



COALITIONS EUROPÉENNES POUR LA DIVERSITÉ CULTURELLE
EUROPEAN COALITIONS FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Paris, October 23, 2009

Resolutions

The members of the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD):

1. Call on States that are Parties to the Convention to commit to promoting cultural cooperation as prescribed in the Convention, in particular, in Article 12. Cultural cooperation must be achieved within a framework that is clearly cultural, and separate from any trade agreement or schedule. In this context, in the particular case of the European Union, IFCCD members insist that Cultural Cooperation Protocols be separated from trade agreements under negotiation now or in the future.
2. Call on all States having ratified the UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions to observe coherence in their international commitments by ensuring the comprehensive exemption of all cultural sectors from trade agreements under negotiation now or in the future.
3. Urge the Intergovernmental Committee to address the issue of promoting the principles and objectives of the Convention in other international forums so as to establish procedures and other mechanisms for consultation consistent with their mandate set out in Article 23 6 (e). Promotion in other international forums is fundamental to securing recognition of the distinctive nature of cultural goods and services and to the reaffirmation of the right of States to maintain, adopt and implement appropriate policies and measures for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions within their territory.
4. Call on all countries that have not yet ratified the UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions to initiate this process, and/or accord priority to completing this process in order to become a Party to the Convention. Pending their ratification of the Convention, countries are urged to refrain from any commitments that would be contrary to the objectives of the Convention.
5. Underscore the importance of rapidly making the International Fund for Cultural Diversity operational, given that operational guidelines for the Fund were approved by the Conference of the Parties in June 2009. We salute the leadership and commitment of those States that have made initial contributions to the Fund. However, we regret that, as of November 5, 2009, only 14 States have contributed, and that the monies in the Fund remain modest. We therefore urge all States to contribute to the Fund on a significant scale and on a recurring basis.

6. Call on States to incorporate culture into their sustainable development strategies, consistent with Article 13 of the Convention, specifically by making cultural development projects eligible for funding from their international development agencies and/or international cooperation funds
7. Call on all States that are Parties to the Convention to implement it, through concrete action at both the national and regional levels, by adopting policies and other measures to support their domestic cultures and by encouraging the active participation of civil society as specified in Article 11 of the Convention.
8. Urge UNESCO and the various national UNESCO Commissions to give the Convention the priority it warrants, in view of the great number of ratifications collected in a very short time, by providing professional and financial resources to facilitate active participation of civil society in bringing expertise to the implementation process as stipulated in article 11.