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Организация  
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联合国教育、  
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# World Heritage

## 22 GA

**WHC/19/22.GA/8**  
**Paris, 14 October 2019**  
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### UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

#### TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters  
27- 28 November 2019

**Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda: Follow up and implementation of the recommendations of the Working Group on Governance as endorsed by the General Conference**

#### SUMMARY

This Document includes a progress report on the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations of the working group on governance as endorsed by the General Conference, in conformity with Decision **42 COM 12B** and Resolution **39C/87** of the General Conference.

**Draft Resolution: 22 GA 8, see Point III.**

## I. BACKGROUND

1. By **Resolution 38C/101** adopted in 2016, the General Conference established an open-ended working group whose mandate was to review the governance, procedures and working methods of the UNESCO's International and Intergovernmental Bodies. The working group has provided a set of recommendations, along with their likely impact and financial implications, which were examined by the General Conference at its 39th session (2017).
2. The General Conference endorsed the recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance as amended in *Document 39 C/70* ( see *Annex I* at <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000260089?posInSet=3&queryId=e957f5c0-0956-4859-9ad4-2cebe85f1a5b>). These recommendations are divided into general recommendations for all international and intergovernmental bodies and specific recommendations for the UNESCO Conventions.
3. By **Resolution 39C/87**, the General Conference invited the Executive Board, the Director-General and the governing bodies of the different organs examined by the working group, to implement, as appropriate, the above-mentioned recommendations.

## II. PROGRESS REPORT

4. The work already undertaken by the governing bodies of the World Heritage Convention with a view to assess and improve their working methods has been regularly examined notably in the framework of the follow-up to the above mentioned **Resolution 38C/101**. As per this Resolution, an item concerning governance has been inscribed on the Agenda of both the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention and the World Heritage Committee since 2016. Issues related to working methods were also regularly addressed by the ad hoc Working Group established by the Committee in 2014.
5. At its 41st session in 2017, the World Heritage Committee considered the ongoing reflection as a good practice that enhances strategic decision-making and participation of States Parties, with a view to improve and streamline the working methods of the Governing Bodies of the 1972 Convention in line with General Conference **Resolution 38C/101**. It took note of the progress report of the ongoing work undertaken by the General Conference open-ended working group and decided to study its relevant recommendations at its 42nd session (2018).
6. After having examined these recommendations, the Committee, by Decision **42 COM 12B**, requested the World Heritage Centre to transmit *Document WHC/18/42.COM/12B* and corresponding Decision **42 COM 12B** to the General Conference open-ended working group on governance and to the 22nd session of the General Assembly of States Parties to be held in 2019.
7. In conformity with this request, Document **WHC/18/42.COM/12B** and corresponding Decision **42 COM 12B** can be found at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2018/whc18-42com-12B-en.pdf> and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/7170/>.

### III. DRAFT RESOLUTION

#### **Draft Resolution: 22 GA 8**

*The General Assembly,*

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/22.GA/8,*
2. *Takes note of the status of implementation of the recommendations of the working group on governance as endorsed by the General Conference in 2017 as presented in Document WHC/18/42.COM/12B;*
3. *Recalls the work already undertaken with a view to assess, improve and streamline the working methods of the governing bodies of the World Heritage Convention and its of related Resolutions **20 GA 11** and **21 GA 8** as well as Decisions **40 COM 13B**, **41 COM 12B** and **42 COM 12** in the framework of Resolutions **38 C/101**, **39C/70**, **39C/87** of the General Conference related to governance;*
4. *Notes with satisfaction that Sub-Group 2 of the open-ended working group of the General Conference highlighted the appropriate methods of work of the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention and the good working practices, including the work of the intersessional ad-hoc working group established by the Committee in 2014 was also recognized as a good practice;*
5. *Also notes with satisfaction that its recommendation to consider broadening the composition of the ad-hoc working group and to envisage opening meetings to all States Parties was taken into consideration by the World Heritage Committee;*
6. *Further recalls that reflection on issues related to working methods by the ad-hoc working group is still ongoing;*
7. *Decides to pursue the reflection and efforts towards implementation of relevant recommendations for the governing bodies of the World Heritage Convention and recalls its commitment to work jointly with other concerned governing bodies towards implementation of general recommendations addressed to all international and intergovernmental bodies.*