

DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL CIRCULATION  
OF VISUAL AND AUDITORY MATERIALS OF AN EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL CHARACTER

Memorandum by the United Nations Educational, Scientific  
and Cultural Organization

The Draft Convention for facilitating the International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of an Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character was approved by the third session of the General Conference to be circulated to the Member States of UNESCO and the United Nations for signature.

Article XVI of the Draft Agreement provided in part that the Secretary-General of the United Nations would also furnish certified copies of the Agreement "to such other governments as may be designated by agreement between the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization".

The resolution on this matter, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its third session, contains the following provisions:

"THE GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLVES:

- "1. To approve the Draft Agreement for Facilitating the International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of an Educational, Scientific and Cultural character and recommend it to the Member States of UNESCO for their signature.
- "2. To instruct the Director-General within thirty days to communicate to the Member States of UNESCO the text of this Resolution together with a copy of the Agreement, informing them that under the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, each Member State is required to submit this Agreement to its competent authority for appropriate action within a period of one year from the close of the present Session of the General Conference, and
- "3. To instruct the Director-General to deposit this Agreement with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, requesting him to notify all the Members of the United Nations, and the Member States of UNESCO which are not members of the United Nations

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that the Agreement is open for signature in the archives of the United Nations, and to call their attention to the provisions of Articles X, XI, and XII of the Agreement concerning the procedures of acceptance and the conditions under which it will come into force."

This resolution indicates the wish of the General Conference that the Draft Convention should be opened for signature and come into force at the earliest possible date.

In accordance with the above resolution, the text of the Draft Agreement has been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 10 January 1949.

It is urgent that, in accordance with Article XVI, an agreement should be reached at the earliest possible date between the Economic and Social Council and the Executive Board of UNESCO, as to the lists of States which are:

- (a) members of UNESCO but not Members of the United Nations
- (b) non-members of either of the two organizations and to which this Draft Agreement should be sent for signature.

The Executive Board of UNESCO will consider the matter at its fourteenth session, opening in Paris on 7 February, and its proposals as to the States to be included in the list will be forwarded to the Economic and Social Council before 15 February.

In view of these facts, and although technical reasons prevented UNESCO from requesting the inclusion of this item in the provisional agenda of the eighth session of the Economic and Social Council within the delay provided by rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, it is very much hoped that the Economic and Social Council will agree to include this item among the matters to be discussed at this session.

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