



## General Conference

40th session, Paris, 2019

# 40 C

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

40 C/92  
23 November 2019  
Original: English

### REPORT OF THE SC COMMISSION MAJOR PROGRAMME II –NATURAL SCIENCES AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION (IOC)



Job: 201914400

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### INTRODUCTION

- Debate 1:** Item 5.4 – Establishment of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO
- Item 5.13 – Proclamation of an International Day of Mathematics
- Item 5.21 – Proclamation of a World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development
- Item 5.33 – Proclamation of an International Year of Basic Sciences for Development in 2022
- Item 5.19 – Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)
- Item 5.20 – Technical, financial and legal aspects of the desirability of a recommendation on open science
- Debate 2:** Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2020-2021 (40 C/5)
- Part II.A: Major Programme II – Natural Sciences
- Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)
- Debate 3:** Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – Natural Sciences
- Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – Natural Sciences
- Debate 4:** Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
- Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
- Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2020-2021 (40 C/5)
- Part II.A: – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
- ANNEX I:** Summary of SC Commission’s Debates on Items 3.1 (Preparation of 41 C/4) and 3.2 (Preparation of 41 C/5)
- ANNEX II:** Draft Terms of Reference of the Open Science Advisory Committee
- ANNEX III:** Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

## INTRODUCTION

1. Upon the report of the Executive Board (206 EX/Decision 27.IV) and the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, the Commission elected Mr Stephen Simukanga, Zambia, to the office of Chairperson of SC Commission.

2. At its first meeting, on 18 November 2019, the Commission approved the proposals submitted by the Nominations Committee for the offices of Vice-Chairpersons. The following were nominated by acclamation:

*Chairperson:* Mr Stephen Simukanga (Zambia)

*Vice-Chairpersons:* Ms Liette Vasseur (Canada)  
Ms Claudine Le Marant de Kerdaniel (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)  
Mr Dendev Badarch (Mongolia)  
Mr Mouïin Hamzé (Lebanon)

3. The Commission then adopted the timetable of work submitted in document 40 C/COM SC/1 Prov.

4. The Commission devoted four meetings, on 18 and 19 November, to the examination of the nine items on its agenda.

## DEBATE 1

### **Item 5.4 – Establishment of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (40 C/18.V, VI, VII, VIII, IX)**

5. During its first meeting, the Commission examined Item 5.4 – Establishment of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO in the area of Natural Sciences (40 C/18.V to IX) without debate.

### **Part V. Establishment in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, of a “Regional Education and Research Center on Earthquake Risk Management and Resilience for West And Central Asia” at the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES) as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (40 C/18.V)**

6. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 3 of document 40 C/18 Part V. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* the 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,

*Also recalling* 207 EX/Decision 15 Part III,

*Having examined* document 40 C/18.V,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish at the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES) in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, a regional education and research centre on earthquake risk management and resilience for West and Central Asia as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), in accordance with the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of

institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), contained in document 37 C/18 Part I, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;

2. *Approves* the establishment at the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES) in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, of the Regional Education and Research Centre on Earthquake Risk Management and Resilience for West and Central Asia as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as recommended by the Executive Board at its 207th session (207 EX/Decision 15.III);
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

**Part VI. Establishment in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, of a “Global Research and Training Centre for Internationally Designated Areas (GCIDA)” as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (40 C/18.VI)**

7. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 3 of document 40 C/18 Part VI. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* the 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,

*Also recalling* 207 EX/Decision 15.IV,

*Having examined* document 40 C/18.VI,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal by the Republic of Korea to establish at Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, a global research and training centre for internationally designated areas (GCIDA) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), in accordance with the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in document 37 C/18.I, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
2. *Approves* the establishment at Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, of the Global Research and Training Centre for Internationally Designated Areas (GCIDA), as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as recommended by the Executive Board at its 207th session (207 EX/Decision 15.IV);
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

**Part VII. Establishment of an International Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Water System Dynamics (ICIReWaRD–Montpellier) as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (40 C/18.VII)**

8. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 3 of document 40 C/18 Part VII. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* the 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,

*Also recalling* 207 EX/Decision 15.V,

*Having examined* document 40 C/18.VII,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal by France to establish in Montpellier, France, an international centre for interdisciplinary research on water system dynamics” (ICIReWaRD-Montpellier), as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2);
2. *Takes note* of the deviations between, on the one hand, the model agreement for centres and institutes under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in document 37 C/18 Part I and, on the other hand, the draft agreement between UNESCO, the Government of France and the University of Montpellier,
3. *Approves* the establishment in Montpellier, France, of the International Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Water System Dynamics (ICIReWaRD-Montpellier) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as recommended by the Executive Board at its 207th session (207 EX/Decision 15.V);
4. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

**Part VIII Establishment of the “Regional Experimental Centre for Sanitation Technologies” (CERTS), in Canelones, Uruguay as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (40 C/18.VIII)**

9. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 3 of document 40 C/18 Part VIII. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* the 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,

*Also recalling* 207 EX/Decision 15.VI,

*Having examined* document 40 C/18.VIII,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal by Uruguay to establish in Canelones, Uruguay, the Regional Experimental Centre for Sanitation Technologies (CERTS) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), in accordance with the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in document 37 C/18 Part I, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
2. *Approves* the establishment in Canelones, Uruguay, of the Regional Experimental Centre for Sanitation Technologies (CERTS) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as recommended by the Executive Board at its 207th session (207 EX/Decision 15.VI);
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

**Part IX Establishment in Reykjavik, Iceland, of an “International Centre for Capacity Development – Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Societal Change” as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO (40 C/18.IX)**

10. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 3 of document 40 C/18 Part IX. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* the 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,

*Also recalling* 207 EX/Decision 15.VII,

*Having examined* document 40 C/18.IX,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal by Iceland to establish in Reykjavik, Iceland, an international centre for capacity development – sustainable use of natural resources and societal change as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) in accordance with the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) contained in document 37 C/18.I, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93;
2. *Approves* the establishment in Reykjavik, Iceland, of the International Centre for Capacity Development – Sustainable use of Natural Resources and Societal Change as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), as recommended by the Executive Board at its 207th session (207 EX/Decision 15.VII);
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

**Item 5.13 – Proclamation of an International Day of Mathematics (40 C/27)**

11. During its first meeting, the Commission examined item 5.13, entitled Proclamation of an international day of mathematics (40 C/27).
12. The representatives of 7 Member States took the floor.
13. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 11 of document 40 C/27, as amended by the Commission. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Having examined* document 40 C/27,

*Considering* that greater global awareness of, and enhanced education in, mathematical sciences are vital to addressing challenges in areas such as artificial intelligence, climate change, energy and sustainable development, and to improving the quality of life in both the developed and the developing worlds,

*Stressing* that the applications of mathematical sciences are vital for advances in all types of engineering and computer science, while responding to the growing needs of automation and providing access to information via the Internet (the World Wide Web) for the wellbeing of society,

*Noting* the broad and significant impact of recent initiatives of UNESCO's International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP) and the enthusiastic commitment of the global mathematics community to continue working with UNESCO on internationally coordinated science outreach and science technology engineering mathematics (STEM) programmes,

*Recognizing* that it is vital to ensure that the achievements of earlier UNESCO initiatives in science and education are effectively followed up and strengthened,

*Also recognizing* the importance of creating conditions conducive to gender equality in mathematical sciences by promoting successful female role models in science, from Hypatia of Alexandria to Maryam Mirzakhani, not forgetting Emmy Noether, Sophie Germain or Mary Winston Jackson,

*Further recognizing* the contributions of all civilizations to advances in mathematical sciences contributing to their universality, as far back as the Upper Palaeolithic era in Africa with the Ishango bones, which may be the oldest trace of human mathematical representations,

*Acknowledging* the driving role of the International Mathematical Union in the conception of an international day of mathematics, as well as in the organization and mobilization of partners around this day,

1. *Decides to proclaim* 14 March as the International Day of Mathematics;
2. *Invites* the Director-General to:
  - (a) promote the celebration of the International Day of Mathematics;
  - (b) encourage Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, universities, research centres, civil society organizations, schools and other local stakeholders to actively participate in the event in a manner that each considers most appropriate and without any financial implications for UNESCO's regular budget;
  - (c) take the opportunity of this International Day of Mathematics to launch new and innovative projects in order to strengthen capacities in the field of mathematics in Member States;
3. *Invites* Member States to provide extrabudgetary funds to allow the Director-General to ensure the participation of UNESCO in the promotion and celebration of the International Day of Mathematics.

#### **Item 5.21 – Proclamation of a World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development (40 C/64)**

14. During its first meeting, the Commission examined item 5.21, entitled Proclamation of a World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development (40 C/64).

15. The representatives of 9 Member States took the floor.

16. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 9 of document 40 C/64, as amended by the Commission. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Having examined* document 40 C/64,

*Considering* that greater global awareness and understanding of the role of engineering in modern life is essential to mitigate the impact of climate change and advance sustainable development, especially in Africa and the small island developing states (SIDS),

*Stressing* that engineering is essential for economic advancement and for the implementation of new technologies and the application of science, including for basic needs of food, health, housing, roads and transport, water, energy and management of the planet's resources,

*Noting* the broad and significant impact of recent initiatives of UNESCO's programmes in the basic and engineering sciences and the enthusiastic commitment of the international engineering community to continue to work with UNESCO on internationally coordinated advocacy activities,

*Recognizing* that it is vital that the achievements of earlier UNESCO initiatives in science and education are effectively followed up and strengthened,

*Also recognizing* the commitment of UNESCO and its Member States to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as it will contribute to interdisciplinary and human sciences for and with society to advance the SDGs,

*Further recognizing* the need to address gender segregation in engineering by showcasing important engineering role models and developing programmes to encourage more girls to consider engineering as a career,

*Recognizing* that engineering has been changing the world for millennia and that the new rapidly emerging technologies are an opportunity for positive transformation that leaves no one behind,

*Acknowledging* the driving role of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) together with the Federation of African Engineering Organizations (FAEO), Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP), Pan-American Federation of Engineering Societies (UPADI), European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI), International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFEES), and more than 75 other institutions including women-in-engineering networks and engineering academies, in the conception of a world engineering day for sustainable development, as well as in the organization and mobilization of partners for celebrations and events annually around this day,

1. *Welcomes* and *endorses* the proposal of the Executive Board to proclaim a world engineering day for sustainable development;
2. *Proclaims* 4 March of every year World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development;
3. *Invites* Member States to provide extrabudgetary funds to enable the Director-General to ensure the participation of UNESCO in the promotion and celebration of World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development.

**Item 5.33 – Proclamation of an International Year of Basic Sciences for Development in 2022 (40 C/76)**

17. During its first meeting, the Commission examined item 5.33, entitled Proclamation of an International Year of Basic Sciences for Development in 2022 (40 C/76).

18. The representatives of 12 Member States took the floor.

19. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution and its title proposed in paragraph 14 of document 40 C/76, as amended by the Commission. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

**Proclamation of an International Year of Basic Sciences  
for Sustainable Development**

*The General Conference,*

*Having examined* document 40 C/76,



*Recalling* that the Ministerial Round Table on The Basic Sciences: The Science Lever for sustainable Development, held during the 33rd session of the General Conference, called upon UNESCO to “place greater emphasis on promoting the basic sciences and science education with a view to the attainment of a science culture as a precursor of a knowledge-based society worldwide, through various means available at UNESCO, and in particular the recently launched flagship International Basic Sciences Programme” (document 185 EX/11),

*Also recalling* United Nations General Assembly resolutions 70/212 (22 December 2015) on International Day of Women and Girls in Science and 68/220 (20 December 2013) on science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, in which it recognized that full and equal access to and participation in science, technology and innovation for women and girls of all ages is imperative for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

*Considering* the Organization’s Global Priority Africa, and *recognizing* that science, as a universal public good is an important tool for the achievement of the African Union Agenda 2063,

*Stressing the need* to build on the potential of UNESCO’s International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP),

*Also considering* the high value for humankind of basic sciences, and that enhanced global awareness of, and increased education in, the basic sciences is vital to attain sustainable development, and to improve the quality of life for people all over the world,

*Stressing* that the applications of basic sciences are vital for advances in medicine, industry, agriculture, water resources, energy planning, environment, communications and culture, and that basic sciences rupture technologies respond to the needs of humankind by providing access to information and increasing societal well-being, and promoting peace through improved collaboration,

*Noting* the broad and significant impact of recent initiatives of UNESCO’s International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP) and the enthusiastic support for an international year of basic sciences for sustainable development,

*Recognizing* that it is essential to ensure that existing gains from previous initiatives of UNESCO in science and education are effectively followed up and strengthened,

*Emphasizing* the importance of basic sciences to launch a rational and innovative thinking and a knowledge-based society,

1. *Welcomes* 207 EX/Decision 45;
2. *Invites* the Director-General to support all efforts leading the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim 2022 as International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development, including a broader participation of women.
3. *Recommends* that the United Nations General Assembly at its 75th or 76th session, adopt a resolution declaring 2022 as United Nations International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development.

**Item 5.19 – Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) (40 C/62 and Corr., 40 C/LEG/15)**

20. During its first meeting, the Commission examined item 5.19, entitled Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) (40 C/62 and Corr.) as amended by the Legal Committee at its fourteenth meeting (40 C/LEG/15).

21. The representatives of 22 Member States took the floor.

22. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopts, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 4 of document 40 C/LEG/15, as amended by the Commission. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* 39 C/Resolution 87 and 206 EX/Decision 8,

*Having examined* documents 40 C/62 and Corr. and 40 C/LEG/15,

1. Approves the amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-1GC) as set out in the Annex III to document 40 C/92.

**Item 5.20 – Technical, financial and legal aspects of the desirability of a recommendation on open science (40 C/63 and Add.)**

23. During its first, second and third meetings, the Commission examined item 5.20, entitled Technical, financial and legal aspects of the desirability of a recommendation on open sciences (40 C/63 and Add.).

24. The representatives of 49 Member States and 2 non-governmental organizations took the floor.

25. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 5 of document 40 C/63 Add., as amended by the commission. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recalling* the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,

*Having examined* documents 40 C/63 and 40 C/63 Add,

1. *Recognizes* the need for a new standard-setting instrument on open science, in the form of a recommendation;
2. *Takes note* of the terms of reference of the Open Science Advisory Committee, as contained in Annex 2 to document 40 C/63 Add, as amended, and *invites* the Director-General to ensure the Member States-driven nature of this Committee;
3. *Also invites* the Director-General to initiate, in accordance with the applicable rules and provided the resources are available, the process of elaborating a draft text of a new standard-setting instrument on open science, in the form of a recommendation;

4. *Requests* the Director-General to hold at least one category II intergovernmental meeting *in presentia* with a view to the elaboration of a recommendation on open science;
5. *Also requests* the Director-General to take all necessary measures to ensure an inclusive consultative process leading to a recommendation on open science;
6. *Further invites* the Director-General to submit to it at the earliest possible session (preferably for the 41st session) the draft text of a UNESCO recommendation on open science in accordance with the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution.

26. During its second and third meetings, the Commission made amendments to the draft terms of reference of the Open Science Advisory Committee contained in Annex II of document 40 C/63 Add., as in Annex II to document 40 C/92.

## DEBATE 2

**Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2020-2021. Part II.A: Major Programme II – Natural Sciences** (40 C/5 and Corrigenda, 40 C/6 and Add., 40 C/8, 40 C/REP/10, 40 C/REP/11, 40 C/REP/12, 40 C/REP/13, 40 C/REP/14)

27. During its third and fourth meetings, the Commission examined item 4.2, entitled – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2020-2021. Part II.A: **Major Programme II – Natural Sciences** (40 C/5 and Corrigenda, 40 C/6 and Add., 40 C/8, 40 C/REP/10, 40 C/REP/11, 40 C/REP/12, 40 C/REP/13, 40 C/REP/14).

28. The representatives of 25 Member States, 1 observer and 1 non-governmental organization took the floor.

### Draft resolutions proposed in document 40 C/5 (Volume 1)

29. The Commission took note of the intergovernmental and international scientific programmes Reports for the period 2018-2019: the International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB, 40 C/REP/10); the Councils of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGCP, 40 C/REP/11); the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP, 40 C/REP/12), the Steering Committee of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP, 40 C/REP/13) and the Scientific Board of the International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP, 40 C/REP/14).

30. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02000 of Volume 1 of document 40 C/5 concerning **Major Programme II – Natural Sciences** as amended by the Commission and by:

- 40 C/DR.6 (Uganda)
- The appropriated regular programme budget of UNESCO as recommended in document (40 C/14 Rev.) and the Joint meeting of APX Commission and all Programme Commissions at its first meeting. The resolution contained in paragraph 02000 foresees an integrated budget amount under all sources of funding of \$157,182,300 for Natural Sciences, of which \$46,509,200 is to be allocated to the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) for the period 2020-2021 in document 40 C/5 Volume 1, it being understood that this amount is subject to adjustments in the light of the Joint meeting of the APX Commission and all Programme Commissions, and the decisions taken by the General Conference.

The resolution in paragraph 02000 reads as follows:

*The General Conference*

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General:

- (a) to continue implementing during the period 2020-2021 the plan of action for Major Programme II (as adopted by means of 39 C/Resolution 13), structured around the following two strategic objectives, and corresponding to three main lines of action, with special emphasis on Africa, gender equality, least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), as well as youth and the most vulnerable segments of society, including indigenous peoples;
- (b) to resort also in the implementation of the plan of action for Major Programme II to South-South and North-South-South cooperation, as complementary modalities for delivery of the programme and to continue to develop partnerships with civil society, the private sector, organizations of the United Nations system, and other international organizations at all stages of programme development, in order to:

**Strategic objective 4:** Strengthening science, technology and innovation systems and policies nationally, regionally and globally

- (i) assist in the creation and enhancement of enabling policy environments in Member States for science, technology and innovation (STI) for sustainable development, including the strengthening of the science-policy-society interface to advance equity and social inclusion. This will include the mobilization of the full spectrum of sciences to advance sustainable development and to address complex and interlinked global challenges in a transdisciplinary way. Capacity development for research and education in science and engineering will be advanced, including through the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), The World Academy of Sciences for the advancement of science in developing countries (TWAS), UNESCO-affiliated centres, Schools and Clubs, as well as UNESCO Chairs, and targeted activities in collaboration with a wide range of public and private partners, with special emphasis on using the power of information and communication technologies (ICTs);

**Strategic objective 5:** Promoting international scientific cooperation on critical challenges to sustainable development

- (ii) promote the generation and sharing of knowledge in relation to natural resources, and capacity development through international scientific collaboration for the protection and sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems, biodiversity, freshwater security and the rational management of the Earth's geological resources. Implementation will include, inter alia, the coordination of monitoring activities, the production of scientific assessments, catalyzing international collaborative projects, capacity development, and the designation of site-specific examples of sustainable development. The promotion of disaster risk reduction related to natural hazards will be pursued, in particular through developing capacity in early warning systems and assessments for floods, drought, landslides and other geohazards so as to reduce risks and enhance preparedness and resilience;

- (c) to allocate for this purpose for the period 2020-2021 the integrated budget amount under all sources of funds of \$157,182,300, of which \$46,509,200 to be allocated to the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP);

2. *Requests the Director-General:*

- (a) to implement the various activities authorized by this resolution in such a manner that the overall objectives of the two global priorities Africa and gender equality, pertaining to Major Programme II are also fully achieved;
- (b) to report periodically to the governing bodies, in the statutory reports, on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference and the achievement of the following expected results:

**Main line of action 1:** Harnessing the sciences, including the basic sciences, technology, and innovation and knowledge for sustainable development

- (1) Member States have strengthened their capacity to develop and monitor inclusive science, technology and innovation (STI) policy and knowledge systems;
- (2) Member States have strengthened their institutional and human capacity to produce, disseminate and apply science, technology and innovation (STI);
- (3) SIDS Member States, local communities and indigenous peoples have increased their capacity to mobilize local knowledge systems, and build synergies with science, so as to address challenges of sustainable development;

**Main line of action 2:** Advancing science for sustainable management of natural resources, disaster risk reduction and climate change action

- (4) Member States have strengthened management of both geological resources and geohazards risk towards the achievement of related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets;
- (5) Member States have strengthened management of natural resources towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets related to biodiversity and climate change resilience;
- (6) Member States have developed UNESCO-designated sites as learning sites for inclusive and comprehensive approaches to environmental, economic and social aspects of sustainable development;

**Main line of action 3:** Improving knowledge and strengthening capacities at all levels to achieve water security

- (7) Member States have strengthened their response to water security challenges towards the achievement of water-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, and other targets from relevant international water agendas;
  - (8) Member States have improved policies and increased institutional and human capacities for water security through scientific cooperation;
- (c) to include in the strategic results report (SSR) on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference a review of the main lines of action and their

expected results, including possible proposals for their continuation, reorientation, exit strategies or termination, all based on clear evaluation criteria and where applicable on Internal Oversight Service (IOS) evaluation and audits, and to present this review to the Executive Board at its 209th session;

- (d) to prepare a report on resource mobilization, including an analysis of UNESCO's overall strategic resource mobilization, and to present it to the Executive Board at its 209th session.

### **Recommendations of the Commission concerning draft resolutions not retained for adoption *in extenso***

31. The Commission informs the General Conference that the following draft resolutions were not retained for inclusion *in extenso* in the records of the General Conference:

- 40 C/DR.6 (Uganda), amendments to the wording of Strategic Objective 4 and Expected Result 1

32. Having examined this draft resolution and the Director-General's comments thereon (40 C/8), the Commission recommends to the General Conference not to retain this DR for adoption *in extenso*, while agreeing to modify the related performance indicator of expected result 1 as proposed in document 40 C/8.

- 40 C/DR.4 (Uganda), amendments to the wording of Expected Result 7

33. Having examined this draft resolution and the Director-General's comments thereon (40 C/8), the Commission recommends to the General Conference that the linkages between national, regional and international agendas be made more explicit in future strategic documents of the IHP (IHP-IX), including in the next Programme and Budget cycle and Medium-Term Strategy.

### **Draft resolutions withdrawn or not retained**

34. The Commission informs the General Conference that the draft resolution listed below was not retained:

- 40 C/DR.3 (Uganda)

### **Draft resolution for Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)**

35. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02100 of Volume 1 of document 40 C/5 as amended by:

- The appropriated regular programme budget of UNESCO as recommended in document (40 C/14 Rev.) and the Joint meeting of the APX Commission and all Programme Commissions at its first meeting. The resolution contained in paragraph 02100 foresees an integrated budget of \$46,509,200 to be allocated to the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) for the period 2020-2021 and authorizes the Director-General to support the Centre by providing a financial allocation of \$909,200 from the appropriated regular programme budget for that period in document 40 C/5 Volume 1, it being understood that these amounts are subject to adjustments in the light of the Joint meeting of the APX Commission and all Programme Commissions, and the decisions taken by the General Conference.

The resolution in paragraph 02100 reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recognizing* the important role of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), as a category 1 UNESCO centre, in fostering capacities and knowledge in theoretical and applied physics, pure and applied mathematics, in interdisciplinary areas including climate change, disaster risk reduction, renewable energy, quantitative biology and high-performance computing, with a special focus on developing countries, under Major Programme II,

1. *Requests* the ICTP Steering Committee and Scientific Council, in accordance with the ICTP Tripartite Agreement, country agreements, and this resolution, when approving the Centre's budget for 2020-2021:
  - (a) to continue implementing during the period 2020-2021, the plan of action for ICTP structured around three lines of action, with special emphasis on Africa, gender equality, LDCs and SIDS, as well as youth;
  - (b) to resort also in the implementation of the plan of action for ICTP to South-South and North-South-South cooperation, as modalities for delivery of the programme and to continue to develop partnerships with civil society, the private sector, organizations of the United Nations system, and other international organizations at all stages of programme development, in order to achieve ICTP's internal lines of action listed below;
  - (c) to reinforce ICTP capacity for research, education and networking in the physical and mathematical sciences, as well as in interdisciplinary areas, for the benefit of scientists from developing countries, ensuring that staff scientists remain at the forefront of their fields;
2. *Takes note* that the integrated budget for the ICTP for the period 2020-2021 is \$46,509,200 and *authorizes* the Director-General to support the Institute by providing a financial allocation from the appropriated regular programme budget for that period of \$909,200;
3. *Requests* the Director-General to report periodically to the governing bodies, in statutory reports and as part of the reporting of Major Programme II expected result 2, on the implementation of the following lines of action:
  - (1) developing countries' scientific expertise and interdisciplinary research expanded in the fields of renewable energy, quantitative biology and high-performance computing;
  - (2) developing countries' capacity strengthened in the basic sciences, in particular physics and mathematics;
  - (3) developing countries' access to scientific education and knowledge expanded, particularly through ICTs and regional collaboration;
4. *Expresses its gratitude* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Italian Government, and the Member States and other entities that have supported the Centre through voluntary contributions, and invites them to continue their support in 2020-2021 and beyond;

5. *Appeals* to Member States, international organizations, donor agencies, foundations and the private sector to provide or renew support to enable ICTP to implement and expand the activities envisaged herein.

### **Other recommendations**

36. The Commission endorses the recommendations of the Executive Board pertaining to the narrative text in **Volume 2**, as contained in document 40 C/6 and Addendum.

### **DEBATE 3**

**Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – Natural Sciences** (40 C/11 and 40 C/INF.18)

**Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – Natural Sciences** (40 C/7)

37. During its fourth meeting, the Commission examined items **3.1** entitled Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – **Natural Sciences** and **3.2** entitled Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – **Natural Sciences**

38. The representatives of 26 Member States took the floor.

39. A summary of the debate on these items is annexed to the present report.

### **DEBATE 4**

**Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission** (40 C/11 and 40 C/INF.18)

**Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission** (40 C/7)

40. During its fourth meeting, the Commission examined items **3.1** entitled Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission** and **3.2** entitled Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission**.

41. The representatives of 20 Member States and 1 Observer took the floor.

42. A summary of the debate on these items is annexed to the present report.

**Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2020-2021 (40 C/5) Part II.A: – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission** (40 C/5 and Corrigenda, 40 C/6 and Add., 40 C/8, 40 C/REP/9)

43. During its fourth meeting, the Commission examined item 4.2 entitled Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2020-2021 (40 C/5) Part II.A: – **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission**

44. The representatives of 5 Member States took the floor.

45. The Commission took note of the Report of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) on its Activities for the period 2018-2019 (IOC, 40 C/REP/9).

46. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03000 of Volume 1 of document 40 C/5 as amended by:



- The appropriated regular programme budget of UNESCO as recommended in document (40 C/14 Rev.) and the Joint meeting of the APX Commission and all Programme Commissions at its first meeting. The resolution contained in paragraph 03000 foresees an integrated budget amount under all sources of funds of \$26,835,700 to be allocated to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) for the period 2020-2021 in document 40 C/5 Volume 1, it being understood that this amount is subject to adjustments in the light of the Joint meeting of the APX Commission and all Programme Commissions, and the decisions taken by the General Conference.

The resolution in paragraph 03000 reads as follows:

*The General Conference,*

*Recognizing* the important role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), established as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, to promote international cooperation and to coordinate programmes in research, services and capacity building, in order to learn more about the nature and resources of the ocean and coastal areas and to apply this knowledge for the improvement of management, sustainable development, the protection of the marine environment, and the decision-making process of its Member States,

*Recalling* that the IOC plan of action for the period 2018-2021 contributes to the following two strategic objectives of the UNESCO Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021, as translated into the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021:

**Strategic objective 4:** strengthening science, technology and innovation systems and policies – nationally, regionally and globally

**Strategic objective 5:** Promoting international scientific cooperation on critical challenges to sustainable development

*Also recalling* that, in accordance with the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021 and Resolution XXVIII-3 of the IOC Assembly, the IOC plan of action is focused on the following four thematic programme areas (high-level objectives), with particular attention to ensuring that all its Member States have the capacity to meet these objectives:

- (i) Ensuring healthy ocean ecosystems and sustaining ecosystem services;
- (ii) Effective early warning for ocean hazards, including tsunamis;
- (iii) Increasing resiliency and adaptability to climate change and variability;
- (iv) Enhancing knowledge of emerging issues;

and supported by the conceptual framework of functions:

- A. Foster ocean research to strengthen knowledge of ocean and coastal processes and human impacts upon them (*ocean research*);
- B. Maintain, strengthen and integrate global ocean observing, data and information systems (*observing systems and data management*);
- C. Develop early warning systems and preparedness to mitigate the risks of tsunamis and other ocean-related hazards (*early warning and services*);
- D. Support assessment and information to improve the science-policy interface (*assessment and information for policy*);

- E. Enhance ocean governance through a shared knowledge base and improved regional cooperation (*sustainable management and governance*);
  - F. Develop institutional capacity in all of the above functions, as a cross-cutting function (*capacity development*);
1. *Requests* the IOC governing bodies, in accordance with the Statutes of the IOC that came into force through the adoption of 30 C/Resolution 22 of 16 November 1999 and with this resolution, when approving the Commission's programme and budget for 2020-2021:
    - (a) to continue implementing during the period 2020-2021 the plan of action for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) structured around the two abovementioned strategic objectives and corresponding to one main line of action, with special emphasis on Africa, gender equality, least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), as well as youth and the most vulnerable segments of society, including indigenous peoples, and in support of the below expected result adopted by IOC Executive Council resolution EC-XLIX.2;
    - (b) to resort also in the implementation of the plan of action for IOC to South-South and North- South-South cooperation, as modalities for delivery of the programme and to continue to develop partnerships with civil society, the private sector, organizations of the United Nations system, and other international organizations at all stages of programme development, in order to achieve the IOC high-level objectives and consistent with the purpose and functions of the Commission, as defined by its Statutes;
    - (c) to implement the various activities authorized by this resolution in such a manner that the overall objectives of the two global priorities Africa and gender equality, as pertains to IOC's area of competence, are also fully achieved;
  2. *Authorizes* the Director-General to allocate for this purpose for the period 2020-2021 the integrated budget amount under all sources of funds of \$26,835,700.
  3. *Requests* the Director-General to report periodically to the governing bodies, in the statutory reports, on the achievement of the following expected result:

**Main line of action 1:** Promoting knowledge and capacity for protecting and sustainably managing the ocean and coasts

- (1) Science-informed policies for reduced vulnerability to ocean hazards, for the global conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, and increased resilience and adaptation to climate change, developed and implemented by Member States, towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda;
4. *Appeals* to Member States, international organizations, donor agencies, foundations and the private sector to provide or renew support to enable IOC to implement and expand the activities envisaged herein.

#### **Other recommendation**

47. The Commission endorses the recommendation of the Executive Board pertaining to the narrative text in **Volume 2**, as contained in document 40 C/6.

## ANNEX I

### **Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) – Natural Sciences and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission; and**

### **Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) – Natural Sciences and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission**

#### **SUMMARY OF SC COMMISSION'S DEBATES**

1. An introduction was provided by the Director of Programme and Budget for the Bureau of Strategic Planning, the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences and the Assistant Director-General and Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).

#### **Natural Sciences**

---

2. During the debates, 26 delegates took the floor.

#### **Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) - Natural Sciences**

3. Delegations underlined that the overall approach of the Natural Sciences Sector, its forward looking interactions with Member States, and the high-level reflection group were welcome in the preparation of the 41 C/4. The two days dialogues, as well as the presentation during the interdisciplinary sessions were innovative, allowing to share Member States experiences and vision and take advantage of input from experts. They have helped shape a holistic view of the future preparation of the 41 C/4.

#### **Natural Sciences for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs**

4. The 41 C/4 should be built with the unhindered aim to deploy UNESCO's full potential towards achieving the **SDGs**, so as to fully demonstrate the added value of the Organization. Its convening power in the implementation of SDGs should be deployed to build on collaboration with experts, academia, the research community, civil society and the private sector in support to Member States. With a view to remaining relevant at the global level, the Organization will have to address needs of Member States, in particular African countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). To that effect, several Member States advocated for an increase in financial and human resources for the Natural Sciences Sector. While focusing on UNESCO's comparative advantage, coordination with other agencies and key stakeholders should be increased.

#### **Open, multidisciplinary science accessible for all**

5. The strategic document needs to fully mobilize the multidisciplinary and inter-sectoral approach of the natural sciences to raise advocacy, increase the partnerships and reposition science as central for sustainable development. The holistic approach and systems thinking proposed by the Sector were recognized by Member States as not only pertinent, but essential to address many of the interconnected targets of the SDGs and the coming challenges of our time.

6. Member States highlighted the importance of UNESCO's work in the area of science, technology and innovation policies, including through the use of UNESCO's tools such as SAGA, in mainstreaming gender equality in policies. In general, speakers called on UNESCO to support mechanisms that would allow expanding access to science, knowledge and technologies to developing countries.

7. Member States expressed strong support for enhanced work of UNESCO in the area of **Open Science**, on both the normative and the operational level, building on the 2017 Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers and the UNESCO Strategy on Open Access to scientific information and research. They underlined the game changing potential of open science to enhance the contribution of science to the implementation of the SDGs and to help consolidating evidence-informed **policies**. In that respect, they advocated for closer cooperation between the Natural Sciences and the Social and Human Sciences Sectors. Member States concurred that UNESCO's efforts should aim at making scientific research and data accessible to those who still lack them, recognizing the fundamental role of democratizing science, sustainable development and the fight against poverty and inequality. Human rights-based approach and academic freedom were highlighted as critical in this regard.

### **Basic sciences, engineering and STEM education – tools for driving innovation for sustainable development**

8. **Basic Sciences and engineering**, in particular in Africa, are key to address the challenges of our era. UNESCO should continue to develop its work in this area, and provide strategic leadership in terms of human capital development and institutions support for appropriate skills in implementing SDGs, focusing particularly on the needs, challenges and opportunities in Africa, LDCs and post-conflict countries. UNESCO should prioritize quality STEM education and should continue to implement its capacity-building mandate in the sciences through supporting, strengthening and extending its network of research institutes and affiliated centres. UNESCO should also focus on enhancing the ability of scientists and journalists to communicate on science and technology, contributing to a richer and more enlightened public debate on science-related issues.

### **Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks – active observatories for the achievement of the SDGs**

9. Delegates reaffirmed the role of **Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks** as global observatories contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, education for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction. Strong support was expressed to the **MAB Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves, as well as International Geoscience and Geopark Programme (IGGP)**. UNESCO's designated sites of these programmes are tools designed for achieving sustainable development and SDG's. These sites represent living and learning places that demonstrate how sustainable development is achieved in all types of ecosystems. Networking and increased cooperation between UNESCO designated sites, UNESCO Chairs and centres, as well as UNESCO Associated schools, should be further promoted. Member States called on UNESCO to enhance its support for capacity building and sharing good practices on sustainable management of designated sites, by providing technical expertise and guidance on the preparation of the nomination forms, in particular in less developed areas such as in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

### **Indigenous and local knowledge**

10. The connections of natural sciences with **Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK)**, were considered also relevant for the integrated work of UNESCO on biological and cultural diversity as well as climate adaptation and mitigation. UNESCO should play an active role in the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and increase focus on sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. UNESCO's work in this field should be developed in coordination and complementarity with that of other international bodies.

### **Disaster risk reduction**

11. A strong leadership by the Natural Science Sector was called for by Member States in the field of **Disaster Risk Reduction**. Due to climate change, urbanization and lack of preparedness, the impact of disasters on human, economy and biodiversity is severe as observed in African and SIDS

countries in recent years. Speakers highlighted that UNESCO should take a holistic approach in that respect under the Natural Sciences Sector as coordinator within the Organization, and utilizing expert networks to support Member States for disaster risk reduction, especially on the prevention.

### **Sustainable and peaceful water management for water security**

12. Many Member States advocated for continued emphasis on **water security**, putting special emphasis on the additional dimension that it provides to support Member States in climate change adaptation. Recalling that IHP is the only UN intergovernmental programme on water with implementation at local, regional and global scale, delegates noted that the scientific component of the IHP cannot be understated as it provides sound knowledge for better shaping water policies to ensure sustainable and peaceful water management. Hence, it is important to strengthen water governance. The work of the Organization in shared water resources including transboundary aquifers was mentioned. Transdisciplinary, innovative approaches for integrated solutions like ecohydrology, are needed to address climate change impacts on water resources in a sustainable way, with particular emphasis on designated sites. Capacity strengthening and water education should continue to be emphasized and driven towards the production of tangible results on the ground. The IHP-IX should frame the expected impact of IHP with the support and guidance of Member States and its intergovernmental council.

### **Priorities**

13. Member States stressed that UNESCO should make **Priority Africa** a reality. In the field of Sciences, there is an expectation to see more impact in the Continent and support on all aspects of its mandate. Measures should be taken to increase **gender equality** in research ecosystem. Delegates expressed the need for an enhanced focus of UNESCO on the gender dimension of STI, notably. **Youth** should be mainstreamed through all the programmes, including by ensuring youth participation in the decision-making processes for long-term and sustainable societies. The **SIDS** continue to emphasize their rising vulnerability to climate impacts and the need for science and inter-sectoral interventions and support to achieve the SDGs. UNESCO is called upon to expand on the current UNESCO SIDS Action Plan (2016-2021) in line with the Declaration of Samoa Pathway.

### **Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) - Natural Sciences**

14. Speakers called for increasing financial and human resources for the Natural Science Programme to ensure emphasis on scientific and transdisciplinary research, basic sciences, water, biodiversity, green economy and renewable energy.

15. The SDGs should drive the future programme and budget (41 C/5) and solutions for sustainable development should be drawn on scientific evidence and be articulated in the framework of multidisciplinary, transdisciplinarity and inter-sectorality. Designated sites represent a unique solution for sustainable development, and should benefit of UNESCO's scientific and technical supports in all its field of competence. To achieve the SDGs, a number of Member States indicated the need for the Natural Sciences Sector programmes to be impact-focused by taking into consideration the needs and priorities of countries.

16. Recalling that climate change and loss of biodiversity were global challenges, Member States underlined that UNESCO's role and cross-cutting capacity should be put high on the agenda; this should entail capacity building activities and strong local presence and collaboration with other UN agencies and other key stakeholders and knowledge-holders.

17. In general, the contribution of intergovernmental and international science programmes and other programmes related to and/or working at designated sites should be prominent in the new Programme and Budget document. Designated sites should bring together, as much as possible intergovernmental and international science programmes through a multi- and inter-sectoral

approach in addressing challenges related to climate change and biodiversity loss and the 2030 agenda at large.

18. The role of IHP should be further reinforced for water-related disaster risk and climate change adaptation related activities, water education (both formal and informal), and water science. Development and dissemination and operationalization of policies, tools and methodologies, platforms to address water scarcity, climate extremes such as floods and droughts should be stressed in building resilience of countries and communities.

19. The importance of supporting Member States' efforts to create and enhance enabling policy environments for STI for the SDGs and of strengthening the science-policy-society interface to advance equity and social inclusion were notably highlighted. Member States stressed also the need to work collaboratively across the UN system and for UNESCO to reaffirm its leading advocacy role in the area of STI policies. Continuation of UNESCO's ongoing initiatives in the area of inclusive and gender transformative STI policies was highly recommended by many Member States, notably in Africa. The critical role of UNESCO in capacity building (institutional and individual) in the area of inclusive STI policies and governance, and particularly for policy-makers, was mentioned as key in this regard. Member States attached importance to pursuing open science both on the normative and operational level.

20. For the next C/5, delegates requested a focus and an explicit link between science, technology and innovation and job creation, the productive sectors, markets and sustainable economic development. Member States stressed the importance of strengthening UNESCO's initiatives in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship with a particular focus on technopreneurship. Several Member States noted the need for UNESCO's support for comprehensive policy advice on building national capacity in governing their innovation ecosystem.

21. Member States also noted the need to better align and integrate science in the joint UN agenda and work at country level, by including STI components and other relevant science issues in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF, now renamed the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework).

22. Member States acknowledged UNESCO's unique role and expressed their support to the continuity of its work at the interface between science, policy and indigenous and local knowledge, for achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Member States from the SIDS and from the Pacific region made an express appeal for UNESCO to prioritize the SIDS and participate in joint actions for addressing climate-related disasters and harnessing local and indigenous knowledge in the fight against climate change.

### **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)**

---

23. During the debate, 20 Member States and 1 observer took the floor.

24. ADG/IOC introduced this item. He recalled the functional autonomy and dual governance of the IOC within UNESCO, as defined in IOC Statutes approved by the UNESCO General Conference, and the fact that many of the present Member States' representatives attended the 30th session of the IOC Assembly, 26 June – 4 July 2019, and are already aware of the preliminary proposals for the next Draft Medium-Term Strategy. The Secretariat also took on board the guidance provided by Member States of UNESCO during the "Dialogue" meeting of 19 July 2019.

### **Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4)**

#### **IOC: key for implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Samoa Pathway for Sustainable Development**

25. ADG/IOC assured the delegates that the IOC approaches this Medium-Term Strategy, 2022–2029 with a clear understanding of its enhanced responsibility. The development of a sustainable ocean economy in response to the 2030 Agenda, the Samoa Pathway that frames IOC action targeted at SIDS, as well as the emergence of an international legally binding instrument on conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) under the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea and the increasing recognition of the role of the ocean in climate change, invoke stronger accountability of the ocean science and the IOC towards the global community.

### **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030**

26. In preparing the Implementation Plan for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 (“the Decade”), the IOC aims at bringing the ocean science to a new level needed to inform decisions, stimulate and maintain efficient actions and policies for sustainable use and protection of the ocean. Through a transformative approach to generating actionable scientific knowledge at the service of decision-makers, it will also allow for a powerful thrust in implementing the global priorities collectively agreed by Member States.

27. Several Member States expressed their support to the preliminary proposals for the Draft Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2029 as discussed at the 30th session of IOC Assembly. The key priority areas and their alignment with the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on but not limited to SDG 14, received general support.

28. A majority of Member States highlighted that the Decade offers an exceptional opportunity to maximize the societal benefits of all IOC programmes. For that, the IOC should bring together the scientific communities, the governmental decision-making system, and a broader set of stakeholders within its Member States, including the private sector and the civil society as a whole, and strive to create an efficient science-based integrated ocean management.

29. Delegates noted that this objective can only be achieved through a truly inclusive approach, based on equity and diversity, weaving social, human and economic sciences into the Commission’s strategy. Reaching out to indigenous coastal communities would bring experience, history and body of knowledge of benefit to all.

### **Enhancing inclusivity and linkages with Global UNESCO priorities**

30. IOC should ensure that the two Global UNESCO Priorities – Africa and Gender – are mainstreamed in all its strategic approach and reflected in its performance indicators for the Draft 41 C/5. IOC shall provide the science base necessary for the development of the Blue Economy, including in Africa, as outlined in the African Union’s Agenda 2063 (The Africa we want: A shared Strategic framework for inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development) and the 2050 Africa’s Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy). The 2050 AIM Strategy specifically recognizes the role of IOC/UNESCO in the promotion of scientific research and capacity development as well as transfer of technology in marine sciences.

31. It was also stressed that IOC’s engagement in support of SIDS shall continue to focus on the building of SIDS actions related to tsunami early warning systems, increased resilience to climate change and ocean-related hazards and the development of marine scientific and technological capacity of SIDS. A need to enhance the engagement of youth in IOC activities, especially in the Decade, was underlined by Member States.

### **Enhancing interdisciplinary and intersectoral cooperation**

32. Several Member States underlined that in order to make this transformative and inclusive approach truly effective, IOC shall continue building synergies with other UNESCO programmes and sectors, as well as with UN partners. IOC already enjoys cooperation with many UN agencies and

has on-going collaboration at the programmatic level and/or via co-sponsorship of joint programmes, notably with WMO. New forms of cooperation and, potentially, stronger formal links of IOC with UN partners could be explored based on the understanding that ocean science represents a crosscutting underpinning force for fulfilling mandates of several UN agencies. Such cooperative agreements will be especially promising for successful implementation of the Decade.

### **Improving financial resource allocation and boosting resource mobilization efforts**

33. Many Member States highlighted that the ability of IOC to deliver on its mandate and respond both to the ambitions placed on the Decade and its Member States aspirations and needs will require adequate resources. The Decade presents an unprecedented opportunity for expanding IOC's partnership base and boost fund-raising. At the same time, it is essential that there is sufficient sustainable resources for the core IOC programmes and regional subsidiary bodies that form the solid base of the Commission's comparative advantage.

### **Recognition of the SIDS and Pacific regions as part of UNESCO's priority areas**

34. Several Member States expressed the view that, with increasing vulnerability of the SIDS and Pacific regions to climate change and ocean-related hazards, the IOC, in cooperation with UNESCO at large, should seek to increase its efforts in giving SIDS priority attention.

## **Item 3.2 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5)**

### **Programmatic priorities**

35. In terms of programmatic priorities for the Programme and Budget 2022-2025 (41 C/5), the majority of Member States highlighted the importance of ocean observations and research that enable data collection and sharing, as well as the need to build Member States' resilience to ocean-related hazards through early warning and mitigation programs and to help them fully benefit from the opportunities of the ocean through maritime spatial planning.

36. IOC shall continue to focus its research on issues of crucial importance for sustainable development and to increase the capacity of the cutting-edge research through cooperation. In parallel, IOC will continue to enhance the capacity of all IOC Member States to conduct scientific research and benefit from its results. This pillar of the IOC capacity development work will include operationalization of the IOC Criteria and Guidelines on Transfer of Marine Technology (TMT) and the TMT Clearing House Mechanism.



## **ANNEX II**

### **Draft Terms of Reference of the Open Science Advisory Committee**

#### **1. Background**

Recognizing the potential of Open Science to democratize science and close the gaps in science technology and innovation, the Executive Board recommended the General Conference to invite the Director-General to initiate the process of elaborating a draft text of a new standard-setting instrument on Open Science in the form of a Recommendation, to be submitted for consideration by the General Conference at its 41st session (206 EX/Decision 9 and 207 EX/Decision 7).

In this context and further to the request of the Executive Board, the Director-General also presented a consolidated roadmap for a possible UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science (as contained in the Annex of the Executive Board Document 207 EX/7) describing the organization and the timeline of a consultative process leading to the adoption of a UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science in 2021.

As noted in the above-mentioned consolidated roadmap, the organization of the process leading to the possible adoption of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science in 2021 will be led by UNESCO Member States and:

- facilitated by an internal multisectoral UNESCO Open Science Team led by the Natural Sciences Sector;
- supported by a broad Open Science Partnership;
- guided by an Open Science Advisory Committee.

The current document provides the draft Terms of Reference of the Open Science Advisory Committee.

#### **2. Role of the Open Science Advisory Committee**

The Open Science Advisory Committee will be established by the Director-General of UNESCO to provide guidance and advice on the overall implementation of the Consolidated Roadmap for the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science as contained in the Annex of the Executive Board Document 207 EX/7.

Its role will be to guide the consultative process leading to the Recommendation by:

- providing expert and strategic advice;
- ensuring delivery of the process milestones;
- providing support with fundraising.

In addition, the Advisory Committee will be invited to:

- propose relevant institutions and stakeholders to join the Open Science Partnership so as to ensure its geographical representativeness and broad scope covering all scientific disciplines and systems of knowledge;
- propose experts to take part in the regional and thematic consultations taking into account gender and geographical balance;

- contribute to and review any documentation that will be produced to accompany the consultative process leading to the Recommendation;
- communicate broadly on the importance of the Recommendation and the related work of UNESCO.

### **3. Membership of the Open Science Advisory Committee**

#### **3.1 Members**

It is proposed that the Open Science Advisory Committee be composed of 30 members including:

- 4 representatives of Member States from each of the six electoral groups of UNESCO;
- 6 representatives of key scientific bodies and institutions dealing with Open Science;

#### **3.2 Guiding principles**

The selection of the members of the Advisory Committee will be done by the Director-General of UNESCO based on an open and transparent process taking into account the following principles:

- geographical balance;
- gender balance;
- expertise and competence in the field of Open Science.

#### **3.3 Election of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson**

At their first meeting, the Advisory Committee members will elect a chair and a vice-chair with the following responsibilities:

- setting the agenda for the meetings in consultation with the Secretariat;
- making sure that each meeting is planned effectively and that matters are dealt with in an orderly and efficient manner
- encouraging participation of all members of the Advisory Committee in the discussions;
- summarizing the conclusions of discussions, the decisions taken and the agreed follow up actions.

#### **3.4 Observers**

Observer(s) will be permitted to attend the meetings of the Advisory Committee. The observer should inform the Secretariat about its intention to attend the meeting no less than five business days before the scheduled meeting.

### **4. Operating procedures**

#### **4.1 Secretariat of the Advisory Committee**

The Secretariat will consist of the internal multisectoral UNESCO Open Science Team.

#### **4.2 Frequency of the Meetings**

The Advisory Committee meetings will be organized at least twice a year in line with the key steps of the implementation phase of the consultative process as foreseen in the Consolidated Roadmap. Depending on the funds available and/or the willingness of the Members of the Advisory Committee to self-fund, meetings will be conducted face-to face or virtually.

#### 4.3 Documents for the Meetings

The Agenda of the meetings will be set by the Advisory Committee Co-chairs in consultation with the Secretariat. The Secretariat will prepare and distribute the Minutes of the meetings. Any other documents to be considered by the Advisory Committee will be decided by the Advisory Committee Co-chairs in consultation with the Secretariat and the members of the Advisory Committee.

#### 4.4 Quorum and Decision-Making

Quorum for meetings will be attendance by a simple majority of Advisory Committee members. All decisions will be taken by consensus.

#### 4.5 Reporting of the decisions of the Advisory Committee

The results of the discussion of the Open Science Advisory Committee are reported to the Director-General of UNESCO, via the Chair of the Committee.

## ANNEX III

REVISION OF THE STATUTES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME (IHP)

Current text	Proposed text
<p><b>I.</b> An Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is hereby established within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.</p>	<p><b>I.</b> An Intergovernmental Council of the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP) is hereby established within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.</p>
<p><b>II.1.</b> The Council shall be composed of 36 Member States of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization elected by the General Conference at its ordinary sessions, taking due account of the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and appropriate rotation of the representatives of these States from the hydrological viewpoint in the various continents and of the importance of their scientific contribution to the Programme.</p>	<p><b>II.1.</b> The Council shall be composed of 36 Member States of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization elected by the General Conference at its ordinary sessions, taking due account of the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and appropriate rotation of these States in accordance with the significance of their involvement including through the provision of policy advice to Member States, in particular to decision and policy-makers, and other stakeholders.</p>
<p><b>II.2.</b> The term of office of the members of the Council shall begin at the close of the ordinary session of the General Conference at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second ordinary session of the Conference following it.</p>	<p><b>II.2.</b> The term of office of the members of the Council shall be of four years. The term of office of the members of the Council shall begin at the close of the ordinary session of the General Conference at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second ordinary session of the Conference following it.</p>
<p><b>II.3.</b> Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the term of office of one half of the members designated at the first election shall expire at the close of the first ordinary session of the General Conference following the session at which they were elected. The names of these members shall be drawn by lot after the first election by the President of the General Conference, it being understood that the outgoing members shall be replaced by members belonging to the same regional group.</p>	<p><b>II.3.</b> To promote diversity and inclusivity, voluntary terms limits of two consecutive mandates are recommended for Members of the Council.</p>
<p><b>II.4.</b> Members of the Council shall be immediately eligible for re- election.</p>	
<p><b>II.5.</b> The Council may make recommendations concerning its own membership to the General Conference.</p>	
<p><b>II.6.</b> The persons appointed by the Member States as their representatives on the Council shall preferably be experts in the field covered by the Programme and chosen among those persons who are playing a major part in the implementation of the activities related to the Programme in the said Member States.</p>	<p><b>II.4.</b> The persons appointed by the Member States as their representatives on the Council shall preferably be experts in the field covered by the Programme, taking due account of gender balance and chosen among those persons who are playing a major part in the implementation of the activities related to the Programme in the said Member States, respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Programme.</p>
<p><b>III.1.</b> The Council shall be responsible, within UNESCO's field of competence, for planning the International Hydrological Programme, defining its priorities and supervising its execution and in particular for:</p>	<p><b>III.1.</b> The Council shall be responsible, within UNESCO's field of competence, for planning the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme, defining its priorities and supervising its execution and in particular for:</p>
<p><b>III.1. (a)</b> guiding and supervising from the scientific and from the organizational point of view the implementation of the programme, including the relevant activities of the</p>	<p><b>III.1. (a)</b> guiding and supervising from the scientific and from the organizational point of view the implementation of the Programme, including the allocation of its budget as</p>

Current text	Proposed text
Regional Offices;	approved by the General Conference and relevant activities of the Field Offices as well as their coordination with headquarters; and ensuring contribution to the achievement of UNESCO's expected results and objectives.
<b>III.1. (b)</b> studying proposals concerning developments and modifications of the Programme and also plans for its implementation;	<b>III.1. (b)</b> studying proposals concerning developments and modifications of the Programme and also plans for its implementation;
<b>III.1. (c)</b> recommending scientific projects of interest to Member States and assessing priorities among such projects;	<b>III.1. (c)</b> recommending scientific projects of interest to Member States and assessing priorities among such projects;
<b>III.1. (d)</b> coordinating international co-operation of the Member States in the framework of the Programme;	<b>III.1. (d)</b> coordinating international co-operation of the Member States in the framework of the Programme;
<b>III.1. (e)</b> making any necessary proposals for coordinating the Programme with those conducted by all the international organizations concerned;	<b>III.1. (e)</b> making any necessary proposals for coordinating the Programme with those conducted by all the international organizations concerned;
<b>III.1. (f)</b> assisting in the development of regional and national projects related to the Programme;	<b>III.1. (f)</b> assisting in the development of regional and national projects related to the Programme;
<b>III.1 (g)</b> taking any practical or scientific measures that may be required for the successful implementation of the Programme.	<b>III.1 (g)</b> taking any practical or scientific measures that may be required for the successful implementation of the Programme.
	<b>III.1 (h)</b> Providing, in its areas of specialization, its formal input to the Draft Mid-Term Strategy C/4 and the Draft Programme and Budget C/5 documents of UNESCO
<b>III.2.</b> In performing its functions, the Council shall rely as much as possible on the activities of the National Committees established by Member States in accordance with the recommendation contained in paragraph 6 of resolution 18 C/2.232 and foster by all means their active participation on the Programme.	<b>III.2.</b> In performing its functions, the Council shall rely as much as possible on the activities of the National Committees established by Member States in accordance with the recommendation contained in paragraph 6 of resolution 18 C/2.232 and foster by all means their active participation on the Programme.
<b>III.3.</b> The Council shall make full use of facilities offered by the agreements or working arrangements between UNESCO and other inter-governmental organizations mentioned in Article VIII, paragraph 2 below.	<b>III.3.</b> The Council shall make full use of facilities offered by the agreements or working arrangements between UNESCO, water-related Centres and Institutes under the auspices of UNESCO, UNESCO Chairs, the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, Scientific Unions, Commissions and Associations, as decided by the Council.
<b>III.4.</b> The Council may consult on scientific questions all appropriate international non-governmental organizations with which UNESCO maintains official relations.  The International Council of Scientific Unions, its unions and associations, may give advice to the Council on questions of a scientific or technical nature.	<b>III.4.</b> The Council may consult on scientific questions all appropriate international non-governmental organizations with which UNESCO maintains official relations.  The International Science Council, its unions and associations, may give advice to the Council on questions of a scientific or technical nature.
<b>III.5.</b> The Council shall, whenever possible, attempt to co-ordinate the International Hydrological Programme with other international scientific programmes, in particular those of UNESCO.	<b>III.5.</b> The Council shall, whenever possible, attempt to co-ordinate the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme with other international scientific programmes, in particular those of UNESCO.
<b>IV.1.</b> The Council shall normally meet in plenary session once every two years. Extraordinary sessions may be	<b>IV.1.</b> The Council shall meet in ordinary session once every two years. The Council may meet in extraordinary

Current text	Proposed text
convened under the conditions specified in the Rules of Procedure.	session at the request of the Director-General, or at the request of the simple majority of its members, or by the decision of its Bureau.
<b>IV.2.</b> Each Council member shall have one vote, but it may send as many experts or advisers as it deems necessary to sessions of the Council.	<b>IV.2.</b> Each Council member shall have one vote, but it may send as many experts or advisers as it deems necessary to sessions of the Council.
<b>IV.3.</b> The Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.	<b>IV.3.</b> The Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.
<b>V.1.</b> The Council may establish committees to examine the implementation of certain major orientations of the Programme and to prepare appropriate recommendations to the Council. Such committees may include Member States of UNESCO which are not represented in the Council.	<b>V.1.</b> The Council may establish, as appropriate, committees including at regional/subregional level to examine the implementation of certain major orientations of the Programme and to prepare appropriate recommendations to the Council.
<b>V.2.</b> The Council shall define the terms of reference and tenure of each committee and working group thus established.	<b>V.2.</b> The Council may establish working groups of specialists to examine specific projects. These working groups, whose members shall serve in a personal capacity, may include nationals of Member States of UNESCO, which are not represented on the Council.
<b>V.3.</b> The Council may establish working groups of specialists to examine specific projects. These working groups, whose members shall serve in a personal capacity, may include nationals of Member States of UNESCO, which are not represented on the Council.	<b>V.3.</b> The Council shall define the terms of reference and tenure of each committee and working group thus established.
<b>V.4.</b> In the composition of committees and working groups, appropriate geographical distribution and adequate representation of regions where the problems occur might be sought.	<b>V.4.</b> In the composition of committees and working groups, appropriate geographical distribution, gender balance when relevant and adequate representation of regions where the problems occur might be sought.
<b>VI.1.</b> Regional committees may be established on the initiative of and by mutual agreement among Member States of the same region sharing a common hydrological interest.	
<b>VI.2.</b> The Council shall extend all possible assistance and help to regional committees thus established.	
<b>VII.1.</b> At the beginning of its first session following a session of the General Conference at which elections to the Council have been held, the Council shall elect a chairperson and four vice-chairpersons. These, with the chairperson of the previous Bureau, who shall be an ex-officio member, shall constitute the Council's Bureau. The composition of the Bureau so formed shall reflect an equitable geographical distribution. The members of the Bureau who are representatives of Member States of UNESCO shall remain in office until a new Bureau has been elected.	<b>VI.1.</b> The election of the Bureau shall take place during an extraordinary session of the Council, to be convened by the Director-General as soon as possible after the ordinary session of the General Conference, at which the members of the Council are elected.  The Council shall elect from amongst its Members, a Chairperson, four Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, on the basis of equitable geographical representation and to the extent possible gender equality; these shall constitute the Council's Bureau.
<b>VII.2.</b> The Bureau shall discharge the following duties:	<b>VI.2.</b> The Bureau shall discharge the following duties:
<b>VII.2. (a)</b> fix, in consultation with the Secretariat, the dates of the Sessions of the Council and of its committees and working groups, in accordance with the general guidelines of the Council;	<b>VI.2. (a)</b> fix, in consultation with the Council and the Secretariat, the dates of the Sessions of the Council and of its committees and working groups, in accordance with the general guidelines of the Council;
<b>VII.2. (b)</b> prepare the sessions of the Council, in	<b>VI.2. (b)</b> prepare the sessions of the Council, in

Current text	Proposed text
consultation with the Secretariat;	consultation with the Secretariat;
<b>VII.2. (c)</b> supervise the implementation of the resolutions of the Council, and report at each session of the Council, on the status of implementation of the prescribed phases of project execution and, in particular, follow the activities of the Council's committees and working groups;	<b>VI.2. (c)</b> supervise the implementation of the resolutions of the Council, and report at each session of the Council, on the status of implementation of the prescribed phases of project execution and, in particular, follow the activities of the Council's committees and working groups;
<b>VII.2. (d)</b> prepare for the Council all reports requested by the General Conference of UNESCO;	<b>VI.2. (d)</b> prepare for the Council all reports requested by the General Conference of UNESCO;
<b>VII.2. (e)</b> discharge all other duties which it may be assigned by the Council.	<b>VI.2. (e)</b> discharge all other duties, which it may be assigned by the Council.
<b>VII.3.</b> Meetings of the Bureau may be convened between meetings of the Council at the request of the Council itself, of the Director-General of UNESCO or of a Bureau member.	<b>VI.3.</b> Meetings of the Bureau may be convened between meetings of the Council at the request of the majority of the Members of the Council itself, of the Director-General of UNESCO or of a majority of the members of the Bureau.
	<b>VI.4.</b> Bureau shall communicate documents and coordinate with the regional groups in UNESCO about the upcoming Bureau meetings through appropriate means in a timely manner.
	<b>VI.5.</b> Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO, which are not Members of the Council may attend, as observers, the Bureau meetings.
	<b>VI.6.</b> Working documents of each Bureau meeting shall, as a rule, be communicated to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO one month before the meeting and shall be made available online. The final report of each Bureau meeting shall be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO and shall be made available online.
<b>VIII.1.</b> Representatives of Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO which are not members of the Council, may attend, as observers, without the right to vote, all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of its working groups.	<b>VII.1.</b> Representatives of Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO which are not members of the Council, may participate, as observers, without the right to vote, at all sessions of the Council, and meetings of the Bureau, of its committees and of its working groups.
<b>VIII.2.</b> Representatives of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency may take part, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of its working groups.	<b>VII.2.</b> Water-related Centres and Institutes under the auspices of UNESCO and of UNESCO Chairs, the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, Scientific Unions, and entities with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements, may send observers to the Council sessions, its committees and working groups subject to the provisions of the Rules of Procedure
<b>VIII.3.</b> Representatives of the International Council of Scientific Unions, of its Committee on Water Research and of its affiliated International Association of the Hydrological Sciences and International Association of Hydrologists, of the International Association for Hydraulic Research, of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, the International Commission of Large Dams and of the International Water Resources Association may take part, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of its working groups.	

Current text	Proposed text
<p><b>VIII.4.</b> The Council shall determine the conditions under which other international governmental or non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend its meetings, without the right to vote, whenever questions of common interest are discussed.</p>	<p><b>VII.3.</b> The Council shall determine the conditions under which other international governmental or non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend its meetings, without the right to vote, whenever questions of common interest are discussed.</p>
<p><b>IX.1.</b> The Secretariat of the Council shall be provided by the Director-General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, who shall place at the Council's disposal the staff and other means required for its operation.</p>	<p><b>VIII.1.</b> The Secretariat of the Council shall be provided by the Director-General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, who shall place at the Council's disposal the staff and other means required for its operation.</p>
<p><b>IX.2.</b> The Secretariat shall provide the necessary services for all sessions of the Council and meetings of its Bureau, committees and working groups.</p>	<p><b>VIII.2.</b> The Secretariat shall provide the necessary services for all sessions of the Council and meetings of its Bureau, committees and working groups and, resources permitting, for the regional/sub-regional committees.</p>
<p><b>IX.3.</b> The Secretariat shall take any measures required in order to co-ordinate the execution of the international programmes recommended by the Council and shall take all steps required to convene the sessions of the Council.</p>	<p><b>VIII.3.</b> The Secretariat shall take any measures required in order to co-ordinate the execution of the international programmes recommended by the Council and shall take all steps required to convene the sessions of the Council.</p>
<p><b>IX.4.</b> The Secretariat shall assemble all proposals sent in by members of the Council, other Member States of UNESCO and the international organizations concerned, with regard to the formulation of international projects under the Programme, and shall prepare them for examination by the Council. It shall maintain liaison with the National Committees referred to in Article III, paragraph 2 above, and inform them of the Council's recommendations.</p>	<p><b>VIII.4.</b> The Secretariat shall assemble all proposals sent in by members of the Council, other Member States of UNESCO and relevant international organizations concerned, with regard to the formulation of the strategic plans for the implementation of the IHP and of other international initiatives, flagships and projects under the Programme, and in alignment with the approved C/4 and C/5 documents, and shall prepare them for examination by the Council. It shall maintain liaison with the National Committees referred to in Article III, paragraph 2 above, and inform them of the Council's recommendations.</p>
<p><b>IX.5.</b> In addition to the services which it renders to the Council, the Secretariat shall co-operate closely with the respective secretariats of the international governmental and non-governmental organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2 above; it shall for this purpose take part in inter-secretariat co-ordination meetings as necessary.</p>	<p><b>VIII.5.</b> In addition to the services which it renders to the Council, the Secretariat shall co-operate closely with the respective secretariats of the international governmental and non-governmental organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2 above; it shall for this purpose take part in inter-secretariat co-ordination meetings as necessary.</p>
	<p><b>VIII.6.</b> The Secretariat shall report, or coordinate the report of all UNESCO activities on water, to the IHP Council.</p>
<p><b>X.1.</b> The international programmes of hydrological investigations recommended by the Council to Member States for concerted action on their part shall be financed by the participating Member States according to the commitments which each state is willing to make. The Council may, however make recommendations to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the other organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2, above, concerning assistance to Member States for the development of hydrological research or the implementation of some particular aspects of the Programme. If UNESCO and the said organizations accept such activities and if the Member States concerned signify their agreement, these organizations shall undertake to finance the related activities in accordance with the provisions of their respective constitutions and regulations.</p>	<p><b>IX.1.</b> The international programmes of hydrological investigations recommended by the Council to Member States for concerted action on their part shall be financed by the participating Member States according to the commitments which each state is willing to make. The Council may, however make recommendations to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the other organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2, above, concerning assistance to Member States for the development of hydrological research or the implementation of some particular aspects of the Programme. If UNESCO and the said organizations accept such activities and if the Member States concerned signify their agreement, these organizations shall undertake to finance the related activities in accordance with the provisions of their respective constitutions and regulations.</p>



Current text	Proposed text
<p><b>X.2.</b> Member States shall bear the expense of participation of their representatives in sessions of the Council and its committees. The running expenses of the Council and its subsidiary organs shall be financed from funds appropriated for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO.</p>	<p><b>IX.2.</b> Member States shall bear the expense of participation of their representatives in sessions of the Council, its committees and of its working groups. The running expenses of the Council and its subsidiary organs and travel expenses of the representatives of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States members of the IHP Council to meetings of the Council and its Bureau shall be financed from funds appropriated for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO.</p>
<p><b>X.3.</b> Voluntary contributions may be accepted and established as trust funds in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and administered by the Director-General of that Organization. The Council shall make recommendations to the Director-General on the allocation of such contributions for international projects within the Programme.</p>	<p><b>IX.3.</b> Voluntary contributions may be accepted and established as trust funds and special accounts in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and administered by the Director-General of that Organization. The Council shall make recommendations to the Director-General on the allocation of such contributions for international projects within the Programme.</p>
<p><b>XI.1.</b> The Council shall submit reports on its activities to the General Conference of UNESCO at each of its ordinary sessions. These reports shall also be communicated to the other international organizations mentioned in Article VIII, paragraphs 2 and 3, above, and to all National Committees for the International Hydrological Programme.</p>	<p><b>X.1.</b> The Council shall submit reports on its activities to the General Conference of UNESCO at each of its ordinary sessions, which shall be made available online. These reports shall also be communicated to the other international organizations mentioned designated in Article VII, paragraph 2, to all National Committees, Members and non-Members of the Council for the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme, water-related Centres under the auspices of UNESCO.</p>
<p><b>XI.2.</b> The Council may receive from other international organizations reports concerning the Programme.</p>	<p><b>X.2.</b> The Council may receive from other international organizations reports concerning the Programme.</p>
	<p><b>X.3.</b> The Council shall receive reports from the UNESCO Water Family<sup>1</sup> members regarding their activities concerning the Programme.</p>

<sup>1</sup> The UNESCO Water Family is a network aimed at supporting the implementation of UNESCO's water programmes and the Organization's strategic goals by providing resources and expertise. It is composed of category 1 and 2 centres and institutes, UNESCO Chairs, the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), the IHP Secretariat and specialists from UNESCO Field Units, as well as IHP National Committees. Centres also strengthen the Programme by hosting secretariats of different IHP initiatives. The functioning of Category 2 Centres is regulated by the "Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO" approved by the General Conference at its 37th session (Document 37 C/Resolution 93, consultable on [https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/37-C-Resolution\\_93\\_EN.pdf](https://ich.unesco.org/doc/src/37-C-Resolution_93_EN.pdf)). In the light of this strategy, IHP has also provided itself with its "IHP Strategy for UNESCO's Category 2 Water-related Centres" (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002218/221850E.pdf>).