



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

## UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE 7 MSP

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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC  
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL  
HERITAGE

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

Seventh session  
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room IV  
20-21 June 2019

**Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda:**

Follow-up to the recommendations of the open-ended Working Group on Governance, Procedures and Working Methods of the Governing Bodies of UNESCO

At its 39th session (2017), the General Conference of UNESCO invited the Executive Board, the Director-General and the international and intergovernmental bodies (IIBs) of UNESCO to implement the recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, as presented in [Document 39 C/70 \(39 C/Resolution 87\)](#). The present document provides information on the status of the follow-up to the recommendations that are relevant to the governing bodies of the 2001 Convention.

**Resolution required:** Paragraph 12.

## Actions of the General Conference and External Auditor

1. Since 2013, the General Conference adopted three resolutions with the aim of reviewing the performance of all UNESCO governing bodies in order to reform the Organization's governance and reduce its costs ([Resolutions 37C / 96](#); [38 C/101](#) and [39/C / 87](#)).
2. First, the General Conference invited "all governing bodies, intergovernmental programmes, committees and organs established by conventions (...) to perform a self-assessment covering the overall relevance of their work in relation to their specific terms of reference as well as the efficiency and effectiveness of their meetings, including the impact and utility of experts' time" ([37 C/Resolution 96](#), [Document 37 C/49 and Add.](#)).
3. Second, reaffirming the need for a comprehensive and holistic reform of UNESCO to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of governance and improve strategic decision-making in the Organization, the General Conference decided to establish an open-ended Working Group<sup>1</sup> on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO ([38 C/Resolution 101](#)). The working group on governance created two sub-groups:
  - i. sub-group 1, on the structure, composition and methods of work of the governing bodies (General Conference and Executive Board); and
  - ii. sub-group 2, on the structure, composition and methods of work of UNESCO's international and intergovernmental bodies.
4. The General Conference requested the Director-General to initiate the implementation of recommendations 1, 11 and 13 of the report of the External Auditor, included in [Document 38 C/23](#). It also requested her to take concrete measures to improve governance and to report on the proposals submitted to the Chairperson of the Working Group on governance.
5. Third, the General Conference examined the report of the Working Group ([Document 39 C/20](#)), and through [39 C/Resolution 87](#), it endorsed its recommendations as amended by the APX Commission<sup>2</sup> in [Document 39 C/70](#). Through the same resolution, the General Conference invited the Executive Board, the Director-General and the governing bodies of the different organs to implement, as appropriate, the said recommendations.
6. Concurrent with the efforts of the General Conference, the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) of UNESCO conducted in 2013 an audit of the working methods of the six conventions in the field of culture, in order to assess the adequacy and efficiency of the working methods of UNESCO's standard-setting work. The IOS report 'Audit of the Working Methods of Cultural Conventions' ([IOS/AUD/2013/06](#)) includes

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to [38 C/Resolution 101](#), the mandate of the working group on governance is to examine the governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO on the basis of the following: the views and proposals received from Member States; the External Auditor's report on the governance of UNESCO and its dependent entities, funds, and programmes; relevant evaluations and audits by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS); and previous decisions and resolutions related to governance. The working group on governance is tasked with formulating a set of recommendations.

<sup>2</sup> General Conference commission in charge of finance, administration and general questions, programme support and external relations

recommendations and [is available online](#). Recommendations essentially seek to streamline and rationalize various statutory processes to achieve cost efficiency.

### **Follow-up by the governing organs of the 2001 Convention and the Secretariat**

7. On 4 April 2014, the External Auditor sent a self-assessment framework to the Chairpersons of all governing bodies of UNESCO. The Chairpersons of the Meeting of States Parties and of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body (STAB) duly provided their respective responses to the questionnaires.
8. In its fifth session in 2015, the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention began, as requested, to review the progress of the Convention, including its ratification, implementation and governance. The process is further detailed in the report (see working document [UCH/15/5.MSP/INF4.3](#)). In addition, the Meeting undertook regional group consultations to ensure a focused follow-up. Subsequently it requested the Secretariat to draft a ratification and implementation strategy based on the suggestions for improvement actions obtained from the regional groups (see [Resolution 5 / MSP 5](#)).
9. At the same session, the Meeting of States Parties considered the recommendations of the External Auditor, included in the report on the follow-up submitted upon request of the General Conference. The Meeting stressed the great importance and relevance of the recommendations and supported the quest for a governance review encompassing all bodies and conventions. It however noted that not all recommendations of the External Auditor were applicable to the 2001 Convention. It further discussed the limited, in particular human, resources of the Secretariat. Finally, the question of how to improve the conditions for the implementation of the Convention, particularly in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, was subject of the discussions.
10. In its sixth session, the Meeting of States Parties adopted a new ratification and implementation strategy (see document [UCH/17/6.MSP/INF.7](#)). It took into account the intermediate results of the General Conference Working Group on the structure, composition and methods of work of the governing bodies and adopted [Resolution 4 bis / MSP 6](#), requesting the Director-General to:
  - i. strengthen the Secretariat of the 2001 Convention by providing specialized and qualified personnel working exclusively for the 2001 Convention; and
  - ii. present a report to the seventh session of the Meeting of States Parties to the 2001 Convention on the implementation of this resolution.
10. At the seventh session, the Meeting is invited to examine the implementation status of the recommendations of the Working Group on Governance and provide feedback on the action proposed. To that end, it may consider the table contained in the Annex hereto reflecting the current status of the follow-up to the recommendations relevant to the governing bodies of the Convention. The document also informs on the follow up to [Resolution 4 bis / MSP 6](#) on staffing of the Convention's Secretariat as well as actions proposed.
11. When reviewing the current state of the follow-up to the recommendations of the Working Group, the Meeting may also consider the recommendations of the recent overall internal evaluation of the Convention, carried out by UNESCO's Internal Oversight Service and the Information Document UCH/19/7.MSP/INF.9.

12. The Meeting may wish to adopt the following resolution:

**DRAFT RESOLUTION 8 / MSP 7**

The Meeting of States Parties, in its seventh session,

1. *Having examined* Document UCH/19/7.MSP/8 and its Annex;
2. *Recalling* [39 C/Resolution 87](#) of the General Conference, the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) Audit of the Working Methods of Cultural Conventions ([IOS/AUD/2013/06](#)), and the IOS Evaluation of UNESCO's Standard-Setting Work of the Culture Sector;
3. *Takes note* of the status of the follow-up to the recommendations of the open-ended Working Group on governance, Procedures and Methods of the Governing Bodies of UNESCO ([39 C/Resolution 87](#)).
4. *Requests* the Secretariat to implement Recommendations [\_\_\_\_\_] at this session
5. Requests the Secretariat to submit document UCH/19/7.MSP/8 and Resolution 8/MSP/8 to the Chairperson of the open-ended Working Group on governance.

**ANNEX**

Implementation status of the 2001 Convention's follow-up to the recommendations of the Group on Governance, Procedures and Working Methods of the Governing Bodies of UNESCO<sup>3</sup>, Part 2. Structure, composition and methods of work of UNESCO's international and intergovernmental bodies (IIBs))

| <b>Recommendation</b>  | <b>Implementation status<sup>4</sup></b>  |
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| <b>B. General recommendations for all international and intergovernmental bodies (IIBs)</b>  |   |
| <b>Efficiency (mandate, composition, structure, rules of procedure, methods of work)</b>   |   |
| <p>56. IIBs are invited to update their mandates, as appropriate, including their objectives and programmes, to be more coherent with approved C/5 priorities and responsive to current global developments such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.</p> | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The mandate of the Meeting of States Parties is defined in the text of the Convention in Articles 23. It is further detailed in the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting, which will be revised in the present session.</p> <p>The mandate of the STAB is defined in its Statutes. The Statutes will also be revised in the 2019 session.</p> <p>States Parties have therefore the possibility to update priorities pertaining to the mandate of the two governing bodies, should they consider it desirable and advisable.</p> |
| <p>57. To promote diversity and inclusivity, voluntary term-limits of two consecutive mandates are recommended for IIBs, which currently do not have term limitations for membership.</p>  | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>There is no limitation for consecutive mandates in the bureau of the Meeting of States Parties. Members of the STAB have four-year terms. It may be advisable to introduce a voluntary term-limit to two executive mandates.</p> <p>Due consideration should however be given to the need for specific scientific expertise in the STAB.</p>   |

<sup>3</sup> Extracted from Annex I of document [39 C/20](#). To see all recommendations, including Part 1 pertaining to the governing bodies of UNESCO (General Conference and Executive Board), see documents [39 C/20](#) and [39 C/70](#).

<sup>4</sup> The implementation status of the recommendation distinguishes the recommendations that have been **implemented**, that are **ongoing** and for which an **action by the Parties is proposed**.

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| <p>58. As a general rule, term-limits of two consecutive mandates for membership in all Bureaus are recommended.</p>   | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The Bureau of the Meeting of States Parties is elected at each opening of a session. Its term then runs until the election of the next Bureau, i.e. for two years.</p> <p>This is defined in Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting, which are in the present session under revision. States Parties could consider amendments, if this is deemed advisable. An appropriate wording has been proposed by the Secretariat.</p>   |
| <p>59. For cost-saving, coherence and harmonization, it is recommended that IIBs and the General Conference consider “right-sizing” the composition of the IIBs.</p>   | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The Meeting of States Parties is by nature composed of the Member States that have adhered to the Convention.</p> <p>The STAB is currently composed of 12 members. A change has been suggested in the ongoing consultation on the Rules of Procedure. The Meeting of States Parties may agree on changing the Rules of Procedure currently under revision, accordingly.</p>  |
| <p>60. There is a need to reduce and manage the politicization of nominations and decisions.</p>   | <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>The 2001 Convention does not have a nomination process and decisions are generally not politicized.</p>  |
| <p>61. To enhance visibility and the effectiveness of the work of the IIBs, more effective information-dissemination is recommended through updating and enhancing websites and sensitizing all involved actors, including Member States and their National Commissions.</p> | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The Secretariat publishes all information pertaining to the meetings, events, activities and projects of the 2001 Convention on the Convention’s website (<a href="http://www.unesco.org/culture/en/underwater">www.unesco.org/culture/en/underwater</a>).</p> <p>Additionally, when necessary, the Secretariat systematically communicates in writing with the States Parties to the Convention, STAB members and all Convention stakeholders (particularly the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, National Commissions, national focal points for the Convention, civil society organizations, UNESCO Chairs, Category II Centres, Unitwin, and NGOs).</p> |

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| <p>62. Earlier preparation and dissemination of draft agendas and preliminary timetables, mainly by using the same template containing hyper-links to documents to be adopted/discussed in sessions.</p>   | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The customary practice of the Secretariat is to make the provisional agenda available online and to attach it to the letter of invitation to the sessions of the Meeting of States Parties and the STAB well in advance of the sessions.</p> <p>Hyper-links are used in the working and information documents of the governing bodies of the 2001 Convention.</p> <p>In regards to agendas, however, hyper-links can only be included at a later stage when working documents are available online in their final version.</p> |
| <p>63. The Secretariat is invited to promote a harmonized virtual working environment for all IIBs and to revisit UNESCO's "Strategy on Knowledge Management and Information &amp; Communication Technology". Simple, more user-friendly documentation (i.e. less fragmented reporting and easier document tracking; annotated agenda with hyperlinks to reports and draft decisions).</p> | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>A knowledge management system has been established and is in constant development. It uses the six official UN languages and allows Member States to have access to all documents of the statutory meetings of the governing bodies, as well as to various platforms vital for the implementation of the Convention's mechanisms.</p>  |
| <p>64. Open-ended informal consultations on draft decisions to promote inclusive and effective decision-making.</p>  | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>In the month prior to a session, the Secretariat of the Convention holds meetings with each regional group to discuss items on the agenda of a session, content of the working and information documents and draft decisions.</p> <p>To ensure an inclusive decision-making process, the Secretariat communicates the proposed amendments in advance.</p> <p>It should be noted that the States Parties take their final decision regarding draft decisions only during the session.</p> <p>See also Rec. 76.</p>              |

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| <p>65. It is recommended that the Rules of Procedure of the IIBs be amended, when relevant, to advance the deadline for submission of candidatures to their subsidiary bodies from 48 hours to seven days before elections.</p>                                    | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The time frame for candidatures for STAB-elections is set out in rule <a href="#">24.2 of the Rules of Procedure</a>: “At least three weeks prior to the opening of the Meeting, the Secretariat shall send to all States Parties the provisional list of candidates and the background information, as received, indicating the State which proposes them. The list of candidatures will be revised as necessary.”</p> <p>The current revision of the Rules of Procedure considers a change necessary to duly respond to the recommendation, setting a limit of seven days for the submission of candidatures.</p>   |
| <p><b>Harmonization (role of Bureaus and transparency)</b></p>   |  |
| <p>66. The role, composition and procedures of Bureaus and their members should be clarified and harmonized through codification in rules of procedure/ statutes or development of general guidelines for all IIBs, in close cooperation with the Secretariat.</p> | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p><a href="#">Rule 7</a> of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of States Parties clarifies the role of the Bureau and its members:</p> <p>“7.2 The Bureau shall coordinate the work of the Meeting and order of business of the session. The Chairperson will be assisted in carrying out his/her duties by the other members of the Bureau.”</p> <p>and</p> <p>“7.3 The Bureau shall perform any other duty entrusted to it by the Meeting.”</p> <p>Rule 7.1 of the Rules indicate the composition of the Bureau as follows:</p> <p>“The Meeting shall elect a Chairperson, one or more Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, in conformity with the principle of equitable geographical representation, who shall together constitute its Bureau. Their term of office will run from the opening of the Meeting in which they are elected until the next session of the Meeting, when a new Bureau will be elected.”</p> <p>It is up to the Meeting of States Parties to decide whether it wishes to clarify further the Bureau’s role and procedures in its Rules of Procedure. Some changes have been suggested in the current revision of the Rules of Procedure.</p> |

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| <p>67. It is suggested that Bureaus' composition be set, as much as compatible with individual IIBs' mandates, at a maximum of six members (Chairperson, Rapporteur, and four Vice-Chairpersons from the six electoral groups).</p>   | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The number of the members of the Bureau is not limited in the Rules of Procedure as they currently stand, yet customarily six members have been elected.</p>  |
| <p>68. The intergovernmental nature of Bureaus should be reaffirmed while maintaining expert engagement. In this regard, the attached guidelines on responsibilities of Bureau members are recommended for dissemination to all governing bodies and IIBs (<a href="#">Appendix 3</a>).</p> | <p><b>Implementation ongoing</b></p> <p>The Bureaus are composed of representatives of States that are members of the governing bodies and, as such, intergovernmental in nature. According to the Rules of Procedure, they are elected in conformity with the principle of equitable geographical representation.</p> <p>The Secretariat will share with all new Bureau members the guidelines of <a href="#">Appendix 3</a>, as suggested.</p> |
| <p>69. Documents related to Bureau meetings should appear online before meetings take place; outcomes, including reports of Bureau meetings, should be communicated to all members, and as appropriate, all Permanent Delegations, in a timely manner.</p>                                  | <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>The Bureau meetings of the bodies are held during their session and when deemed necessary. No documents are prepared for them other than the strictly necessary. The Chairperson orally informs State Parties, or STAB members if applicable, of the discussions of the Bureau.</p>   |
| <p>70. Elections of Bureaus should be held, as much as possible, soon after elections for seats on the IIBs conducted at the General Conference, to avoid having Bureau members from Member States that are no longer members of the IIBs concerned.</p>                                    | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The Bureau of the Meeting of States Parties is elected by States Parties at the beginning of each session.</p>  |
| <p>71. As much as feasible, Bureau meetings should be open to observers and working methods made more transparent.</p>  | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>There is no provision to this effect in the Rules of Procedure of the governing bodies of the Convention. In practice, Bureau meetings only involve Bureau members. No such requests have been made by States Parties or non-members of the Bureaus since</p>   |

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|   | <p>2009, the year of the entry into force of the Convention.</p>  |
| <p>73. Gender-neutral language should be adopted throughout all UNESCO documents.</p>   | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>In general, the Basic Texts of the Convention adopt a gender-neutral language. Utmost attention is paid to gender-neutral language and amendments to the Rules of Procedure have been proposed in this regard.</p>   |
| <p><b>Alignment with overarching priorities of UNESCO</b></p>   |   |
| <p>74. All IIBs should have the opportunity to submit formal inputs to the Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and the Programme and Budget (C/5) documents of UNESCO.</p>   | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The Parties in their capacity as Member States are formally consulted and submit inputs to Documents C/4 and C/5 and adopt them at the General Conference. The discussions held among the Convention's organs are also taken into account by the Secretariat when preparing the preliminary propositions on the C/5.</p> <p>Nevertheless, it is proposed that the Meeting of States Parties seizes this opportunity to formalize the reporting.</p>  |
| <p>75. A feedback mechanism can be envisaged for substantive dialogue between Member States and IIBs, beyond the limited reporting to the General Conference. This could be through information meetings or briefings. Reporting to the General Conference should be enhanced through a new more strategic and results-oriented reporting format to be followed by debate and General Conference resolutions to provide feedback to IIBs.</p> | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The report on the implementation of the programme and, by extension, on the work of the governing bodies of the Convention is ensured through Documents EX/4 (Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme, submitted to the Executive Board) and C/3 (Report of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization submitted to the General Conference).</p> <p>However, as part of the strategic transformation launched by the Director-General in 2018, the Convention's governing bodies are incited to express their views on the preparation of the sent Medium Term Strategy and Programme and Budget (41 C/4 and 41 C/5).</p> |

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| <p>76. Orientation sessions for new members of all IIBs, especially for Chairpersons and Bureau members, should be institutionalized and include introduction to the C/4 and C/5 frameworks. To that end, a short user-friendly guidebook including best practices and acronyms could be produced to familiarize members with working methods and C/4 and C/5 mechanisms.</p> | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>Before each session of the Meeting of States Parties, the Secretariat holds informal information meetings with each regional group. These meetings inform Member States about the agenda of the session, the information and working documents and the decisions to be made. The information and working documents submitted by the Secretariat are aligned with and reflect the C/4 and C/5.</p> <p>See also Rec. 64</p>   |
| <p><b>Coherence, coordination and synergies</b></p>   |  |
| <p>77. Balanced resource allocation is necessary to ensure the effectiveness of all IIBs.</p>   | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>This recommendation is directly related to the adoption of the C/5 Programme and Budget Document, which is the responsibility of UNESCO Member States, exercised through the General Conference.</p>  |
| <p>78. Use of languages for inclusivity and effectiveness remains an important objective.</p>   | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>According to Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of States Parties, the official languages of the Meeting shall be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. States Parties may, however, speak in any other language, provided that they make their own arrangements for interpretation of their speeches into one of the official languages.</p> <p>The working languages of the STAB are only English and French. However, efforts are made by the Secretariat to ensure the use of other languages when extra-budgetary funding is available.</p> |
| <p>79. IIBs and their Secretariats are requested to enhance coordination in scheduling of meetings to avoid overlap.</p>  | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The Partnerships, Communication and Meetings Unit of the Culture Sector ensures that there is no overlap between the meetings of the six cultural conventions.</p>  |

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| <p>80. Best practices should be shared and replicated or, if necessary, adjusted to reflect specificities with the aim to promote governance mechanisms that facilitate strategies and action plans anchored on the C/4 and C/5. Attached, in this regard, is a non-exhaustive list of best practices identified by the Working Group (Appendix 3).</p> | <p><b>Implementation ongoing</b></p> <p>During the meetings of subgroup 2 of the Working Group, Member States repeatedly recognized the best practices and appropriate working methods of the Secretariat of the 2001 Convention. Regularly exchanges with other Conventions including through a Common Conventions Working Group ensure that best practices are shared within UNESCO's Culture Sector.</p>  |
| <p><b>E. Specific recommendations for all UNESCO Cultural Conventions</b></p>   |  |
| <p>94. A more balanced approach in terms of equitable financial and human resource allocation for all cultural conventions was called for, considering their importance to the mandate of UNESCO. All cultural conventions are in need of additional resources to fulfill their objectives fully.</p>   | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>It is the State Parties' responsibility to implement this recommendation.</p> <p>For many years, the Secretariat has been drawing the State Parties' attention to the need to strengthen human and financial resources to implement the 2001 Convention in a sustainable way.</p> <p>The governments of Spain, China and Panama have kindly provided human resources support. More such contributions are strongly encouraged.</p> <p>Voluntary financial contributions have been provided by Spain, Belgium/Flanders, Saudi Arabia and through in kind contributions. These are however not commensurate with the needs of the Convention and States Parties are encouraged to increase their support.</p> |
| <p>95. The Secretariat handling each Convention should have at least three permanent posts.</p>   | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>This recommendation echoes Resolution 4 bis/MSP 6 in which the Meeting "<i>Requests the Director-General to strengthen the Secretariat of the 2001 Convention by providing specialized and qualified personnel working exclusively for the 2001 Convention, and by the appointment, prior to the next Session of the Meeting of the States Parties, of at least two additional permanent staff members and the allocation of the necessary budget for the adequate fulfillment of the tasks and projects carried out by the Secretariat of the 2001 Convention.</i>"</p> <p>The 2001 Convention was endowed with an additional fixed term P and G post. Staffing is now complying with the recommendation.</p>  |

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| <p>96. Governing Bodies of the Conventions, through broad consultations, are invited to further explore, as appropriate, harmonization of rules of procedure and coherence in decision-making procedures, taking into account their respective mandates and specificities. They can consider best practices from the environmental treaties/UNEP to further develop synergies in organizational matters, information-sharing, and cost-efficiency.</p> | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The Rules of Procedure are currently under review, which may provide an opportunity for Member States to assess their coherence and whether adjustments are necessary, including as concerns decision-making.</p>  |
| <p>97. Meetings of the Chairpersons of the Committees of the Cultural Conventions can be more interactive and action oriented. Chairpersons should work strategically together to address common themes and challenges and consider shared responses and cooperation.</p>  | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The Chairpersons of the committees of the six Culture Conventions had the opportunity to hold two meetings between 2015 and 2016 to discern common themes and challenges. The Secretariat will continue to facilitate dialogue between the Chairpersons as necessary.</p>  |
| <p>98. A closer relationship between Governing Bodies of Conventions and the General Conference is desirable, including through the opportunity to provide inputs to the C/5.</p>  | <p><b>Action proposed</b></p> <p>The State Parties to the Convention are UNESCO Member States that contribute, inter alia, to the development of the C/5 Document and participate in the work of and decisions taken by the Executive Board and the General Conference That shape and then adopt C/5.</p> <p>Moreover, the working documents submitted to the governing bodies of the Convention are based and on the C/5 Document. This mechanism allows the Parties to make informed decisions.</p> |
| <p>99. Transparency and accountability measures can be enhanced, such as dissemination of minutes/ key results of Bureau meetings.</p>   | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>See Rec. 69</p>  |

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| <p>100. Capacity-building and common training on all cultural conventions should be strengthened.</p>   | <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>The Secretariat has developed training tools on all Culture Conventions in particular those of 1972 and 2003.</p> <p>The Secretariat of the 2001 Convention has developed training tools on the content of the 2001 Convention, in particular the Rules for activities conducted near underwater cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>The Secretariat relies exclusively on voluntary contributions and resources are unfortunately not commensurate with the needs to promote these training tools and to organize actual trainings.</p> |
| <p>101. Governing bodies of Conventions and their Secretariats are encouraged to develop appropriate ratification strategies.</p>   | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>In 2017, the Meeting adopted a ratification strategy for the Convention focusing on how to encourage universal adhesion.</p>   |
| <p><b>Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001)</b></p>   |   |
| <p>106.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Capacities of Secretariat should be enhanced to promote, inter alia, wider ratification.</li> <li>b. More secondments from Member States should be encouraged.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Implemented</b></p> <p>The staff of the 2001 Convention has been increased in 2018 by one permanent P- and G-staff member respectively.</p> <p>Panama has kindly seconded one staff member.</p> <p>See also Rec. 95</p>   |