



## Executive Summary-Report of the U40-World Forum “Cultural Diversity 2030” 12 to 14 June 2009, Paris/France

The German Commission for UNESCO and the International Federation of the Coalition for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD) jointly organised the “U40-World Forum” on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Parties of the UNESCO Convention for the Protection and the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (15 to 18 June 2009).

As a pre-conference, the U40-World Forum was held back-to-back with the Conference of Parties from 12 to 14 June at the National Audiovisual Institute, Paris, France. During the two-day workshop 50 young professionals from 34 countries discussed proposals on how to implement the Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

The U40-World Forum was opened with three contributions by the organizers of the World Forum titled “Magna Charta of an international cultural policy – The spirit of the Convention”, “Briefing and preview of the agenda of the Conference of Parties” and “Political impact of the Convention since 2005”. Thematic working groups on the “Implementation of the Convention through the EU”, the “Influence of the Internet on the diversity of cultural expressions” and “International cooperation for the protection of cultural diversity – concrete approaches” highlighted first approaches for the future life of and with the Convention.

### “Proposals for Cultural Diversity 2030”

As a result of the workshop, a two-page paper “Proposals for Cultural Diversity 2030” was drafted. These proposals addressed delegates from State Parties and Observers to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Parties to the UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005) and to any other stakeholders of the Convention (<http://www.unesco.de/3201.html?&L=1>). Taking into account the World Forum slogan “Cultural Diversity 2030”, the young culture experts plead for new conceptions in support of cultural development, cultural cooperation and cultural diplomacy, that extend beyond the traditional model of developed and developing countries. They highlighted that Cultural Diversity has a fundamental role for the sustainable development of societies. The U40-participants affirmed that civil society is a key player and partner towards achieving and implementing the objectives of the Convention. Partnerships with the media, the private sector and via new media should increase the public awareness for the values of cultural diversity, promote global cultural cooperation and enable innovative fundraising for the International Fund for Cultural Diversity.

### From the second Conference of Parties to a *Chatham house*-dialogue

The U40-participants attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Diversity for Cultural Expressions (15 to 16 of June 2009) as observers, registered through respective delegations of State Parties, intergovernmental organisations and/or NGOs. On 16 of June 2009, immediately after the closure of the Conference of Parties, a “Panel discussion” was held at the conference venue. In form of a “*Chatham House dialogue*”<sup>1</sup> the U40-representatives discussed the latest results of the Conference of Parties with State Parties and civil society representatives and presented their work with the Convention as well as the “Proposals for a Cultural Diversity 2030” (see “Conclusions of the Chatham House dialogue” on <http://www.unesco.de/3201.html?&L=1>).

### Future U40-activities

The U40-group committed itself to further promote the objectives and values of the Convention. Moreover, the group continues the discussion process via an internet platform. They will disseminate the ideas and aims of the programme and the Convention throughout their networks and beyond. In order to increase the visibility of the Convention, the U40-fellows will inter alia gather all text versions available of the 2005-Convention on the website of the IFCCD and translate the “Proposals for Cultural Diversity 2030” in their respective mother languages. Moreover, they will provide active support for identifying future partners for the U40-Capacity Building Programme. They agreed that it is necessary to support awareness-raising projects and activities on cultural diversity worldwide and in their countries, especially on the occasion of the 21<sup>st</sup> May – World Day for Cultural Diversity, for Dialogue and Development.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Chatham House Rule* allows people to speak as individuals, and to express views that may not be those of their organizations, and therefore it encourages free discussion.