

**Third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group for the revision of the Rules of procedure of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention**

**UNESCO Headquarters, Room II**

**20 – 21 May 2014**

**Chairperson' Summary**

***N.B: This summary should be read in conjunction with the Chairperson' Summary of the first and second meeting of the OEWG available at the following address:***  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/election-reflection2014/>

The third and last meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group took place on 20 and 21 May 2014 under the chairmanship of H. E. Mr Jean-Frédéric Jauslin, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Switzerland and Mr Francisco Javier Gutierrez Plata, from the Permanent Delegation of Colombia, as Rapporteur.

This meeting was the continuation of the first two meetings of the Open-Ended Working Group that took place on 23 and 24 January and on 20 and 21 March 2014. The Open-Ended Working Group continued its discussions on equitable geographical representation on the World Heritage Committee as requested by Resolution **19 GA 4**, and took into account the discussions and proposals put forward during the first two meetings and developed variations of solutions that should be submitted to the General Assembly with a view to the revision of its Rules of Procedure.

More than 130 participants representing more than 85 States Parties attended the meeting and actively contributed to the debate.

**A. Other measures**

During the first part of the meeting, the participants considered the “other measures” that had been evoked during the first two meetings. They agreed to keep the following measures and to submit them to the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly in conjunction with the proposed models:

- Increase the gap from 4 to 6 years before a new election to the Committee
- Possibly re-introduce a multiple rounds voting system (this will be subject to the voting model adopted by the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly)
- Introduce a standard candidature format for the presentation of experts (model to be developed by the Secretariat)

- Ensure that the voting system maintains a choice during all stages of the process by avoiding “Clean Slates” (this will be subject to the voting model adopted by the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly)
- Ensure that the voting system retained reserves one seat for a State Party that has never served in the Committee instead of the seat currently reserved for a State Party with no property on the World Heritage List (agreement in principle but implementation modalities to be defined)

The Working group also proposed under “other measure” the possible suspension of the examination of nominations by Committee Members during their mandate as Committee Member. Knowing that this issue is partially addressed in the agenda of the 38th session of the Committee, the Working Group decided to recommend to the General Assembly to take into account the Committee’s decision on this matter.

The questions about an increase of the number of Committee members (requiring a revision of the World Heritage Convention), or the introduction of a new type of non-voting members within the Committee were also the subject of interventions. It was decided not to discuss this important matter in the framework of the present Working Group while noting the need to address this issue in the near future.

#### **B. Proposal for the establishment of a new system designed to ensure equitable geographical representation on the World Heritage Committee**

Over the first two meetings of the Open-Ended Working Group, a number of proposals aiming at ensuring geographical representation were developed. At its last session, the Open-Ended Working Group did not reach a consensus on one proposal but agreed on the idea to submit three proposals to the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly:

1. The GRULAC proposal
2. The Estonian proposal
3. The modified Norway proposal

A detailed description of those proposals is annexed to the present document.

#### **C. Conclusions and follow up of the procedure**

State Parties were informed of the next steps to follow and of the holding of the First Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly, provisionally scheduled for Thursday 13 and Friday 14 November 2014.

## Annex

### Proposal for the establishment of a new system designed to ensure equitable geographical representation on the World Heritage Committee

#### The GRULAC proposal

	G I	G II	G III	G IV	G Va	G Vb	Total
prorata	3	2	3	4	4	2	18
addition min		1				1	2
open	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Total Min	3	3	3	4	4	3	

#### The Estonian proposal

	G I	G II	G III	G IV	G Va	G Vb	Total
minimum	2	2	2	2	2	2	12
open	*	*	*	*	*	*	9
Total Min	2	2	2	2	2	2	

## The modified Norway proposal

	G I 27	G II 25	G III 32	G IV 41	G Va 45	G Vb 19	Total
minimum	2	2	2	2	2	2	12
attributed				1	2		3
floating			*	*			1
[reserved-not yet served]	*	*	*	*	*	*	
open							5
Total Min	2	2	2,5	3,5	4	2	