implementation strategy

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 37 C/Resolution 1 (V) and 197 EX/Decision 5 (I, D), and looking forward to the preliminary progress report requested in paragraph 12 of 197 EX/Decision 5 (I, D) which is expected at the 200th session,
2. Having examined documents 199 EX/5 Part I (A) and 199 EX/5. INF.Rev.,
3. Stressing the importance of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway as the reference document for small island developing States (SIDS),
4. Expresses its gratitude to the Director-General for the efforts made to finalize the small island developing States (SIDS) action plan;
5. Approves the finalized Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan, as amended;

6. Welcomes the strategy for a first phase of implementation of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan contained in Part II of document 199 EX/5.INF Rev.;
7. Notes that the regular programme budget allocated to the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan may not cover all the proposed activities and does not reflect the recognition of the status of SIDS as a priority group, and that it should therefore be strengthened wherever possible, and in particular, that the needs of SIDS should be borne in mind in the preparation of document 39 C/5;
8. Calls on Member States to make voluntary financial and in-kind contributions to support the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan;
9. Invites the Director-General and Member States to seek extrabudgetary resources to allow the full implementation of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan;
10. Requests the Director-General to implement the strategy of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan and report on progress made thereon in the Organization's relevant statutory reports on programme implementation.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.I.B Options for the process of preparing a preliminary text of a non-binding declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 87 and 38 C/Resolution 42, inviting the Director-General to prepare, in close cooperation with the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), and in consultation with the Member States, a preliminary text of a non-binding declaration on ethical principles in relation to climate change, taking into consideration the outcome of negotiation processes within the framework of the twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
2. Having examined documents 199 EX/5 Part I (B) and 199 EX/5.INF.2,
3. Approves the main stages of the process and its time frame for the preparation of a preliminary text of a non-binding declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change, to be funded from the regular budget and, if necessary, from extrabudgetary resources;
4. Invites the Director-General to constitute an ad hoc group of a maximum of 36 experts on the basis of equitable geographical representation and with a background of multi-disciplinary expertise according to category VI of the Regulations for the general classification of the various categories of meetings convened by UNESCO, having in its terms of reference the preparation of a first draft of a preliminary text of a non-binding declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change;
5. Requests the Director-General to submit the first draft of a preliminary text of a non-binding declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change to Member States for consultations;
6. Also requests the Director-General to ensure that the ad hoc group, taking into consideration the comments received from Member States as a result of such consultations, will prepare a revised draft of a preliminary text of a non-binding

declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change, either at a meeting or through electronic means of communication;

7. Also invites the Director-General to convene, subject to securing the required funds, an intergovernmental meeting of experts (category II), with a view to finalizing the preliminary text of a non-binding declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change;
8. Decides:
 - (a) that an intergovernmental meeting of experts (category II) shall be convened with a view to finalizing the preliminary text of a non-binding declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change in the light of the provisions set out in paragraphs 5-7 above;
 - (b) that invitations to participate in the category II meeting shall be extended to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO;
 - (c) that invitations to send observers to the category II meeting shall be extended to the States mentioned in paragraph (b) of the Annex of document 199 EX/5 Part I (B);
 - (d) that invitations to send observers to the category II meeting shall be extended to the organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements and which are listed in paragraph (c) of the Annex of document 199 EX/5 Part I (B);
 - (e) that invitations to send observers to the category II meeting shall be extended to the organizations, institutions and other entities listed in paragraphs (d), (e), (f) and (g) of the Annex of document 199 EX/5 Part I (B);
9. Further invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 202nd session the aforementioned preliminary text to enable it to formulate its recommendations thereon, which are to be transmitted to the General Conference at its 39th session;
10. Appeals to Member States and potential donors to make voluntary contributions for at least two meetings of an ad hoc expert group and a category II meeting of experts appointed by Member States, to ensure a full-fledged and participatory consultative process.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.I.C Report on the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the African World Heritage Fund and African World Heritage Day

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part I (C),
2. Recalling 197 EX/Decision 36 as well as 38 C/Resolution 53 by which the General Conference approved the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and the proclamation of 5 May as African World Heritage Day,
3. Expresses appreciation for the efforts of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) to implement a series of activities to increase international awareness of African heritage;

4. Takes note of the events and activities organized by Member States on the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and of African World Heritage Day;
5. Encourages all Member States to further promote this celebration with a view to reaffirming their commitment to the conservation and protection of African world heritage in line with the provisions of the World Heritage Convention.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.I.D Report on UNESCO's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 197 EX/Decision 10 and 38 C/Resolution 48,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part I (D),
3. Takes note of the initial elements towards developing an action plan for the implementation of the strategy on the reinforcement of UNESCO's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict, taking into account the tangible and intangible aspects of heritage as described in document 199 EX/5 Part I (D);
4. Welcomes the progress made in implementing this strategy;
5. Also welcomes the contributions provided by several Member States to the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund in support of this strategy;
6. Encourages Member States to ratify and implement all the cultural conventions of UNESCO;
7. Invites the Director-General to continue the necessary consultations with Member States, the United Nations and other concerned international organizations as appropriate, for the development of the action plan;
8. Further welcomes the work of the informal open-ended "friends of #Unite4Heritage" group, which represents a useful coordination tool to exchange information and encourage regular and informal consultations between the Secretariat and willing Member States, in line with the provisions of paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of 38 C/Resolution 48, and whose outcomes will be regularly circulated to each regional group to ensure shared information;
9. Calls on all Member States to make additional voluntary contributions to the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund for the implementation of this strategy;
10. Requests the Director-General to further strengthen cooperation between UNESCO, relevant United Nations partners, and other concerned institutional stakeholders, for the implementation of this strategy and action plan, and to submit to it at its 200th session a report thereon.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.I.E Follow-up of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine)¹

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part I (E),
2. Takes note of the information provided therein;
3. Invites the Director-General to report to it thereon at its 200th session.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.I.F Special post-conflict overall support programme for Côte d'Ivoire

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part I (F),
2. Takes note of its content;
3. Congratulates UNESCO on the actions undertaken;
4. Requests the Director-General to continue efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources as well as to seek out and strengthen functional partnerships around this programme, in particular with international and regional organizations and Member States;
5. Calls for implementation of the programme to continue;
6. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 202nd session a report thereon.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.I.G Recent decisions and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system of relevance to the work of UNESCO

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part I (G), containing the overview of recent decisions and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system of relevance to the work of UNESCO,
2. Takes note of its content, and encourages the Director-General to maintain UNESCO's leadership and coordination within the United Nations system, on matters that fall within its terms of reference.

(199 EX/SR.7)

¹ The Executive Board adopted this decision upon a recommendation made by the Programme and External Relations Commission (PX) following a roll-call vote: 17 votes in favour, 5 votes against and 27 abstentions:
In favour: Albania, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.
Against: China, India, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, South Africa.
Abstentions: Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guinea, Haiti, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Viet Nam.
Absent: Chad, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco, Nepal, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sudan, Turkmenistan.

5.II Management issues

5.II.A Schedule and workload of Executive Board sessions

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 184 EX/Decision 17, 192 EX/Decision 16 (VII), 195 EX/Decision 5 (IV, E), 196 EX/Decision 5 (IV, C), 197 EX/Decision 5 (IV, G) and 197 EX/Decision 28 and 197 EX/Decision 44 (paragraph 11),
2. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part II (A),
3. Bearing in mind the mandate given by the General Conference to the open-ended working group on governance,
4. Notes with satisfaction the improvements in the online presentation of the EX/4 and EX/5 documents and draft decisions submitted by Member States;
5. Welcomes the proposal made by the Bureau to move directly to the examination of draft decisions more often, when appropriate and feasible, unless requested otherwise by Member States in accordance with Article 14 of its Rules of Procedure;
6. Stresses the need to clarify existing practices and mechanisms for the selection, by category, of the items of the Executive Board that (i) would require an in-depth debate or (ii) could be moved directly to the examination of the draft decisions, in order to ensure that the time allotted to the commissions and committees is in line with their workload and is appropriate;
7. Invites the Director-General to pursue efforts to facilitate the use of online documents and the traceability of their components, taking into account the feedback received from Executive Board Members, in particular by presenting the components of documents EX/4 and EX/5 as separate documents, each containing a hyperlink, like all other Executive Board documents;
8. Also invites the Director-General to collect feedback from its Members regarding the preparation and organization of its sessions via an online questionnaire once a year.

(199 EX/SR.6)

5.II.B Publication and distribution plan for the biennium (2016-2017)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part II (B),
2. Takes note of its content;
3. Requests the Director-General to pursue efforts undertaken to increase the share of publications existing in more than one language.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.II.C Sustainability of the current field network under the \$507 million expenditure plan

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 196 EX/Decision 5 (IV, B),

2. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part II (C) on sustainability of the field network under the \$507 million expenditure plan,
3. Reaffirms the importance of a strong and sustainable field network to UNESCO's mission;
4. Also reaffirms that the main goals of the field network reform approved by the General Conference at its 36th session remain valid and pertinent;
5. Notes that the reform process in Africa was affected by the financial crisis both in its scope and implementation process;
6. Acknowledges the recommendations made by the External Auditor on the UNESCO field network reform and accepted by the Director-General;
7. Welcomes the proposed two-phase change management process for review of the sustainability of field network;
8. Also welcomes the establishment of the Division of Field Support and Coordination;
9. Invites host Member States to comply fully with provisions in the prevailing host country agreements relating to backstopping and support of field offices;
10. Invites Member States to consider supporting UNESCO field offices through financial and in-kind contributions;
11. Requests the Director-General to report to it at its 200th session, after a participatory consultation process with Member States and other partners, on proposed basic principles of sustainable decentralization, criteria for UNESCO's field presence and mechanisms for monitoring improvements to the field network in Africa, including their preliminary cost analysis;
12. Encourages the Director-General to take into account the proposed basic principles of sustainable decentralization:
 - (a) the optimization of local capacities, which can often bring a better grasp of the reality and culture of the field;
 - (b) the adaptability and flexibility of field networks in order to either strengthen or reduce their presence according to the regional needs;
13. Also requests the Director-General to report to it at its 201st session on the results of the analysis of the relevance and performance of the field network as a whole, and to propose concrete and action-oriented options for a more sustainable, relevant, and effective field network including their cost analysis, particularly taking into account the programmatic relevance of field activity and presence in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.II.D Invest for efficient delivery

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 196 EX/Decision 4 (II, E), 196 EX/Decision 15, and 197 EX/Decision 5 (IV, D),

2. Takes note of the proposals outlined in document 199 EX/5 Part II (D) and Annexes II-IV;
3. Emphasizes the need to ensure that UNESCO is well equipped to face future challenges and opportunities, to enhance transparency and to collaborate closely with the United Nations system;
4. Endorses the detailed time-bound and costed activities presented in Annexes II and III of document 199 EX/5 Part II (D);
5. Requests the Director-General to report to it at its 200th session on the progress of the activities endorsed in paragraph 4 above, including the contracting of the redesigning of the knowledge management and information core systems, as well as the establishment of a global risk register;
6. Also requests the Director-General to further develop the invest for efficient delivery plan and present to it at its 200th session additional proposals, taking into account the debate thereon at its 199th session;
7. Appeals to Member States to consider providing voluntary contributions to complement the available budget resources.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.II.E Proposal for presenting the performance indicators (PI) and targets relating to the global priorities Africa and gender equality

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 33 C/Resolution 78, 36 C/Resolution 92, 196 EX/Decision 15 (II) and 197 EX/Decision 5 (IV, F),
2. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part II (E),
3. Expresses its satisfaction with the proposals presented in the document;
4. Welcomes, in application of the results-based management approach, the development of performance indicators and targets relating to the global priorities gender equality and Africa for all relevant activities;
5. Stresses in particular the need to identify, in all relevant activities, appropriate gender equality-related performance indicators, as well as the need for increased ambition regarding the gender equality perspective in target-setting, given the transversal nature of this global priority, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular with Sustainable Development Goal 5 to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”, for which UNESCO plays a leading role;
6. Also stresses the need to realign the UNESCO Global Priority Africa with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the African Union’s Agenda 2063, “The Africa We Want”;
7. Underlines the importance of ensuring that the gender equality perspective is reflected equally in the programmes and in the organizational culture of UNESCO, for example regarding human resources policy;
8. Notes that it will be feasible to implement the proposals set out in paragraph 3 above in time for the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5);

9. Requests the Director-General to apply the proposed format, as appropriate, when submitting draft document 39 C/5 to it at its 201st session;
10. Also requests the Director-General to establish, as part of the ongoing work towards the modernization of core administrative and budgetary systems, a budget-tracking mechanism for the Global Priority Gender Equality consistent with the requirements of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan (UN SWAP) on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women indicators on financial resource tracking, as well as a budget-tracking mechanism for Global Priority Africa, both to be piloted within the framework of document 39 C/5.
11. Further requests the Director-General to report to it at its 202nd session on the implementation by UNESCO of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan (UN SWAP) on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.II.F Structured financing dialogue

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part II (D) and (F) and taking note of its content,
2. Recognizing the strategic importance of modern and efficient programme-setting and resource mobilization for UNESCO's ability to be among the key implementing partners for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and thereby ensure a maximal impact of UNESCO's mandate at country and global levels,
3. Recalling 197 EX/Decision 5 (IV, B), to introduce a structured dialogue on financing in UNESCO, and 38 C/Resolution 104, which requested the Director-General to include the annual structured dialogue on financing in the roadmap for the preparation of document 39 C/5,
4. Also recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR), especially part II sections A and C, including the importance of United Nations agencies ensuring that "all available and projected core and non-core resources are consolidated in an integrated budget framework, based on the priorities of their respective strategic plans" and that their governing bodies "organize structured dialogues [...] with a view to [...] broadening the donor base and improving the adequacy and predictability of resource flows", and recognizing that many organizations in the United Nations system have already started to implement such measures,
5. Considering the potential positive contribution of an integrated budget framework and structured financing dialogues to formulating a more strategic and effective programme and budget and to enhancing the transparency and inclusiveness of the programming and funding of UNESCO,
6. Also considering the potential positive contribution of an integrated budget framework and structured financing dialogues as a tool for resource mobilization that could improve the predictability and flexibility of resources and increase and diversify the donor base,
7. Underlining the importance of continuing to provide transparent and clear information about staff costs and overhead costs as well as stressing the principle of full cost recovery,

8. Welcoming different sources of extrabudgetary contributions including self-benefiting funds, aligned with the C/5 document, within the funding targets and in line with UNESCO's cost-recovery practices,
9. Also underlining the importance of transparency and access to information in a more user-friendly manner on the regular and extrabudgetary funding of the whole C/5 document, and of meeting the standards set by the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI),
10. Also recognizing that UNESCO has already taken steps which are consistent with a structured financing dialogue and an integrated budget framework, notably the continued development of results-based budgeting (RBB), the development of the Complementary Additional Programme (CAP) and targets for resource mobilization, the development of strategic multiannual partnerships with donors and partners as well as the application of cost recovery, and stressing that further measures are required,
11. Further underlining the importance of Member States and the Secretariat working together in a mutual learning process on this issue and the fact that it is important to identify and introduce a step-by-step model that corresponds to the specificity of UNESCO and notably to the dynamics of the ongoing budgetary reform,
12. Requests the Director-General, making use of the experiences in other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, to further develop the UNESCO Transparency Portal, in a timely manner, ensuring that it is regularly updated and user-friendly, so that it presents, per expected result, the funding by both regular and extrabudgetary resources in the C/5 document;
13. Also requests the Director-General to develop, in consultation with Member States, and to present, exceptionally, at the latest six weeks before its 200th session:
 - (a) several short concrete templates from different Major Programmes with examples of how an expected result will be presented in a transitional integrated budget framework, including the different sources of funding, to be compared with templates based on the current C/5 document;
 - (b) a preliminary overview with envisaged adjustments in preparation for the transitional integrated budget framework and the first structured financing dialogue that require the Executive Board's consideration including: (i) a review of definitions and criteria for regular and extrabudgetary resources; (ii) a review of distinctions of staff costs, support costs and administrative costs across regular and extrabudgetary resources; (iii) budgeting techniques; (iv) UNESCO's financial rules and regulations; (v) reporting and administrative arrangements; and (vi) preliminary options on draft guiding principles for the development of an integrated budget framework and the structured financing dialogue, making use of experiences in other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
14. Encourages informal and operative consultations between the Secretariat and willing Member States, in preparation of its 201st session, to jointly elaborate the adjustments and options mentioned in paragraph 13 (b) above, and to circulate the outcomes to all Member States to ensure shared information;
15. Further requests the Director-General, taking into account the discussions of the Executive Board at its 199th and 200th sessions and the informal consultations between the Secretariat and Member States, to present to it at its 201st session for consideration:

- (a) proposals for a transitional integrated budget framework presentation included in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5) including any adjustments which might be needed in the format of the C/5 document and of the appropriation resolution;
 - (b) draft guiding principles for the development of an integrated budget framework and the structured financing dialogue, making use of the experiences in other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
16. Requests the Director-General to present to it at its 202nd session, for consideration, an assessment of the process of developing the transitional integrated budget framework in preparation for the consideration of draft document 39 C/5 by the General Conference, as well as to present proposals for the dates, modalities and a time line for the preparation of the first inclusive structured financing dialogue process.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.III Human resources issues

5.III.A Geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff of the Secretariat

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 197 EX/Decision 5 (V, A),
2. Takes note of the information provided by the Director-General regarding the situation of the geographical distribution and the gender balance of the staff as at January 2016;
3. Invites the Director-General to include in her report to it at its 201st session, elements on the breakdown by sector, for informational purposes, regarding the situation of the geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff in the Secretariat;
4. Also invites the Director-General to submit to the General Conference at its 39th session a full report on the geographical distribution and gender balance of the staff of the Secretariat, along with progress on the implementation of the measures taken to redress any imbalance.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.III.B Feasibility study on introducing a new health insurance scheme

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 191 EX/Decision 29 and 196 EX/Decision 5 (V, B),
2. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part III (B),
3. Considering that the Working Group established by the United Nations High Level Committee on Management (HLCM) of the Chief Executives Board (CEB) has now completed its study on the viability of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) administering the United Nations system After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) liability, and that further options will still be studied by the ASHI working group;
4. Requests the Director-General to continue to make efforts to further strengthen the financial control for the administration of the Medical Benefits Fund (MBF) and ensure the long-term financial sustainability of MBF as well as mitigate the risks related to the After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) liabilities;

5. Decides to suspend the study with a view to introducing a new health insurance scheme;
6. Requests the Director-General to report to it at its 201st session on the further progress of the After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) working group and present its recommendations for possible implementation at UNESCO.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.III.C Annual report (2015) by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC): Report by the Director-General

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 114 EX/Decision 8.5, 22 C/Resolution 37, 196 EX/Decision 5 (V, A) and 38 C/Resolution 88,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/5 Part III (C),
3. Takes note of its content;
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to ensure UNESCO's participation in the work of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) and to take into account its recommendations and the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly.

(199 EX/SR.7)

5.III.D Preliminary proposals for a human resources management strategy for 2017-2022

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 196 EX/Decision 23 (III),
2. Takes note of the preliminary proposals submitted by the Director-General for a human resources management strategy for 2017-2022;
3. Reaffirms the principles of equitable geographical representation and gender equality, and the need to improve the transparency of the recruitment process;
4. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 200th session a comprehensive human resources management strategy.

(199 EX/SR.7)

PROGRAMME MATTERS

6 Draft strategy for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) (2016-2021) (199 EX/6; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 196 EX/Decision 6,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/6,

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for aligning the draft strategy for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) with the Education 2030 Framework for Action;
4. Approves the proposed strategy contained in document 199 EX/6, and invites the Director-General to implement the strategy;
5. Requests the Director-General to include information on measures undertaken to implement the strategy contained in document 199 EX/6 and progress made thereon, taking into account the reports from Member States, in her report to the General Conference at its 40th session regarding technical and vocational education and training (TVET);
6. Encourages UNESCO to continue efforts to promote South-South, North-South and North-South-South cooperation, with particular focus on least developed countries;
7. Invites Member States and development partners to reinforce UNESCO's capacities and resources through earmarked extrabudgetary funding and the secondment of experts;
8. Invites the Director-General to present an action plan for the implementation of the strategy for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) to it at its 200th session.

(199 EX/SR.7)

7 Comprehensive strategy for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme (199 EX/7; 199 EX/7.INF; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Reiterating 197 EX/Decision 40 and in particular the recognition therein “that the MOST Programme might be an invaluable resource for achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs) set under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,
2. Noting 38 C/Resolution 104, paragraph 5, in which the General Conference stressed “the importance of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme in the design of public policies based on foresight and scientific evidence to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,
3. Referring to 38 C/Resolution 41 on Major Programme III – Social and Human Sciences,
4. Taking note of the decision on the development of a comprehensive strategy for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme taken by its Intergovernmental Council (IGC) at its extraordinary session held in Paris on 14 November 2015 and of the outcomes of the meeting of the IGC Bureau held in Paris on 27 and 28 January 2016,
5. Having examined document 199 EX/7, presenting an overview of the comprehensive strategy for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme, and the final version of the comprehensive strategy contained in document 199 EX/7.INF,
6. Welcomes the initiative of the Intergovernmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme to draft a comprehensive strategy, fully aligned

with document 37 C/4 and with the requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. Endorses the comprehensive strategy as submitted to it in document 199 EX/7.INF and encourages Member States to participate in its implementation to the best of their ability;
8. Calls on the Director-General to ensure coordination with Member States for the preparation of a draft action plan for the implementation of the comprehensive strategy for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme, including for the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources;
9. Also welcomes the proposal of the Government of Malaysia to host the first Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme Ministerial Forum for the Asia and the Pacific Region and the 13th ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Council of the MOST Programme in Kuala Lumpur in March 2017;
10. Requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 201st session a report on the initial steps taken towards implementation of the comprehensive strategy for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme, including the promotion of the vision of the MOST Programme, taking into account *inter alia* the outcomes of the 13th ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Council of the MOST Programme, scheduled from 13 to 15 March 2017, as well as success stories and best practices recorded during the early implementation of this important strategy.

(199 EX/SR.7)

8 UNESCO Prizes (199 EX/8 Part I; 199 EX/8 Part II and Add.; 199 EX/34)

8.1 Revised strategy

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 171 EX/Decision 24, 185 EX/Decision 38, 189 EX/Decision 16, 190 EX/Decision 17, 191 EX/Decision 12 and 196 EX/Decision 12,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/8 Part I,
3. Takes note of the current situation of UNESCO Prizes;
4. Requests the Director-General to continue her efforts in implementing the Revised Overall Strategy for UNESCO Prizes;
5. Noting the importance and prestige of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize, requests the Director-General to take measures to align that prize with current policy and regulations, with a view to enabling it to be awarded in the near future;
6. Also requests the Director-General to report to it on this matter every year.

(199 EX/SR.7)

8.II Renewal and review of prizes

8.II.A UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 164 EX/Decision 3.2.4, by which it established the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Research and Training in Special Needs Education for the Mentally Disabled,
2. Taking into consideration 191 EX/Decision 12 and document 196 EX/12 Part I on the adoption and implementation of the Revised Overall Strategy for UNESCO Prizes and its Constituent Criteria, as well as document IOS EVS/PI/114 on the evaluation of UNESCO Prizes, prepared by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS), and the recommendations contained therein,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/8 Part II concerning the proposed renewal of the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize, the proposed amendments to the Statutes of the Prize and the Financial Regulations of the Special Account of the Prize as contained in Annexes I and II of the document,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of Kuwait to revise the title as follows: the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities;
5. Takes note of the revised title “UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities”;
6. Decides to renew the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for a period of six years and approves the amendments to the Statutes of the Prize as set out in Annex I of document 199 EX/8 Part II;
7. Also takes note of the Financial Regulations of the Special Account for the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities as set out in Annex II of document 199 EX/8 Part II;
8. Requests the Director-General to report to it at its 211th session, on the implementation of the Prize.

(199 EX/SR.7)

8.II.B Renewal of the “UNESCO-Confucius Prize for Literacy” for the promotion of literacy amongst adults in rural areas and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 172 EX/Decision 11, by which it established the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy for the promotion of literacy amongst rural adults and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls,
2. Taking into consideration 191 EX/Decision 12 on the adoption and implementation of the Revised Overall Strategy for UNESCO Prizes and its Constituent Criteria,
3. Appreciates the commitment of the Government of China to the promotion of literacy and literate environments;

4. Having examined document 199 EX/8 Part II Add. on the proposed renewal of the “UNESCO-Confucius Prize for Literacy” for the promotion of literacy amongst adults in rural areas and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls, and the proposed amendments to the Statutes of the Prize and the Financial Regulations of the Special Account of the Prize as contained in Annexes I, II and III,
5. Takes note of the Financial Regulations of the Special Account for the “UNESCO-Confucius Prize for Literacy” as set out in Annex II of document 199 EX/8 Part II Add.;
6. Decides to renew the “UNESCO-Confucius Prize for Literacy” for the promotion of literacy amongst adults in rural areas and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls, for a period of five years (2016-2020);
7. Approves the proposed amendments to the Statutes of the Prize as set out in Annex I of document 199 EX/8 Part II Add.

(199 EX/SR.7)

INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

9 Report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) on the activities of the Institute (199 EX/9; 199 EX/34)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling Article V.1 (e) of the Statutes of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) (30 C/Resolution 44) and 182 EX/Decision 19,
2. Having examined the report by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) on the activities of the Institute since April 2014 (199 EX/9),
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the achievements of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) over the past months, particularly given its crucial role in relation to supporting budgetary reform;
4. Invites the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) to present to it at its 200th session a report on the continuing reforms being undertaken to better enable UIS to support monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), together with details of any financial implications in order that they may be considered as part of the preparation process for document 39 C/5;
5. Invites the Director-General to continue to be guided by the recommendations made by the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS);
6. Invites the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) to report to it at its 201st session.

(199 EX/SR.7)

10 Renewal and review of category 2 institutes and centres (199 EX/10 Rev. and Addenda; 199 EX/10.INF; 199 EX/32)

10.I International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia and the Pacific Region (ICHCAP)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 51 and 37 C/Resolution 93,
2. Taking into account document 37 C/18 Part I, its Annex and the attachments thereto,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/10 Rev. and its Annex,
4. Takes note of the Director-General's recommendation that the designation of the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia and the Pacific Region (ICHCAP), in the Republic of Korea, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) be renewed;
5. Encourages the Government of the Republic of Korea to ensure the enhanced contribution of the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia and the Pacific Region (ICHCAP) to the implementation of the strategic programme objectives and priorities of UNESCO and in particular of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003);
6. Invites both the Government of the Republic of Korea and the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia and the Pacific Region (ICHCAP) to implement the recommendations made in the evaluation report;
7. Notes the provisions of the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Korea that deviate from the model agreement for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
8. Decides to renew the designation of the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia and the Pacific Region (ICHCAP) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
9. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

(199 EX/SR.7)

10.II International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling IHP-IGC Resolution XVII-4, 34 C/Resolution 30 and 37 C/Resolution 93,
2. Also recalling document 37 C/18 Part I, its Annex and the attachments thereto,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/10 Add.,
4. Notes that UNESCO is seeking to promote international cooperation through the designation of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management, at Itaipú Binacional, in Brazil and Paraguay, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);

5. Also notes that the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay, as well as Itaipú Binacional, fully support the designation of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
6. Encourages the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay, as well as Itaipú Binacional to ensure the enhanced contribution of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management to implementation of the strategic programme objectives and priorities of UNESCO and to the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as to the promotion of South-South, North-South and North-South-South cooperation;
7. Further notes the provisions of the draft agreements between UNESCO and the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay, and between UNESCO and Itaipú Binacional, the host organization of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management, that deviate from the model agreement contained in the revised integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
8. Authorizes the Director-General to sign the above-mentioned agreements concerning the designation of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics for Integrated Water Resources Management at Itaipú Binacional, in Brazil and Paraguay, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

(199 EX/SR.7)

10.III International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 34 C/Resolution 26 and 37 C/Resolution 93,
2. Taking into account document 37 C/18 Part I, its Annex and the attachments thereto,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/10 Add.2,
4. Considering the recommendation that the designation of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), in the Netherlands, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) be renewed,
5. Confirms that the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) has performed its activities satisfactorily, in contributing to the strategic programme objectives of the Organization;
6. Welcomes the strong commitment of the Government of the Netherlands to ensure the financial sustainability of the activities of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC);
7. Notes that it will be invited to approve the renewal of the category 2 status of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) at its 200th session, when the draft renewal agreement will be presented;
8. Also notes the Director-General's recommendation to extend the existing agreement regarding the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) from 10 August 2016 until 22 August 2017 in order to enable the signature of the renewal agreement and its entry into force;

9. Authorizes the Director-General to extend the current agreement regarding the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) until 22 August 2017, subject to its decision at its 200th session.

(199 EX/SR.7)

METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

11 Biennial report on the comprehensive partnership strategy (199 EX/11 and Corr.; 199 EX/34)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 195 EX/Decision 4 (IV),
2. Having examined document 199 EX/11,
3. Takes note of the biennial report on the comprehensive partnership strategy for 2014-2015;
4. Requests the Director-General to improve the reporting on quantitative indicators and to clarify the first expected results regarding the amounts raised for UNESCO's activities through private partners, by indicating progress made in both the number of agreements concluded and the total financial amount pledged;
5. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 205th session the biennial report on the comprehensive partnership strategy for 2016-2017.

(199 EX/SR.7)

12 Governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO (199 EX/12; 199 EX/31)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 197 EX/Decision 28 and 197 EX/Decision 44, as well as 38 C/Resolution 101,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/12,
3. Acknowledges the progress achieved by the Secretariat in the implementation of the External Auditor's recommendations No.1, No. 11 and No. 13, and calls for further implementation of these recommendations;
4. Requests the Director-General to present to it a revised version of the organizational chart and to ensure that it is easily accessible on the UNESCO website.

(199 EX/SR.6)

MATTERS RELATING TO NORMS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

13 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon (199 EX/CR/HR and Addenda; 199 EX/CR/2 Rev.; 199 EX/30)

The announcement appearing at the end of these decisions reports on the Board's consideration of this subject in private meeting.

(199 EX/SR.5)

14 Implementation of standard-setting instruments (199 EX/14 Parts I to IV; 199 EX/14.INF; 199 EX/30)

14.I General monitoring

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 15 C/Resolution 12.2, 23 C/Resolution 29.1, 165 EX/Decision 6.2, 32 C/Resolution 77, 170 EX/Decision 6.2, 171 EX/Decision 27, 174 EX/Decision 21, 175 EX/Decision 28, 176 EX/Decision 33, 177 EX/Decision 35 (I) and (II), 34 C/Resolution 87, and 195 EX/Decision 15, 196 EX/Decision 20 and 197 EX/Decision 20 (I) and (VIII) relating to the first aspect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR), which concerns the implementation of standard-setting instruments,
2. Having examined documents 199 EX/14 Part I and 199 EX/14.INF and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (199 EX/30),
3. Urges Member States, once again, to fulfil their legal obligations under Article VIII of the Constitution of UNESCO regarding periodic reports on the action upon the conventions and recommendations;
4. Takes note of the discussion held in the meeting of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR), expresses its deep appreciation for the presentation made by Mr Kishore Singh, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to education, and invites the Director-General to take it into account in the implementation of the strategy concerning education-related standard-setting instruments;
5. Also takes note of the timetable for submission of Member States' reports on measures taken to implement the conventions and recommendations for the period 2016-2017, as contained in Annex I to document 199 EX/14 Part I and amended pursuant to 199 EX/Decision 14 (IV);
6. Requests the Director-General to ensure the implementation of the legal framework concerning standard-setting instruments, as adopted at its 177th session and amended at its 196th session, by the programme sectors and the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS), which have responsibility for the conventions and recommendations monitored by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR);
7. Decides to continue consideration of the matter at its 200th session.

(199 EX/SR.5)

14.II Application of the 1966 Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers and the 1997 Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel – Report by the Director-General on the twelfth session of the Joint ILO-UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) and on allegations received by the CEART

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 154 EX/Decision 4.4, 157 EX/Decision 6.3, and 192 EX/Decision 20 (IV),
2. Having examined document 199 EX/14 Part II and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations thereon (199 EX/30),
3. Appreciating the work of the Joint Committee in stimulating action to promote greater awareness and wider application of the two Recommendations concerning the status of teaching personnel,
4. Takes note of the final report of the twelfth session of the Joint ILO-UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART/12/2015/14) including Part II A and B, relating to allegations and needed actions on the non-observance of certain provisions of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation (1966) or of the UNESCO Recommendation (1997) in Cambodia, Denmark, Japan and Portugal;
5. Invites the Director-General to assist the Joint Committee in carrying out its next cycle of work and to report on its work to the Executive Board in 2019;
6. Requests the Director-General to communicate the final report of the twelfth session of the Joint Committee (CEART/12/2015/14) together with the observations of the Executive Board, if any, to Member States and their National Commissions, international teachers' organizations and other relevant international organizations having relations with UNESCO, inviting their consideration, action and comments on the policy recommendations of the Joint Committee that concern them and encouraging them to continue to apply all provisions of the two Recommendations, as well as to take the necessary follow-up action as recommended in the report;
7. Also takes note of the interim report of the Joint ILO-UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART/INT/2016/1) presenting the analysis and recommendations pertaining to the allegation received from the All Japan Teachers and Staff Union (ZENKYO);
8. Also invites the Director-General to communicate the interim report of the Joint Committee (CEART/INT/2016/1) to the Government of Japan and to the All Japan Teachers and Staff Union (ZENKYO), and to invite them to take the necessary follow-up action as recommended in that report.

(199 EX/SR.5)

14.III Application of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms – Consideration of preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations 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,

2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35 (I) and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Also recalling 37 C/Resolution 90 and 195 EX/Decision 15,
4. Having examined document 199 EX/14 Part III,
5. Also bearing in mind the importance of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms as a means to support the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially target 4.7 relating to education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development;
6. Approves the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the application of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, as annexed to document 199 EX/14 Part III and amended in the light of the discussions during the meeting of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR);
7. Requests the Director-General to invite and encourage Member States to submit to UNESCO reports on the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and to ensure the monitoring thereof;
8. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 202nd session the next consolidated report on the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 39th session.

(199 EX/SR.5)

14.IV Implementation of the 1974 Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers – Consideration of preparations for the next consultation

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States' obligations 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,
2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35 (I) and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,
3. Also recalling 37 C/Resolutions 40 and 91, 195 EX/Decision 15 and 38 C/Resolution 45,

4. Having examined document 199 EX/14 Part IV and taking into account the discussions during the meeting of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR),
5. Invites the Director-General to submit to it at its 200th session revised proposals and a questionnaire for the 2013-2016 monitoring exercise on the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers.

(199 EX/SR.5)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

15 New audits by the External Auditor (199 EX/15 Part I; 199 EX/15.INF; 199 EX/15 Part II and Corr.; 199 EX/15.INF.2; 199 EX/15 Part III and Corr. (*French only*); 199 EX/15.INF.3; 199 EX/15.INF.4; 199 EX/15 Part IV; 199 EX/15.INF.5; 199 EX/15 Part V and Corr. (*French only*) and Corr.2 ; 199 EX/15.INF.6; 199 EX/15 Part VI and Corr.; 199 EX/15.INF.7; 199 EX/32)

15.I Audit report on the UNESCO Office in Hanoi

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 199 EX/15 Part I and 199 EX/15.INF,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 199 EX/15 Part I in her report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(199 EX/SR.7)

15.II Audit report on the Regional Bureau for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean; Cluster Office for Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Aruba

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 199 EX/15 Part II and 199 EX/15.INF.2,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 199 EX/15 Part II in her report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(199 EX/SR.7)

15.III Audit report on the UNESCO Liaison Offices to the United Nations in New York and Geneva

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 199 EX/15 Part III, 199 EX/15.INF.3 and 199 EX/15.INF.4,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;

3. Recalling the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) review of liaison offices (May 2011),
4. Notes with concern the recurring nature of some of the recommendations;
5. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 199 EX/15 Part III in her report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(199 EX/SR.7)

15.IV Audit report on the UNESCO field network reform

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 199 EX/15 Part IV and 199 EX/15.INF.5,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to put in place, when undertaking reforms over an extended period, a strategic guidance system for their implementation based on the review of their operational goals in the light of analysis of the changing environment;
4. Also invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 199 EX/15 Part IV in her report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(199 EX/SR.7)

15.V Audit report on the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean; National Office in Chile

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 199 EX/15 Part V and 199 EX/15.INF.6,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report,
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 199 EX/15 Part V in her report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(199 EX/SR.7)

15.VI Consolidated report on field office audits (2011-2015)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined documents 199 EX/15 Part VI and 199 EX/15.INF.7,
2. Expresses its satisfaction to the External Auditor for the high quality of his report;
3. Invites the Director-General to report on progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations contained in document 199 EX/15 Part VI in her report on the follow-up to all recommendations made by the External Auditor.

(199 EX/SR.7)

16 Annual report of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) (199 EX/16; 199 EX/16.INF; 199 EX/34)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 160 EX/Decision 6.5 and 164 EX/Decision 6.10,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/16,
3. Welcomes the annual report of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) and its work for the Organization and calls for a reinforcement of the resources of the IOS to improve the effectiveness of, *inter alia*, results-based management;
4. Also welcomes the recommendations contained in the report of the Oversight Advisory Committee (OAC), and reiterates the importance of ensuring their full implementation;
5. Further welcomes the revised Internal Oversight Service (IOS) internal audit charter and policy on the role and mandate of the internal audit service;
6. Requests the Director-General to continue her efforts to ensure that all Internal Oversight Service (IOS) recommendations are fully implemented within a reasonable timeframe;
7. Also requests the Director-General to strengthen the mechanisms of internal auditing and in particular the review and assessment of the adequacy of the systems for risk assessment and internal control of the Organization;
8. Decides that the Director-General shall continue to maintain an effective oversight function as set forth in the respective revised Internal Oversight Service (IOS) internal audit and evaluation policies, and to report annually on IOS strategies and activities, significant oversight recommendations and their impact, as well as action taken by her to respond to and implement these recommendations.

(199 EX/SR.7)

17 UNESCO security and safety action plan (199 EX/17; 199 EX/32)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/17,
2. Acknowledges the fundamental importance of security and safety for all staff, both at Headquarters and in the field, as well as for the effective delivery of the Organization's programmes;
3. Supports the efforts of the Director-General to improve security at all UNESCO sites, both at Headquarters and in the field;
4. Recognizes the efforts made since the establishment of the medium-term security plan in 2010, despite the constrained financial environment;
5. Emphasizes that recurrent costs for security must be predictably and sustainably financed through a regular source of income;
6. Invites the Director-General to explore possible reallocations required for security from within the 2016-2017 regular budget;

7. Takes note of the security and safety action plan;
8. Calls on Member States to make financial contributions to the Special Account for Strengthening the Security of UNESCO Premises Worldwide in order to implement priority security measures, excluding fire safety and information technology measures, which are to be examined at a later stage;
9. Encourages the Director-General to identify the necessary funds for the rapid and full realization of the security and safety action plan, through the regular programme and extrabudgetary resources;
10. Requests the Director-General to report to it on the execution of the security and safety action plan at future sessions.

(199 EX/SR.7)

RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS

18 [Draft Framework Agreement for Cooperation between UNESCO and the Commonwealth Secretariat]

This item was withdrawn from the agenda, as the draft agreement can be entered into the framework of the existing (1980) agreement, which foresees the possibility for the Parties of entering into subsequent arrangements: see the footnote in document 199 EX/1 Rev.

GENERAL MATTERS

19 Occupied Palestine² (199 EX/19; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/19,
2. Recalling the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions (1949) and their additional Protocols (1977), the 1907 Hague Regulations on Land Warfare, the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and its related Protocols, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls at the request of Jordan on the World Heritage List (1981) and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1982), and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO on the protection of cultural heritage, as well as resolutions and decisions of UNESCO relating to Jerusalem, also

² The Executive Board adopted this decision upon a recommendation made by the Programme and External Relations Commission (PX) following a roll-call vote: 33 votes in favour, 6 votes against and 17 abstentions:

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chad, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovenia, Sudan, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Togo, Viet Nam.

Against: Estonia, Germany, Lithuania, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstentions: Albania, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Greece, Haiti, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Nepal, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine.

Absent: Ghana, Turkmenistan.

recalling previous UNESCO decisions relating to the reconstruction and development of Gaza as well as UNESCO decisions on the two Palestinian sites in al-Khalīl/Hebron and in Bethlehem,

3. Affirming that nothing in the present decision, which aims, *inter alia*, at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of Palestine and the distinctive character of East Jerusalem, shall in any way affect the relevant Security Council and United Nations resolutions and decisions on the legal status of Palestine and Jerusalem,

19.I

19.I.A Jerusalem

4. Deeply regrets the Israeli refusal to implement UNESCO previous decisions concerning Jerusalem, particularly 185 EX/Decision 14, notes that its request to the Director-General to appoint, as soon as possible, a permanent representative to be stationed in East Jerusalem to report on a regular basis about all the aspects covering the fields of competence of UNESCO in East Jerusalem, has not been fulfilled, and reiterates its request to the Director-General to appoint the above-mentioned representative;
5. Deeply deplores the failure of Israel, the occupying Power, to cease the persistent excavations and works in East Jerusalem particularly in and around the Old City, and reiterates its request to Israel, the occupying Power, to prohibit all such works in conformity with its obligations under the provisions of the relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;
6. Thanks the Director-General for her efforts to implement previous UNESCO decisions on Jerusalem and requests her to maintain and reinvigorate such efforts;

19.I.B Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf and its surroundings

19.I.B.1 Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf

7. Calls on Israel, the occupying Power, to allow for the restoration of the historic status quo that prevailed until September 2000, under which the Jordanian Awqaf (Religious Foundation) Department exercised exclusive authority on Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, and its mandate extended to all affairs relating to the unimpeded administration of Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, including maintenance, restoration, and regulating access;
8. Strongly condemns the Israeli aggressions and illegal measures against the freedom of worship and Muslims' access to their holy site Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, and requests Israel, the occupying Power, to respect the historic status quo and to immediately stop these measures;
9. Firmly deplores the continuous storming of Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf by Israeli right-wing extremists and uniformed forces, and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to take necessary measures to prevent provocative abuses that violate the sanctity and integrity of Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf;
10. Deeply decries the continuous Israeli aggressions against civilians including sheikhs, and priests, decries the large number of arrests and injuries among Muslim worshippers and Jordanian Awqaf guards in Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf by the Israeli forces, and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to end these aggressions and abuses which inflame the tension on the ground and between faiths;

11. Disapproves of the Israeli restriction of access to Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf during the 2015 Eid Al-Adha and the subsequent violence, and calls on Israel, the occupying Power, to stop all violations against Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf;
12. Deeply regrets the refusal of Israel to grant visas to UNESCO experts in charge of the UNESCO project at the Centre of Islamic Manuscripts in Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, and requests Israel to grant visas to UNESCO experts without restrictions;
13. Regrets the damage caused by the Israeli forces, especially since 23 August 2015, to the historic gates and windows of the al-Qibli Mosque inside Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, and reaffirms, in this regard, the obligation of Israel to respect the integrity, authenticity and cultural heritage of Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, as reflected in the historic status quo, as a Muslim holy site of worship and as an integral part of a world cultural heritage site;
14. Calls on Israel, the occupying Power, to stop violations against the Waqf properties east and south of Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, such as the recent confiscations of parts of al-Youssefeyah cemetery and al-Sawanah area by banning Muslims from burying their dead in some spaces and by planting Jewish fake graves in other spaces of the Muslim cemeteries, in addition to the dramatic change of the status and distinctive character of the Umayyad Palaces, in particular the violation of the continued conversion of many Islamic and Byzantine remains into the so-called Jewish ritual baths or into Jewish prayer places;
15. Expresses its deep concern over the Israeli closure and ban of the renovation of the al-Rahma Gate building, one of the Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf gates, and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to reopen the Gate, and stop obstruction of the necessary restoration works, in order to repair the damage caused by the weather conditions, especially the water leakage into the rooms of the building;
16. Also calls on Israel, the occupying Power, to stop the obstruction of the immediate execution of all the 18 Hashemite restoration projects in and around Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf;
17. Deplores the Israeli decision to approve a plan to build a two-line cable car system in East Jerusalem and the so-called “Liba House” project in the Old City of Jerusalem as well as the construction of the so-called “Kedem Center”, a visitor centre near the southern wall of the Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf, the construction of the Strauss Building and the elevator project in Al-Buraq Plaza “Western Wall Plaza” and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to renounce the above-mentioned projects and to stop the construction works in conformity with its obligations under the relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;

19.I.B.2 Ascent to the Mughrabi Gate in Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf

18. Reaffirms that the Mughrabi Ascent is an integral and inseparable part of Al-Aqṣà Mosque/al-Ḥaram ash-Sharīf;
19. Takes note of the 15th Reinforced Monitoring Report and all previous reports, together with their addenda prepared by the World Heritage Centre, as well as the state of conservation reports submitted to the World Heritage Centre by Jordan and the State of Palestine;
20. Deprecates the continuing Israeli unilateral measures and decisions regarding the Ascent to the Mughrabi Gate, including the latest works conducted at the Mughrabi Gate entrance in February 2015, the instalment of an umbrella at that entrance as well

as the enforced creation of a new Jewish prayer platform south of the Mughrabi Ascent in Al-Buraq Plaza "Western Wall Plaza", and the removal of the Islamic remains at the site, and reaffirms that no Israeli unilateral measures shall be taken in conformity with its status and obligations under the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict;

21. Also expresses its deep concern regarding the illegal demolitions of Ummayyad, Ottoman and Mamluk remains as well as other intrusive works and excavations in and around the Mughrabi Gate Pathway, and also requests Israel, the occupying Power, to halt such demolitions, excavations and works and to abide by its obligations under the provisions of the UNESCO conventions mentioned in paragraph 2 above;
22. Reiterates its thanks to Jordan for its cooperation and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to cooperate with the Jordanian Awqaf Department, in conformity with its obligations under the provisions of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, and to facilitate access of Jordanian Awqaf experts with their tools and material to the site in order to enable the execution of the Jordanian design of the Ascent to the Mughrabi Gate in accordance with UNESCO and World Heritage Committee decisions, particularly 37 COM/7A.26, 38 COM/7A.4 and 39 COM/7A.27;
23. Thanks the Director-General for her attention to this sensitive situation, and requests her to take the necessary measures in order to enable the execution of the Jordanian design of the Ascent to the Mughrabi Gate;

19.I.C UNESCO reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls and UNESCO experts meeting on the Mughrabi Ascent

24. Stresses yet again the urgent need for the implementation of the UNESCO reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls;
25. Recalls in this regard 196 EX/Decision 26 that decided, in case of non-implementation, to consider, in conformity with international law, other means to ensure its implementation;
26. Notes with deep concern that Israel, the occupying Power, has not complied with any of the 11 decisions of the Executive Board* or six World Heritage Committee decisions** that request the implementation of the reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls;
27. Regrets the continued Israeli refusal to act in accordance with UNESCO and World Heritage Committee decisions that request a UNESCO experts meeting on the Mughrabi Ascent and the dispatch of a reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls;
28. Invites the Director-General to take necessary measures to implement the above-mentioned reactive monitoring mission in accordance with World Heritage Committee decision 34 COM/7A.20, prior to the next session of the Executive Board, and invites all concerned parties to facilitate the implementation of the mission and experts meeting;

* The 11 Executive Board decisions: 185 EX/Decision 14, 186 EX/Decision 11, 187 EX/Decision 11, 189 EX/Decision 8, 190 EX/Decision 13, 191 EX/Decision 9, 192 EX/Decision 11, 194 EX/Decision 11, 195 EX/Decision 9, 196 EX/Decision 26, 197 EX/Decision 32.

** The six World Heritage Committee decisions: 34 COM/7A.20, 35 COM/7A.22, 36 COM/7A.23, 37 COM/7A.26, 38 COM/7A.4, 39 COM/7A.27.

29. Requests that the report and recommendations of the reactive monitoring mission as well as the report of the technical meeting on the Mughrabi Ascent, be presented to the concerned parties;
30. Thanks the Director-General for her continuous efforts to implement the above-mentioned UNESCO joint reactive monitoring mission and all related UNESCO decisions and resolutions;

19.II Reconstruction and development of Gaza

31. Deplores the military confrontations in and around the Gaza Strip and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, as well as the continuous negative impact in the fields of competence of UNESCO, the attacks on schools and other educational and cultural facilities, including breaches of the inviolability of United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) schools;
32. Strongly deplores the continuous Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip, which harmfully affects the free and sustained movement of personnel and humanitarian relief items as well as the intolerable number of casualties among Palestinian children, the attacks on schools and other educational and cultural facilities and the denial of access to education, and requests Israel, the occupying Power, to immediately ease this blockade;
33. Reiterates its request to the Director-General to upgrade, as soon as possible, the UNESCO Antenna in Gaza in order to ensure the prompt reconstruction of schools, universities, cultural heritage sites, cultural institutions, media centres and places of worship that have been destroyed or damaged by the consecutive wars on Gaza;
34. Thanks the Director-General for the information meeting held in March 2015 on the current situation in Gaza in the fields of competence of UNESCO and on the outcome of the projects conducted by UNESCO in the Gaza Strip-Palestine, and invites her to organize another information meeting on the same matter;
35. Also thanks the Director-General for initiatives that have already been implemented in Gaza in the fields of education, culture and youth and for the safety of media professionals, and calls upon her to continue her active involvement in the reconstruction of Gaza's damaged educational and cultural components;

19.III The two Palestinian sites of *Al-Haram Al Ibrāhīmī/Tomb of the Patriarchs* in al-Khalīl/Hebron and the *Bilāl Ibn Rabāḥ Mosque/Rachel's Tomb* in Bethlehem

36. Reaffirms that the two concerned sites located in al-Khalīl/Hebron and in Bethlehem are an integral part of Palestine;
37. Disapproves of the ongoing Israeli illegal excavations, works, construction of private roads for settlers and a separation wall inside the Old City of al-Khalīl/Hebron, that harmfully affect the integrity of the site, and the subsequent denial of freedom of movement and freedom of access to places of worship, and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to end these violations in compliance with provisions of relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;
38. Deeply deplores the new cycle of violence, since October 2015, in the context of the constant aggressions by the Israeli settlers and other extremist groups against Palestinian residents, including schoolchildren, and asks the Israeli authorities to prevent such aggressions;

39. Deeply regrets the Israeli refusal to comply with 185 EX/Decision 15, which requested the Israeli authorities to remove the two Palestinian sites from its national heritage list and calls on the Israeli authorities to act in accordance with that decision;

19.IV

40. Decides to include these matters under an item entitled “Occupied Palestine” in the agenda at its 200th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(199 EX/SR.7)

20 Implementation of 38 C/Resolution 72 and 197 EX/Decision 33 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories³ (199 EX/20; 199 EX/33)

20.I OCCUPIED PALESTINE

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 185 EX/Decision 36 and 38 C/Resolution 72 as well as Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with regard to the right to education, Articles 24, 50 and 94 of the Fourth Geneva Convention with regard to the denial of the right of children to education, as well as the Hague Convention (1954) and its Protocols and the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972),
2. Also recalling the International Court of Justice’s Advisory Opinion of 9 July 2004 on the “Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory”,
3. Having examined document 199 EX/20,
4. Committed to the safeguarding of monuments, works of art, manuscripts, books and other historical and cultural properties to be protected in the event of conflict, as well as the safeguarding of schools and all educational facilities,
5. Deplores the damaging impact of the military confrontations in and around the Gaza Strip in the fields of competence of UNESCO where several hundreds of educational and cultural facilities have been destroyed or damaged, affecting more than 500,000 schoolchildren and students as reflected in United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and UNESCO reports, as well as the severe damage inflicted on cultural heritage sites and cultural institutions, and also deplores breaches of the inviolability of UNRWA schools;

³ The Executive Board adopted this decision upon a recommendation made by the Programme and External Relations Commission (PX) following a roll-call vote: 45 votes in favour, 1 vote against and 11 abstentions:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chad, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovenia, Sudan, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam.

Against: United States of America.

Abstentions: Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Haiti, Kenya, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine.

Absent: Turkmenistan.

6. Expresses its deep concern about the recent escalation of the situation and its effect on the full exercise of the right to education by schoolchildren and students;
7. Reaffirms, in this regard, that schools, universities and cultural heritage sites enjoy special protection and should not be targeted in situations of armed conflict;
8. Expresses its growing concern about the harmful impact of the Wall and of other practices on the activities of educational and cultural institutions, as well as obstacles resulting therefrom which prevent Palestinian schoolchildren and students from being an integral part of their social fabric and from exercising fully their right to education, and calls for the observance of the provisions of relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;
9. Demands that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, the construction of the Wall and other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, which, *inter alia*, have a negative impact on Palestinian schoolchildren's ability to fully exercise their right to education;
10. Also demands, in this regard, that the Israeli authorities renounce the extension of the Wall through Beit Jala and the Cremisan Monastery in the Bethlehem Governorate;
11. Notes with deep concern the Israeli censorship of the Palestinian curricula of schools and universities in East Jerusalem, and urges the Israeli authorities to immediately halt this censorship;
12. Expresses its appreciation for the substantial contributions of all concerned Member States and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to UNESCO's action in Palestine, and appeals to them to continue assisting UNESCO in this endeavour;
13. Thanks the Director-General for the results that have been obtained in relation to the implementation of a number of current educational and cultural activities, and invites her to strengthen UNESCO's assistance to the Palestinian educational and cultural institutions in order to address new needs;
14. Encourages the Director-General to continue to reinforce her action in favour of the protection, reconstruction, rehabilitation and restoration of the Palestinian archaeological sites and cultural heritage, and invites her to address the needs for capacity building in all UNESCO's fields of competence by expanding the financial assistance programme for Palestinian students;
15. Requests the Director-General to organize, as soon as possible, the ninth meeting of the Joint UNESCO-Palestine Committee;

20.II OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN

16. Also invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts she is making to preserve the human, social and cultural fabric of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of its decisions;
 - (b) to undertake efforts to offer appropriate curricula, and to provide more grants and adequate assistance to the educational and cultural institutions of the occupied Syrian Golan;

- (c) to dispatch an expert to assess and evaluate the needs of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan and report to her before the 200th session of the Executive Board;

20.III

17. Decides to include this item in the agenda of the Executive Board at its 200th session, and invites the Director-General to submit to it a progress report thereon.

(199 EX/SR.7)

21 Invitation to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS VI) (199 EX/21; 199 EX/2)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling the recommendations of the 2015 extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS),
2. Having examined the Director-General's proposals concerning invitations to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS VI),
3. Decides:
 - (a) that invitations to participate with the right to vote in the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport shall be extended to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO;
 - (b) that invitations to send observers to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport shall be extended to all the States mentioned in paragraph 8 of document 199 EX/21;
 - (c) that invitations to send representatives to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport shall be extended to the organizations of the United Nations system listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Annex to document 199 EX/21;
 - (d) that invitations to send observers to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport shall be extended to the international governmental and non-governmental organizations listed in paragraphs 3 to 5 of the Annex to document 199 EX/21;
 - (e) that invitations to send observers to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport shall be extended to the institutions and foundations mentioned in paragraph 6 of the Annex to document 199 EX/21;
 - (f) that invitations to send observers to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport shall be extended to the international organizations listed in paragraph 7 of the Annex to document 199 EX/21;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to extend any other invitations that she may deem relevant to the work of the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior

Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, informing the Executive Board accordingly.

(199 EX/SR.1)

22 Enhancing UNESCO’s contributions to promote a culture of mutual respect and tolerance (199 EX/22 Rev.2; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling UNESCO’s mandate, as set out in Article 1 of its Constitution, to promote collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations, ,
2. Recognizing UNESCO’s particular interest in supporting the right to freely participate in cultural life, and supporting education, freedom of expression, equality and development, as well as the Organization’s capacity and potential to promote international dialogue, so as to foster a culture of mutual respect, tolerance and peace at all levels,
3. Also recalling the successive United Nations Human Rights Council resolutions entitled “Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief” and “Freedom of religion or belief”, as adopted most recently at the Human Rights Council’s thirty-first session,
4. Considering 170 EX/Decision 3.6.4 and 174 EX/Decision 46, and document 174 EX/48 Part II,
5. Requests the Director-General, within the fields of competence of UNESCO, to continue to foster dialogue for the promotion of a culture of mutual respect, tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs, and to facilitate, in cooperation with interested Member States, open, constructive and respectful debates as well as intercultural dialogue at all levels.

(199 EX/SR.7)

23 Dates of the 200th session of the Executive Board and provisional list of matters to be examined (199 EX/23.INF; 199 EX/23.INF.2)

200th session

(including the meetings of the subsidiary bodies)

(4 October – 18 October 2016)

(10 working days/14 calendar days)

Bureau (BUR)	Tuesday 4, Thursday 6 and Thursday 13 October
Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR)	Tuesday 4 p.m. to Thursday 6 October
Special Committee (SP)	Wednesday 5 October

Committee on Non-Governmental Partners (NGP)	Thursday 6 October
Plenary meetings (PLEN)	Friday 7 and Monday 10 October, then Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 October
Commissions (FA, PX, JOINT)	Tuesday 11 to Friday 14 October

Intersessional meetings: Friday 3 June, Friday 9 September, Tuesday 27 September and Friday 16 December 2016.

N.B.: School holidays in the host country are scheduled from Wednesday 19 October to Thursday 3 November 2016.

The Executive Board took note of the provisional list given in document 199 EX/23.INF.2.

(199 EX/SR.7)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

24 Next steps regarding international collaboration on open educational resources (OER) (199 EX/24 Rev.; 199 EX/DG.INF; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/24 Rev.,
2. Noting the important role that information and communication technology (ICT) can play in contributing to access to high quality educational opportunities as learning materials become freely available in the international community for adaptation and re-purposing,
3. Also noting the need to continue the follow up to the 2012 Paris OER Declaration by mainstreaming open educational resources (OER) in global education systems and pedagogical practices, at all levels, both formal and non-formal,
4. Taking into consideration UNESCO's involvement in the development and promotion of open educational resources (OER),
5. Further noting the need to continue the follow up to the Qingdao Declaration adopted at the 2015 International Conference on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Post-2015 Education promoting the full role of open educational resources (OER) and broadening opportunities for lifelong learning and the provision of quality education,
6. Recalling that education is a human right and a public good, and recognizing the important role quality open educational resources (OER) may play in reaching the objectives of the Education 2030 Agenda,
7. Also recognizing that open educational resources (OER) should provide access to a non-discriminatory, user-friendly learning context which is cost effective and available to all educators and learners, youth and adults alike, in a regulated framework on the basis of copyright and quality assurance,
8. Thanks the Government of Slovenia for its proposal to host the second World Open Educational Resources Congress in 2017;

9. Invites the Director-General to conduct a comprehensive study using extrabudgetary resources to consider proposals for next steps regarding international collaboration on open educational resources (OER), including technical and legal aspects as well as general standards, and taking into account administrative and financial issues, to be submitted to it for consideration at its 201st session.

(199 EX/SR.7)

25 Report on progress on the renewal and revision of the Operational Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Netherlands concerning the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, and revision of the Statutes of the Institute
(199 EX/25; 199 EX/34)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 38 C/Resolution 20,
2. Having examined document 199 EX/25,
3. Expressing its appreciation for the results of the consultations held thus far between the Director-General, the Government of the Netherlands and the IHE Foundation,
4. Acknowledging the requirement by the legislation of the Netherlands for a national entity, the IHE Foundation, as well as the requirement for the IHE Foundation to abide by the law of the Netherlands, and understanding that, among other things, the granting of higher education degrees by the IHE Foundation must be done in accordance with the law of the Netherlands,
5. Recognizing the remarkable performance of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education in terms of academic success and research, as well as in higher education, and its impact on society,
6. Encourages the Director-General and the Government of the Netherlands to seek agreement on a new proposed version of the Agreement(s) between UNESCO, the Government of the Netherlands and the IHE Foundation, and, if necessary, a revised version of the Statutes of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education;
7. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the new proposed agreement(s) is (are) in compliance with rules and regulations of UNESCO and implement(s) the recommendations of the External Auditor concerning category 1 institutes, as outlined in paragraph 10 of document 199 EX/25.

(199 EX/SR.7)

26 UNESCO's role in encouraging girls and women to be leaders in the science, technology, engineering, art/design, and mathematics fields (199 EX/26 Rev.; 199 EX/DG.INF; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 199 EX/26 Rev.,
2. Recognizing that improving educational outcomes for girls and women is a powerful force for achieving transformational development, ending poverty and ensuring a life of dignity for all,

3. Acknowledging the many international commitments to increase efforts to improve education and/or gender equality in the science, technology, and engineering sectors as an important avenue for sustainable development, including *inter alia*: Goals 4 and 5 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; the Education 2030 Framework for Action, emphasizing that a “focus on quality and innovation will also require strengthening science, technology, engineering and mathematics education” (para. 22); and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in which United Nations Member States express an intent to “scale up investment in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, and enhance technical, vocational, and tertiary education and training, ensuring equal access for women and girls and encouraging their participation therein” (para. 119),
4. Welcoming United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/212 proclaiming 11 February the International Day of Women and Girls in Science,
5. Expressing concern that despite these international commitments, a significant gender gap persists in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and related fields, coupled with cultural factors and community practices that impede the advancement of girls and women in such sectors,
6. Affirming UNESCO’s important role in addressing these issues through its mandate to promote the cause of gender equality in science as set forth in the 2010 evaluation of strategic programme objective 4: “Fostering policies and capacity-building in science, technology and innovation”, including by enhancing capacity among Member States through teacher training; gender equality training; efforts to improve science, technology and innovation (STI) systems and policies; enhanced use of information and communication technology (ICT) and other enabling technology; technical and vocational education and training (TVET); and promotion of global citizenship education and lifelong learning for all,
7. Also affirming UNESCO’s important contributions in highlighting the role of women in science, including through the UNESCO-L’ORÉAL partnership “For Women in Science”, the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World, and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics’ award-winning “Women in Science” data tool,
8. Also welcoming UNESCO’s goal of strengthening and better coordinating its efforts to promote gender equality in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields, as enunciated in the UNESCO Priority Gender Equality Action Plan for 2014-2021 (GEAP II), the UNESCO Operational Strategy on Youth 2014-2021 and the 2015 Strategic Results Report (199 EX/4 Part 1(B), para. 83), particularly in light of the acute gender gap and global shortage of employees and leaders skilled in these professions,
9. Also recognizing the increasingly important role of art and design functionality within science, technology, engineering and related fields, and noting that the integration of art and design into existing science and mathematics curricula, particularly at the primary and secondary education levels, may provide a more holistic, relevant and comprehensive pedagogical approach, offering new models for creative problem-solving, innovation, communication and interdisciplinary learning that contributes to the development of twenty-first century skills and job competitiveness,
10. Encourages UNESCO to explore research suggesting the benefits of art and design training in enhancing science and mathematics skills, taking into consideration the importance of such a holistic approach for educators and Member States, while recognizing that the incorporation of such an approach within existing UNESCO programmes may require some time and additional resources;

11. Invites Member States and other stakeholders to help UNESCO mobilize resources and develop strategic partnerships to enhance its role in achieving equality of educational opportunities for girls and women in science, technology, engineering, art/design and mathematics education; to strengthen coordination across sectors at UNESCO so as to promote initiatives in this area of work; and to identify opportunities for collaboration within the broader United Nations system, with Member States, and with non-governmental organizations and private sector and academic partners;
12. Looks forward to the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5) as an opportunity for Member States to further discuss the importance of being attentive to gender equality in science, technology, engineering, art/design and mathematics education, and explore the possibility of integrating related programming within UNESCO's strategy and budget;
13. Underscores the fundamental role that should be played by school guidance to promote gender equality in science, technology, engineering, art/design and mathematics fields, encourages Member States to reinforce their guidance structures, where applicable, and to re-focus them on school-learning and counselling, thus favouring the emergence of new forms of guidance which pay attention to the representation of girls in science, technology, engineering, art/design and mathematics options;
14. Encourages the Director-General, in accordance with UNESCO's purposes and functions:
 - (a) to promote the pedagogical importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics education for girls to Member States and other stakeholders, and, over time, to explore the inclusion of art and design-oriented approaches in this area of UNESCO programming, aiming to better coordinate UNESCO's efforts to encourage gender parity in these sectors as a pillar of activity under the Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education;
 - (b) to support the Education Sector's plans to prepare a state-of-the-art report on best practices in promoting girls' education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, exploring where feasible the role of art and design education in enhancing skills in these areas, and to share the recommendations from this report with Member States so as to provide a basis for additional activities to encourage the increased role of girls and women in such fields;
 - (c) to explore the role of integrated art and design training as a pedagogical tool for improving the acquisition of science and mathematics skills among learners and, where possible, to include demonstrated best practices in this area in future UNESCO programming;
 - (d) to name a focal point for these efforts responsible for coordinating intersectoral activities on gender equality in science, technology, engineering, art/design and mathematics education within UNESCO;
15. Requests the Director-General to provide it at its 202nd session with an update of UNESCO's efforts to promote gender equality in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, as well as, where possible, demonstrated best practices in art and design, as part of her regular report on the follow-up to decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Board and General Conference at their previous sessions (EX/5 document).

27 [Memory of the World Programme: exploring means for further improvement]

This item was withdrawn at the request of Japan: see footnote in document 199 EX/1 Rev.

28 UNESCO's role in safeguarding and preserving Palmyra and other Syrian world heritage sites (199 EX/28; 199 EX/DG.INF; 199 EX/33)

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling that the purpose of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations,
2. Also recalling the provisions of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954), the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970), the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), the UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (1995), the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001) and other relevant international agreements,
3. Further recalling 38 C/Resolution 48, 196 EX/Decision 29 and 197 EX/Decision 10,
4. Recalling United Nations Security Council resolution 2199 (2015),
5. Also recalling World Heritage Committee decisions 37 COM 8C.1 and 39 COM 7,
6. Taking note of the Bonn Declaration on the world heritage of 29 June 2015 and the Saint Petersburg Declaration on the Protection of Culture in Armed Conflict Zones of 16 December 2015,
7. Noting with appreciation the efforts of the international community to safeguard and preserve the world's cultural heritage in danger,
8. Condemning the destruction of cultural heritage in the Syrian Arab Republic, particularly by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Daesh) and Al Nusrah Front (ANF), whether such destruction is incidental or deliberate, including targeted destruction of religious sites and objects and noting with concern that ISIL (Daesh), ANF and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, are generating income from engaging directly or indirectly in the looting and smuggling of cultural heritage items from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives, and other sites in Iraq and Syria, which is being used to support their recruitment efforts and strengthen their operational capability to organize and carry out terrorist attacks,
9. Welcoming the expulsion of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Daesh) from the site of Palmyra,
10. Paying tribute to cultural heritage experts and professionals at risk,
11. Requests the Director-General to ensure the inclusion of safeguarding and preservation of Palmyra and other damaged world heritage sites in Syria, such as the Ancient City of Aleppo, in the forthcoming action plan for the implementation of the

strategy for the reinforcement of UNESCO's action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict;

12. Urges the Director-General to promote broad participation in, and coordination of the efforts among States, the United Nations and its agencies, as well as other partner organizations, to restore damaged Syrian world heritage and other significant sites in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and when the security situation allows;
13. Calls on Member States to provide voluntary contributions and assistance through UNESCO for assessing the damage, and restoring and preserving Palmyra monuments and other world heritage sites in Syria when the security situation allows;
14. Invites the Director-General to send a UNESCO mission of international experts to Palmyra and other damaged significant sites in Syria, such as the Ancient City of Aleppo, when the security situation allows, to be funded by voluntary contributions from Member States and the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, as appropriate, so as to assess by means of documentation and inventory the extent of damages and to identify urgent needs in terms of conservation, restoration and safeguarding, with a view to the long-term sustainability and integrity of Palmyra and other significant sites, such as Aleppo, and to ensure the presentation of a preliminary report on the situation at an information meeting of the Executive Board to be convened for this purpose, upon completion of the mission.

(199 EX/SR.7)

29 Memory of the World Programme: exploring means for further improvement

(199 EX/29; 199 EX/29.INF.; 199 EX/DG.INF)

The Executive Board:

1. Having examined document 199 EX/29,
2. Expresses its appreciation for the important contributions to the preservation of documentary heritage made by the Memory of the World Programme (MWP), since its establishment in 1992;
3. Taking note of document 199 EX/29.INF, welcomes the review under way by the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme (IAC);
4. Requests the Director-General to distribute the final report of the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme (IAC) to Member States;
5. Invites the Director-General to keep the Executive Board appropriately informed of the review undertaken by the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme (IAC).

(199 EX/SR.6)

PRIVATE MEETING

Announcement concerning the private meeting held on Thursday 14 April 2016

At the private meeting held on Thursday 14 April 2016, the Executive Board considered items **3** and **13** of its agenda.

3 Report by the Director-General on the application of Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board (199 EX/PRIV.1)

In accordance with Rule 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General informed the Board on the general situation regarding staff members at grade D-1 and above and the decisions she had taken regarding appointments and extensions of contract of staff members at grade D-1 and above whose posts come under the regular programme of the Organization.

(199 EX/SR.5)

13 Examination of the communications transmitted to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in pursuance of 104 EX/Decision 3.3, and report of the Committee thereon (199 EX/CR/HR and Addenda; 199 EX/CR/2 Rev.; 199 EX/3 PRIV. (Draft))

1. The Executive Board examined the report of its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations concerning the communications received by the Organization on the subject of cases and questions of alleged violations of human rights in UNESCO's fields of competence.
2. The Executive Board, having taken note of the Committee's report, endorsed the wishes expressed therein.

(199 EX/SR.5)