

A 90 Year Quest for Excellence in Education !

SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF EDUCATION

Geneva, 28 – 30 January 2015

DRAFT REVISED STATUTES

II. Statutes of the International Bureau of Education⁴

Article I

1. Within the framework of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and as an integral part thereof, there is hereby established a UNESCO international centre of ~~comparative education excellence in curriculum and related matters~~, under the name of 'International Bureau of Education', hereinafter called '~~the Bureau~~ Institute'.
Comment [MM1]: Consistency with the IBE's centre of excellence strategy.
2. Subject to the conditions laid down in the present Statutes, the ~~Bureau~~ Institute shall enjoy wide intellectual and functional autonomy within the framework of UNESCO.
*Comment [MM2]: The change is suggested for two reasons:
1. In the French version of the Basic Texts, 'Bureau' is potentially ambiguous, since it refers both to the Steering Committee of the IBE Council and to the IBE itself; and
2. 'Institute' helps to distinguish the IBE from UNESCO's field offices, referred to as bureaux in French.*
3. The ~~Bureau~~ Institute shall be located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Article II

1. ~~As UNESCO's centre of excellence in curriculum and related matters, the Institute shall contribute to the design and implementation of the Organization's programme in education, particularly in the areas of curriculum, learning and assessment. To the end of the attainment of equitable and inclusive quality education and lifelong learning for all, the Institute's functions shall be to:~~
 - a) ~~provide innovation and leadership in curriculum and learning by reconceptualizing and repositioning curriculum in national and regional development agendas, within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals, and as an indispensable means to the end of lifelong learning;~~
 - b) ~~serve as a laboratory of ideas on critical and current issues in curriculum, including the development of innovative curricular frameworks and prototypes;~~
 - c) ~~serve as a global reference point in curriculum and learning through its clearinghouse function in knowledge creation and management in these areas;~~
 - d) ~~contribute, through its capacity-building function, to the systemic strengthening of the quality and development-relevance of education and effective lifelong learning for all;~~
 - e) ~~provide intellectual leadership of global dialogue in and advocacy for curriculum and learning, not least through organizing the International Conference on Education; and~~
 - f) ~~conserve the archives and historical collections of the Institute and make them accessible to the public.~~
1. ~~The Bureau shall contribute to the design and implementation of the programme of the Organization in regard to education. To that end, its functions shall be:~~
 - a) ~~to prepare for and organize the sessions of the International Conference on Education as a forum for dialogue on educational policy, in accordance with the decisions of the General Conference and subject to UNESCO rules in force and applicable;~~
 - b) ~~to assist in the dissemination and implementation of the declarations and recommendations adopted by the International Conference on Education;~~
 - c) ~~to collect, process, analyse, systematize, produce and disseminate, using the latest techniques, documentation and information concerning education, in particular on innovations concerning curricula, teaching methods and teacher education, in co-operation with the other competent units of UNESCO and in~~

Comment [MM3]: Consistency with the IBE's centre of excellence strategy.

liaison with national, regional and international institutions and networks;

~~(d) to undertake, in co-operation with the other units at and away from Headquarters and co-ordinating or linking its work with that of other national, regional and international institutions pursuing similar objectives, surveys and studies in the field of education, particularly comparative education, and to publish and disseminate the results;~~

~~(e) to maintain and develop an international educational information centre.~~

~~(f) to contribute to and provide technical assistance for the strengthening of national capacities regarding information and comparative research, through, in particular, the promotion of training of staff specializing in these fields;~~

~~(g) to conserve the archives and historical collections of the International Bureau of Education and make them accessible to the public.~~

~~2.1.~~ The general programme and budget of the ~~Bureau~~Institute shall be part of the programme and budget of UNESCO. The resources of the ~~Bureau~~Institute shall consist of the financial allocations assigned to it by the General Conference of UNESCO and of gifts,

⁴ Adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its fifteenth session (resolution 14. 1), and modified at its nineteenth (resolution 1.521), twenty-first (resolution 1/13), twenty-fourth (resolution 4.3), twenty-fifth (resolution 1.2. 1), twenty-eighth (resolutions 1.10 and 22) twenty-ninth (resolution 3) and thirty-seventh (resolution 14) sessions.

bequests, subventions and voluntary contributions received in accordance with the Financial Regulations applicable to the Special Account of the International Bureau of Education.

3.2. Within the framework of the general programme in course of execution, as approved by the General Conference, the ~~Bureau~~Institute may maintain direct relations with the educational authorities of the Member States of UNESCO.

Article III

1. The ~~Bureau~~Institute shall have a Council comprising twelve Member States of UNESCO designated by the General Conference of UNESCO (two from each of the six electoral groups) and taking into due account gender balance.

Transitional provision

Article III. 1. bis. This article will enter into force in the following manner: the fourteen Member States whose term expires at the 38th session of UNESCO's General Conference (2015) will remain in office until the end of their term. In order to ensure continuity in the transitional Council, six Member States will be designated at the 37th session (2013), one from each electoral group. For the period between the 37th and 38th session of the General Conference, the Transitional Council shall therefore comprise 20 Member States. At the 38th session of UNESCO's General Conference, six new Member States will be designated, one from each electoral group. At the time of this designation, the new Council with 12 members will come into effect and this article will be deleted.

[This transitional provision shall be automatically deleted after its implementation has been completed.]

2. The terms of office of the Member States of the Council shall run from the end of the session of the General Conference which designates them to the end of the second ordinary session of the General Conference following.
3. The Member States of the Council shall be immediately eligible for a further term.
4. When selecting their representatives to the Council, the Member States shall ensure that the Council comprises members who possess educational expertise and/or policy experience in education. They shall ensure that these persons are in a position to represent them regularly at sessions of the Council.

Article IV

Transitional provision

The Article IV.1 below will come into effect at the 38th session of the General Conference. In the transitional period between the 37th and 38th session of the General Conference, the Council may meet in extraordinary session if convened by the Director-General of UNESCO or at the request of eleven of its members.

[This transitional provision shall be automatically deleted after its implementation has been completed.]

1. The Council shall meet in ordinary session at least once every year. It may meet in

extraordinary session, if convened by the Director-General of UNESCO or at the request of seven of its members.

Article IV. 1. bis. The working languages of the Council shall be English and French.

2. This does not preclude the provision of interpretation and translation on a case-by-case basis should extra-budgetary funds be made available.

~~2.3.~~ Each Member State on the Council shall have one vote.

~~3.4.~~ The Director-General or, in his/her absence, his/her appointed representative, shall take part in the Council's meetings without the right of vote.

~~4.5.~~ The Council shall adopt its Rules of Procedure.

6. The Council shall elect its Steering Committee, comprising a President and five Vice-Presidents, who shall be nationals of the six regional groups. The President of the Council shall preside over the Steering Committee. The Council shall renew its Steering Committee at its first session following the ordinary session of the General Conference at which the Council has been partially renewed. The members of the Steering Committee shall be eligible for re-election, provided the terms of office of the Member States of the Council which they represent are renewed by the General Conference, but they shall not hold office for more than two consecutive terms. The Steering Committee shall remain in office until the election of the new Steering Committee.

Article IV.5 below will come into effect once article III enters into force.

Article IV.5. The Council shall elect its Steering Committee, comprising a President and two Vice-Presidents and ensuring rotation across the six electoral groups. The President of the Council shall preside over the Steering Committee. The Council shall renew its Steering Committee at its first session following the ordinary session of the General Conference at which the Council has been renewed. The members of the Steering Committee shall serve for two years and shall not be eligible for re-election. The Steering Committee shall remain in office until the election of the new Steering Committee.

~~5.7.~~ The Council may set up subsidiary bodies to assist in the execution of its specific tasks.

Article V

The tasks of the Council shall be:

- (a) To draw up, on the proposals of the Director of the ~~Bureau~~Institute, taking into account the lines of emphasis of the medium-term planning, the draft general programme and budget of the ~~Bureau~~Institute, for submission to the General Conference with the observations or recommendations of the Director-General and the Executive Board, and to take steps to ensure the consistency and complementarity of the activities foreseen in the draft general programme and

Comment [MM4]: The Council may wish to revert to this, original, version of Article IV.5.

One of the proposals considered by the Sixty-third session of the Council (February 2014) - that the Steering Committee be comprised of four members (the President and three Vice-Presidents), at most two of whom would be eligible for re-election for one further term - is problematic in at least three important ways:

1. There will always, under these conditions, be two regions not represented on the Steering Committee.

2. There will be a recurring pattern of regional representation on the Steering Committee every six years, with the consequence that some regions will, under these conditions, never be able to serve at the same time as each other on the Steering Committee.

3. Cases may frequently arise in which a Council Member will be able to serve as President for only one term of two years, despite the Council's intention to enable presidential continuity over four years.

Comment [MM5]: Revisions already effected by the General Conference.

Note that, given a Steering Committee consisting of three members, one of whom is the President, the principle of ensuring rotation across the six electoral groups will effectively limit the term of office of the President to two years - which may be problematic in terms of continuity.

- budget of the ~~Bureau~~Institute with the other activities foreseen in the draft programme and budget of UNESCO;
- (b) to define in detail, within the framework of the programme and budget approved by the General Conference and taking available extra-budgetary resources into account, as appropriate, the activities to be undertaken by the ~~Bureau~~Institute. The Council shall supervise the implementation of the programme of activities of the ~~Bureau~~Institute and shall mobilize human and financial resources;
 - (c) to approve the draft annual budget of the ~~Bureau~~Institute which is submitted to it by the Director;
 - (d) to verify budget execution and the audited accounts of the ~~Bureau~~Institute and the report of the External Auditor of UNESCO relating to the ~~Bureau~~Institute;
 - (e) to make proposals for the preparation and organization of sessions of the International Conference on Education;
 - (f) to submit to the Director-General a list of at least three names with a view to the appointment of a director in accordance with the provisions of Article VI below;
 - (g) to submit to the General Conference at each of its ordinary sessions a report on the activities of the ~~Bureau~~Institute.

Article VI

1. The Director of the ~~Bureau~~Institute shall be appointed by the Director-General, in consultation with the Council, for a term of office of maximum six (6) years, in accordance with Article V(f).
2. The Director shall prepare and submit to the Council his/her proposals for the draft general programme and budget of the ~~Bureau~~Institute.
3. The Director shall be responsible for the administration of the ~~Bureau~~Institute, in accordance with the Financial Regulations applicable to the Special Account for the International Bureau of Education, the Financial Rules applicable to the Special Account for the International Bureau of Education and the General Framework for the Delegation of Authority Granted to the Director of the IBE for the Management of Posts and Staff.

Article VII

1. The Director and personnel of the ~~Bureau~~Institute shall be members of the UNESCO staff and be subject to the provisions of the UNESCO Staff Regulations approved by the General Conference, with the exception of staff employed on an occasional basis as provided for in the administrative instructions contained in the UNESCO Manual.
2. The Director-General may enact special regulations compatible with the provisions of the UNESCO Staff Regulations, to apply to the personnel of the ~~Bureau~~Institute.

Article VIII

These Statutes shall enter into force on 1 January 1969.