General Conference of UNESCO, and the Chairperson of the Executive Board of UNESCO. The participants highlighted the importance of integrating culture into the post-2015 development agenda. Also, in May, the global campaign “#culture2015goal”, a coalition of more than 600 NGOs working in the field of culture, published a declaration on the need to include explicit targets and indicators for culture in the post-2015 sustainable development goals.

The Director-General highlighted the efforts of Member States and UN system entities in implementing specific measures to enhance the role of culture, covering the areas of promoting cultural diversity through education and the media; enabling women and men to equally access, participate and contribute to cultural life; developing a dynamic cultural and creative sector; supporting the emergence of local markets for cultural goods and services; promoting global awareness of the linkages between cultural and biological diversity; developing innovative mechanisms of financing for culture; and mobilizing culture as a vehicle for tolerance, understanding, peace and reconciliation. In June, a declaration adopted by the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Group recommended that the role of culture be fully taken into account to achieve sustainable development, as development was “a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process”.

The Director-General proposed a set of options for Member States to consider while devising a consolidated UN approach on culture and sustainable development. Those included integrating culture in development strategies and policies at all levels; developing cultural literacy, including an understanding of cultural heritage; safeguarding traditional knowledge and skills; and increasing access to and participation in cultural life of all individuals and communities to improve social cohesion. The Director-General also recommended that Member States fully integrate culture, through cultural heritage and the cultural and creative industries, into the framework of the post-2015 system of goals, targets and indicators.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 19 December (meeting 75), the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee [A/69/470/Add.2], adopted resolution 69/230 without vote [agenda item 21 (b)].

**Culture and sustainable development**

_The General Assembly,_


_Recalling also its resolution 68/309 of 10 September 2014, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group contained in the report shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered, in the intergovernmental negotiation process at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,_

_Recalling further the declaration adopted in Florence, Italy, on 4 October 2014, at the third United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Forum on Culture and Cultural Industries,_

1. _Takes note of the report on culture and sustainable development prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as transmitted by the Secretary-General, which identifies options for a consolidated United Nations approach on culture and sustainable development;_

2. _Recalls the discussions at and takes note of the Chair’s summary of the special thematic debate of the General Assembly on the role of culture and sustainable development in the post-2015 development agenda, held at United Nations Headquarters on 5 May 2014, as mandated by its resolution 68/223, at which high-level participants highlighted the importance of integrating culture into the post-2015 development agenda;_

3. _Notes the contribution of culture to sustainable development, as recognized in the proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals;_

4. _Encourages all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to continue to give due consideration to culture and sustainable development in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;_

5. _Recalls the decision, in its resolution 68/223, to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled “Globalization and interdependence”, a sub-item entitled “Culture and sustainable development” and to maintain the biennial nature of the sub-item._

**Human resources development**

**United Nations research and training institutes**

**United Nations University**

The Council of the United Nations University (UNU) (Rome, 12–13 May; Tokyo, Japan, 8–9 December) adopted the statute of the UNU Operating Unit on Policy-driven Electronic Governance; reviewed the