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# Beretning om Danmarks deltagelse i UNESCO's 39. generalkonference

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**30. oktober – 14. november 2017**

## Forord

Denne beretning fra UNESCO's 39. generalkonference 2017 er redigeret af den permanente danske delegation ved UNESCO i Paris i samarbejde med Undervisningsministeriet, Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet, Kulturministeriet og Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission.

Det indledende afsnit, som giver et overblik over samt en vurdering af generalkonferencen, er forfattet af Undervisningsministeriet og delegationen i Paris, mens den øvrige del af beretningen – referat af arbejdet i de fem programkommissioner og i den administrative kommission – er sammenskrevet af Undervisningsministeriet og delegationen på baggrund af bidrag fra de danske repræsentanter i de respektive kommissioner.

Arbejdsdokumenter fra generalkonferencen kan findes på UNESCO's dokumentdatabase: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/generalconference/39/documents>.

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## Danmarks deltagelse i UNESCO's 39. generalkonference 2017 – fokuspunkter og resultater

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – UNESCO – blev stiftet efter 2. Verdenskrig med det klare mandat at fremme varig fred, menneskerettigheder og ligeværdig udvikling gennem globalt samarbejde indenfor uddannelse, videnskab, kultur og kommunikation. Danmark var med i forreste række blandt de stiftende medlemslande.

I perioden 30. oktober – 14. november 2017 gennemførte UNESCO sin 39. generalkonference med deltagelse af alle 195 medlemslande og 11 associerede medlemmer, herunder Færøerne.

### Hovedpunkter på generalkonferencens dagsorden

Hovedpunkter på generalkonferencens dagsorden var følgende:

- Med afsæt i FN's Verdensmål at vedtage et nyt 4-årigt program, der fokuserer UNESCO's indsats på støtte til medlemslandenes politik- og praksisudvikling til fremme af verdensmålene for bæredygtig udvikling, samt på varetagelse af UNESCO's globale ledende rolle i forhold til kvalitetsuddannelse til alle (SDG 4), kultur og kulturarvs rolle for udvikling og bæredygtighed (SDG 11), bæredygtig forvaltning af verdenshavene (SDG 14) og til sikring af ytringsfrihed og fri adgang til information (SDG 16).
- Efter indstilling fra styrelsesrådet at vælge den tidligere franske kulturminister Audrey Azoulay til ny generaldirektør for organisationen for de næste fire år.
- At vedtage et nyt samlet budget for de kommende to år på samme niveau som hidtil. USA's udtræden af organisationen pr. 31. december 2018 får ikke umiddelbart nogen yderligere budgetmæssige konsekvenser, da USA ikke har betalt sit medlemsbidrag siden 2010.
- At vedtage et omfattende sæt af anbefalinger for styrket reform af organisationens governance med større effektivitet, relevans og strategisk-programmatisk sammenhængskraft som mål.

### Danmarks deltagelse i 39. generalkonference

Danmarks delegation til UNESCO's 39. generalkonference blev ledet af undervisningsminister Merete Riisager, der er UNESCO-ansvarlig minister på regeringens vegne. I denne egenskab holdt undervisningsministeren Danmarks hovedindlæg i plenumdebatten d. 3. november. Hun lagde heri bl.a. vægt på uddannelse for demokratisk dannelse og medborgerskab, forsvar for kunstnerisk frihed, ytringsfrihed og journalisters sikkerhed samt beskyttelse af kulturarv i konflikt. Ministeren ønskede også Audrey Azoulay fra Frankrig tillykke med valget som UNESCO's kommende generaldirektør og sagde, at Danmark har store forventninger til UNESCO's reform og resultater under hendes ledelse.

Herudover afholdt undervisningsministeren bilaterale møder med undervisningsminister i Sverige, Gustav Fridolin, og med topledelsen i UNESCO, repræsenteret ved vicegeneraldirektør Getachew Engida. Ministeren var også vært for en frokost med deltagelse af bl.a. Norges undervisningsminister, Henrik Asheim, samt

to danske ansatte i UNESCO, Vibeke Jensen og Louise Haxthausen, der er direktører for UNESCO's arbejde for uddannelse, kultur og frie medier i henholdsvis Pakistan og Irak.

Efter ministerens afrejse mødtes den danske delegation, under ledelse af departementschef i Undervisningsministeriet Jesper Fisker, med UNESCO's kommende generaldirektør Audrey Azoulay, der gjorde et særdeles positivt, samarbejdsorienteret og handlekraftigt indtryk. Jesper Fisker tilsagde Azoulay Danmarks støtte til fortsat reform og resultatorientering af UNESCO's vigtige arbejde. Som opfølgning udarbejdes et fælles nordisk brev til generaldirektøren med nordiske budskaber om organisationens udfordringer og anbefalede reforminitiativer, herunder i forhold til governance.



*Departementschef Jesper Fisker og den danske delegations møde med Audrey Azoulay d. 3. november.*

Udover undervisningsministeren og embedsmænd i Undervisningsministeriet, deltog også repræsentanter fra Kulturministeriet, Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet samt formand og medlemmer af Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission og medarbejdere i Danmarks permanente repræsentation ved UNESCO i Danmarks delegation til generalkonferencen. En samlet oversigt over delegationen findes i bilag 1.

### **Danmarks fokuspunkter og resultater under UNESCO's 39. generalkonference**

Gennem mere end 20 indlæg og aktiv deltagelse i udformning af generalkonferencens beslutninger indenfor alle programområder opnåede delegationen generelt god lydhørhed og gennemslagskraft for danske synspunkter og interesser. Eksemplerne herpå fremgår af rapporterne fra de seks programkommissioners arbejde på de følgende sider. Her skal derfor blot omtales de væsentligste resultater, hvor Danmarks deltagelse i UNESCO's 39. generalkonference gjorde en markant forskel.

I forhold til **reform**, så var Danmark ledende i generalkonferencens vedtagelse af ikke mindre end 130 anbefalinger til styrkelse og effektivisering af governance i organisationen, der omfatter op mod 50 beslutningsfattende råd og komiteer indenfor forskellige faglige programmer og konventioner. Anbefalingerne omhandler bl.a. mainstreaming af god praksis og styrkelse af programmatisk og strategisk sammenhæng med beslutninger og prioriteter vedtaget af generalkonferencen. En afgørende uenighed mellem medlemslande drejede sig om forslag om større rotation og mere inkluderende governance ved fastsættelse af mak-

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simum varighed af mandatperioder i UNESCO's Styrelsesråd. Forslaget blev kraftigt modarbejdet af flere større medlemslande, men det blev vedtaget med overvældende majoritet.

I forhold til **uddannelse** og generalkonferencens diskussioner om sikring af kvalitetsuddannelse til alle (SDG 4), blev det positivt bemærket, at Danmark i flere indlæg nævnte, at vi opfatter det som et naturligt element i kvalitetsuddannelse at give eleverne adgang til 'comprehensive sexuality education', der understøtter unge i at tage ansvar for hinanden og mestre deres liv. I global kontekst er dette ikke et selvfølgeligt perspektiv. Denne profilering er fint i tråd med regeringens handlingsplan til opfølgning på FN's verdensmål, hvori det indgår som en selvstændig målsætning at opretholde " Danmarks rolle som aktiv international fortaler for ligestilling og seksuel og reproduktiv sundhed og rettigheder". I samarbejde med UNESCO's sekretariat overvejes relevant opfølgning og involvering af flere medlemslande.

I forhold til **kultur og kunstnerisk frihed**, var Danmark ledende i organiseringen af et dagsordenssættende nordisk side event om kunstnerisk frihed: "Setting a New Agenda: Partnerships for Artistic Freedom". Kunstnerisk ytringsfrihed er under pres på verdensplan. De deltagende aktører – stater, kunstnerforbund, advokater, domstole, menneskerettighedsinstitutioner – understregede behovet for styrket monitorering og implementering af eksisterende standarder og lovgivning om kunstneres frihed. Fra Danmark deltog skuespiller Katja Holm i debatpanelet, som repræsentant for kunstnere og i sin egenskab af formand for Dansk Skuespillerforbund og vicepræsident for FIA. Opfølgning og fortsat overvejelse af behovet for en global handlingsplan for kunstnerisk frihed vil bl.a. ske indenfor rammerne af UNESCO's 2005-konvention om beskyttelse og fremme af de kunstneriske udtryksformers mangfoldighed.

I forhold til **ungdomspolitik**, så spillede den danske ungdomsrepræsentant en afgørende rolle for at lande en konsensusbeslutning, der efterspørger en transparent og inkluderende involvering af unge, med fokus på national repræsentation samt inddragelse af ungdomsrepræsentanter i planlægning af kommende ungdomsfora og bedre sammenhæng og samspil med generalkonferencens dagsorden. Denne profilering er på linje med Danmarks strategi for unge i udviklingspolitik. Opfølgning heraf vil ske i forbindelse med forberedelse af forårets styrelsesrådsmøde i april 2018, hvor UNESCO's ungdomsarbejde forventes på dagsordenen og som tema for side event drevet af det europæiske UNESCO ungdomsnetværk.

I forhold til **ytringsfrihed og journalisters sikkerhed**, var Danmark en central aktør i diskussion om UNESCO's fortsat ledende rolle i UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity. Iran, Rusland og flere andre lande satte spørgsmålstejn ved definitionen af journalist, og hvem der bør omfattes af særlige beskyttelsesforanstaltninger, og der var uenighed om behovet for omtale af særligt kvindelige mediearbejderes udsatte position. Danmark spillede en aktiv rolle i forhandling af acceptable kompromisformuleringer herom. Løbende opfølgning herpå i UNESCO sker ved Danmarks aktive deltagelse i Group of Friends of Safety of Journalists.

### **Valg og nordisk samarbejde i UNESCO**

Der er i UNESCO et velfungerende nordisk samarbejde, såvel mellem de nordiske hovedstæder og UNESCO-nationalkommissioner som mellem de nordiske UNESCO-repræsentationer i Paris. Det drejer sig om substansspørgsmål og om udvikling af evt. fælles nordiske positioner. Det kommer også til udtryk i en veletableret nordisk rotationsordning i forhold til kandidaturer til forskellige UNESCO-organer, mest centralt i for-

hold til UNESCO's Styrelsesråd, hvor Danmark sidst var medlem i perioden fra 2009 – 2013. Ved generalkonferencen i år blev Finland indvalgt i Styrelsesrådet, hvor de afløser Sverige. Danmark har således fortsat adgang til information og indflydelse gennem det nordiske samarbejde og Finland. I respekt for den nordiske rotationsordning valgte Danmark at trække sit kandidatur til genvalg til Council for International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), til fordel for Sverige. Da dette var Danmarks eneste kandidatur, er situationen nu således, at Danmark ikke er medlem af noget organ i tilknytning til UNESCO's arbejde.

### Danmarks profil i UNESCO

Med velforberejdet og engageret deltagelse i generalkonferencens arbejde, bekræftede Danmark sin position som et aktivt og konstruktivt medlemsland i UNESCO, hvis stemme det er værd at lytte til. Dette er en privilegeret situation, som Danmark lagde grunden til gennem indsatsen i Styrelsesrådet fra 2009 – 2013, og senere opfølgning, og som det fremadrettet fordrer en vedholdende indsats at opretholde. En indsats, som udfordres af flere forhold.

Danmark er som nævnt ikke p.t. indvalgt i noget organ eller ekspertforum i UNESCO og har derfor ikke den platform for indflydelse. Og til forskel fra Finland, og særligt Norge og Sverige, der årligt giver store frivillige bidrag til UNESCO's arbejde, så har Udenrigsministeriet siden 2013 indstillet Danmarks ekstra bidrag. Dette betyder, at vi gradvist bliver aftagende interessante som samtale- og samarbejdspartnere i UNESCO, og i et vist omfang også i det nordiske samarbejde.

Som det fremgår af denne rapport, er UNESCO en vigtig platform og partner for Danmark og danske prioriteter i forhold til menneskerettigheder, herunder uddannelse og ligestilling, ytringsfrihed og frie medier samt kulturarv og bæredygtig udvikling. Ikke bare ude i verden, men også her i Danmark. Dette gælder ikke mindst i arbejdet med opfølgning på FN's Verdensmål, lokalt, nationalt og globalt.

På baggrund af Danmarks aktive og profilerede deltagelse i UNESCO's 39. generalkonference, er der et godt udgangspunkt, for fremadrettet at overveje, hvordan vi fortsat sikrer kvalificeret dansk deltagelse i UNESCO's arbejde, i det nordiske samarbejde og forstærker vores aktive bidrag, herunder gennem relevante kandidaturer til UNESCO's faglige programmer og konventioner.



*Fra General Policy Debate, hvor ministeren holdt Danmarks hovedindlæg d. 3. november.*



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## Afrapportering fra Kommissionen for reform og administrative forhold (APX), 31. oktober – 4. november

Fra Danmark deltog Jens Dalsgaard, generalsekretær for Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, Malene Nielsen Mansour, stedfortrædende permanent repræsentant ved Danmarks permanente delegation ved UNESCO og Dorthe Wendt, seniorrådgiver ved Danmarks permanente delegation ved UNESCO i APX-kommissionens arbejde.

Overordnet set prægede tre væsentlige sager drøftelserne: 1) opfølgning på anbefalinger om "governance reform" og rotation i UNESCO's Styrelsesråd, 2) manglende betaling af obligatoriske medlemsbidrag og 3) UNESCO's tilslutning til FN-systemets pensionsalder på 65 år. Danmark stod i spidsen for afgørelsen af vigtige dele af reformarbejdet, og de danske mærkesager blev vedtaget med overbevisende flertal. I lyset af UNESCO's budgetkrise afholdtes derudover en fælles nordisk udtalelse – på initiativ fra Danmark – om medlemslandes betalingspligt. Til gengæld forholdt Danmark sig passivt i en kompliceret og relativt kontroversiel sag om nye regler for UNESCO-ansattes pensionsalder. Alt i alt synes det overordnede resultat af kommissionens drøftelser at give grund til forsigtig optimisme. Der er banet vej for vigtige reformskridt, og fremadrettet bør indsatsen bestå i at sikre konkret opfølgning.

### **Governance reform – opfølgning og ny regel om rotation i UNESCO's Styrelsesråd**

Debatten viste bred opbakning til de knap 130 anbefalinger, der har væsentlige danske aftryk og er resultatet af to års arbejde i generalkonferencens reformgruppe. Dog vakte en anbefaling om rotation massiv modstand fra et dusin lande, der historisk set har permanent plads i UNESCO's Styrelsesråd (bl.a. Rusland, Kina og Frankrig). På baggrund af omfattende konsultationer på tværs af regioner gik Danmark i spidsen for planlægningen af en afstemning, der resulterede i en overbevisende sejr for rotationsprincippet (103 for og 12 imod). Derudover fik Danmark vedtaget et forslag om en ny håndbog for "Good Governance", der skal inspirere UNESCO's talrige mellemstatslige organer til konkrete reformtiltag i retning af øget programfokusering og resultatorientering.

### **Manglende betaling af obligatoriske medlemsbidrag til UNESCO**

Introduktion til dette punkt gjorde det krystalklart, at organisationen fortsat befinder sig i en budgetkrise. USA's gæld til organisationen (ca. USD 550 mio.) har gjort UNESCO særligt sårbar, når andre vigtige bidragsydere som Japan, Brasilien, Storbritannien, Saudi Arabien og Argentina er bagud med, eller ligefrem tilbageholder, deres pligtige medlemsbidrag. Imidlertid var det stort set kun de nordiske lande, der engagerede sig i sagen. Danmark holdt et fælles nordisk indlæg, der udtrykte bekymring for de manglende indbetalinger og samtidig understregede, at medlemsbidrag er grundlæggende for UNESCO som funktionel institution. Derudover støttede Danmark en svensk resolutionstekst med oplæg til nye strategiske dialogmøder om UNESCO's finansielle situation, der tager udgangspunkt i overordnede tendenser i FN-systemet. Endelige kan tilføjes, at generaldirektørens kabinet efterfølgende har kvitteret for Danmark og de øvrige nordiske landes indsats under debatten.

### **UNESCO's tilslutning til FN-systemets regler om pensionsalder**

I modsætning til lande som Tyskland, Frankrig, Sverige og Norge var dette punkt ikke en mærkesag for Danmark. Imidlertid viste drøftelserne, at spørgsmålet om hvornår den nye pensionsalder i UNESCO (fra 62 til 65 år) skal træde i kraft ligger mange lande på sinde, og at splittelsen er skarp. På trods af Frankrigs vældige engagement for at vente til 2020 – muligvis drevet af UNESCO's ledelse med franske Audrey Azoulay som ny generaldirektør – blev den endelige beslutning, som ønsket af Tyskland, at hæve pensionsalderen allerede pr. januar 2018.

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## Afrapportering fra Uddannelseskommissionen (ED), 1.-4. november

Fra Danmark deltog Laust Joen Jakobsen, områdeansvarlig for uddannelse i Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, Jens Dalsgaard, generalsekretær for den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, og Malene Nielsen Mansour, Deputy i Danmarks Permanente Delegation ved UNESCO i Uddannelseskommissionens arbejde.

Det centrale omdrejningspunkt for UNESCO's uddannelsesarbejde er FN's Verdensmål for sikring af kvalitetsuddannelse for alle og muligheder for deltagelse i livslang læring (SDG 4). De to strenge i uddannelsesprogrammet har fokus dels på støtte til medlemslandes udvikling af politik og praksis for sikring af kvalitet og reelle uddannelsesmuligheder for alle, og dels på UNESCO's rolle som ledende agentur og global koordinator af samarbejdet om SDG 4.

I tilknytning til generalkonferencen lancerede UNESCO publikationen Global Education Monitoring Report 2017/8, der er et udtryk for organisationens dagsordenssættende monitorerende arbejde. I år med fokus på "Accountability in Education: Meeting our Commitments". Med afsæt i solide data og analyser kortlægges forskellige aktørers medansvar for sikring af alles ret til uddannelse og bedst mulige faglige udbytte. Nationale regeringer er i sagens natur primært ansvarlige for sikring af retten til uddannelse, men rapporten belyser også det vigtige samspil med andre centrale aktører og niveauer som kommuner, skoleledelse, lærere, forældre, elever, virksomheder, medier og internationale organisationer. En vigtig diskussion, også i en dansk kontekst.

Temaet om accountability var således også øverst på dagsordenen i første del af mødet i Uddannelseskommissionen, hvor mange undervisningsministre deltog. Finlands minister bemærkede således at tillid er en afgørende forudsætning for læreres forvaltning af deres ansvar, hvilket blev fulgt op af Estlands minister, der understregede at også læreres professionelle autonomi er central for deres ansvar.

I forhold til generalkonferencens diskussion og vedtagelse af UNESCO's uddannelsesprogram, udtrykte Danmark støtte til UNESCO's globalt koordinerende rolle, og opfordrede til fortsat synergi og klar ansvars- og rollefordeling med andre internationale aktører som f.eks. Global Partnership for Education (GPE) og Education Cannot Wait (ECW). Vedrørende indholdet af kvalitetsuddannelse, så gav Danmark udtryk for positiv anerkendelse af UNESCO's vigtige bidrag til det videre arbejde med Uddannelse for Bæredygtig Udvikling, Globalt Medborgerskab og forebyggelse af radikaliserings gennem uddannelse. Det blev også positivt bemærket, at Danmark i flere indlæg nævnte, at vi opfatter det som et naturligt element i kvalitetsuddannelse at give eleverne adgang til helhedsorienteret seksualundervisning, der understøtter unge i at tage ansvar for hinanden og mestre deres liv. I global kontekst er dette ikke et selvfølgeligt perspektiv.

I Uddannelseskommissionen blev det endvidere med aktiv dansk støtte vedtaget at fortsætte konsultationer om en ny global konvention om gensidig anerkendelse af højere uddannelseskvalifikationer med henblik på endelig vedtagelse af konventionen på næste generalkonference i 2019. Konventionen har været

nogle år undervejs, og det er lykkedes at udvikle bred konsensus om, at en ny global ramme vil bidrage til styrkelse af akademisk mobilitet og globalt samarbejde indenfor videregående uddannelser. Den nye konvention skal bygge på god praksis indenfor de allerede eksisterende regionale konventioner, som f.eks. Lissabonkonventionen, der har haft stor betydning for udviklingen i Europa.

Det største tidsspilde i Uddannelseskommissionen udspillede sig på foranledning af Israel og føjede en politiserende dimension til kommissionens ellers konstruktive faglige drøftelse. I forbindelse med et beslutningsforslag om uddannelse og kultur i de besatte arabiske områder, der ved foregående generalkonferencer er blevet vedtaget ved konsensus, krævede Israel i år, at der skulle være afstemning om hver enkelt paragraf for sig. Efter langstrakte procedurediskussioner og afstemninger endte Israel alligevel med at acceptere konsensus. En forestilling, der af mange lande formodes primært at være opført for et hjemligt publikum og for yderligere at legitimere Israels tilbagetrækning fra UNESCO.

Bortset fra denne sidste parentes, forløb Uddannelseskommissionen godt og konstruktivt, og Danmarks deltagelse satte sig gode spor i debatten, som der løbende vil blive fulgt op på.



*Fra side eventet om lanceringen af UNESCO's uddannelsesrapport, Global Education Monitoring Report 2017/8, ved generalkonferencen d. 1. november 2017. Billedet til venstre viser Jens Dalsgaard, generalsekretær for Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, Bo Manderup-Jensen, formand for Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission og Laust Joen Jakobsen, medlem af Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, som deltager ved lanceringen.*

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## Afrapportering fra Naturvidenskabskommissionen (SC), 6.-7. november 2017

Fra Danmark deltog Jørgen Prosper Sørensen, chefkonsulent i Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet, Andreas Bruun, fuldmægtig i Undervisningsministeriet og Dorthe Wendt, seniorrådgiver ved Danmarks permanente delegation ved UNESCO i Naturvidenskabskommissionens arbejde.

Med tre indlæg i plenum markerede Danmark sine positioner ift. ligestilling, klimaforandringer, Afrika, havenes tilstand og Arktis. Det blev generelt værdsat, at også UNESCO's naturvidenskabssektor i sit forslag til program og budget forholder sig tæt til implementeringen af de relevante SDG'er og 2030-Agendaen samt til Paris-aftalen.

### **Vigtige dagsordenspunkter, diskussioner og beslutninger**

#### *Større synlighed af UNESCO's arbejde med ferskvand*

Med baggrund i de igangværende forhandlinger om en ny arkitektur for FN's arbejde med ferskvandsrelaterede problemstillinger, som skal styrke implementeringen af SDG 6 ønskede et flertal af medlemslandene med Mexico i spidsen af styrke programmets fokus på ferskvand og synliggøre UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP). Konkret var forslaget at indskrive et 3. overordnet fokusområde i programmet for på den måde at gøre opmærksom på, at UNESCO, også i et naturvidenskabeligt perspektiv, tager ferskvand og adgang hertil alvorligt. Titlen på det nye fokusområde i Naturvidenskabskommissionens program er: "Improving knowledge and strengthening capacities at all levels to achieve water security." Forslaget blev enstemmigt vedtaget, om end enkelte medlemsstater, herunder Danmark, i deres indlæg bemærkede at ferskvandsområdet var udmærket dækket under de to eksisterende fokusområder. Forslaget betyder ikke ændring i sektorens budgetallokering.

#### *Vedtagelse af strategi for UNESCO's arbejde med klimaforandringer for 2018 - 2021*

Opdateringen af UNESCO's strategi ift. organisationens arbejde med klimaforandringer, der er funderet på tværsektorielle initiativer, blev vedtaget med overvældende støtte. Kun USA talte imod strategien.

#### *Havenes tilstand - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's ledende rolle ift. SDG 14*

Generalkonferencens behandling af IOC's programforslag understregede den voksende betydning og anerkendelse, som UNESCO's havprogram har blandt medlemslandene. Programmet er i høj grad baseret på udvikling af stadigt mere sofistikerede monitorerings- og varslingsystemer og på national kapacitetsopbygning, og spiller direkte ind ift. Verdensmålene, især SDG 14. Danmarks indlæg fokuserede på den manglende opmærksomhed på Arktis og på ligestillingsperspektivet.

Sekretariatet medgav, at Arktis var for svagt markeret i programforslaget, og at man ville arbejde videre med området.

*UNESCO sites og centre i Danmark – øget synlighed af UNESCO's arbejde*

Det blev i det danske indlæg understreget, at de i Danmark etablerede UNESCO-sites og -centre bl.a. Odsherred Geopark, Møn og Nyord Man and the Biosphere Reserve, og Aalborg UNESCO Kategori 2 Center i Problem Based Learning in Engineering Science and Sustainability alle har været med til at sætte UNESCO på Danmarkskortet.

De vedtagne resolutioner er alle i overensstemmelse med Danmarks politik inden for områderne.

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## Afrapportering fra Kommunikation- og Informationskommissionen (CI), 6.-7. november 2017

Fra Danmark deltog Mogens Blicher Bjerregård og Michel Steen-Hansen, begge medlemmer af Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission samt Dorthe Wendt, seniorrådgiver ved Danmarks permanente delegation ved UNESCO i Kommunikation- og Informationskommissionens arbejde.

Med tre indlæg i kommissionen og en aktiv dansk indsats i de undertiden intense forhandlinger var Danmark med til at sætte dagsordenen med fokus på journalisters sikkerhed og kampen mod straffrihed samt Open Educational Resources (OER). Det blev generelt værdsat, at UNESCO's Kommunikations- og Informationssektor har taget lederskab ift. implementeringen af de dele af SDG 16.10, der omhandler adgang til information og fundamentale frihedsrettigheder, herunder ytringsfrihed.

### **Vigtige dagsordenspunkter, diskussioner og beslutninger**

*Styrke UNESCO's lederskab ift. journalisters sikkerhed og kampen mod straffrihed*

UNESCO's opfølgning på "UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity" blev ikke uventet et besværligt og tidskrævende punkt i CI-kommissionen. To temaer kom til at fylde debatten; definitionen af, hvad en journalist er og de trusler, som især kvinder er udsat for. Akkompagneret af Zimbabwe, Rusland og såmænd også Belgien gik Iran i spidsen for debatten om, hvordan en journalist skal defineres. Der blev heldigvis ikke lavet om på at fastholde en bred definition, da en snæver definition vil give autoritære regimer et værktøj til begrænsning af pressefriheden. Iran endte med at bede om en fodnote på dette spørgsmål for at få sine synspunkter noteret.

I forhold til kvindelige journalister modsatte Rusland sig som udgangspunkt at acceptere en paragraf om, at man i særlig grad skal bekæmpe de trusler og overgreb, kvinder i stigende omfang er udsat for. For at acceptere dette, insisterede Rusland på at få tilføjet en ny paragraf, der fastslår, at der er flest mænd, som bliver dræbt i konfliktområderne. Et kompromisforslag blev først vedtaget efter flere timers diskussion i en arbejdsgruppe, hvori Danmark aktivt deltog.

Det var de samme temaer som prægede debatten op til FN Generalforsamlingens (UNGA) vedtagelse af en ny resolution om journalisters sikkerhed den 21. november i år.

*Synlighed ift. Danida-støttet projekt for træning af dommerstanden i Afrika*

Flere gange under CI-kommissionens møde blev der henvist til det dansk-finansierede projekt i Afrika, hvor dommere og andre dele af retsvæsenet trænes i ytringsfrihed, pressefrihed og journalisters sikkerhed for at arbejde imod straffrihed. Der var stor ros til projektet, ikke mindst fra de afrikanske medlemslande.

*Etablering af et standardsættende instrument for Open Educational Resources (OER)*

OER-begrebet blev første gang introduceret af UNESCO i 2002 og betegner enhver type offentligt frit tilgængeligt undervisningsmateriale. OER bidrager til, at undervisere og institutioner frit kan dele, bruge og ændre uddannelsesmateriale af høj kvalitet, hvorved også lande og områder, der ikke umiddelbart har adgang til tilstrækkelige undervisningsmidler, har mulighed for at tilbyde kvalitetsundervisning.

Danmark understregede, at adgang til information og evnen til at bruge denne er en vigtig del for udvikling af et bæredygtigt samfund – ikke mindst i forhold til uddannelse og læring. Det blev under punktet påpeget, at et standardsættende instrument kunne være nyttigt ift. at styrke implementering af national og international lovgivning, politikudvikling og strategier inden for området samtidig med, at man via OER kan styrke det internationale samarbejde ift. SDG 4. Beslutningen beder generaldirektøren om til UNESCO's 40. generalkonference i 2019 at udarbejde et forslag til en rekommandation for Open Educational Resources.

### **Konkrete resultater af Danmarks indsats**

#### *Øget fokus på og tilslutning til danske prioriteter*

Danmark har under kommissionens arbejde klart bidraget til at få sat yderligere fokus på journalisters sikkerhed og kampen mod straffrihed, ytrings- og pressefrihed, adgang til information, og Media and Information Literacy. Det danske arbejde i Group of Friends of the Safety of Journalists har vist sig nyttigt, ift. at få indflydelse på beslutningerne og formidlet danske synspunkter.

#### *Styrket nordisk samarbejde*

Kommissionens arbejde var præget af et stærkt nordisk samarbejde, der var baseret på en solid nordisk koordinering forud for mødet, og hvor man under de konkrete punkter og diskussioner støttede op om hinandens kommentarer.

### **Opfølgning i Danmark og i Paris**

#### *National plan ift. journalisters sikkerhed*

For at styrke implementeringen af FN's handlingsplan for journalisters sikkerhed og kampen mod straffrihed er der for alle relevante partnere opstillet konkrete forslag til, hvorledes man hver især kan bidrage. Dette gælder således også ift. de enkelte medlemsstaters aktive deltagelse. Nogle lande er begyndt at udforme nationale retningslinjer for at sikre journalisters sikkerhed. I forlængelse af konferencen organiseret af Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission og International Media Support den 16. november 2017 om, hvad det internationale samfund kan og bør gøre, når det gælder journalisters sikkerhed, kunne man anbefale en styrket dansk indsats på området med deltagelse af regeringen, Danske Medier og Dansk Journalistforbund med henblik på at udfærdige en decideret plan for Danmarks indsats.



*Mogens Blicher Bjerregaard fra Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission deltog i arbejdet i Kommunikation- og Informationskommissionen på Danmarks vegne.*



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## Afrapportering fra Samfundsvidenskabskommissionen (SHS) – 7.-9. november 2017

Fra Danmark deltog Jørgen Prosper Sørensen, chefkonsulent i Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet, Jens Dalsgaard, generalsekretær for Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, Andreas Bruun, fuldmægtig i Undervisningsministeriet, Viktor Grønne, ungdomsrepræsentant i Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission og Dorthe Wendt seniorrådgiver ved Danmarks Permanente Delegation ved UNESCO i Samfundsvidenskabskommissionen.

Med fem indlæg i plenum og en aktiv indsats i forhandlingerne var Danmark med til at sætte dagsordenen i kommissionen – med fokus på danske prioriteter som ligestilling, Afrika, etiske principper ift. klimaforandringer, forskeres rettigheder, arbejdet med og for unge samt transparens og inklusion i arbejdsprocesser.

### **Vigtige dagsordenspunkter, diskussioner og beslutninger**

#### *Vedtagelse af deklaration om etiske principper for klimaforandringer*

Efter et langt forarbejde med mange konsultationer lykkedes det at vedtage en deklaration om etiske principper for klimaforandringer. Kun USA talte imod deklarationen. Et stærkt EU-samarbejde bidrog til, at deklarationen ikke gav anledning til problematiske fortolkninger af Paris-aftalen og UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

#### *Opdatering af rekommandation om forskeres vilkår*

Den globale udvikling har nødvendiggjort en opdatering af rekommandationen fra 1974 om forskeres vilkår. Danmark har siden processens begyndelse været fortalere for opdateringen, der bl.a. forholder sig til brug af informationsteknologi og data, beskyttelse af videnskabernes uafhængighed af politiske og økonomiske interesser samt forskningsetik og professionelle standarder. Brasilien og Rusland havde omstridte ændringsforslag, der efter en hurtig nedsat arbejdsgruppe med dansk deltagelse endte i en kompromisløsning. Opdateringen blev vedtaget inklusiv et forslag fra Holland med ti temaer, der vil lette implementering og monitorering af rekommandationen, som afspejler den reviderede rekommandation, og som vil kunne fungere som udgangspunkt for kommende implementering og monitorering samtidig med at være et slags Executive Summary til en lang tekst.

### **Konkrete resultater af Danmarks indsats**

#### *Øget fokus på og tilslutning til danske prioriteter*

Danmark fremhævede visioner for etiske problemstillinger ift. klimaforandringer, Afrika, forskeres status og ligestilling mellem kønnene, der gav genlyd i salen og fik støtte fra flere sider.

#### *Sikring af transparent og inkluderende ungdomsrepræsentation*

På ungdomsområdet førte Danmark an, både i plenum og i en arbejdsgruppe, for at sikre en transparent og inkluderende proces med fokus på bl.a. national repræsentation med henblik på at styrke UNESCO's arbejde med og for unge.

*Undgå yderligere belastning af UNESCO's budget*

I forhold til opfølgning på den sjette internationale konference for ministre ansvarlige for idræt og sport, MINEPS VI, der fandt sted i juli måned 2017 i Kazan, Rusland, så blev det på dansk initiativ tydeliggjort i beslutningen herom, at den videre opfølgning skal ske uden yderligere at belaste UNESCO's regulære budget, der i forvejen er under stort pres.



*Ungdomsrepræsentant i Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission, Viktor Grønne, deltog i Samfundsvidenskabskommissionen ved Generalkonference og holdt her Danmarks indlæg om UNESCO's arbejde med ungdom.*

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## Afrapportering fra Kulturkommissionen (CLT), 8. – 10. november

Fra Danmark deltog Per Nylykke, kontorchef i Kulturministeriet, Merete Ipsen, medlem af Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission Sofie Tolstrup, fuldmægtig i Kulturministeriet og Malene Nielsen Mansour, stedfortrædende permanent repræsentant ved Danmarks permanente delegation ved UNESCO i Kulturkommissionens arbejde.

To overordnede udfordringer dominerede debatten: UNESCO's klemte økonomi samt indsatsen mod ekstremistiske grupperes angreb på kulturværdier og kulturel diversitet i konfliktsituationer som f.eks. Syrien, Irak og Mali. Danmark deltog aktivt i diskussionerne og flere danske indspil blev samlet op af diverse samarbejdspartnere. Endvidere bidrog det nordiske kultursamarbejde, som koordineres af Danmark, til en stærk nordisk stemme på flere mærkesager. Danmark var desuden drivkraft på et nordisk side-event med fokus på kunstnerisk ytringsfrihed og UNESCO's normative værktøjer i den henseende. Den danske skuespiller Katja Holm deltog i debatpanelet.

### **Vigtige dagsordenspunkter, diskussioner og beslutninger**

#### *Program og budget*

Debatten gav indtryk af bred opbakning fra medlemslandene til UNESCO's kulturprogram, der fint afspejler FN's 2030-Agenda. Det er en ambitiøs dagsorden, og derfor støttede mange lande, inkl. Danmark, programmets klare fokus på kerneopgaverne inden for UNESCO's 6 kulturkonventioner. Mange lande anså skarp prioritering som en absolut nødvendighed i lyset af UNESCO's klemte økonomi og USA's gæld til organisationen (ca. USD 550 mio.). Danmark tilsluttede sig dette synspunkt og understregede behovet for at fortsætte reformprocessen i retning af optimering og effektivisering af konventionernes arbejdsmekanismer. Som inspirationskilde til yderligere reformtiltag pegede Danmark særskilt på det innovative og konstruktive arbejde under UNESCO's 2005-konvention, der sætter globale standarder for en mangfoldig kulturindustri. Konkret udtrykte Danmark tilfredshed med UNESCO's håndtering af statspartsrapportering, der danner grundlag for evidensbaserede policy-dialoger om tendenser og udfordringer med 2005-konventionens implementering. Endvidere lagde Danmark vægt på systemets fleksible arbejdsprocesser, der tillader tidssvarende initiativer – som f.eks. den dansk/nordiske satsning på skærpet global overvågning af kunstnerisk frihed.

#### *“UNESCO's action on cultural heritage protection in emergencies” og “Implementation of the 1970 Convention”*

Mange medlemslande tog ordet for at bakke op om UNESCO's indsats mod ekstremistiske grupperes angreb på kulturskatte. Danmark understregede kulturkonventionernes vigtige funktion, der supplerer den politiske bevågenhed med juridiske forpligtelser. Alle UNESCO's 6 kulturkonventioner var i spil, men debatten fokuserede særligt på 1954-konventionens 2. protokol, der beskytter kulturværdier i tilfælde af væbnet konflikt, samt 1970-konventionen, der bekæmper tyveri og plyndring.

Det blev fremhævet, at to permanente medlemmer af FN's Sikkerhedsråd – Frankrig og Storbritannien – fornylig har tiltrådt 2. protokollen, mens både Danmark og Sverige bekendtgjorde deres snarlige tiltrædelse og i øvrigt opfordrede til innovative UNESCO-tiltag, der kan fremme universel tilslutning. 1970-

konventionens betydning blev aktualiseret med Iraks indlæg, der fremhævede UNESCO som vigtig ressource for konfliktramte lande, hvor illegale arkæologiske udgravninger og videresalg er en del af hverdagen. Imidlertid var det gruppen af latinamerikanske lande, som fremsatte en særskilt resolution med ønske om at styrke 1970-konventionen. Flere vestlige lande frygtede, at initiativet åbnede op for en proces med omskrivning af den knap 50 år gamle konventionstekst. Norge stod derfor i spidsen for et ændringsforslag, der skulle forhindre dette. Efter massivt pres blev resolutionen vedtaget vha. et dansk kompromisforslag. Under drøftelsen påpegede Danmark vigtigheden af tilslutning til UNIDROIT-konventionen som supplement til 1970-konventionen.

### **Dansk/nordisk side-event om kunstnerisk frihed: "Setting a New Agenda: Partnerships for Artistic Freedom"**

Arrangementet blev afholdt som paneldebat med deltagelse af skuespiller Katja Holm, der talte kunstneres sag. Mellem 120-150 deltog, hvilket viser, at der er interesse for emnet. Tidsrammen betød, at der ikke var tid til debat i panelet men ikke var tid til input/spørgsmål fra salen. Arrangementet udtrykker det dansk/nordiske ønske om at arbejde videre med en handlingsplan om kunstnerisk frihed.



*Fra det dansk/nordiske side event om kunstnerisk ytringsfrihed d. 8. november. Skuespiller og formand for Dansk Skuespillerforbund, Katja Holm, ses i billedet til højre, hvor hun sidder med i debatpanelet ved arrangementet.*

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## Bilag 1 – Den danske delegation ved UNESCO's 39. generalkonference

### **Den danske delegation ved UNESCO's 39. generalkonference, 31. oktober – 14. november 2017 i Paris, bestod af følgende personer:**

Undervisningsminister Merete Riisager  
Delegationsleder

Klavs A. Holm  
Ambassadør for den danske OECD- og UNESCO-delegation  
Permanent delegeret  
Stedfortrædende delegationsleder

Jesper Fisker  
Departementschef  
Undervisningsministeriet  
Stedfortrædende delegationsleder

Jens Dalsgaard  
Generalsekretær for Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission  
Undervisningsministeriet

Bo Manderup-Jensen  
Formand for Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Lise Lotte Toft  
Kontorchef, Internationalt Kontor  
Undervisningsministeriet

Laust Joen Jakobsen  
Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Merete Ipsen  
Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Mogens Blicher Bjerregaard  
Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Michel Steen-Hansen  
Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Per Nylykke  
Kontorchef, Medier, Folkeoplysning og idræt  
Kulturministeriet

Viktor Grønne

Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Katja Holm

Den danske UNESCO-nationalkommission

Jørgen Sørensen

Chefkonsulent

Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet

Sofie Tolstrup

Fuldmægtig

Kulturministeriet

Andreas Bruun

Fuldmægtig

Undervisningsministeriet

Malene Nielsen Mansour

Stedfortrædende permanent repræsentant

Den permanente danske delegation ved UNESCO

Dorthe Wendt

Seniorrådgiver

Den permanente danske delegation ved UNESCO

Maj Blankenberg

Ministersekretær

Undervisningsministeriet

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## Bilag 2 – Danske indlæg i kommissionerne

### 1.1 Kommissionen for administrative og eksterne forhold (APX), 31. oktober – 4. november

#### Dagsordenspunkter i Kommissionen for administrative og eksterne forhold, hvor Danmark holdt indlæg:

1. Draft Programme and Budget 2018-19, Internal Oversight, Strategic Planning and Gender Equality (item 3.2)
2. Adoption of provisional budget ceiling (item 3.4)
3. Governance procedures and working methods of the governing bodies (item 5.1)
4. Proposals for dialogue between Member States and NGOs, including within the governing bodies (item 8.1)
5. Collection of Member States' Contributions (item 9.3)
6. Human Resources Management Strategy for 2017-2022 (item 10.6)

#### 1. Draft Programme and Budget 2018-19, Internal Oversight, Strategic Planning and Gender Equality (item 3.2)

Thank you Madam Chairperson,

Denmark would like to comment on three topics, which are of particular importance to us:

- International Oversight Service (part I.B of the Draft Budget)
- Strategic Planning (part II.B, chapter 3)
- Gender Equality Implementation (part II.B, chapter 2)

Overall, we agree with the proposed priorities, but we wish to convey some key messages to express both our support and expectations for the next biennium.

Firstly, Denmark highly appreciates UNESCO's Evaluation Policy, and we strongly encourage the Organization to take all necessary steps for its full implementation, in particular the 3% target for operational budget expenditure on evaluation. This is key for "evidence-based decision-making and organizational learning as well as accountability for results and programme effectiveness" as reflected in Expected Result no. 8. Secondly, strategic planning is essential for UNESCO's capacity to deliver on its mandate in a timely and impactful manner. Hence, Denmark welcomes the steps taken towards an Integrated Budget Framework, and strongly encourage the Organization to work on the house-wide resource mobilization strategy based on the findings of the new audit. This strategy along with the Structured Financing Dialogues are important tools for filling the funding gap.

Finally in regard to gender equality, Denmark would like to congratulate the Director General with the report about the many relevant gender equality activities that have taken place in all of UNESCO's major programmes. It is clear that the main work is being and should be done directly by the various Main Programmes. It is encouraging to see how in particular the Education and the Communication and Information Sectors have managed to put the gender equality issues high up on their agenda.

Likewise, we encourage other sectors and the IOC to give priority to gender equality both in their strategic reflections and in their concrete activities.

The Director General should also be commended for the fact that UNESCO has achieved a very high degree of gender equality in its staff, not least at the directors' level. This is an achievement UNESCO can be proud of and we hope that the coming Director General will continue on this good note.

Thank you for your attention!

## **2. Adoption of provisional budget ceiling (item 3.4)**

Thank you Madam Chairperson,

As starting point for our discussion on UNESCO's budget ceiling, Denmark wishes to reconfirm its commitment to UNESCO as an important partner for the achievement of the SDGs, not least for the implementation of SDG4.

Expectations are high, and repeatedly, we – Member States – call upon UNESCO to respond effectively to these demands. Overall, Denmark sees important steps taken in the right direction – For instance, the clear and visible alignment of UNESCO's programme and budget to the new Agenda.

A reasonable amount of resources is of course necessary to ensure a critical mass of activities – to make a difference – and reform efforts are not always for free neither. Hence, Denmark welcomes the recommendation of the Executive Board to appropriate a regular programme budget that reflects continuity of the overall budget level of the Organization – instead decrease.

This said, our analysis of recent reform efforts indicates that UNESCO is both willing and ready for change, but may not at this stage be fully equipped to live up to the ambitions.

Looking forward, Denmark encourages UNESCO to continue its reform agenda. We see three main lines of action:

1. Develop clear and concrete responses to UN Secretary-General Guterras' reform agenda;
2. Implement the recommendations of the General Conference on governance reform;
3. Continue reform efforts for focusing of activities, efficiencies and strengthening the evaluation culture;

Denmark looks forward to cooperating with Member States and the Secretariat.

Thank you for your attention!

## **3. Governance procedures and working methods of the governing bodies (item 5.1)**

Thank you, Madam Chairperson,

First and foremost, we wish to congratulate everyone in this room for the results that we have achieved after 2 years of hard, but constructive, work to improve governance;

The recommendations before us are comprehensive, and we are particularly glad to see clear recommendations on the further alignment of activities of the almost 50 different international and intergovernmental bodies and programmes;

It is essential if we wish to increase the focus of UNESCO's C/5 programme;

This said, Denmark would like to comment very shortly on three issues, in particular:

1. Term limits – we support the approval of recommendation number 20



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2. Follow-up working group – recommendation no. 134 should reflect what has been broadly supported at previous discussions: that the WG should meet for 1 day in preparation for the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference
  3. Our draft amendment – which is a technical amendment that ensures that the follow-up tool we already agreed upon is ready in 2018 when the implementation phase starts, fully in line with the timeline endorsed by the EXB in October;

Thank you for your attention!

#### **4. Proposals for dialogue between Member States and NGOs, including within the governing bodies (item 8.1)**

Thank you Madame Chairperson,

Denmark would like to thank the Director General for her report and for the collaboration with the Nordic countries. Denmark is very satisfied with the excellent work done by the trainees from the Nordic countries mapping the different forms of collaboration between various UN agencies and NGO's.

Denmark strongly supports the multi-stakeholder approach when it comes to find solutions to the global challenges and we are of the opinion that civil society organizations have their rightful place within such a multi-stakeholder framework.

We look forward to the report to be submitted to the 205 Executive Board about how UNESCO can make better use of the existing modalities for cooperation with NGO's and eventual possibilities for including NGO representatives in UNESCO's governing bodies.

Thank you for your attention!

#### **5. Collection of Member States' Contributions (item 9.3)**

Thank you Madam Chairperson

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Nordic countries: Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the Faroe Islands, and my own country Denmark.

Let me start by thanking the Secretariat for its report. It gives a clear overview of the collection of Member States' contributions and cashflow implication – essential information, especially in the current context of the budget crisis.

While we appreciate to see that, many Member States do their utmost to ensure prompt payment of contributions, the Nordic countries wish to express concern about the non-payment of assessed contributions by some Member States.

It goes without saying that the Organization's financial situation is seriously challenged, and we are of course deeply concerned by the severe implications for delivery of regular programme activities.

All Member States should meet their obligations. Assessed contributions are the bedrock for UNESCO as well as for the UN system. We wish to see a strong and efficient UN system fit to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.

The international community is facing common global challenges, and the UN family is under heavy pressure to deliver sustainable solutions. Our position is clear: we will strive for committed global cooperation and multilateral answers. We, the Nordic countries, see our assessed contributions to UNESCO as an investment to achieve our common commitments.

UNESCO can count on the assessed contributions of the Nordic countries.  
Thank you for your attention!

## **6. Human Resources Management Strategy for 2017-2022 (item 10.6)**

Thank you Madame Chairperson,

Denmark would like to congratulate UNESCO with the excellent results when it comes to gender equality among UNESCO staff. It is not least impressive to note the balance that has been reached at the management level. UNESCO can be proud of this achievement, which may serve as inspiration for other UN agencies.

UNESCO has many highly qualified and hard working staff members and it is important to find resources for securing them access to relevant further education. UNESCO is the educational agency of the UN and it is somewhat ironic that the Organisation itself does not live up to what it recommends Member States to do. In order for the staff to be able to continue to offer dynamic and qualified service to Member States, it must have access to further education.

It is also disappointing to see that, once again, UNESCO has not been able to put in place an effective policy for staff mobility. UNESCO's activities are developed and implemented both at headquarters and in the field offices and it must be made mandatory for all professional staff, including at the management level to gain experience from a variety of duty stations.

We are looking forward to follow the implementation of the Human Resources Management Strategy.  
Thank you for your attention!

## **1.2 Uddannelseskommissionen (ED), 1.-4. november**

### **Dagsordenspunkter i Uddannelseskommissionen, hvor Danmark holdt indlæg:**

1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2) / UNESCO's role in the implementation of the SDG4-Education 2030 Agenda (item 4.8)
2. Progress report on the preparation of a global convention on the recognition of higher education qualifications (item 6.1)
3. Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1960 Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (7.1) / Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (7.2)

### **1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2) / UNESCO's role in the implementation of the SDG4-Education 2030 Agenda (item 4.8)**

Denmark would like to thank the Director-General for the Draft Programme and Budget. We are happy to see SDG4 clearly and systematically incorporated in the proposal.

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In relation to MLA 1 we fully support UNESCO's efforts to assist Member States in enhancing inclusive quality education for all. In light of the very limited resources we encourage UNESCO to reinforce focus on upstream policy advice and capacity building, including monitoring.

From our perspective of quality education we would like to share a few observations on UNESCO's work: Global Citizenship Education and Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education are important areas and of high priority for Denmark. We appreciate ongoing work, but we would like UNESCO's intersectoral approach to be reflected more strategically – This is UNESCO's comparative advantage, it should be fully exploited!

As a natural dimension of quality education, we also welcome UNESCO's action on the relationship between education and health, and the need for a more comprehensive approach to school health. UNESCO clearly has a mandate and a role to play in this area. Within the same field, we are also particularly interested in UNESCO's work on learning environments that are free from gender- and LGBT-related violence and bullying. The new monitoring platform appears promising, and UNESCO can count on our supportive voice.

And of course, quality education is depending on qualified teachers. Especially, we appreciate UNESCO's dialogue with key partners, including teachers' unions and associations. Teachers are influential and powerful forces for equity, access and quality in education – they are key to the achievement of SDG4.

In relation to MLA 2 Denmark welcomes UNESCO's role in the implementation of the SDG4. Global commitment alongside regional, national and local engagement is key to its achievement.

Denmark also wishes to stress the importance of a clear strategy on UNESCO's interaction with other international key players – not least, the Global Partnership for Education and Education Cannot Wait. A clear articulation of the complementary role and action of UNESCO in relation to other important actors is key to the visibility and credibility of UNESCO.

While cooperation with civil society actors is important, at this stage, we would encourage further reflections on UNESCO's outreach strategy for cooperation with Member States. In our view, UNESCO should focus on its standard-setting role and strong advocacy – avoid fragmented small-scale activities, and rather provide policy advice and upstream capacity-building.

## **2. Progress report on the preparation of a global convention on the recognition of higher education qualifications (item 6.1)**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

First and foremost, Denmark wishes to express its appreciation of the preliminary draft of the Global Convention. We would like to thank the Drafting Committee for its comprehensive work in this regard. Denmark is particularly glad to see the focus on real competences and partial recognition reflected in the preliminary draft.

We also wish to underline that the work in relation to the Global Convention should not undermine the well-functioning regional networks. Enabling stakeholders in Member States to advocate for the ratification of the conventions and to enhance their implementation is important, but budget restraints may call for alternative modalities.

Denmark would also like to highlight Article VII of the preliminary Draft and its potential in relation to the present refugee crisis, where recognition of refugee qualifications is an increasingly pressing issue. Refugee

employment, which very often includes an education dimension, stands out as a clear priority in Denmark's implementation plan of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Hence, we will follow this question very closely in UNESCO.

On this background, it should be recognised that the recognition of qualifications, which are not documented or not fully documented, is a very difficult exercise. At present, only few countries have actually introduced regulations concerning the recognition of refugees' and displaced persons' qualifications. Denmark is one the few who, by establishing a "background paper", provides a basis for decisions about admission to further studies, credit transfers or access to the labor market.

Within the framework of the Lisbon Recognition Convention, this "background paper" is recommended as something for countries to aim for – when developing procedures for recognition of qualifications from refugees and displaced persons without documentary evidence.

To sum up: Denmark welcomes the approval of a process towards the development of the Draft Global Convention, and we look forward to participating in the formal consultations in 2018.

Thank you for your attention!

### **3. Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1960 Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (7.1) / Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (7.2)**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Denmark welcomes UNESCO's efforts to strengthen its monitoring function in relation to the education-related standard-setting instruments. It is an opportunity to inspire and develop policy advice and upstream capacity building, and we hope to see UNESCO develop efficient ways of showcasing and disseminating the experiences and good practices emerging from the two reports before us.

As a political agenda, Education 2030 does not in itself create legal obligations. This is why the 1960 Convention represents a powerful tool to advance SDG4, covering the right to education more extensively than any other normative instrument.

While state reporting on the Convention's implementation is important for government accountability and transparency – Denmark is proud of having contributed – we should consider the risk of overburdening reporting systems. Hence, Denmark welcomes further reflections on possible synergies within the UN.

Coming to the findings of the Report before us, Denmark has a few comments and questions:

- Firstly, the Report stresses that harmful practices, such as early marriage and child labour, continue to prevail in some parts of the world, depriving children of their right to go to school. In addition, misperceptions of the role of education are highlighted as severely limiting the opportunities of girls and boys, and vulnerable groups in particular.
- Tackling these challenges is a top priority for the Danish Government in the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda. Could UNESCO's Secretariat elaborate on its future actions in this area?
- Secondly, the Report points to the absence of a legal and policy environment as a factor that strongly hinders the improvement of the right to education. Some States have cited a general lack of knowledge and awareness of the provisions of the 1960 Convention, and only 101 states have ratified so far.

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- The Executive Board has recently advised Member States, not yet party to the Convention, to consider becoming so. Denmark strongly supports this, and we welcome alternative steps to push for universal ratification. Initiatives like the UNGA Treaty Events in New York could be one source of inspiration.
  - Finally, the Report briefly mentions that NGO partners were encouraged to participate in the Consultation on the implementation of the Convention. In addition, Denmark would encourage parallel NGO reporting, like it is done for UNESCO's 2005 Culture Convention.

We are well aware of the challenges connected with the monitoring of the qualitative dimension of SDG 4, target 4.7 in particular. We are looking forward to the continued monitoring of the 1974-recommendation for this purpose.

Thank you.

### 1.3 Naturvidenskabskommissionen (SC), 6.-7. november

#### Dagsordenspunkter i Naturvidenskabskommissionen, hvor Danmark holdt indlæg:

1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)
2. UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (item 4.9)
3. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) (item 3.2)

#### 1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

It is with pleasure Denmark acknowledges the clear cohesion between Programme II and the Sustainable Development Goals. UNESCO indeed has several comparative advantages where we believe the Organization can make a quality contribution and even more so if an integrated science approach is applied.

This is not least the case in regard to major global challenges such as climate change, protection and management of fresh water resources, the state of the oceans, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, science education and technology development and exchange.

UNESCO's activities are both normative and operational, and the Organisation will, thanks to its many Category I and II institutes, be well positioned to facilitate - and where relevant - lead international cooperation, especially if UNESCO manages to benefit from synergy from enhanced collaboration between these many institutes. The Danish Aalborg Centre for Problem Based Learning in Engineering Science and Sustainability is a part of that network and we are following it with great interest.

Denmark is pleased with the addition of the Møn biosphere to the MAB Programme and would like to acknowledge the changes in the governance of the Man and the Biosphere programme. We hope that this good example can serve as an inspiration for other programmes in the Sector.

Likewise, Denmark strongly supports the Geopark programme where the Danish Odsherred Geopark has the advantage of exchange with colleagues from all over the world. It is worth to underline that UNESCO sites like Odsherred Geopark and Møn MAB reserve, both relying on the support and engagement from local society, make UNESCO's work very visible and concrete in Denmark.

From a Danish perspective UNESCO's potential to have real impact can be strengthened considerably if the Sector manages to strengthen its intersectoral capacity, including more flexible organizational structures and programme activities that are problem- and solution-oriented rather than sector-oriented. In regard to the very lately proposed introduction of a new MLA 3 on Water Security, Denmark can accept this, although we would have preferred to leave the original proposal of the SC Programme and budget as it was. Denmark is of the opinion that the old MLA 2 clearly gave priority to IHP and furthermore indicated the strong relations between IHP and other areas within the Natural Sciences sector.

The role of women and girls in the natural sciences is as important as ever and while Denmark appreciates the efforts done in this area, we do encourage the Sector to reinforce and further target its activities. There is also space for enhancing the work with and targeting young people. The sciences have an almost decisive impact on the future of mankind and it is critical to include the global youth in finding ways to resolve the challenges the world is facing as well as work closely with the education sector on science education.

Denmark is looking forward to follow the implementation of the programme.

Thank you for your attention.

## **2. UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change (item 4.9)**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

Climate change represents one of the biggest challenges for humanity in our time. Natural and social transformations are already taking place, having considerable impact on basically all aspects of life on the planet for a long period to come and they will particularly affect the most vulnerable groups.

A comprehensive and coherent strategy for the whole of UNESCO is therefore needed and Denmark is pleased to see the proposed strategy for action on climate change, which we can support.

We appreciate that it is built upon the activities of all UNESCO's sectors and its intergovernmental programmes. Likewise, that it contains both upstream activities like monitoring and benchmarking as well as policy development and data collection, awareness raising and capacity building. It is also satisfactory to see that both gender and youth are directly addressed in the strategy. Women play a special role in mitigating the effects of climate change and young people will have to sustainably find solutions for the future. For Denmark, it has been important to put focus on the particular issues related to make climate changes explicit and relevant for young people. This is why Denmark supported the establishment of the Sandwatch programme, which is still on going.

While the Science sector and IOC may have the most obvious role to play in the strategy, it is essential that educational, cultural and communication and information issues are also included.

It is critical that the strategy is well aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals as well as with both the Paris Agreement and the overall UN Framework Convention on Climate Change UNFCCC as well as with the efforts of individual Member States.

The proposed strategy is well aligned with Danish climate change priorities and Denmark will be pleased to support the draft resolution.

We are looking forward to follow the work forward within the framework of the strategy.

Thank you for your attention!

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### **3. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) (item 3.2)**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

The IOC has always been important to Denmark – actually, Denmark was among the founding fathers of the Committee and it is with great pleasure that Denmark acknowledges that the IOC programme and budget has been given its own chapter in the proposed C/5.

The programme of the IOC is traditionally well focused, technically of an impeccable quality, results oriented and the proposed programme also has a very clear cohesion with the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 14 where IOC has been entrusted with a leading role within the UN system.

Denmark welcomes the establishment of the International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and compliments the IOC for its role in the UN Conference to support the implementation of SDG 14, held in June this year in New York.

The efforts of the IOC when it comes to facilitating the establishment of alert systems and the supporting observational programs have been very successful and it is encouraging to see that these tasks will be continued in the new biennium.

Denmark would like to see IOC having the resources to play a more proactive role in regard to the Arctic Ocean on improving the regional cooperation, the integration of observing systems and enhancing the knowledge of emerging issues related to climate change.

It is good to see that the intersectoral activities of the IOC will be widened. In this regard, we note with satisfaction the increased collaboration with the Social and Human Sciences sector on ethical issues, also related to the freedom and independence of oceanographic research and researchers. Denmark still finds a need for more flexible organizational structures and programme activities that are problem- and solution-oriented rather than sector-oriented.

When looking at the impressive programme for the coming biennium there is one small hitch: it is a bit disappointing that UNESCO's global priority on gender has not yet put a more clear mark on the coming IOC programme and Denmark encourages the IOC to rethink its approaches and allocation of resources in order to change this.

The oceans are fundamental for mankind's well being and the IOC has an important role to play in this regard, not least in the light of the challenges posed by climate change. Denmark thinks that the IOC is well situated to play a constructive and leading role in this context.

Thank you for your attention!

## **1.4 Kommunikation- og Informationskommissionen (CI), 6.-7. november**

### **Dagsordenspunkter i Kommunikation- og Informationskommissionen, hvor Danmark holdt indlæg:**

1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)
2. Progress report on safety of journalists and the issue of impunity (item 4.20)
3. Desirability of a standard-setting instrument on international collaboration in the field of Open Educational Resources, OER (item 6.3)

## **1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)**

Thank you very much Mr. Chairperson,

Journalists are killed, injured, harassed and imprisoned and impunity still constitutes to be a huge problem. Female journalists are exposed to special threats and Denmark would like to see the work in this area intensified.

Freedom of expression, press freedom and open access to information and knowledge are pillars in a democratic society and their spirit has rightly been inscribed in the Sustainable Development Goals especially in goal 16, where UNESCO CI is leading 16.10.

UNESCO's CI program is relevant, well-structured and has the right focus and priorities. And as a member of the Group of Friends of the Safety of Journalists, Denmark is very satisfied with UNESCO's coordinating role in relation to the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the issue of impunity.

It is critical now to follow up on the recommendations from the coordination meeting in Geneva in June this Summer to strengthen the establishment of well-functioning national safety mechanisms.

In this era of so-called fake news, which we could also name and shame as it is: propaganda, lies, and disinformation, we more than ever need high professional and ethical standards in media. Journalists need to be free, independent, safe and well educated to do this. Journalism has huge responsibilities - to the truth, not to any governments or advertisers.

As mentioned, Denmark finds the draft CI-program well-structured and setting the right direction. We do however find the phrasing of expected results 3 and 6 duplicative in relation to the other expected results. It is reassuring to see that the good monitoring and benchmarking activities of the Sector continues. Having special indicators for Internet universality will be very important when we are working to ensure the freedom and independence of the Internet. The various sets of indicators CI has produced have proved to be very useful when it comes to practical media development and they will now serve in the indicator box for the SDG's.

The Memory of the World Program has become more and more vital and important. It is therefore necessary to find ways of running the program that efficiently protects it against being used by politic interests. CI has a good tradition of working intersectorally, and we do support that this is even further strengthened. Impact increases when UNESCO puts all its knowledge together. One of the examples is Media and Information Literacy, where a cooperation between the educational sector and the CI-sector could have a huge impact. It has a potential, when you bring in journalists to the education sector increasing mutual understandings in the two sectors. It will increase the societal support for free, independent and pluralistic media as one of the fundamental pillars of our democracies.

Thank you for your attention!

## **2. Progress report on safety of journalists and the issue of impunity (item 4.20)**

Thank you Mr Chairperson

Denmark would like to thank the Director General for this very important document. Sometimes what comes late is the most important and UNESCO's work in favour of the safety of journalists and combatting impunity is indeed one of the most important programme areas within the mandate of the Organisation.



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Just four days ago we marked the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists and there is more and more need for UNESCO to work in this field. There can be no free press if journalists cannot report without fear for their lives or the lives of their families. Unfortunately, we still see journalist being killed – basically two every week over that last ten years – and we see an increasing amount of violence, imprisonments without due legal procedures, threats and harassments. The violence and threats are physical but increasingly also digital and more and more targeting female journalists.

From Denmark we also notice the impact of capacity-building where judges, police, security forces meet journalists to be trained in freedom in expression to get better understandings. – A study recently came out from the International Media Support shows increase of safety and decrease of impunity in those countries with most cooperation on this field. Therefore the initiative on this in Africa is very important.

The document C/61 resumes well the lead responsibilities of UNESCO within the useful framework of the UN Plan of Action of the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity and Denmark is delighted to be able to support this good work through its membership of the Group of Friends of the Safety of Journalists. We are pleased to see how UNESCO's many planned activities cover the complexity of the issue and we are particularly happy to note the increased attention paid to the plight of female journalists.

Denmark wholeheartedly supports the proposed resolution.

I thank you for your attention.

### **3. Desirability of a standard-setting instrument on international collaboration in the field of Open Educational Resources, OER (item 6.3)**

Dear Chairperson

One of the most important UN's sustainable development goals is access to information and the ability to use it.

This is one of the reasons why Denmark supports a standard-setting instrument on international collaboration in the field of Open Educational Resources. OER is a part of the digital transformation of education and has the potential to contribute to the realization of SDG4 and 16.1.

It is important, that the instrument is capable of supporting the member states in ensuring, that the quality of the learning materials and the access to it, is satisfying and suitable to the different local needs. In order for OER to be widely used, it is furthermore essential, that adequate guidance on OER is developed and provided to teachers, librarians and students.

It is imperative, that the smaller languages are also supported and it is vital, that the instrument does not promote or cause – accidental or otherwise – infringes on international agreements on copyrights, intellectual property rights and the like.

We are happy to note, that the instrument is a recommendation, because this allows for more flexibility, which is crucial when dealing with digital issues.

Thank you for your attention.

## 1.5 Samfundsvidenskabskommissionen (SHS), 7.-9. november

### Dagsordenspunkter i Samfundsvidenskabskommissionen, hvor Danmark holdt indlæg:

1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)
2. Conclusion of the Youth Forum (item 4.5)
3. Desirability of preparing a declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change (item 6.2)
4. Proposal for the revision of the 1974 Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (item 7.4)

#### 1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)

Thank you Madame Chairperson.

Denmark appreciates the efforts made by the SHS sector to align the coming programme with the Sustainable Development Goals in a strategic way, in particular by strengthening the links between the social and human sciences and public policies that can serve the attainment of the objectives of the 2030 Agenda. The human rights perspective is underlined repeatedly in the SDG's. Likewise, the importance of social and human dynamics when understanding and finding solutions to important challenges such as social inclusion, migration, intercultural dialogue, and urban development.

We also recognize that the programme is much improved in regard to both ethics and youth related activities. Working with and through young people is more important than ever and maintaining an ethical dimension in all debate about social development is also critical, as well as ensuring high ethical standards for free and independent research and strengthening the connection between social and humanistic sciences.

We are less happy with the part of MLA 2 that deals with intercultural dialogue. It is a very important area but we still find it to be vague and quite abstract and we would have preferred to see it clearly mainstreamed in the whole Programme III.

UNESCO has done great work when it comes to physical education, sport and anti-doping. Denmark puts emphasis on gender equality, integrity in sport, on economic, social and environmental sustainability, as well as social inclusion, lifelong participation and safety. This is why Denmark has worked very actively, in MINEPS and CIGEPS, and together with a large number of countries to ensure that the anti-doping convention will be working as it should and that the right measures are taken if Member States do not comply with the measures in the convention.

Overall UNESCO has huge potential in regard to the new SDG's if it manages to strengthen its intersectoral capacity, including more flexible organizational structures and programme activities that are problem- and solution-oriented rather than sector-oriented.

We believe that the SHS programme can still be improved in this regard, just as we miss a more systematic collaboration with the Natural Science sector. It would also be good if the Sector would make further efforts to establish stronger external partnerships.

Finally, we are disappointed to see the very low budget allocations planned for UNESCO's two global priorities, Gender and Africa. This is not satisfactory and Denmark would like to see that changed.

As mentioned, Denmark finds that the SHS Programme has a lot of relevance and we are looking forward to see its potential being unfolded.

Thank you very much for your attention.

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## **2. Conclusion of the Youth Forum (item 4.5)**

Thank you, Madame Chairperson

My name is Viktor Grønne, and I am the national youth representative of Denmark.

First of all, Denmark wants to thank the participants at the Youth Forum for their recommendations. They are worth taking note of, although we feel the format of the forum did not sufficiently ensure legitimate youth nor national representation.

We remain committed to UNESCO's Operational Strategy on Youth, as highlighted by our initiative to include youth as equal member in our National Commission, at the Nordic UNESCO meetings, and now in our delegation to the General Conference. UNESCO policies and programmes must be developed with and by youth.

For future orientation, we want to emphasise the European UNESCO Youth Recommendations. As we see it, UNESCO should mainstream and meaningfully integrate youth across its international activities, whereas the Member States have a responsibility to engage youth local and national level.

In ongoing programme implementation we encourage enhanced participation of young experts - not because they are young, but because they are experts with different outlooks.

In relation to formal and decision-making fora, we strongly underline that UNESCO must involve Youth Representatives with a formal mandate; representing national or regional youth organisations, who are involved in UNESCO activities and networks at national level.

This is particularly true to the Youth Forum, which must be adapted to ensure its relevance in relation to the General Conference. To that end, we kindly request the Secretariat to put out a plan detailing the process towards the 11th UNESCO Youth Forum, which will allow for a transparent discussion on its format and not least timing.

Thank you for your attention.

## **3. Desirability of preparing a declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change (item 6.2)**

Thank you Madame Chairperson,

Denmark would like to thank the Director-General for the Draft Declaration of Ethical Principles in Relation to Climate Change.

There is no doubt that the world is facing unheard challenges when it comes to find solutions to the environmental and social transformations that follow the ongoing climate changes. It is therefore pertinent for UNESCO to look seriously into the ethical questions related to this whole process.

While acknowledging the work that has been done, Denmark would like to mention that we did not find the process leading up to this draft declaration as transparent as we could have hoped for. Having said that, we do believe that the draft declaration contains relevant considerations and valuable principles.

It is however very important to underline, that these draft ethical principles should not provide any basis for possible interpretations of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

It is also on this background that Denmark - like others - would have preferred to see some of our previous text proposals included in the Declaration in order to better reflect the wording of the Paris Agreement, but in the spirit of compromise, Denmark can accept the proposal as it stands.

Should a consensual decision however not be possible, we reserve our possibility to come back with concrete proposals for change.

Thank you for your attention!

#### **4. Proposal for the revision of the 1974 Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (item 7.4)**

Dear Madame Chairperson,

Denmark welcomes the revised draft recommendation on the "Status of Science and Scientific Researchers" and also appreciated the new title for the recommendation.

In a timely way, this revision updates the language on the new challenges for science and for scientists, not least in regard to information technology, ethics, protection of privacy and data and fundamental rights and freedoms.

For Denmark, it is critical that the freedom to engage in all kind of scientific research without intervention from political or commercial interests is protected as well as the independence of the scientists. This is also why high ethical and professional standards must be requested of the scientists themselves and the university system must be able to train young scientists on this in a systematic way.

Much research has demonstrated the special challenges for women researchers and it is important that the international community keeps an eye on this and seeks all measures to improve their conditions.

As for the reporting procedures, Denmark would appeal that this is made as simple and standardized as at all possible. We know from experience that simpler reporting procedures yield many more reports, which then will contribute to better statistics and increased conditions for science and scientists.

Thank you for your attention.

### **1.6 Kulturkommissionen (CLT), 8.-10. november**

#### **Dagsordenspunkter i Kulturkommissionen, hvor Danmark holdt indlæg:**

1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)
2. Reinforcement of UNESCO's action for the protection of cultural heritage and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict (item 4.12)
3. Strengthening the implementation of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (item 4.14)

#### **1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021 (item 3.2)**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Denmark would like to thank the Director-General for the Draft Programme and Budget. We are happy to see a clear demonstration of how the Culture Conventions are expected to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, and in line with the human-rights-based approach.

The 2030 Agenda acknowledges the transversal role of culture, and we look forward to seeing the concrete results of UNESCO's proposed intersectoral modalities. At World Press Freedom Day in May this year, artists and journalists came together to exchange on experiences and challenges. From the discussions it became clear that the culture sector can learn a lot from the communication sector. We encourage UNESCO to take further steps in this direction.

Overall, we agree with the proposed programme priorities: that is to focus on the statutory obligations of the Culture Conventions, as they clearly constitute UNESCO's comparative advantage in the field of culture.

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We recognize with appreciation UNESCO's efforts to optimize the periodic reporting exercises for enhanced monitoring the implementation of these conventions. Especially, the Global Report of the 2005 Convention should be source of inspiration for other culture conventions. The approach is strategic and coherent with the new 2030 Agenda.

The statutory meetings are indeed costly, and we strongly encourage UNESCO to better explore its convening power. All meetings of state parties constitute a huge potential for gathering policy-makers and experts, not only to exchange views and experiences, but also to take stock based on evidence, and to identify global trends and challenges and to guide the direction of future action.

Denmark strongly encourages serious considerations on ways to follow-up on the recommendations the audit of the Culture Sector. Especially those recommendations that seek to tackle the, unfortunately too well-known, problems in relation to the Lists of the World Heritage Convention and the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Our message: implementation of these two Conventions constitutes much more than inscriptions on lists.

Finally, Denmark wishes to underline the urgent need for an innovative, coherent and targeted resource mobilization strategy. The funding gap of the culture sector is crystal clear – not least when it comes to the operational activities of UNESCO's action plan for the protection of cultural heritage in conflict situations. Thank you for your attention!

## **2. Reinforcement of UNESCO's action for the protection of cultural heritage and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict (item 4.12)**

Thank you Madam Chair,

Denmark wishes to thank the Secretariat for its important work in the field of cultural heritage protection and promotion cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict.

As a political commitment, UNESCO's strategy does not in itself create legal obligations. However, UNESCO's culture conventions add legal accountability to this commitment – by promoting legal environments underpinning national policies and strategies.

Hence, the culture conventions represent a powerful tool to make real progress, covering the right to culture more extensively than any other normative instrument.

UNESCO's strategy also encourage Member States, not yet party to the conventions – in particular the 2<sup>nd</sup> Protocol – to consider becoming so.

In full support of these efforts, the Danish government has proposed to start the process of formal ratification of the second protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954.

We welcome additional steps to push for universal ratification. Initiatives like the UNGA Treaty Events in New York could be one source of inspiration.

While state reporting on the conventions' implementation is important for government accountability and transparency, Denmark welcomes further reflections on possible synergies between the various reporting systems within the UN to avoid duplication of work.

Finally, the IOS Evaluation Report contains important findings, which should be taken into consideration in the design and planning of future strategic actions.

Thank you for your attention!

### **3. Strengthening the implementation of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (item 4.14)**

Thank you Madam Chair,

We wish to thank the GRULAC countries for the initiative to discuss the implementation of the 1970 Convention, as the challenges of illicit trafficking of cultural properties are rapidly growing.

Denmark is participating in a number of regional activities to combat these worrisome trends – in the EU as well as in the Nordic region. At the global level, we are also deeply engaged in UNESCO's governance reform. This also includes reform of the working mechanisms of the 1970 convention – to improve its implementation.

To that end, Denmark wishes to share some of our reflections with you today, and your feedback is of course very welcome:

- Firstly, the meetings of states parties are indeed costly. Hence, to make the best of them, Denmark encourages UNESCO to better explore its convening power. All meetings constitute a huge potential for gathering policy-makers and experts, not only to exchange views and experiences, but also to take stock based on evidence, and to identify global trends and challenges and to guide the direction of future action.
- Regarding the national reporting exercise: we see a need to clarify and clearly communicate the overall purpose and benefits to all relevant stakeholders. In our opinion, the review of such national reports – presented to the General Conference – should identify trends and challenges to strengthen the implementation of the Convention.
- We have sufficient concrete material to guide our efforts to improve. To highlight a few: Recommendation no. 75 of the Working Group on Governance requires enhanced reporting to the General Conference, and a List of Good practices has been produced to inspire new measures to improve the implementation of the 1970 Convention.
- Finally, the universal ratification of the UNIDROIT Convention would be an efficient response. UNIDROIT is a complementary instrument to the 1970 Convention. For instance, the UNIDROIT text covers all stolen cultural objects, not just inventoried and declared ones, and the text stipulates that all cultural property must be returned.

On our final note, we wish to ask a question to the Secretariat:

- Could you elaborate on the reflection process that the General Conference is encouraged to support in the proposed Draft Resolution?
- For instance, what is the time frame? Do you envisage any important milestones? And finally, do you have any concrete proposals in the pipeline, already?

Thank you for your attention!

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## Bilag 3 – Generalkonferencens dagsorden

Der henvises til dokument 39 C/1 Prov. Rev. For yderligere information.

Link til dokument: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002489/248939e.pdf>

### 1. Organization of the session

- 1.1. Opening of the session by the President of the 38th session of the General Conference
- 1.2. Establishment of the Credentials Committee and report by the Committee to the General Conference
- 1.3. Report by the Director-General on communications received from Member States invoking the provisions of Article IV.C, paragraph 8 (c), of the Constitution
- 1.4. Adoption of the agenda
- 1.5. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the General Conference and of the Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteurs of the commissions and committees
- 1.6. Organization of the work of the session
- 1.7. Admission to the work of the General Conference of observers from international non-governmental organizations other than those with the status of official partners of UNESCO, and recommendation of the Executive Board thereon

### 2. Reports on the activities of the organization, and evaluation of the programme

- 2.1. Report of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization in 2014-2015, presented by the Chair of the Executive Board
- 2.2. Reports by the Executive Board on its own activities and on programme implementation

### 3. Draft programme and budget for 2018-2021 (39 C/5)

- 3.1. Methods of preparing the budget, budget estimates for 2018-2021, and budgeting techniques
- 3.2. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018-2021
- 3.3. Adoption of the Appropriation Resolution for 2018-2019
- 3.4. Adoption of the provisional budget ceiling

### 4. General policy and programme questions

- 4.1. Proposals by Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries in 2018-2019 with which UNESCO could be associated
- 4.2. Jerusalem and the implementation of 38 C/Resolution 52
- 4.3. Implementation of 38 C/Resolution 72 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories
- 4.4. Establishment of category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO
- 4.5. Conclusions of the Youth Forum
- 4.6. Proclamation of an International Day of Light
- 4.7. Report on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) beyond 2015
- 4.8. UNESCO's role in the implementation of the SDG4-Education 2030 Agenda
- 4.9. UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change
- 4.10. The importance of sound in today's world: promoting best practices

- 4.11. Challenges and Responsibilities for a Planet in Transition: World Humanities Conference
- 4.12. Strategy for the reinforcement of UNESCO's Action for the protection of culture and the promotion of cultural pluralism in the event of armed conflict
- 4.13. International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)
- 4.14. Strengthening the implementation of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property
- 4.15. Follow-up of the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS VI)
- 4.16. Cooperation of UNESCO with the International Township of Auroville, India
- 4.17. Revision of the statutes of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Intergovernmental Council
- 4.18. Quebec's call for action: Internet and the Radicalization of Youth
- 4.19. Proclamation by the United Nations of 2019 as an International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements
- 4.20. Strengthening UNESCO's leadership in the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on Safety of Journalists and the issue of impunity

**5. Methods of work of the organization**

- 5.1. Governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO
- 5.2. Definition of regions with a view to the execution by the Organization of regional activities

**6. Constitutional and legal questions – A. Preparation and adoption of new instruments**

- 6.1. Progress report on the preparation of a Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications
- 6.2. Draft Declaration of ethical principles in relation to climate change
- 6.3. Desirability of a standard-setting instrument on international collaboration in the field of Open Educational Resources (OER)

**7. Constitutional and legal questions – B. Monitoring of existing instruments**

- 7.1. Summary of the reports received from Member States on the measures taken to implement the 1960 Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education
- 7.2. Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
- 7.3. Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1974 Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers
- 7.4. Proposal for the revision of the 1974 Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers
- 7.5. Consolidated report on the implementation by Member States of the 1978 Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics
- 7.6. Preliminary revision of the 1974 Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (1974)



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## **8. Relations with member states and international organizations**

- 8.1. Proposals for qualitative dialogue between Member States and NGOs, including within the governing bodies
- 8.2. Principles and conditions of the Participation Programme and emergency assistance
- 8.3. Draft Regulatory Framework Regarding Associations, Centres and Clubs for UNESCO
- 8.4. Request for the admission of New Caledonia as an Associate Member of UNESCO

## **9. Administrative and financial questions – financial questions**

- 9.1. Financial report and audited consolidated financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO for the year ended 31 December 2016, and report by the External Auditor
- 9.2. Scale of assessments and currency of Member States' contributions
- 9.3. Collection of Member States' contributions
- 9.4. Working Capital Fund: level and administration

## **10. Staff issues**

- 10.1. Staff Regulations and Staff Rules
- 10.2. Staff salaries, allowances and benefits
- 10.3. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and appointment of Member States' representatives to the UNESCO Staff Pension Committee for 2018-2019
- 10.4. Report by the Director-General on the state of the Medical Benefits Fund (MBF)
- 10.5. Audit of the Medical Benefits Fund (MBF) and the medical service of UNESCO
- 10.6. Report by the Director-General on the Human Resources Management Strategy for 2017-2022

## **11. Headquarter questions**

- 11.1. Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex

## **12. Director-general**

- 12.1. Appointment of the Director-General

## **13. Elections**

- 13.1. Election of Members of the Executive Board
- 13.2. Election of the members of the Legal Committee for the 40th session of the General Conference
- 13.3. Election of members of the Headquarters Committee
- 13.4. Election of members of the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes that may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education
- 13.5. Election of members of the Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)
- 13.6. Election of members of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP)
- 13.7. Election of members of the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)

- 13.8. Election of members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)
- 13.9. Election of members of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation (ICPRCP)
- 13.10. Election of members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC)
- 13.11. Election of members of the Intergovernmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme
- 13.12. Election of members of the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC)
- 13.13. Election of the members of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPE)
- 13.14. Election of members of the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)
- 13.15. Election of the members of the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo
- 13.16. Appointment of an External Auditor

**14. 40<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference**

- 14.1. Venue of the 40th session of the General Conference