



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and eighty-fourth session

184 EX/33

PARIS, 1 April 2010
Original: English/French

Item 33 of the provisional agenda

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON UNESCO'S POST-EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN HAITI

SUMMARY

This document on UNESCO's response to the 12 January 2010 earthquake in Haiti is presented by the Director-General at the request of the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Government of Haiti.

The document has financial or administrative implications to the extent that it reports on the one hand about activities undertaken and support provided from existing regular as well as extrabudgetary resources and on the other hand about proposed activities, unfunded as yet, which are part of the Action Plan for the Recovery and Development of Haiti to be presented by the Government of Haiti to the International Donors' Conference Towards a New Future for Haiti on 31 March 2010 in New York.

Action proposed: draft decision in paragraph 42.

INTRODUCTION

1. This document reports on all actions undertaken by UNESCO to provide assistance to the Haitian people, following the devastating earthquake of 12 January 2010, the strongest in more than 200 years, which has left more than 220,000 dead and 300,000 injured according to latest government figures. The epicentre of the 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck 17 km south-west of Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, which suffered extensive damage. The nearby communes of Carrefour, Martissant, Gressier and the town of Jacmel were also heavily affected, with the town of Léogâne reported to be 80% destroyed.

2. According to the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the earthquake has had a devastating impact on Haiti's education system. The number of schools affected by the disaster is thought to be between 1,800 and 4,600, while the total number of children and youth directly and indirectly affected is estimated to be 1.26 million. Port-au-Prince's three universities also were almost totally destroyed and the Ministry of Education building is in ruins. Tragically, as the earthquake struck at just before 5 p.m. on a Tuesday, a considerable number of students and teachers were in school buildings and perished.

3. Media, cultural and scientific institutions and personnel in Haiti were similarly heavily affected by the earthquake. The natural disaster early warning capabilities of the Government of Haiti have been severely damaged or destroyed.

4. A major international relief effort was rapidly put in place in the face of extraordinary logistical challenges, particularly the destruction of entry points into Port-au-Prince. A United Nations Humanitarian Flash Appeal, requesting US \$577 million in emergency assistance, was launched three days after the earthquake, and subsequently revised, on 18 February, into a humanitarian appeal (\$1,441,547,920), with a planning and budgeting horizon of 12 months. This revised Humanitarian Appeal is a strategic plan aiming to assist the 1.5 million people directly affected by the earthquake, and to support host families in the departments that have received an estimated 500,000 people who fled the capital. It also includes planning and preparedness ahead of the impending rainy season, including for education, disaster risk reduction, and other early recovery priorities.

5. In the aftermath of the earthquake, UNESCO took immediate actions to respond to the earthquake, by reinforcing the capacities of the Office in Port-au-Prince through the sending of senior experts and by helping to support national authorities to be in the lead of relief efforts. Under the overall international response and in coordination with other United Nations agencies, UNESCO focused on assessing Haiti's immediate needs within its fields of competence, through participation in the United Nations-led rapid needs assessment exercises and the humanitarian appeal process. Three UNESCO project proposals (\$4.05 million), covering a 12-month period, are included in the Humanitarian Appeal for Haiti launched on 18 February:

- (a) Emergency education support to secondary and higher education and authorities (\$2.9 million);
- (b) Emergency support to Haiti media (\$400,000);
- (c) Early Recovery of Haiti Warning Services for Coastal Hazards (\$750,000).

6. To date, approximately \$2.2 million has been mobilized by UNESCO thanks to generous contributions from the governments of Brazil, Bulgaria, Japan, as well as from GRULAC and the African Group at UNESCO through the Participation Programme, the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), regular programme funds, as well as private and online donations, notably \$110,000 through the Swiss Direct Mail campaign. Norway has provided in-kind contributions through the rapid deployment to UNESCO Port-au-Prince Office of emergency

personnel through the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Emergency Assistance of \$50,000 from the Participation Programme was also granted to the Haitian National Commission for UNESCO in favour of school rehabilitation and acquisition of education materials.

7. The Director-General paid an official visit to Haiti on 9 and 10 March 2010. On this occasion, she met with the Prime Minister, the Minister of National Education and Professional Training (Ministre de l'Éducation nationale et de la formation professionnelle) and the Minister of Culture and Communication, as well as representatives of civil society, in order to further reinforce UNESCO's support to national efforts to rebuild the social and cultural fabric of Haiti. During her meeting with the Minister of National Education and Professional Training (Ministre de l'Éducation nationale et de la formation professionnelle), the Director-General stressed UNESCO's commitment to addressing the most urgent educational needs, including the re-establishment of the education system holistically from primary school to university, and the need to prevent brain drain through extensive migration from the country. During her visit, the Director-General further reiterated UNESCO's strong commitment to safeguarding Haiti's cultural heritage as a means of preserving Haitian identity and promote economic development. She also paid a visit to CECOSIDA, a national network of journalists and communicators committed to the promotion of HIV/AIDS awareness and public health, which through UNESCO support has been providing psychological and post-traumatic training to journalists. The Director-General also participated in a round table discussion on higher education with the Governor General of Canada, the Minister of National Education and Professional Training (Ministre de l'Éducation nationale et de la Formation professionnelle) of Haiti, representatives of Haitian higher education institutions and the Vice-Rector of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF).

8. She also had the opportunity to visit Jacmel and Camp-Perrin. Jacmel is on UNESCO's tentative list to be proposed for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List. It suffered extensive damage to its historical buildings. While there, she met with craftspeople and underlined the vital role of local craftsmanship – both social as well as economic – as well as the need to preserve it. In Camp-Perrin, the Director-General was introduced to UNESCO-sponsored research on the migration effects of the earthquake on supposed “non-affected zones”, which should be fully taken into account in overall national recovery efforts. She also attended the launch of a training programme for builders in constructing earthquake-resistant, affordable housing. The Director-General also met with the representative of the European Union to seek strengthened cooperation with UNESCO at field level. With regard to culture, the Director-General reiterated her request for MINUSTAH to support the safeguarding of cultural sites during a meeting with the Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General.

9. While responding immediately to the needs of the Haitian population through the OCHA Humanitarian Appeal for Haiti, UNESCO is also seeking to bridge its emergency activities to support longer-term, nationally owned development in its fields of competence, namely education at all levels, tangible and intangible heritage, disaster risk reduction and media and press freedom. UNESCO actively engaged and participated in the multi-institutional Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) carried out by the Haitian Government, with the support of the United Nations system, the World Bank and the European Union Commission. The outcome is a Recovery Framework outlining a ten-year development vision for the country, including early longer-term developmental needs of three to five years, which includes expected results, performance indicators and corresponding resource requirements. The draft of this document was presented in Santo Domingo on 16 and 17 March 2010 during the Preparatory Technical Conference on Haiti, together with a new National Plan for the Development and Reconstruction of Haiti, presented by the Government of Haiti. UNESCO participated in the meeting co-organized by the Governments of the Dominican Republic and Haiti in collaboration with the World Bank and assisted in ensuring strong alignment between the PDNA and the National Recovery Plan. These two documents also contained the various actions proposed by UNESCO in support of the Government's efforts. Thereafter, the PDNA was merged with the National Recovery Plan into a single document, the Action Plan for the Recovery and Development of Haiti (Plan d'Action pour le Relèvement et le Développement d'Haïti), which will be presented by the President of Haiti at the International

Donors' Conference towards a New Future for Haiti on 31 March 2010 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. A Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) will be established to receive contributions from donors. UNESCO's active participation in this government-led process has helped to ensure that Haiti's priorities in education, the sciences, culture and communication are integral parts of a longer-term vision to "refonder une nouvelle Haiti" (Prime Minister Bellerive of Haiti at the launch of the PDNA process in Port-au-Prince).

10. The Organization also engaged in efforts to help contribute to the rebuilding of Haiti, notably through the organization of the UNESCO Haiti Forum on "Rebuilding the Social, Cultural and Intellectual Fabric of Haiti", held on 24 March at UNESCO Headquarters, with the participation of the Minister of Culture and Communication of Haiti. The Forum brought together Haitian intellectuals, artists and decision-makers, along with international experts. The purpose of the Forum was to help rebuild Haiti and to reconnect Haitians with themselves so that a new social contract could emerge from the rubble. The Forum also underlined the need for Haitians to be at the root of every initiative, and for Haiti's short-, medium- and long-term goals to be included in all reconstruction efforts. The Director-General shared the results of the Forum with the International Donors' Conference in New York on 31 March 2010. A summary of the results of the Forum are attached as Annex I to this document.

UNESCO RESPONSE IN ITS FIELDS OF COMPETENCE

Education

11. In the field of education, UNESCO's intervention is focused on addressing the most urgent educational needs of the Haitian population, with the longer-term objective of building back better the education system holistically. As part of its contribution, UNESCO is bringing a system-wide vision of education and lifelong learning for all, drawing attention to and supporting those parts of the education system that are often neglected in emergency situations: secondary and higher education, non-formal education, and technical and vocational education and training and capacity-building of national education authorities and personnel.

12. As part of the emergency response, UNESCO presented a \$2.9 million education project in the Revised Flash Appeal of the United Nations, for which approximately \$1.4 million had been mobilized, thanks notably to contributions from Brazil (\$400,000), Bulgaria (\$100,000), Japan (\$200,000), GRULAC Member States' readiness to cede Participation Programme Resources, the Africa Group at UNESCO, UNESCO regular programme funds, as well as private and online donations. These funds support the following activities:

- (a) Reactivation of emergency schooling and TVET/skills development for youth affected by the earthquake (\$ 1,300,000);
- (b) Emergency support to national education authorities (\$800,000);
- (c) Teacher training, including psychosocial support through teacher training (\$800,000);

13. The first component of UNESCO's proposal focuses on the provision of basic equipment and temporary learning spaces or repair of damaged secondary and higher education facilities, as well as technical and vocational education and training. As an immediate activity, UNESCO is working in cooperation with Les Ateliers-Écoles de Camp-Perrin to provide training for 500 construction workers in disaster-resistant techniques to promote sustainable rebuilding of schools and homes and to include local communities in the vast reconstruction effort to rebuild Port-au-Prince. Schooling and materials will be made available to 110,000 learners and catch-up programmes will be provided for students who have missed school due to the crisis.

14. In the aftermath of the disaster, UNESCO has placed strong emphasis on reinforcing the capacities of the Ministry of National Education and Professional Training to coordinate relief and

reconstruction efforts. Under its second project component, for example, UNESCO extended emergency support to national education authorities, providing them with basic equipment and temporary work space in UNESCO's premises, following the collapse of the Ministry's building. The Organization will also provide basic training for education officials in emergency response planning and management and help the Ministry of National Education and Professional Training formulate a master plan for the speedy resumption of classes.

15. Within the third component of this project, UNESCO is working with the Ministry and other partners in the education response to organize training activities for teachers in both affected areas and areas now hosting large migrant populations. To complement the work of other partners, UNESCO's interventions cover the secondary level, where approximately 2,500 teachers will be trained. UNESCO's activities focus not so much on the clinical aspect of trauma as on the pedagogical dimension. The activities will sensitize teachers and inspectors on psychosocial issues that their students are now facing, and train them in the use of open and learner-friendly methodologies and pedagogical techniques that can help students in the classroom. For those students who are severely traumatized, teachers are encouraged to use established referral systems where the clinical support services will play a role. Up to 110,000 students will benefit from psychosocial support through peer-support groups and referrals where appropriate. An element of the training will also address the fact that teachers and other personnel themselves are affected. In the medium term, training on disaster risk reduction (DRR) – how learners, teachers, schools and communities can mitigate risk and help prevent disaster – is also an element of the teacher training.

16. In the field of higher education, UNESCO is exploring ways of supporting the efforts of research institutions, universities and other partners willing to commit to the long-term reconstruction of higher education in Haiti, through the UNESCO Chair/UNITWIN mechanism. In addition to UNESCO's immediate plans to support the reactivation of higher education institutions, plans are also under way to support faculty and university students in providing assistance to displaced communities and people living in camps under makeshift tents.

17. UNESCO is also playing a major role in the coordination of education action on the ground, through support to and participation in the Education Cluster of the United Nations Country Team. Within the Education Cluster, the Organization chairs the subgroup on teacher training. UNESCO also provides technical and administrative support to the Education Cluster lead coordinators (UNICEF and Save the Children), which are organizing 720 learning spaces and providing some 350,000 children of primary-school age with learning and recreational materials. The Cluster is also finalizing a supply plan for March and April that will include the distribution of tents, teaching and learning materials, and basic school equipment. It estimates that it will reach 500,000 children with school-based supplies and equipment and 720,000 children with individual kits.

18. UNESCO is also co-leading, with the Ministry of National Education and Professional Training, the Education Sector Group (Groupe sectoriel d'éducation/GSE). The GSE, established in 2003, is the long-standing education sector group comprised of the Minister, development organizations and donors working to meet medium- and long-term needs. As the coordinator of this group, UNESCO has helped negotiate the mobilization of funds under the Education for All Fast-Track Initiative (EFA-FTI), which will allocate a Catalytic Fund grant of \$22 million for Haiti to international partners for emergency priorities following the earthquake. Within this framework, a request endorsed by the Minister of Planning and Professional Training has been made to the FTI Secretariat for UNESCO to be granted some \$1 million to develop pedagogical tools adapted to post-disaster situations.

Culture

19. In the field of culture, UNESCO is focusing its action on safeguarding the country's rich culture, including its tangible and intangible heritage. In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, UNESCO rendered technical and financial support to assist the Ministry of Culture and

Communication in setting up a national ad hoc crisis cell to coordinate the Ministry's emergency response, including data collection and inventory of the state of the art as regards damages to cultural infrastructures, intangible heritage museums, collections, and equipment.

20. According to a preliminary assessment from the Haitian authorities, all of the emblematic buildings in Port-au-Prince have been damaged, including the Presidential Palace, the Palace of Justice, the Dessalines Barracks, the Roman Catholic and Episcopalian Cathedrals, Alexandre Pétion High School and its library, Saint Anne and Saint Joseph churches, the Justice and Culture Ministries and Saint-Louis de Gonzague High School. Jacmel (on Haiti's Tentative List of properties to be proposed for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List), and Léogâne, close to the epicentre, have also sustained extensive damage. The consequences for intangible cultural heritage were just as severe, with the dispersion of communities of practitioners, the destruction of objects and instruments essential for important community celebrations, such as the Carnivals of Jacmel and Port-au-Prince, and the inaccessibility of the spaces in which they would be performed. In addition, numerous museums and art galleries, both public and private, libraries and national archives, were damaged and are at risk of being looted.

21. In order to secure Haiti's cultural heritage, the Organization is mobilizing efforts to avert the danger of looting, theft and illegal trade. To that end, the Director-General had suggested a United Nations-wide support for a temporary international ban on the trade in Haitian artefacts, which are suspected of being stolen from cultural institutions or churches or are illicitly trafficked. This initiative had been presented to the United Nations Secretary-General for submission to the United Nations Security Council.

22. The Director-General also had asked MINUSTAH to provide protection to key landmarks and museums. Furthermore, UNESCO alerted the International Customs Organization and INTERPOL, as well as heritage police forces in the Dominican Republic and European countries to pay particular attention to cultural goods originating from Haiti. All these institutions have replied very timely and positively to these requests. The objective of these measures is not to hinder commercial transactions of contemporary arts and crafts, which are an important source of income for the Haitian population.

23. The Director-General has repeatedly addressed communications to the United Nations Secretary-General and his Special Representative in Haiti on the urgent need of securing cultural and religious sites so as to avoid looting of cultural objects and the potential destruction of damaged cultural buildings. Thus, the Director-General welcomed the proposal by the Government of Argentina to deploy "White Helmets" (*cascos blancos*) to Haiti. Accordingly, UNESCO and the Comisión Cascos Blancos of the Universidad Nacional de San Martín (Argentina) will work to support Haitian authorities and the Institut de Sauvegarde du Patrimoine National (ISPAN) for the preservation and restoration of cultural sites, the National Library and National Archives. UNESCO was also approached by the United States and Canada who offered their support in securing the protection of cultural sites. UNESCO has provided financial assistance for the fencing of some historic sites and the purchase of containers in order to secure the protection and temporary storage of cultural objects. It will also provide legal expertise to the Ministry to deal with property rights issues which could impede these efforts. Moreover, UNESCO is working with the Haitian authorities so that they may benefit from the mechanisms for emergency international assistance available to them as a State Party to the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage so to address the country's most urgent needs in this regard.

24. In parallel, UNESCO, in cooperation with the Haitian Government, has initiated steps to set up an International Coordinating Committee to mobilize international institutions concerned with culture for safeguarding not only cultural heritage sites and moveable cultural objects, but also intangible heritage and creativity. A preparatory meeting was held at UNESCO Headquarters on 16 February 2010, gathering international and Haitian experts to discuss ways of rehabilitating Haitian cultural heritage in all its components in the framework of the ICC. The 150 participants included representatives from UNESCO Member States and organizations including Interpol, Blue

Shield, the World Customs Organization, the International Council of Museums (ICOM), International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), and museums including the Musée du Quai Branly (Paris, France) and the Smithsonian Institution (United States of America).

25. This meeting was crucial to identify key priority areas of cooperation between UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture and Communication, in particular, institutional support to the Haitian authorities in order to establish the inventories of sites, collections and intangible cultural heritage to be safeguarded. A fund to support artists and craftspeople to help them resume their work is also being developed. Regarding World Heritage, two key activities are being carried out: a Risk Assessment/Risk Preparedness Plan and an Emergency International Assistance Request will be submitted for funding from the World Heritage Fund for the World Heritage site of the National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1982. The main objective will be to ensure the structural stability of the site. This will involve a Risk Preparedness Plan and the assessment of the structural stability of the walls. A report on the state of conservation of the site was sent by the Haitian authorities to the World Heritage Centre in 2009 and will be used for the elaboration of the Plan. Furthermore, a project to assess any damage to the built heritage as well as to prepare the inventory and assessment of the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the site of the Historic Centre of Jacmel, included in the national Tentative List in 2004, is under preparation with extrabudgetary funding.

26. In Port-au-Prince, UNESCO has already helped salvage the exceptionally rich archives of George Corvington, the historian of Port-au-Prince. It is contributing to attempts to rescue whatever panels or significant fragments remain of the remarkable painted murals that used to decorate the Episcopal Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Port-au-Prince, which collapsed in the quake.

27. Drawing on past experience with institutions such as the UNESCO Dream Centre created in 2005, UNESCO will also help create spaces that promote the revival of rich Haitian cultural expressions, including dance, literature, oral traditions, arts and music. Interventions will target children and youth in particular, and be closely integrated with UNESCO's Education and Communication and Information efforts.

28. The Government of Haiti has identified the following eight projects for culture, which it intends to implement with the support of UNESCO:

- (a) International Forum for Haitian Culture;
- (b) Project on the establishment of a fund in support of creativity;
- (c) Emergency plan of action for crafts and design in Haiti;
- (d) Programme for the emergency safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in Haiti under the 2003 Convention;
- (e) Action to combat trafficking in Haitian cultural heritage and to build institutional, legal and operational capacities;
- (f) Emergency assistance to Haitian professionals for the safeguarding of museum collections and movable cultural objects;
- (g) Inventory of the built heritage of the historic centre of Jacmel;
- (h) National History Park – Citadelle, Sans Souci, Ramiers
Supplementary sources: World Heritage Fund (WHF), Spanish funds-in-trust.

29. In the field of Communication and Information, through its project on “Emergency support to Haiti media” (\$400,000), UNESCO is focusing on the rapid reactivation of local and community media, through support and training to strengthen capacity to disseminate humanitarian information and conflict-sensitive programming in Creole. The media can in fact play a crucial role for community recovery, by ensuring timely distribution of humanitarian information and by facilitating dissemination of peace-building and conflict-resolution messages. To date, some \$100,000 has been received through the IPDC.

30. Thanks to a preliminary assessment mission, the following urgent interventions have already been identified and/or initiated:

- (a) Psychosocial support for media professionals: UNESCO will support CECOSIDA and the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma (a Columbia University Journalism School programme), to provide psychosocial support to journalists and media professionals based on lessons learned from the 2004 Asian Tsunami. This activity will be accompanied by the production of radio programmes in cooperation with some local radios (Radio Caraïbes, Radio Kiskaye, Mélodie FM).
- (b) Support to community media: UNESCO will help two Haitian community radio networks (SAKS and REFAKA) to rebuild their capacities through support to three multimedia centres.
- (c) Humanitarian programmes in refugee camps: UNESCO will support NGO Alter Presse to set up an itinerant cybercafé project for some twelve refugee camps to disseminate humanitarian information through radio programmes.
- (d) Support to media professional associations, notably the Association des Journalistes Haïtiens: UNESCO, through IPDC support, intends to reinforce media professional organizations and to raise the capacity of media professionals through training in professional reporting and ethical standards.
- (e) UNESCO has already supported the creation of a humanitarian information centre comprising three NGOs: l’Association des Médias Haïtiens, Médias Alternatifs and SOS Journalistes, whose headquarters were completely destroyed by the earthquake. UNESCO will provide a physical space to allow the activities of these three associations.
- (f) Archives and libraries: In view of the forthcoming rainy season, some urgent measures are required to safeguard what remains of Haitian documentary heritage:

31. National Archives: UNESCO, in cooperation with “Patrimoine en Danger”, will focus its intervention on:

- Storing the documents from the Fonds d’État Civil, which was severely damaged;
- Safeguarding of archives of different public institutions, i.e. Parliament, Interior Ministry, Justice Palace.

32. National Library: UNESCO will support the National Library with the storage of all books and documents while structural rehabilitation works are undertaken. Assistance to the libraries of the Faculté d’Agronomie and of the Médecine Vétérinaire and of the Faculté de Médecine et de Pharmacie is also being explored.

33. Iconographic Foundation: UNESCO will provide additional support to the “Fondation Iconographique” in order to:

- Preserve the frescos of the Sainte Trinité Cathedral;
- Safeguard the Roger-Gaillard Library and the Hénock Trouillot Library.

Natural sciences

34. Drawing on its scientific expertise in disaster risk reduction, UNESCO will offer support to institutions that can strengthen resilience to future earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, and other natural hazards.

35. As part of its emergency support, UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) has included a project proposal in the Revised Flash Appeal on "Early Recovery of Haiti Warning Services for Coastal Hazards" (\$750,000). This proposal aims at assisting Haitian national agencies (the Centre National Météorologie d'Haïti and the Service National Maritime d'Haïti (SEMANAH), in immediately rebuilding their monitoring and warning capabilities for coastal hazards, ahead of the hurricane season. Within this proposal, four sea-level stations, essential for monitoring tsunami- and hurricane-related sea-level changes, will be installed on the Haitian coast. Extensive training of operators and warning centre staff will go along with coordination exercises of the Haitian agencies involved. The Intergovernmental Coordination Group ICG for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions (CARIBE-EWS), at its next meeting in Managua, Nicaragua, has devoted an extra day on 14 March 2010, to discuss together with Haitian authorities imminent and medium-term activities to ensure Haiti's full participation. Under the MoU between UNESCO and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), the latter will install a CTBTO National Data Center to ensure access and dissemination of seismic data for tsunami warning purposes.

36. Given the ongoing seismic hazards and the upcoming cyclonic season, as well as the diminished capacity available in Haiti, UNESCO contributed through IOC to a Natural Hazard Assessment Team (NATHAT) led by the World Bank, Haiti's Direction de Protection Civile (DPC) and Ministère de l'Intérieur et des Collectivités Territoriales (MICT) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). NATHAT produced a multi-hazard assessment on the expected level of intensity of the considered hazards. It covers the affected areas and the rest of the country as appropriate and according to the data, information and time available. This activity supports the Humanitarian Cluster's efforts to guard against future risk, the relief and recovery efforts of the Government and the early contingency planning for the upcoming rainy and cyclonic seasons. All these are integral components of the Government-led Action Plan for Haiti.

37. UNESCO is also exploring the possibility of supporting early multi-hazard mapping and disaster-resistant building codes for the recovery process in Haiti, with a view to establishing a Haitian Institute of Science, Engineering and Disaster Risk Reduction. UNESCO also intends to support the "Centre National d'Information Géospatiale", whose capacities were badly affected by the earthquake. Restoring the capacities of hydrological institutions will be another priority area of future cooperation.

Social and human sciences

38. UNESCO's endeavours and actions for Haiti in this field focus on social transformations, policy advice and on how to best engage Haitian authorities, intellectuals and civil society as a whole in (re)defining their own society, including through engagement with the diaspora. Haitian stakeholders shall receive intellectual support with a view to building a fruitful consensus between the core actors of the Haitian society – who must always be and remain the "makers" of every proposal made in favour of their country – the Haitian diaspora and the international community. UNESCO is committed to helping building capacity and to acting as a neutral facilitator to assist both Haitian authorities and the community in laying the broader ground for recovery within the framework of the overall rebuilding exercise.

39. This was also underlined by the UNESCO Haiti Forum on 24 March 2010, to the conceptualization of which the Social and Human Sciences Sector contributed. In the medium and long term, the findings and options coming from the 24 March UNESCO Haiti Forum could be deepened and integrated into thematic and structured workshops involving relevant Haitian

authorities, the Haitian academic community, civil society actors and international intellectuals around the search for a reshaping of the society in its various components. The main aim would be to assist Haitian authorities, to inform policy-makers and to provide conceptual input to the different social pillars of the society engaged in the ongoing social transformation of the rebuilding endeavour.

Possible action by the Executive Board

40. In the light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 184 EX/33,
2. Emphasizing the need to strengthen UNESCO's cooperation with Haiti in support of the efforts of the Government to promote reconstruction, peace and development through education, the natural sciences, the social and human sciences, culture, and communication and information, following the devastating earthquake which hit the country on 12 January 2010,
3. Stressing UNESCO's role in restoring education services and opportunities in a holistic manner, and in strengthening the institutional capacities of the Haitian education system,
4. Recognizing the importance of culture, including cultural heritage in all its forms, for the rebuilding of Haiti and for the national identity of the Haitian people,
5. Noting the outcome of the Preparatory Meeting for the Establishment of an International Coordination Committee (ICC) for Haitian culture, held at UNESCO Headquarters on 16 February 2010,
6. Welcoming the information that UNESCO's competences in education, the sciences, culture, and communication and information have been integrated into the Action Plan for the Rebuilding and Development of Haiti, presented at the International Donors' Conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 31 March 2010,
7. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for her prompt initiatives and action undertaken by UNESCO to respond to the urgent needs of Haiti in the Organization's fields of competence;
8. Approves the Statutes submitted by the Director-General for the establishment of an International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of Haitian Cultural Heritage, as annexed to this decision;
9. Appeals to all Member States to consider supporting UNESCO's role and activities at all relevant international fora;
10. Further calls on Member States, intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental agencies and foundations to provide extrabudgetary resources to reinforce UNESCO's efforts in support of the reconstruction and capacity-building of Haiti in its fields of competence;
11. Invites the Director-General to provide a progress report on the implementation of this decision at its 185th session.

ANNEX TO THE DRAFT DECISION

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF HAITIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE

Article 1

An International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of Haiti's Cultural Heritage is hereby established (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee").

Article 2

The Committee shall advise the UNESCO Director-General – who will inform the Haitian authorities, Member States and other partners – on measures to improve and reinforce international cooperation for the safeguarding of Haiti's cultural heritage, and more precisely on:

- (a) a policy framework for immediate and long-term heritage protection and the definition of priorities and practical standards according to the funds and technical assistance available or forthcoming in the near future;
- (b) concrete programmes and international assistance of the highest international standards;
- (c) the progress of the various activities in support of the safeguarding of Haitian cultural heritage, in order to coordinate international communication efforts;
- (d) the progress of the various activities in support of the safeguarding of built heritage, whether or not they have been inscribed on the World Heritage List;
- (e) the exchange of knowledge on cultural objects, cultural and natural sites, museums, intangible heritage, art, creativity and cultural traditions throughout the country;
- (f) the identification of the funds available from the donor countries and other partners in order to ensure their proper coordination, as well as the identification of possible supplementary funding and technical assistance for the safeguarding of Haitian cultural heritage;
- (g) the identification of shelters (safe havens), secured, temporary storage and the cultural preservation of the objects at risk;
- (h) assistance to the Haitian authorities in implementing or elaborating the necessary legislative action to protect, safeguard, and promote Haitian culture and in preparing nominations of potential sites for inscription on the World Heritage List or of potential elements for inscription on the lists of intangible culture.
- (i) assistance to the Haitian authorities in implementing or formulating the necessary legislative action to protect and safeguard the universal, exceptional value of the Citadel of Sans Souci, for which it was inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Article 3

1. The Committee shall be composed of experts who shall be appointed in their personal capacities by the Director-General from a list of experts submitted by Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and other institutions that contribute to the safeguarding and promotion of Haitian culture. At least three members shall be Haitian.

2. The normal term of office of members of the Committee shall be four years. This term is renewable. In the event of the resignation, incapacity or death of a member of the Committee, the Director-General shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of his or her term.

3. In addition to the members of the Committee, and the observers mentioned in Article 8, the Director-General may invite to sessions of the Committee, as non-voting participants, the following:

- (a) persons who by reason of their special knowledge and experience can assist the Committee in its work;
- (b) representatives of funding or aid agencies that are active in Haiti in the relevant areas of cultural heritage and which, in the judgement of the Director-General, have experience that can contribute to the work of the Committee;
- (c) representatives of non-governmental international organizations, funding agencies and regional and Haitian organizations which may be involved in the activities implemented in Haiti in the relevant areas of cultural heritage, in accordance with the directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations.

Article 4

1. The Chairperson of the Committee shall be appointed by the Director-General for a period of four (4) years. The Committee shall elect its Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur for the same term.

2. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and the Rapporteur will form the Bureau of the Committee. They shall be eligible for further terms, and in any event shall remain in office until the election or appointment of the new members of the Bureau.

3. The Director-General shall convene the Bureau and shall be represented at its meetings.

4. In the interval between sessions, the Bureau shall ensure the execution of tasks entrusted to it by the Committee.

Article 5

1. The Director-General shall designate members of the UNESCO Secretariat to represent him or her on the Committee and the Bureau without the right to vote.

2. The secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the UNESCO Secretariat.

Article 6

The Director-General shall convene sessions of the Committee, meetings of the Bureau, or small working meetings on certain aspects of the activities of the Committee as and when he or she deems it to be necessary.

Article 7

The travel and subsistence expenses of Committee members and of persons referred to in Article 3, subparagraph 3(a), may be borne by UNESCO in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations of the Organization.

Article 8

1. Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO may send observers to sessions of the Committee.

2. The United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements may send representatives to sessions of the Committee.

3. The Director-General may extend invitations to send observers to sessions of the Committee, to:

- (a) organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded mutual representation agreements;
- (b) intergovernmental or international non-governmental organizations in accordance with the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with international NGOs.

Article 9

1. At its first session, the Committee shall adopt its Rules of Procedure which shall be submitted to the Director-General for approval. They must not be in conflict with the present Statutes.

2. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.

3. The agenda of the sessions of the Committee shall be drawn up by the Director-General.

4. After each session and at least once a year, the Committee shall present a report on its work and recommendations to the Director-General. The Director-General shall inform the Executive Board of the results of the work of the Committee.

Article 10

These Statutes may be amended by the Executive Board, on its own initiative or following proposals of the Director-General.

Article 11

The Committee's mandate shall expire upon the decision of the Director-General after consultation with the Executive Board.

ANNEX I

REBUILDING THE SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL FABRIC OF HAITI SUMMARY OF THE UNESCO FORUM ON HAITI, 24 MARCH 2010, UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS

In the aftermath of the earthquake that devastated the Port-au-Prince region in Haiti, UNESCO undertook immediately to meet the needs of the Haitian people in its fields of competence. In order to integrate short-term and long-term needs more effectively, in particular in a developing country that was already in a difficult situation even before the earthquake, and to coordinate its action better with its United Nations and international community partners, UNESCO held a Forum on “Rebuilding the social, cultural and intellectual fabric of Haiti” on 24 March 2010. In its role as a partner seeking to catalyse Haitian energies, UNESCO wished the meeting to be attended by decision-makers, intellectuals, artists and social scientists from the Haitian community at large, including representatives of the Haitian diaspora, and by international experts and friends of Haiti.

Two major factors were evident in the statements and discussions. Firstly, it was generally perceived that the earthquake of 12 January constituted a sharp break that should “kick-start” wide-ranging political and social renewal. Secondly, it was apparent that such galvanization would be possible only if relations among the various components of the Haitian community, namely the elites and the general public, urban and rural dwellers, Haitians at home and those of the diaspora, were placed on a new footing. All participants called on UNESCO to assist them in a long-term endeavour to be underpinned by the broad lines of the Organization’s mandate.

The Forum’s recommendations addressed four main issues: governance, education, culture and the media.

Systematizing the bottom-up approach for governance, reconstruction and institutions for and by Haitians

At the Forum, Haitians and their friends indicated generally that the reconstruction of Haiti, conducted in partnership with the international community, should be geared to and inspired by Haitians. Rejecting the idea of development on a *tabula rasa* basis, they stressed the principle that Haiti should be reborn, in other words, developed primarily on the basis of Haitian resources, capacities and skills. Most statements also called for civil society to be promoted in all its diversity, including non-governmental organizations, political parties, intellectuals and public figures endowed with moral authority, as well as members of the diaspora, whose role in the country’s development would be much greater than merely remitting funds.

Integrated education system: the post-earthquake reconstruction should afford an opportunity to start a “virtuous circle” for Haitian society and economy

In the field of education, the key message concerned the need for an integrated refounding of the education system, which should neglect none of its components, from early childhood education to higher education, and including vocational education. Noting that the education system had already been chronically in crisis before the earthquake, Haiti’s representatives urged that post-earthquake reconstruction should afford an opportunity to improve the system by working to achieve the objectives of free and universal education that have long been enshrined in Haiti’s successive Constitutions. They stressed, in particular, that schools rebuilt through public-private partnerships should not only enable previously enrolled pupils to return to school, but also permit enrolment of 500,000 hitherto unenrolled children. A number of challenges should be taken up in higher education regarding, in particular, training for the country’s key supervisory personnel adaptation of current training courses to the employment market, and quality training for teachers and trainers.

Culture, the leaven of social cohesion and the engine of development

The inclusion of culture among the themes of the Action Plan for Recovery and National Development in Haiti was recognized as a major advance for Haiti. Indeed, the Forum demonstrated that cultural heritage and creativity and intellectual life were matters of keen social and civic awareness in Haiti. Throughout the Forum, it was recognized that culture could and should act on the twin, complementary planes of social cohesion and economic development. In the wake of the many traumas of a tumultuous history and a relentless series of natural disasters, the safeguarding and promotion of Haitian culture was an indispensable prerequisite for ensuring that Haitian society recovered its cohesion, coherence and resilience. Through cultural industries and cultural tourism, culture was also an engine for Haiti's autonomous development, for which assistance would be required for training in the various cultural trades in general and, more specifically, for cultural equipment and facilities.

Media empowerment to disseminate objective and quality information to Haitians

One of the strong conclusions drawn at the Forum concerned the correlation between the dearth of quality information provided and the shortcomings noted by many Haitian experts in such areas as transparency of State action, corruption, climate change, deforestation and information on natural disasters. Acknowledging the inalienability of freedom of the press, in particular in order to ensure that the media are independent of political authorities and moneyed interests, the panellists agreed on a number of points relating, in particular, to training in the journalism professions, the status of journalists and the need for the most objective and reliable information to be disseminated.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Hundred and eighty-fourth session

184 EX/33 Corr.

PARIS, 1 April 2010
Original: English

Item 33 of the provisional agenda

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON UNESCO'S POST-EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN HAITI

CORRIGENDUM

The following change should be made to document 184 EX/33.

Paragraph 40, proposed decision: add the following new paragraph 8 to read as follows:

8. "Expresses its appreciation for the timely and generous financial contributions, as described in paragraph 6 of document 184 EX/33, of Brazil, Bulgaria, Japan, as well as from GRULAC and the African Group at UNESCO through the Participation Programme, the International Programme for the Development of Communication as well as private and online contributions and in kind contributions, such as from Norway, in support of UNESCO's activities included in the United Nations Humanitarian Appeal for Haiti";

All subsequent paragraphs should be renumbered accordingly.