AIAP/IAA WISHES EACH OF ITS MEMBERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

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I The vote of the WAD by the 40th UNESCO General Conference

As the AIAP/IAA President, Bedri Baykam already wrote you, the 40th Unesco General Conference ratified, by «consensus and without debate», according to the official formula, April 15th of each year as the «World Art Day».

This unanimous vote, previously endorsed by the Executive Council of Unesco, as well as by the Culture Commission of the General Conference, was made possible thanks to the combined efforts of the artists, President Baykam, and the AIAP Secretary at Unesco Martine Pasquet.

The Delegation of Mexico underlined the Unesco interest for the ideas that were developed in the presentation report, and noted, with interest, the actions carried out around the world in favor of the 2030 goals.

Now, the concept of WAD belongs to Unesco, but it is understood that the AIAP/IAA Logo (the Man of Vitruve, by Leonardo da Vinci), will continue to be usable in all the events organized by the artists of AIAP/IAA.

The Unesco Logo will be made available for this day after a written agreement between the AIAP/IAA and the Secretariat of the Organization. Of course, all the Cns will be informed when this authorization is done by Unesco.

II The 40th General Conference and the Condition of the Artist

As you all know, a global survey on the implementation and application of the 1980 Recommendation on the Status of the Artist was launched by Unesco in 2018, among 193 members.

Only 52 Members States answered this survey. 39 NGOs and 2 INGOs added their voices to those of the States. The list of the responding States is available through the link mentioned in the following §,1.A, below.

That means that the pressure to be made on the national governments, via the Ministries of Culture by presenting precise and specific draft laws which defend the Status of the Artist remains strong, and requires sustained efforts from the National Committees which are called upon to work with disciplines others than visual arts in order to establish syntheses of rights to be submitted to the
Actually Unesco can only « recommend » the States to take such or such a disposal, to respect the ethics proposed by the Organization, to guide the governments to take certain decisions and to respect them, but has no legitimacy to vote constraining laws. As the Directrice-General regularly reminds us, Unesco is a « laboratory of ideas », not a politically and legally decision-making body. Thus, each government has the responsibility to vote laws, and to protect the artists accordingly to the ethical orientation and concrete solutions proposed by Unesco.

1 Conclusions of the 2018 Survey on the Condition of the Artist

A. In Document 207 EX/23.VI you will find a summary of the trends emerging from this survey, a synthesis established according to the following criterias :

– Global evaluation
– Culture in the digital environment
– Supporting the transnational mobility of artists and flow of artistic works
– Human Rights and fundamental freedoms

This last document gives interesting details about the legislation adopted in favor of the artists, as well as details on economic, social and moral rights in countries such as Lithuania, Togo, Mexico, Austria, France and Ecuador.

Link: https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:48223/pdf0000369695_eng/PDF/369695fre-pdf.multi
This document exists in ENG, FR, ESP.

B. Publication by Unesco, for the 40th General Conference, of the complete analytical study of the survey, within the framework of the « Politics and Research » series.
The complete text was downloaded on the AIAP/IAA website: www.aiap-iaa.org/information/congresses
Unesco link: https://fr.unesco/creativity/publications/culture-et-les-conditions-de-travail-des-artistes-2091
ENG FR ESP versions.

This work reveals that the most complete law on the Status and the protection of the artists was promulgated by the Kingdom of Morocco in 2003, amended and modified in 2016. This law has been requested from the Delegation of Morocco and will be downloaded on the AIAP/IAA website upon receipt. The NCS will be kept informed, as this law can serve as a model in the presentation of projects of laws to the national parliaments.

C. The Forum of Ministers of Culture, meeting at Unesco on November 19, 2019, during the General Conference, discussed about the « Copyright Directive in the digital market », stressing that Europe had the copyright policy N° 1 in the digital environment, and that it aims to guarantee fair remuneration for artists. (Cf pages 26/27)

The analysis of the Forum of Ministers of Culture is presented Region per Region, showing the trends, challenges and opportunities in each Region.

III The AIAP/IAA National Committees and the Status of the Artist

A. In this spirit, IAA Europe continuing its excellent work on the artists' rights, and following the success of the Canadian artists, dedicated its general Assembly (Bratislava, November 2019)

– on one hand, to the rights to fair remuneration for artists during exhibitions of their works
– on the other hand, has issued a resolution based on the European directives to submit to the national governments on copyrights in the digital age

All information and reports will be available on the IAA Europe website: www.iaa-europe.org, as well as on the AIAP/IAA website as soon as published.

B. The national Committee of Chile (APECH), meeting with other Chilean Associations of Visual Art, last November, developed and made available to the artists:

- a catalogue of good professional practices in the Visual Arts
- models of contracts for artists covering the various situations they may encounter
- a table of remunerations to which artists can claim
- a law project

These texts are available in Spanish on the IAA website: www.aiap-iaa.org/congresses

For all information you could need, please mail: apecx_aiap@yahoo.com

The next Unesco world survey on the Status of the Artist, and the implementation and application of the 1980 Recommendation and of the 2005 Convention will be launched in 2022 to be published in 2023, during the 42nd General Conference. This new survey will make possible the assessment of the progress made in terms of legislation, as well as the new trends which will emerge from the answers provided by the Members States and the NGOs.

Unesco and the European Union, whose representative regularly participate to the Unesco meetings and colloques, exchange information about the implementation of cultural policies and are working in close collaboration. Those exchanges allow the dissemination and the concrete application of the Unesco directives in the European Union.

IV The future of Arts Education

At the 40th GC, the Republic of Korea proposed a Resolution to raise awareness of Arts Education and Arts Education Week which takes place, every year, during the last week of May. In Europe, preceded every May 18th, by the European Night of the Museums.

Everyone knows that the Republic of Korea is the world spearhead in Arts Education and relies, for the implementation of its policy, on the Unesco document entitled « The Seoul Agenda: objectives for the development of artistic education », adopted in May 2010 by the Ministers participating to the World Conference.

Unesco links:
It should be noted that the Republic of Korea, in its explanatory note, mentions the decision of the Executive Council, April 2019, which recommends the proclamation of a 'World Art Day' (AIAP/IAA initiative). This decision allows Korea to recall the « need to highlight the contribution of arts to sustainable development and peace ».

In the §9 of its note, the Republic of Korea proposes for next year (2020) on the occasion of the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Seoul Agenda, in collaboration with the 5th Conference of Teaching Artists (ITACS), and with the UNESCO-UNITWIN Conference (Research on artistic education at the service of cultural diversity and sustainable development) to review the results of the Seoul Agenda and to strengthen the dynamics of awareness of artistic education. §10 « The government of Korea will be promoting the 'Growing with Arts' Campaign which is initiated by artists and entrepreneurs of the Republic of Korea and ten ASEAN states on the occasion of 2019 ASEAN ROK Commemorative Summit to be held in Busan in November 2019, to raise awareness of the necessity to encourage the public education system of regional states to provide universal art classes in schools. §11 The main objective of this Resolution is to ensure that Unesco will provide an integrated approach to arts education as well as intersectorial cooperation between the Culture and Education Sectors of Unesco in promoting and integrating arts education, and to encourage Members States to participate in and contribute to the international Arts Education Week with concrete and practical contents and ideas. »
(in Draft Resolution 40 C/COM.CLT/DR.1 Item 5.29 of the provisional agenda)

During a round table of the 40th General Conference dedicated to the work of the Foundation of the Italian singer Andrea Bocelli, the Assistant Director General for Education, Mrs Giannini, announced that, in the coming years, Unesco would focused on the importance to be given to Arts Education in the educational systems, and that artistic education should become one of the main orientations of Unesco. Mrs Giannini also insisted on the working conditions and on the definition of the Artist, today perceived as a pedagogue or a therapist - « a plugger of political shortcomings in education »-(dixit).
The Deputy Director General of the Education Sector wishes, in the coming years, to relaunch the development of artistic education within educational systems, ' in order to make individuals full human beings, through the development of their own specificities, and not beings subject to a system ».(dixit)

Ideas which are none other than those presented by the Secretariat of AIAP/IAA for the vote of the WAD by the Executive Council. These ideas, thanks to the presence, the determination, and the perseverance of AIAP/IAA on the spot, made their way within Unesco, the Secretariat of the Organization and all the Delegations having received the presentation report.

Of course, this cannot be done without the mobilization of artists who should be on the front line :
. to put pressure on the concerned Ministries so that budgets are reased accordingly
. so that these budgets become a source of income for the artists
. so that the precarious contracts of the artists are revised

V. The artists and the creatives cities: a source of income and visibility

The Culture Sector brought to the attention of the Culture Commission the results of a collaboration between artists and the Unesco Creative Cities Network, under the title « The voices of cities ». Collection Culture. LAB 2030. 16 pages
Results of «concrete experience and meetings», the creative cities (which are present in 72 countries) put into practice the driving role of creativity in order to build more sustainable, more human, and more inclusive cities, in which artists have a place to take and to play. For example, in Mexico, in the city of Morelia, the Institute of Architects of Puebla entrusted visual artists from all around the world with the task of transforming pedestrian crossings into works of art. Large frescoes, composed by international artists, now call for drivers to be vigilant, and accident have decreased by 30% (Cf Page 11 of the brochure). The project has been applied in 14 Mexican cities, as well as in Panama City.

AIAP/IAA artists also can offer projects to municipalities, thereby increasing their income and visibility. In 2021, the city of Istanbul will host the annual Creative Cities Conference.

VI. The circulation of the artists art works: the new AIAP/IAA project

As announced by President Baykam at the IAA Europe GA, as well as in his last letter to the NCs, the problem of the flow of art works and the crossing of borders is becoming the new work of AIAP/IAA.

To this end, and before submitting the problem and starting any approach to the Delegations of the Members States, it should be remembered that the existing texts on freedom of mobility of the art works are to be recalled:

- UNESCO: 1976. Recommendation concerning the international exchange of cultural goods

The 40th general Conference voted a new resolution aimed at strengthening the control of the illicit traffic of art works, asking the States - given the proliferation of stolen works of art - to be much more vigilant on this matter. These constraints also stem from terrorist acts and migratory flows that are transforming the planet today, making the artists of all specialties collateral victims in obtaining their visas. It is obvious that, in the current international and social context, and taking into account the reinforced borders protection measures adopted by a number of countries, these constraints hit the artists head on.

In the report on «Culture. Working conditions of the artists«:

Unesco sets out in an explicit and very detailed way the problems raised up with regard to the circulation of art works as they emerge from the survey carried out in 2018.

See pages 61 to 65: «Obstacles to the mobility and circulation of artistic works»

The problem of the visas obtaining, as well as the initiatives implemented in the various regions of the world are detaily described.

So, to work on solutions to propose, first of all, it is therefore appropriate for each NC to:

- summarize the artists' encountered problems in terms of exporting his/her art works
- to make very concrete proposals able to be implemented by the governments

To make AIAP/IAA able to be heard and understood at Unesco, it is essential to present ideas for new measures likely to be applied very concretely by each country, ideas that the NCs will be able
to present to their Delegation with the support of their local Unesco Office.

However, and once again, Unesco cannot vote binding laws nor impose a single international legislation, each State having a particular legal system, and remaining free to decide on its legislation.

But, Unesco can work (and already did) both with the World Customs Organization, and with UNIDROIT (International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, based in Rome, Italy) in order to think and to find out normative solutions able to be adopted by all the countries.

VII Miscellaneous

A. Publications

The 40th General Conference also published:

- Culture/2030 Indicators
  Author, Ramirez Ernesto Ottone, Assistant Director General for Culture. 109 pages. 2019
  Languages: FR ENG
  Link: https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf000037157

- Legal Standards on freedom of Expression/

B. Contributions of AIAP/IAA to the Unesco priorities

Alongside Unesco AIAP/IAA is engaged, through the NGOs Liaison Committee, in the search for solutions to current problems and challenges.

In 2019, the AIAP/IAA Secretary more particularly participated to all the meetings and brainstormings of the «Campaign Climate Warming» by proposing ideas. During the 40th General Conference, the NGOs space broadcasted videos made by the National Committee of India which was able to expose the work carried out in the field by the artists. This Campaign will go on in 2020.

The Forum «Challenging inequalities» (December 2019) allowed the broadcast of 4 videos by AIAP/IAA artists, showing the initiatives taken by artists from the NC of Japan, India, France (Tahiti), and in Morocco on the inclusive art education as well as targeting isolated/disadvantaged populations.

The artist Maria Takahashi (NC from Japan) was invited by the Liaison Committee for an oral presentation of the method she created to teach blind people to paint and she could participated to a workshop.

These videos and testimonies will be introduced on the AIAP/IAA website.

C. Unesco priorities, 2030 objectives and beyond: major challenges and priorities.

The Executive Council, in Doc. 40C/INF.18 (information Document) proposed and discussed the medium-term strategy, after having received and confirmed «the centrality of Unesco' role in the achievement of the 2030 program». It shows:

- overall priorities
  Africa
  Gender equity
  Small island states
The youth

– the main challenges

Extreme poverty and growing inequalities
Building Peace societies
The centrality of Educational Global Climate Change and the deregulations it induces
The technological revolution and the emergence of artificial intelligence
The worldwide decline of press freedom
Access to water
Oceans management
The massive degradation of biodiversity across the world
The global partnership for sustainable development
'Open science'

These priorities were presented to the General Conference after the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development organized under the auspices of the General Conference in October 2019.

**D. AIAP/IAA Exhibitions projects at Unesco Headquarters**

Finally, were proposed to the Information Sector exhibitions by AIAP/IAA artists to be held in 2020 as part of World Days (only conditions to have rooms for free at Fontenoy):

– one on recycling waste and materials in works of art (Environment Day)
– the other on Migrants (Migrants Day)
– a third one on inclusive art education (Takahashi method) will be offered soon

Responses are still pending

MP