



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

www.ifla.org

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Chapeau

- **Suggested text:** Reaffirm the importance of integrated approaches to policy-making, ensuring strong upstream planning and coordination between policy initiatives, as well as support for general purpose development infrastructures which deliver benefits across different policy areas, such as libraries. *Explanation: we believe that the focus in the 2030 Agenda on the SDGs as an integrated whole still requires more work. A siloed way of working can be particularly difficult for general purpose infrastructures such as libraries which may otherwise struggle to ensure that the full breadth of their contributions is understood. Underlining the importance of integrated approaches will also favour more meaningful inclusion of culture in planning.*

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

- **Suggested text:** Underline the importance of an informed society for the achievement of the wider sustainable development agenda, based on rights to free access to information and expression, a rich, evolving, and equitable knowledge commons, meaningful investment in upholding information integrity, and ensuring that everyone has the skills and confidence to use the internet and other information resources safely, effectively and confidently. *Explanation: a key 'how' question around the SDGs is how we can ensure that people have the information they need to take decisions at all levels. This is an enabler of development, but is too often only considered narrowly, for example through the perspective of access to government information. This is particularly the case when using the internet – there is growing awareness of how essential skills are for meaningful connectivity and to avoid risks online.*
- **Suggested text:** Recognise culture as a fourth dimension of sustainable development, acting both as a key determinant of success across development agendas, and as a goal in its own right, noting in particular the need to guarantee the enjoyment of cultural rights, mobilise and support cultural actors and institutions, safeguard indigenous cultures, and integrate culture into policy-making across development agendas. *Explanation: while recognizing criticisms of the pillar model of sustainable development, we believe that culture represents a key factor of sustainability which must be taken into account in wider*

development planning. Neglect of it jeopardises the chances of success in other areas, while making it part of an integrated approach promises to bring dividends across the board.

- **Suggested text:** Commit to the inclusion of a culture goal in any future development agenda, in line with the commitments made in the 2023 G20 Declaration. *Explanation: following the clear calls in a different international settings for culture to be seen as a goal, we believe that it is time to recognise the same in the Pact for the Future, ensuring that culture is given a practical, concrete role in development and other processes today, as well as setting out intentions for post-2030.*

Chapter II. International peace and security

- **Suggested text:** Underline the need to build proactively a culture of peace through upholding and celebrating cultural diversity, promoting cultural exchange and education, addressing harmful cultural practices, and integrating cultural concerns and knowledge into wider strategies for peace. *Explanation: we welcome the reference to a culture of peace in the co-facilitators' draft, and believe strongly that this should feature the future chapter on this topic.*

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

- **Suggested text:** Welcome the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science as providing a basis for ensuring more equitable participation in global research and scientific progress, and underline that advancing Open Science in line with the Recommendation is an essential means of delivering on wider development agendas. *Explanation: the emphasis on the need to do more to mobilise research and knowledge is highly welcome, but in order to ensure that as a factor of inclusion and equality, the role of access needs to be highlighted. Equitable open science models are a key way to do this.*
- **Suggested text:** Underline the need for effective and appropriate science-policy interfaces, and in particular ensure that there is a culture of using evidence in policymaking, as well as the structures necessary to achieve this both inside and outside of government. *Explanation: another key aspect of how to improve policy making is how information flows into government. We support the establishment of meaningful and effective science policy interfaces, as well as more day-to-day routes to ensure scientific knowledge gets into policy processes.*
- **Suggested text:** Welcome the emphasis on making connectivity meaningful, and stress the need for community-level infrastructures and tools in order to achieve this, notably as concerns building skills and confidence. *Explanation: this is a particularly welcome element in the Global Digital Compact, and should be reflected in the main body text of the Pact. This also implies the need to be clear that while we are taking decisions about the internet globally, these need to reflect the role of local action to make the internet inclusive.*
- **Suggested text:** Stress the value of a multistakeholder approach to internet governance, and the need to include fully stakeholders from a wide range of sectors in decision-making. *Explanation: with the internet representing such a core infrastructure in so many areas, it*

is important that decisions about it are taken with care, and with the views and experiences of the full range of stakeholders take into account.

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

- **Suggested text:** Underline the need to guarantee strong literacy and school-readiness programmes for all children, as well as community spaces allowing people of all ages to realise their potential and their rights, such as libraries. **Explanation:** *we believe that a key aspect of any effort to give young people a strong chance to engage in economic, social, cultural and civic life is the provision of core skills and spaces. We therefore urge inclusion of these enabling factors in any reference to youth and future generations.*
- **Suggested text:** Approve the meaningful and equitable inclusion of young creative and cultural actors in work to strengthen the voice of youth and ensure the recognition of the interests of future generations. **Explanation:** *building a new future will require new perspectives and imagination – something that culture and cultural practitioners are uniquely well placed to provide. Engaging young creators in work on youth and future generations – with sufficient support to recognise their time and contribution – will help bring energy to this work.*

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

- **Suggested text:** Stress the importance of effective and efficient knowledge management and sharing practices across the UN system, including well-supported and accessible libraries in all parts of the system, and strong links to external research centres. **Explanation:** *we welcome the references to the importance of managing knowledge effectively in the UN in order to support more innovative and relevant work. We underline the value of supporting libraries in this respect, and in particular those which currently do not receive significant support.*
- **Suggested text:** Underline the importance of cultural sustainability in global governance priorities, and of strengthening mechanisms to incorporate cultural concerns and expertise into recommendations and decisions across the UN System. **Explanation:** *we worry that culture is still too often seen as a sectoral concern within the UN. While upholding the importance of promoting culture and cultural diversity as goals in themselves, we believe that there also need to be effective means of integrating it more systematically into work across the UN's portfolio.*