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

INF 8: Consultations with Governing Bodies on the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) and Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5)

SUMMARY

This Information Document provides details on the consultation process with the Governing Bodies of Conventions on the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) and Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5).

This Information Document should be read in conjunction with working document WHC/19/22.GA/8.
I. BACKGROUND

1. According to Recommendation 74 of the Working Group on Governance, endorsed by the General Conference (39 C/Resolution 87), UNESCO’s International and Intergovernmental Bodies (IIBs) “should have the opportunity to submit formal inputs to the mid-term strategy C/4 and the draft Programme and Budget C/5 documents of UNESCO”.

2. Within the framework of Pillar 3 the Strategic Transformation process initiated by the Director-General, it was further indicated that “ADGs will benefit from meetings foreseen by the governing bodies of the category 1 institutes, international and intergovernmental programmes and conventions to ensure their participation and contribution to the process of the strategic reflection…”.

3. The preparation of UNESCO’s Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) and the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5) is a high-level consultative process with UNESCO’s principal constituencies and partners, in particular Member States, NGOs, IGOs and intergovernmental organizations. IIBs can provide their input to the elaboration of the C/4 and C/5 as relevant, such as through an agenda item or via a written consultation.

II. TIMELINES AND INPUTS

4. The consultation process is structured around a specific calendar and involves several steps.

5. In view of these timelines, an online consultation process answering specific questions is being proposed and further information will be provided in due course by the Secretariat. This will allow the Secretariat to collect responses and to prepare a synthesis report.

6. The synthesis report of the consultations shall be subsequently transmitted to the Assistant Director-General for Culture and reflected in the Sector’s contribution to the Director-General’s Preliminary Proposals on the 41 C/4 and 41 C/5.
Follow up and implementation of the recommendations of the Working Group on Governance as endorsed by the General Conference

**Annex**

**Step 0: Preparatory Work**
- May - November
  - Consultations and exchanges with the governing bodies;
  - Executive Board recommendations and subsequent General Conference Decision on the Roadmap and general strategic directions for the future C/4 and C/5.

**Step 1: Director-General’s Consultations**
- January - June
  - The Strategic Results Report is presented to the Spring session of the Executive Board to feed into the reflection on the future Strategy and Programme;
  - The Director-General launches consultations with Member States and Associate members, IGOs and NGOs, at national, regional and global levels. [These consultations take place once every quadrennium for the C/3, and every 8 years for the C/4];
  - The outcomes of the consultations inform the Director-General’s Preliminary Proposals for documents C/4 and C/5 which are presented, along with the reports of the consultations, to the Executive Board at its next autumn session.

**Step 2: Executive Board session**
- Autumn
  - The Executive Board examines the Director-General’s Preliminary Proposals on C/4 and C/5 and adopts a decision providing a framework as well as strategic policy directions to the Director-General for the formulation of the draft documents C/4 and C/5.

**Step 3: Executive Board**
- Spring
  - The complete draft documents C/4 and C/5 are submitted to the Executive Board for consideration and recommendations to the General Conference [document C/4].

**Step 4: Consultations of Member States (on Draft C/5)**
- Summer
  - The complete draft documents C/4 and C/5, as well as document C/4 containing the Executive Board recommendations, are dispatched to all Member States at least three months before the opening of the General Conference. Member States are invited to submit their proposed amendments (modification, deletion or addition) to the texts of the existing resolutions contained in Volume 1 of the C/5 in accordance with Rule 79 of the General Conference.

**Step 5: Executive Board session**
- Autumn
  - The Executive Board continues the examination of the Draft C/4 and C/5, and adopts its decision with further observations and recommendations thereon [document C/6 Addendum].

**Step 6: General Conference session**
  - The General Conference considers the draft C/4 and C/5 documents in light of the recommendations submitted by the Executive Board C/6 and Addendum), taking into account also the amendments submitted by Member States, and adopts the C/4 and C/5.

**Step 7: New biennium: Implementation**
- January
  - The Secretariat issues the Approved C/4 and C/5;
  - Launch of the implementation of the C/4 and C/5.