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Diversity of
Cultural Expressions

16 IGC

DCE/23/16.IGC/Decisions
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**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION
OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS**

**Sixteenth Session
UNESCO Headquarters, Room I
7 – 10 February 2023**

DECISIONS

Item 1 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Agenda

Decision 16.IGC 1

The Committee,

1. Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/1,
2. Adopts the agenda of the session, as amended as below:
 - Opening
 1. Adoption of the agenda
 2. Approval of the list of observers
 3. Adoption of the detailed summary record of the fifteenth session of the Committee
 4. Report of the Secretariat on its activities and the implementation of the Committee's decisions (2022)
 5. Transmission of new quadrennial periodic reports and proposals to rationalize their submission cycles
 6. Report on the implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity and its fundraising strategy (2022)
 7. Recommended projects from the thirteenth call for funding requests to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity
 8. Report on the consultation of UNESCO networks in view of improving consultations with micro, small and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises
 9. Proposals aiming to improve the engagement of cultural organizations and institutions to promote access to a diversity of cultural expressions
 10. Collaboration with civil society to implement the Convention and proposals for the organization of the fourth Forum
 11. Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions (2022-2023)
 12. Date of the seventeenth session of the Committee
 13. Election of the members of the Bureau of the seventeenth session of the Committee
 14. Other business
 - Closing

Item 2 of the Agenda: Approval of the list of observers

Decision 16.IGC 2

The Committee,

1. Having examined the list of observers in Document DCE/23/16.IGC/INF.2,
2. Approves the list of observers while recognizing the deep concerns raised by one Committee Member regarding the participation of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation as Observer at the current sixteenth session and requests the Secretariat to provide detailed information on the above-mentioned Foundation before consideration at the seventeenth session of the Committee in 2024;

3. *Further requests the Secretariat to dispatch the provisional list of observers to the Members of the Committee at least two weeks before the opening of the session.*

Item 3 of the Agenda: Adoption of the detailed summary record of the fifteenth session of the Committee

Decision 16.IGC 3

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/3 and its Annex,*
2. *Adopts the detailed summary record of its fifteenth session included in the above-mentioned document, as amended.*

Item 4 of the Agenda: Report of the Secretariat on its activities and the implementation of the Committee's decisions (2022)

Decision 16.IGC 4

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/4 and its Annex,*
2. *Takes note of the Secretariat's report on its activities in 2022;*
3. *Welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to ensure the good governance of the Convention, strengthen its international cooperation and assistance programmes, improve knowledge management and sharing, and develop communication and awareness initiatives;*
4. *Further takes note that additional support and efforts are needed to ensure the monitoring and evaluation of programmes implemented under the Convention in order to sustain their results and impacts;*
5. *Thanks the Member States and other entities that have supported the implementation of the Convention through various funding modalities, including funds-in-trust, voluntary contributions, and contributions to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity;*
6. *Encourages Parties to make additional contributions, in particular to support the implementation of the following strategic priorities: preferential treatment, the implementation of the Convention in the digital environment, the status of the artist, and the two global priorities of UNESCO – Africa and gender equality – as well as its two Priority Groups – Small Island Developing States and Youth – in the cultural and creative industries;*
7. *Invites Parties to strengthen the human resources of the Secretariat to support the implementation of the Convention through the appointment of associate experts or the secondment of staff, particularly in the areas of knowledge production and management, communication, resource mobilisation, and project monitoring and evaluation;*
8. *Further invites the Secretariat and Parties to pay particular attention to the provisions of the Declaration of MONDIACULT 2022 to enhance the implementation of the Convention;*

9. Requests the Secretariat to submit to it, at its seventeenth session, a report on its activities undertaken in 2023, taking into account the discussions held during the current session.

Item 5 of the Agenda: Transmission of new quadrennial periodic reports and proposals to rationalize their submission cycles

Decision 16.IGC 5

The Committee,

1. Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/5 and its Annex,
2. Recalling Resolutions 4.CP 10, 5.CP 9a, 6.CP 9, 7.CP 11 and 8.CP 9 of the Conference of Parties and its Decisions 8.IGC 7a, 8.IGC 7b, 9.IGC 10, 10.IGC 9, 11.IGC 8, 12.IGC 7, 12.IGC 13, 13.IGC 6, 14.IGC 6, and 15.IGC 5,
3. Further recalling paragraph 4 of the Operational Guidelines related to Article 9 of the Convention on “Information Sharing and Transparency,” which reminds Parties to ensure that the reports are written in language consistent with the United Nations Charter and the 2005 Convention with a view to encourage dialogue and mutual respect among Parties,
4. Takes note of the executive summaries of the quadrennial periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention, submitted by Parties in 2022, presented in the Annex to this document and congratulates Parties that submitted their report in a timely manner;
5. Requests the Secretariat to transmit to the Conference of Parties, at its ninth session, the quadrennial periodic reports examined by the Committee at this session, together with its comments;
6. Invites Parties whose reports are due in 2023 to submit them to the Secretariat no later than 30 June 2023, if possible in both working languages of the Committee, as well as in other languages, using the dedicated electronic form, and encourages the Parties whose reports were due in 2022 and that have not yet been submitted to submit them by the same date;
7. Welcomes the concrete support offered to Small Island Developing States in the elaboration of their quadrennial periodic reports in the framework of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity and through programmes supported by voluntary contributions in 2022, further encourages the States that benefitted from this support to report on their experience and the usefulness of the support they received, and further requests the Secretariat to continue this support in 2023;
8. Further takes note of the two proposals concerning the rationalization of the periodic reporting cycle with a view to ensuring the efficient and sustainable monitoring of the Convention and the streamlining of reporting deadlines, and also requests the Secretariat to transmit to the ninth session of the Conference of Parties, for its approval, the following recommended proposal: Option 2 “Single global submission date,” bearing in mind the importance and the necessity of preparation and capacity building at the regional level;
9. Also encourages Parties to provide voluntary contributions to upscale the Secretariat’s capacity-building programme on participatory policy monitoring and for the implementation and improvement of the Convention’s Knowledge Management System, in particular its Policy Monitoring Platform.

Item 6 of the Agenda: Report on the implementation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity and its fundraising strategy (2022)

Decision 16.IGC 6

The Committee,

1. Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/6 and its Annexes, as well as documents DCE/23/16.IGC/INF.6 and DCE/23/16.IGC/INF.6 Add.,
2. Takes note of the financial report of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) for the period 1 January to 30 November 2022 contained in document DCE/23/16.IGC/INF.6 as well as for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 contained in document DCE/23/16.IGC/INF.6 Add.;
3. Expresses its sincere appreciation to all Parties that have contributed on a voluntary basis to the IFCD, in particular those Parties that have increased the level of their voluntary contributions or made contributions for the first time, and thanks the private entities that made a donation to the IFCD, spearheading the IFCD outreach to the private sector;
4. Notes with appreciation the fundraising efforts made by the Secretariat and various IFCD stakeholders, which resulted in a promising increase in the number of donors making contribution to the IFCD;
5. Recalls the commitment of Parties to make voluntary contributions on a regular basis to the IFCD for the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with its Article 18.7, and encourages all Parties to support it on a regular basis by making an annual contribution equal to or greater than 1% of their contribution to UNESCO's regular budget;
6. Requests the Director-General to issue in 2023 a new call for voluntary contributions to all Parties to the Convention, quoting the amount corresponding to 1% of the total contribution of each Member State to UNESCO's regular budget;
7. Further requests the Secretariat to communicate the amount of voluntary contributions for 2023 as an indicative amount to those Parties requiring anticipated budgetary information in order to request a budget allocation for the IFCD voluntary contribution within their 2024 state budget;
8. Invites all Parties to support the implementation of the IFCD communication and fundraising strategy (2021-2023) by proposing High-Net-Worth-Individuals or private companies that may be interested in partnering with UNESCO for the IFCD;
9. Also requests the Secretariat to make the necessary adjustments to the implementation modalities of the IFCD communication and fundraising strategy (2021-2023), particularly with regard to resource mobilization vis-à-vis the private sector and High-Net-Worth-Individuals, as well as to reinforce the monitoring and evaluation of the funded projects and foster peer-to-peer learning among IFCD stakeholders;
10. Requests the Secretariat to submit to it, at its seventeenth session, a narrative and financial report for the IFCD covering the period 1 January to 30 November 2023, as well as a draft provisional budget for 2024-2025 taking into account the need to finance the third external evaluation of the IFCD including the evaluation of the results of the IFCD communication and fundraising strategy (2021-2023), to reinforce the monitoring and evaluation of IFCD-funded projects, as well as to provide customized training and technical assistance support for Small Island Developing States and other priority countries, such as Least Developed Countries.

Item 7 of the Agenda: Recommended projects from the thirteenth call for funding requests to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity

Decision 16.IGC 7

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/7 and its Annexes,*
2. *Regrets the lack of funding necessary to cover all the projects that could potentially be selected;*
3. *Takes note of the efforts of the Secretariat to strengthen the capacities of the various stakeholders involved in the preparation and pre-selection of funding requests, as well as the need to reinforce the monitoring and evaluation of funded projects and networking activities;*
4. *Thanks the National Commissions for UNESCO that have completed the pre-selection process and encourages all concerned National Commissions for UNESCO to engage in the pre-selection process in future;*
5. *Further thanks all Parties that have made voluntary contributions to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity in 2022, which provides increased support to project funding, and further encourages all Parties to further support the IFCD by making an annual contribution equal to or greater than 1% of their contribution to UNESCO's regular budget;*
6. *Expresses its appreciation to the Panel of Experts for its important work, further takes note of its evaluation comments regarding the projects recommended for financing by the IFCD, and requests the Secretariat to implement the recommendations made by the Panel of Experts to the extent possible and within the limit of available resources;*
7. *Decides that the eleven projects amounting to US\$897,213 presented in Annex I and attached to this decision will receive financial support from the IFCD;*
8. *Further decides to issue the fourteenth call for funding requests in 2023;*
9. *Further requests the Secretariat to take into account the exchanges held during this session on the necessity of capacity building and on the importance of equitable geographical distribution in the selection of projects.*

Annex to Decision 16.IGC 7

Projects approved by the Committee for the thirteenth funding cycle

Points	Recipient country	Project title ¹	Project number	Applicant name	Applicant profile	Amount requested (US\$)	Amount recommended (US\$)	Decision by Committee (US\$)
35	Argentina	ORIGEN: Amplifying the voice of indigenous filmmakers	2022-9968	National Institute of Indigenous Affairs (Instituto Nacional de Asuntos Indígenas - INAI)	Party	98,950	83,118	83,118
33.5	Barbados	Mapping Barbados' Cultural Industries and Reigniting Cultural Policy: Building Capacity and Strengthening Participation	2022-9970	Division of Culture, Prime Minister's Office	Party	89,250	74,970	74,970
33	Egypt	Culture for Development Lab	2022-9769	Alwan wa Awtar (الوان وأوتار)	NGO	99,981	83,984	83,984
32	Nigeria	Youth Empowerment, Gender Mainstreaming and Entrepreneurising Yoruba Oral Arts for Sustainable Development in Southwest Nigeria	2022-10302	Osun State University, Osogbo	Party	86,997	73,077	73,077
31	Botswana	The Cultural Marketplace	2022-9546	Impact Fund (Impact Fund Limited)	NGO	99,180	83,311	83,311
31	Colombia	<i>A mano alzada</i> : Mapping and Advancing the Potential of Colombian Comics within the Cultural and Creative Industries	2022-9811	Entrevinetas Corporation (Corporación Entreviñetas)	NGO	97,635	82,013	82,013

1. Project title according to the funding request.

Item 8 of the Agenda: Report on the consultation of UNESCO networks in view of improving consultations with micro, small and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises

Decision 16.IGC 8

The Committee,

1. Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/8 and information document DCE/23/16.IGC/INF.8,
2. Recalling its Decisions 15.IGC 9 and 14.IGC 16 as well as Resolution 8.CP 13 of the Conference of Parties,
3. Takes note of the results of the consultations of UNESCO networks and the proposals that aim to improve the Committee's consultations with micro, small, and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises within the framework of existing mechanisms;
4. Reaffirms the importance of undertaking regular consultations with micro, small, and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises in order to enable them to play a role as key players in the cultural and creative industries and therefore contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;
5. Decides to select Option 1 in order to consult micro, small, and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises and requests the Secretariat to organise an online exchange session, at its seventeenth session, with representatives of micro, small, and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises on the theme of strengthening the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment;
6. Further requests the Secretariat to transmit to the ninth session of the Conference of Parties the outcome of the consultations carried out in 2021 and 2022 and its decisions taken in this regard.

Item 9 of the Agenda: Proposals aiming to improve the engagement of cultural organizations and institutions to promote access to a diversity of cultural expressions

Decision 16.IGC 9

The Committee,

1. Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/9 and its Annexes,
2. Recalling its Decisions 15.IGC 10 and 15.IGC 12 as well as Resolution 8.CP 13 of the Conference of Parties,
3. Recognising the importance of involving cultural organizations and institutions in implementing the Convention, in accordance with its Articles 7, 12 and 15,
4. Takes note of the fruitful exchanges held online during this session with representatives of cultural organizations and institutions;
5. Further takes note of the three proposals presented in this document by the Secretariat and declares itself in favour of the first proposal;
6. Requests the Secretariat to submit a report to the ninth session of the Conference of Parties with the financial and administrative implications for the implementation of this option, for final approval by the Conference of Parties;
7. Further requests the Secretariat to transmit to the ninth session of the Conference of Parties the results of the reflections carried out in 2021, 2022 and 2023 as well as the decision taken with a view to encouraging the particular efforts made by cultural

organizations and institutions that are committed to providing access to the diverse cultural expressions from their territory as well as from around the world.

Item 10 of the Agenda: Collaboration with civil society to implement the Convention and proposals for the organization of the fourth Forum

Decision 16.IGC 10

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/10 and its Annexes,*
2. *Recalling its Decisions 1.IGC 5c, 1.EXT.IGC 5, 5.IGC 4, 8.IGC 7a, 9.IGC 9, 10.IGC 6, 11.IGC 6, 11.IGC 10, 13.IGC 10, 14.IGC 15 and 15.IGC 11 as well as the Resolutions of the Conference of Parties 2.CP 7, 4.CP 13, 6.CP 12, 7.CP 14 and 8.CP 13,*
3. *Reiterates its commitment to the fundamental role of civil society in the protection and the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in line with Article 11 of the Convention, since civil society provides the expertise that is needed to guarantee an inclusive, efficient, and human-rights based implementation of the Convention;*
4. *Regrets that the online exchange session with civil society organizations did not take place and requests the Secretariat to organize it at a later date;*
5. *Further requests the Secretariat to consult civil society actors to ensure their continued participation in the work of the governing bodies of the Convention;*
6. *Thanks the Secretariat for the steps undertaken to optimize the admission process of civil society organizations to the meetings of the governing bodies and also requests the Secretariat to continue optimizing the admission process in accordance with the Operational Guidelines related to Article 11 on the “Role and participation of civil society”;*
7. *Takes note with satisfaction of the launch of the open call for civil society written contributions in 2022 as well as of the analytical summary of the contributions received, and further thanks the organizations that have participated in this process;*
8. *Takes note of the low submission rate of written contributions having been received from organizations based in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in the Arab States region, and requests the Secretariat to take steps to address this imbalance, which is due in part to language barriers;*
9. *Further takes note of the preliminary proposals for the organization of the fourth edition of the Civil Society Forum (2023) following the consultations that were carried out;*
10. *Further requests the Secretariat to launch a call for volunteers amongst civil society organizations that have requested to participate in the meetings of the governing bodies and invites it to work in close cooperation with those that respond to the call for volunteers in order to prepare and organise the fourth edition of the Civil Society Forum.*

Item 11 of the Agenda: Report of the Committee on its activities and decisions (2022-2023)

Decision 16.IGC 11

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/11 Rev. and its Annex,*
2. *Recalling its Decision 15.IGC 12,*

3. *Adopts the report on its activities and decisions for the period 2022-2023;*
4. *Submits the report to the ninth session of the Conference of Parties.*

Item 12 of the Agenda: Date of the seventeenth session of the Committee

Decision 16.IGC 12

The Committee,

1. *Having examined document DCE/23/16.IGC/12,*
2. *Decides to convene its seventeenth session at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 27 February to 1 March 2024.*

Item 13 of the Agenda: Election of the members of the Bureau of the seventeenth session of the Committee

Decision 16.IGC 13

The Committee,

1. *Elects H.E. Mr Mounir Anastas, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the State of Palestine to UNESCO as Chairperson of the Committee;*
2. *Elects Mr Marko Krstic (Serbia) as Rapporteur of the Committee;*
3. *Elects Burundi, Jamaica, Norway, and Viet Nam as Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee.*

Item 14 of the Agenda: Other business

Decision 16.IGC 14

The Committee,

1. *Recalling Articles 1 and 12 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,*
2. *Taking into consideration the debates held during the current session on documents DCE/23/16.IGC/4, DCE/23/16.IGC/6, and DCE/23/16.IGC/9,*
3. *Takes note of the oral proposal to create prizes in the name of the “UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions” to be awarded through a partnership with an international or regional festival such as film festivals or cultural and artistic events in the fields of music, theatre, dance, books, etc. in order to raise awareness of the necessity to protect and promote cultural diversity and to enhance the visibility of the Convention;*
4. *Requests the Secretariat to reflect on the financial and administrative implications for the potential implementation of the above-mentioned proposal, taking into account the discussions held during this session, and to report to the Conference of Parties at its ninth session in 2023 in the framework of Decision 16.IGC 9.*