



**Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development
Barcelona, 23 – 27 August 2004**

FINAL REPORT

Barcelona, September 2004

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Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development Barcelona, 23 – 27 August 2004

Introduction

The International Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development was planned as a world event in the context of Forum Barcelona 2004, hoping to attract authorities and experts on the chosen topics. Its basic aim has been to provoke a reflection on culture and development in the 21st century. In the same way that environmental industries and activists share common concerns over quality of life, we believe that the traditional integration of culture and market needs to define a new common ground with social, ethical and creative concerns over the capacity of cultures to regenerate themselves. Cultural rights form an elemental part of human rights and are no longer solely acknowledged as applying to minority groups and languages, but also a wider framework for cultural self-understanding.

The Dialogue on Cultural Rights and Human Development has intended to fulfil a double set of objectives. On the one hand it wanted to bring together efforts carried out over the past 15 years to rethink the Cultural Rights section contained in Article 15 of the International Covenant of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. More specifically, it focused on article 15.1(a) regarding the “right to take part in cultural life”.

The second objective of the Congress, which is totally connected with the first, also links with a United Nations line of work; that engaged by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with the *Human Development Report*, which in its recently published 2004 edition has focused on the relevance of cultural freedom to human development. Many efforts carried out by UNESCO and other academic and governmental partners have also been trying to introduce cultural indicators in the definition of human development.

The link between the two objectives was warranted by the fact that arguing about cultural rights without a certain type of appropriate benchmarks monitoring their fulfilment might not lead to practical results whereas discussing indicators without a solid reference to the cultural rights discussion might lose the intercultural quality needed to sustain a global positioning on the topic.

The main objectives of the Congress were as follows:

- To discuss possible core elements of the right to take part in cultural life; as defined by Article 15 of the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations.
- To identify possible indicators measuring the contribution of culture to human development, which can be relevant both to the UNDP's Human Development Index and to other research and policymaking processes.
- To develop an action plan for research, information, advocacy and action on culture as an essential element in development, thus guaranteeing a continuity of issues discussed in the course of the Congress and taking advantage of other civil society, public and private initiatives which place culture at the core of development strategies.

The Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development was organised by the Interarts Foundation, the United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI) and Forum Barcelona 2004. The technical secretariat and coordination of the event were provided by the Interarts Foundation. Over 700 participants attended the sessions, where four languages – Catalan, Spanish, English, and French – were used. The Congress was held at the International Convention Centre in Barcelona, within the framework of the Universal Forum of Cultures – Forum Barcelona 2004, which runs between 9 May and 26 September 2004.

On Monday 23 August 2004, a separate, preliminary conference entitled *New Geocultural Spaces in Globalisation* was held, organised by the Organisation of Iberoamerican States for Education, Science and Culture (*Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura*, OEI), the International Organisation of the Francophonie (*Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*, OIF), the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (*Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa*, CPLP) and the Latin Union (UL). The event was the third in a series of conferences dealing with the so-called *Three Linguistic Spaces*, which bring together Francophone, Hispanophone and Lusophone agents.

The Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development was dedicated to the memory of Eduard Delgado i Clavera (1949-2004), the founder of the Interarts Foundation. Mr Delgado was the original inspirer of the Congress and his vision helped many to understand the relation between cultural policies and human rights. Over the course of the Congress, several speakers noted the fact that Delgado's own life was proof of his belief in cultural dialogue, interaction and cultural cooperation.

Preparatory Work

Prior to the event, the organisers of the Congress set out a series of preparatory activities which intended to ensure that all relevant voices be heard and that the Congress would not be an isolated step, but part of a continued, long-term process.

In the months preceding the Congress, expert meetings and international consultations helped to shed light on the key aspects that were to be discussed in Barcelona. Regional meetings contributed to the process by collecting information and expertise from local and international experts and by consulting local civil society actors in order to build a dialogue between different levels of the process. Among these meetings were an experts' meeting on cultural indicators (Barcelona, November 2003), a seminar on cultural indicators of human development in Africa (Maputo, March 2004 – co-organised with UNESCO, NEPAD/African Union and Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa; a follow-up meeting to this event was held in Maputo in early August 2004), a conference on cultural diversity and cultural rights (Sao Paulo, April 2004 – hosted by Arte Sem Fronteiras) and an experts' meeting on cultural rights (Amman, April 2004 – Patron of the meeting was His Royal Highness Prince Hassan of Jordan). Extensive reports were produced at the end of each meeting, and they were made available to participants of the Congress in Barcelona.

On the other hand, in order to explore the regional perceptions on cultural rights and to what aspects individuals, organisations and communities give priority to, and to identify items and tools for policy-planning, the process uses a questionnaire as a working tool. This questionnaire has been sent to over 4,500 identified organizations and individuals in all continents. It provides an interesting approach to the issue and aims to function as a bridge-builder between the academic world and the realities of cultural communities. The results of a preliminary analysis were presented by Annamari Laaksonen in the course of the Congress. The second phase of the research starts after this event.

Development of the Congress

Scope of Cultural Rights and Human Development

The development of the Congress has been characterised by the sheer breadth of agents which have participated, and the wide range of views that have been discussed. Intergovernmental organisations, artists, human rights organisations, development agencies, national governments, academics and researchers shared four days of debates and constructive discussion. This may be proof of both the increasing number

of agents and sectors which take up references to culture and the ability of the cultural sector to broaden its approach. In addition, the Congress was an attempt to bring together the realities of local cultural management and social work with international discussions in fields such as human rights and cultural diversity, and this led to a wide diversity of places of origin and ranges of interest to be found among participants.

In the course of the Congress, calls were heard for the cultural sector to relate to the major challenges facing human development nowadays – poverty, conflict, democracy. This could be heard in the contribution of Alfons Martinell in the opening session on Tuesday 24 August, whereas in order to fight discrimination and exclusion, on August 27 Jesús Martín Barbero called for a new form of democracy so that the quality of life can exist in which citizens are in charge of their own differences. Amar Galla reminded on plenary session “Culture and Development. Voices from the field” that for numerous communities cultural conservation is crucial, and that cultural aspect is elemental for fighting poverty, whereas the plenary session entitled “Culture and Quality of Life: What are the parameters?” on Friday 27 witnessed a presentation by Mércia Brito, who described how productions by Nós do Cinema in Brazil had enabled local communities to make their voices heard and to be more aware of the potential effects of cultural participation.

The notion of cultural rights itself, in its interdependency with other human rights, is also a contribution to this linkage between the cultural sector and work in other fields. Participants of the session “Cultural Rights in Perspective”, on Thursday 26 August, provided a wide range of views on the relation between cultural rights and other economic and social rights, including health and housing, whereas several speakers, including Sydney Bartley in the session on “Culture and Quality of Life: What are the parameters?” (Friday 27) and participants of the workshop on Cultural Policies (Tuesday 24) pointed to the existing relation between education and culture and called for this to be acknowledged in the design of cultural policies and cultural indicators. Participants of the workshop on Minorities (Thursday 26) underlined land rights and suggested creating cultural policies for less-represented cultural communities. Contributions made by professionals in fields such as architecture, urban design and migration also highlighted the need to take account of cultural aspects in policies related to local development.

Some links between cultural rights and human development have recently been established by the 2004 edition of the UNDP's *Human Development Report*. This was highlighted in the presentation made by Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, director of the Office of the Human Development Report, in the initial plenary session of the Congress, which also included calls for national institutions to take account of increasing patterns of multiculturalism. The report was also the subject of a workshop on Tuesday 24, where participants including Azza Karam, Agustí Colomines, Alioune Sall, Joy Moncrieffe and Juan Enrique Vega discussed the requirements for political systems to take account of internal cultural diversity in their institutional arrangements.

With the inclusion of cultural freedom in the notion of human development, links with the other dimensions of development are clearly established as well – it is thus necessary for cultural agents to be aware of and to engage with aims in economic, social and political development. In his contribution on the closing day of the Congress, Alioune Sall closely linked cultural diversity with developments in the political and economic sphere and singled out political pluralism, the fight against poverty and access to the market among the issues that needed addressing to guarantee cultural identities and cultural diversity.

Equipping individuals and cultural communities to be in charge of the own development, was one of the carrying themes of the Congress. Many speakers emphasized the plurality of the dialogue, and called for common action. On 27 August in the session on “Culture and Quality of Life: How do we know?” Jesús Martin Barbero proposed setting up international cooperation, new institutionalism that empowers the capacity to produce and create culture from social environment, Liu Thai-Ker reminded the problems of neutralized identities in multi-cultural societies, Alioune Sall called for providing people with skills to administrate their own future and to generate and manage knowledge so memory is not forgotten, Mércia Brito talked about developing sensitivities towards others, and in the same session Sydney Bartley, mixing cultural references from different continents, demonstrated that identities are not static and multiculturalism is not a choice but a fact that exists within everyone.

In both the preliminary process and the structure of the Congress itself, an attempt was made to include a broad diversity of regional perspectives. Plenary sessions included views from several regions – as shown in the session *Culture and Development – Voices from the Field*, which aimed at sharing diverse views and included presentations by speakers from Japan, Mozambique, Norway, Botswana and Australia. Masayuki Sasaki focused on the role of the creative industries in urban regeneration and called for citizen participation in creativity. Lupwishi Mbuyamba reminded that a society's success lies in the strength of its culture and therefore all development policy must impose the value of culture. He also raised issues related to observing cultural policies, and suggested a set of premises on which to build observatories of cultural policies – including cultural freedom as an element of human development, cultural indicators responding to the fundamental needs and aspirations of communities and being integrated into larger development strategies. Johan Galtung highlighted the relevance of dialogue and mutual learning, whilst Alinah Segobye called for a cultural approach to be integrated in strategies against HIV / AIDS. Finally, Amar Galla indicated the need for cultural preservation and community development to be integrated and for communities to actively participate in and to control strategies to combat poverty.

Major themes

The four days of Congress were intended to shed light on existing debates in fields including cultural rights, human development and indicators to appraise the contribution of culture to development. The relation between these issues was explored in both plenary sessions and workshops, and each was also the subject of specific attention throughout the event.

- **Cultural rights:** one major aim of the Congress was to delve into the practical implications of cultural rights as defined in Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and particularly of article Article 15.1(a), which states that '*The State parties ... recognize the right of everyone ... to take part in cultural life*'. A background article on the legal framework of the right to take part in cultural life was elaborated prior to the Congress by Yvonne Donders, from the Division of Human Rights and Fight Against Discrimination of UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, and was made available to participants in four language versions. Ms Donders, alongside Juan Enrique Vega, Stephen Marks, Miloon Kothari and Nawal el-Saadawi, took part in the plenary session entitled *Cultural Rights in Perspective*, in the morning of Thursday 26 August. Among the key ideas discussed in the course of the session were the interrelation and interdependence of cultural rights with other human rights, the inadmissibility of invoking cultural rights and practices to infringe other human rights, states' obligations to respect and provide for cultural rights and to prevent and to counter their violation, as well as the obligation of non-state actors to promote their application, the place of cultural identity as regards human rights and the desirability of new instruments being put in place to address the right to cultural identity and the relation between rights and power. Participants in thematic workshops also had the opportunity to provide insight into the way cultural rights could be exercised in their fields of concern – contribution were thence made in a range of sessions, including those dealing with Memory and Heritage, Languages, Cultural Policies, Creativity, Arts Networks, Minorities, Access and Participation and Local and Urban Development. The holistic approach adopted in the course of the Congress also meant that references to and reflection on cultural rights be made in the course of sessions more directly devoted to the role of culture within human development. Cultural rights also feature prominently in the UNDP's *Human Development Report 2004*, which was presented at the Congress, and the need for indicators which appraise the position of cultural rights in practice was analysed in some sessions, including the workshop on Cultural Policies on 24 August.
- **Human development:** In addition to a presentation by Sakiko Fukuda-Parr of the main contents of the latest *Human Development Report*, which deals with cultural liberty and diversity as core elements of human development, mention of this issue was an underpinning constant to all sessions of the Congress. This was perceived

in the many reflections of the contribution that cultural practice, active cultural participation and awareness of cultural factors could made in the design and implementation of development projects and policies – by inserting a cultural approach to policies aimed at fighting HIV/AIDS, by understanding that enhancing cultural expression contributes to knowledge and empowerment, by fostering local cultures' ability to be present at the international scale, maintenance of local cultural diversity as essential in development initiatives etc. Several sessions provided an opportunity to explore the relation between culture and other dimensions of human development – calls were heard for a deeper cooperation between the fields of education and culture, for a wider recognition of the role of culture in health practice and for a comprehension among those in the cultural field of culture's contribution to economic development, among others. It was also shown that indicators are still understood more on economic terms that does produce a cultural problem. The relation with indicators was shown as several speakers recognised the relevance of the UNDP's work towards identifying cultural indicators of human development and called for this to be strengthened and as the document on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa was presented. Links with cultural rights were explored insofar as keywords such as participation – and the right to take part in cultural life – gained centre stage in discussions on the requirements for human development.

- **Indicators:** In his initial speech on 24 August, Professor George Yúdice called for an informational and analytic infrastructure to be set up, enabling cultural policies to be designed taking into account of the relevance of culture – to this end, information and indicators were needed. Identifying indicators or cluster areas which could help to measure the contribution of culture to human development was one of the aims of the Congress, and participants in afternoon workshops were particularly encouraged to make suggestions in this field. Although little definite advancement was made in this field, and the difficulties in agreeing to a clear set of indicators which could encompass the wide range of issues at stake were acknowledged, a few priority areas wherein to build indicators were identified – including participation, civil society involvement and social cohesion; preservation; cultural diversity; cultural vitality; access; consumption; identity. Several speakers agreed that indicators and the information that they could provide were an essential requisite for the further advancement of cultural policies and the recognition of culture as key to development. The need to define indicators which suit the perceived developmental needs of communities and to integrate them in wider development strategies was also made explicit. The presentation by Alioune Sall of the document produced by the Task Force on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa, which identifies a set of priority fields and suggests indicators in each of them, was a clear example of the course which most participants expect the next steps to follow.

Sharing insights and views

The following views heard throughout the Congress, either in plenary sessions, workshops or in the course of in-between conversations, enable to catch a glimpse of the prevailing atmosphere:

1. Debates in the cultural sector should engage more with the major objectives and challenges of international development, including those defined by the United Nations such as the Millennium Development Goals and in other analyses on development – poverty, education, insecurity, etc. There might be a feeling that cultural debates tend to be self-referential at times, although there is an increased willingness to reach consensus on practical outcomes.
2. The Congress was attended by representatives of several sectors, and the case was often made for existing sectorial divisions to be erased – e.g. the need for culture and education to have closer links within development policies, for the roots of cultural exclusion to be combatted alongside the roots of social and economic exclusion, etc. Cooperation among sectors was needed because, inter alia, systems and processes to promote cultural diversity are insufficient if they are not accompanied by changes in education and mental structures, including the way diversity is conceived, in social and economic factors determining access to and participation in culture, etc.
3. There is a wide consensus on the need to reflect on the cultural effects of globalisation. 99% of replies to the questionnaire on cultural rights distributed internationally by Interarts before the Congress stated that globalisation does indeed have an effect on people's cultural lives. Examples were gathered on both positive and negative effects – globalisation as either a threat or an opportunity to cultural identities and cultural diversity -, and in an age where cultural expression has components of knowledge and power there was agreement that action in this field was needed.
4. Related to this, several speakers referred to the effects of media and the cultural industries – the latter being useful tools for representing images of diverse cultures and promoting exchanges, yet being responsible for casting prejudice at times. Criticism was raised at the cultural sector's perceived neglect of these issues.
5. There was a wide consensus that the time was ripe for the civil society to articulate a cultural movement at global scale, which can work alongside publica and private agents. Several initiatives, including the World Cultural Forum, the Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion and the International

Network for Cultural Diversity, already operate with these aims in mind, and the Congress was a contribution to this debate as well.

6. Whilst promoting the need for civil society to raise its voice and mobilise around cultural values, in promoting an increased understanding of cultural rights and the role of culture within development, participants indicated that responsibility had to be shared with other sectors.
7. Several speakers called for cultural policies to be based on values, and for these values to include cultural rights, and to take account of development needs defined by communities. To this end, examples were given of participative methodologies in designing cultural policies – as in ECUMEST's *Policies for Culture* programme - and fostering the place of culture within development – as in Argentina's *Aguante de la cultura* – as *the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa* in Mozambique.
8. One of the major aims of the Congress was to define indicators which can help to appraise the contribution of culture to human development. Even though difficulties were found to take major steps forward, there was a general agreement that the UNDP's choice of cultural freedom as the major theme of its latest *Human Development Report* provided a major turning point, and that cultural indicators – or at least indicators of cultural freedom – should become central to future work on human development. Another major step was the presentation of the strategy document *Cultural Indicators of Human Development: Towards an African Perspective*, which provides an explicit framework for work in this field. Several speakers also highlighted the pressing need for tools that measure the elements in culture that have a relevance to development, and which enable cultural policies to be based on reliable data.
9. Connected to this, the Congress witnessed a few steps towards the setting-up of a wider informational infrastructure. In the course of plenary sessions and workshops, a number of cases were highlighted where diverse uses of culture and the existence of sufficient informational tools have enabled an integrated approach to development. Among the relevant initiatives are the recent setting up of an International Forum on Creative Industries by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which intends to gather data on the relevance of the creative industries to development and to transfer good practices. Activities carried out by Zimbabwe's National Archives proved the relevance of involving communities in gathering information and contributing to collective memory. The recently-approved Agenda 21 for Culture, which was presented at the Congress, is an effort by the Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion to exchange information and to give cultural development a central place in urban policies.

10. The need for further information was accompanied by calls for networking to be enhanced. The Congress itself provided a platform for several networks, including the European forum for the Arts and Heritage, Arte sem Fronteiras, the International Association of Educating Cities, the European League of Institutes of Arts and the International Network for Cultural Diversity, to present their activities. With increased awareness as to the links between culture and sectors such as human rights and development, networking should also broaden to encompass new individuals and organisations. Information tools such as Interarts' new portal on cultural rights, which was presented at the Congress, could be a relevant tool to increase available information on the fields of cultural rights, cultural diversity and cultural indicators of human development.

11. The Congress provided proof of the increasing awareness on the relevance of cultural rights – as noted in the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, but also in Miloon Kothari's assertion that human rights such as the right to adequate housing have very clear cultural dimensions, ICOMOS' statements in the field of rights and cultural heritage, Stephen Marks' and Yvonne Donders' presentations, which presented the state of affairs in the issue and indicated the measures needed to heighten consciousness of cultural rights, and the UNDP's calls for states to take account of cultural diversity and cultural rights within societies. In addition to responsibility of states, non-state actors were also called to monitor and to promote the implementation of cultural rights.

Keywords and recurring concepts

The Congress included a dozen of thematic workshops which attempted to approach cultural rights and human development from several thematic perspectives – including memory and heritage, education, tourism, diversity, networking, cultural policies, diversity, creativity, languages, social inclusion, local development and access and participation, in addition to one workshop which delved into the key themes and conclusions of the *Human Development Report 2004*. Participants in thematic workshops were reminded that, despite diverse subject titles, all sessions in the Congress dealt with culture, cultural rights and human development nonetheless. Therefore, they were invited to provide answers to the following questions:

- On what aspects is the relation between the subject of debate [*e.g. creativity, tourism, education, etc*], cultural rights and human development based?
- What successful policies can be identified?

- What examples of best practice can be named?
- What indicators exist or should exist?

Session reports were produced for each workshop, and they can be found within the present document. Although some sessions failed to reach explicit conclusions as to the indicators that could be used to measure the contribution of culture to human development, they certainly provided information on a large number of relevant policies, programmes, initiatives and projects and often singled out key themes that needed to be taken into account in policy design.

Even though the issues dealt with in both plenary sessions and workshops was broad and diverse, some keywords recurred throughout the Congress, and they thence inspired whatever outcomes emerge as a result. The following elements attempt to represent a conceptual map of some of the issues which arose in the course of the event:

- **participation** – as in the right to take part in cultural life; the need for local communities to participate in the definition of their developmental goals; the need to be involved in the way memory is defined; participation in the design of public policies at local level; culturally sustainable cities and the importance of the public opinion, and participation as a value, around which to build indicators which appraise the contribution of cultural life to human development.
- **collective memory** – as in the need to ensure that all views be taken into account when defining the memory of a community; shared memory that should form part of the global policies of all societies; learning from the elderly; and the potential of collective memory to be an instrument in learning and in supporting sustainable, cohesive development.
- **diversity** – as in the aim to which cultural agents at local, regional and international level aspire; one key component of cultural rights; the subject of myths and prejudices, which conceive diversity as a threat to stability; the premise for institutional arrangements which intend to comprehend existing multiculturalism; the object of a wide range of threats, including unequal market relations, minorisation, poverty, uncontrolled urban development, etc; linguistic diversity being one element of cultural diversity; the tendency for certain market-oriented cultural supply in fields such as tourism to ignore existing diversities; the several ongoing efforts within intergovernmental organisations such as UNESCO and within civil society agents to guarantee a diverse spectrum of cultural forms and expressions; and diversity as a value, around which to build indicators which appraise the contribution of culture to human development.

- ***social inclusion*** – as one aim of public policies and other initiatives in the public space, certainly including those in the field of culture; as an opportunity brought about by increasing social changes, including those derived from migration; as one goal which cultural agents should include in their agendas.
- ***cultural recognition*** – as in the only viable option for societies that aim to apprehend existing diversity and multiculturalism; one guiding criterion when defining collective memory; one element relevant at both the individual and collective level; one pressing demand in many societies.
- ***globalisation and identity*** - as a tense relation which should be considered by agents active in the field of culture at several levels; as a framework providing opportunities through the use of cultural and creative industries; as the environment of respect on which to build a true global civil society which respects cultural identities and combats prejudice.
- ***cultural liberty*** – as in the UNDP's assertion that '*[c]ultural liberty is a vital part of human development because being able to choose one's identity – who one is – without losing the respect of others or being excluded from other choices is important in leading a full life.*'; as one of the clear, practical implications of cultural rights; as one core element of human development at both the individual and collective level; as a value around which to build indicators which appraise the contribution of culture to human development.
- ***cultural approach to development*** – as one requisite for development projects aiming to achieve sustainability; as a learning process whereby the needs and concerns of local communities can better be taken into account, this leading to different approaches that suit local development priorities – ranging from HIV/AIDS, through migration flows and political participation to the environmental impact of cultural tourism.
- ***cultural / creative industries*** – as one necessary area, if often forgotten, to take into account in all assessments of culture and development; as a potential threat, but also a possible counterforce to the negative effects of globalisation; an emerging focal point for urban policies; as an environment where identities are shaped and transmitted, and a potential source of employment and economic development yet a space where prejudice can be created and amplified; possibly an area where to develop indicators.
- ***cultural tourism*** – as an increasingly relevant field, operating globally; reflection about which must necessarily encompass a concern for long-term sustainability and an interest in responding to the demands of both local and external sectors; a field where cultural diversity is not always sufficiently visible;

an area where opportunities for creativity and exchange are increasingly being explored.

- ***cultural approach to HIV / AIDS*** – one of the domains where the relation between culture and development can be more thoroughly explored nowadays, at local and international scale, and the cultural demands of local population be more clearly expressed; one where several dimensions of development overlap and where examples of good practice can be found.
- ***global civil society*** – as the platform which increasing awareness of challenges to culture posed by globalisation could bring about, yet which faces hindrances in the form of prejudice and obstacles to communication; as the step which many in the cultural sector could take, following the model of other fields of social consciousness (e.g. human rights, sustainable development) and being aware of the potential for cooperating with them; as the ultimate aim of many ongoing processes in this field.
- ***networking*** – as the form which many organisations have taken to convey their messages, to explore synergies and to increase cultural exchange, dialogue and mutual learning; as one framework where to marry local and transnational concerns; as a direct consequence of work carried out over the course of the Congress, and one clear component of whichever next steps could be taken.
- ***information and knowledge*** – as the basis on which to develop policies and programmes and on which to evaluate them; as the object which often motivates networking and the exchange of experiences; as elements often lacking in sufficient quantity in the field of culture, which could partly account for reduced awareness of the relevance of culture in human development; as the rationale which sustains the need for cultural indicators.
- ***sustainability*** – as one ultimate aim of policies and projects related to human development, with clear implications also in the field of culture; as one challenge particularly evident in fields such as cultural tourism, memory and heritage and local cultural policies; possibly as a value around which to build indicators which appraise the contribution of culture to human development.

Achievements of the Congress

The Congress has brought together a series of initiatives operating at local scale and projects carried out by intergovernmental organisations. It has thus provided a

meeting point for converging aims, and should lead to new initiatives which take advantage of synergies between them. In addition to the presentation of the latest *Human Development Report*, references were made to UNESCO's and the International Network for Cultural Diversity's (INCD) efforts to enact an International Convention on Cultural Diversity, to work carried out by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in order to approve a General Comment on the Right to Take Part in Cultural Life, as well as other instruments which should increase the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights.

Over 700 participants from over 30 countries and all continents attended the event. Fifteen organisations and networks took part in the coordination of thematic workshops, including the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Interdisciplinary Institute on Ethics and Human Rights of the University of Fribourg (IIEDH, Switzerland), the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education (ATLAS), the International Association of Educating Cities (AICE), the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH), the news agency Eurolang, the network Art without Borders (Arte sem Fronteiras), the International Network for Cultural Diversity (INCD), the Middle East Centre for Culture and Development (MECCAD), the Institut de Cultura de Barcelona (ICUB) and the European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA).

On Thursday 26 August, participants were invited to gather for a discussion of activities to follow up the reflections and results of the Congress. Several events were mentioned as containing converging themes with those covered by the Congress, whilst the need for further information and networking was also voiced out.

Among the outcomes of the process is also the strategy document *Cultural Indicators of Human Development: Towards an African Perspective*, the result of a meeting of the Task Force on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa which was held in Maputo in early August 2004, with the support of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA), Interarts and Forum Barcelona 2004. The document presents a series of priority issues and suggests indicators for measuring the contribution of culture to human development in the African context. Priority issues are governance (legal and political pluralism), equity, cultural liberties, creativity and cultural entrepreneurship, knowledge generation and management and other cross-cutting issues.

During the course of the Congress, three film makers from three different continents presented their documentaries. On Tuesday 24 August Augustin Hatar from Tanzania introduced his film "Mishoni"; on the weight traditions may have on some members of cultural communities, such as female circumcision on women, and the dilemma of which traditions should be abandoned and which ones kept. Dr Hatar underlined that the documentary was developed in collaboration with a community theatre group in rural Tanzania with the objective of passing on information to rural communities and to raise these issues with the communities themselves. On Wednesday 25 August Jordi Barrachina from Barcelona presented the making-of of his documentary "Nevé

Shalom/Wahat al-Salam”(in Hebrew and Arabic: the Oasis of Peace), a village in Israel where 60 Palestinian and Jewish families live in a community where two languages and two cultures are taught in an environment of peace. Mr Barrachina explained the experience of his journeys to the village, and how multi-cultural education of respect and co-living forms an integral part of harmonious co-existence. On Thursday, 26 August Humberto Mancilla from Bolivia showed his film “announcement of restoration” on recovering the identity of ‘indigenous’ communities and engaged the public to reflect on the concepts of minorities and majorities. Other artistic interventions included the show of the soap bubble-artist Pep Bou who at the end of the inauguration session on August 24 offered to the Congress public a play of dancing bubbles, music and colours.

During the Congress week, seven separate press conferences were held and over 150 articles and interviews published on the contents and outcomes of the Congress. Six of the Congress speakers participated in the “141 Questions” of the Forum in direct interaction with the Forum Public. On 22 August Miloon Kothari discussed housing rights and the impact of millions of people living in inadequate living conditions, on 23 August Jesús Martín Barbero reflected on TV as a global media, on 24 August Azza Karam replied to questions on the relationship between political representation and women in the Arab region, on 25 August Alioune Sall talked on the effect of globalised policies on Africa and the importance of Africa to decide its own future as path to development, on 26 August through a colourful discourse of a variety of cultural influences, Sydney Bartley reflected on whether “different cultures can understand each other?”, and finally on 27 August Muhammad Razzak answered to questions on “is investing in culture effective?”

The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation hosted during the Congress week the exhibition “Cultures(s). Alternatives. Diversity. Rights”, the personal vision of Spanish and Latin American artists on cultural rights through posters. The exhibition of 19 artists was the response of professionals dealing with visual communication in Spain and Latin America to the Agency’s invitation to collaborate with their graphic interpretations of cultural rights. After the Congress, the exhibition will go on tour in more than twenty cities in Spain and Latin America.

The conference week concluded on Friday night in a local African restaurant with a performance “African voices” by African and Caribbean participants on Africa’s experiences past and present in cultural death and awakenings as reflected in the experiences of slavery, lost patrimony, the return of patrimony, and the current invocation of Africans in Africa and in the Diaspora to join hands in revitalizing Africa.

What next?

In several meetings during the Congress week, including the meeting of 26 August and the Strategy Meeting of the African Task Force, several concrete proposals were identified for future action. These actions include

- Publication of the Congress Documents by the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation
- Permanent presence examining Cultural Rights in form of an Observatory on Cultural Rights
- Assisting the United Nations in the drafting of General Comments in especially culture-related issues
- Co-ordination of a range of efforts in order to maintain the momentum
- Permanent cultural interaction in form of setting up a platform with large representation, efforts of facilitation, transformation and training
- Sharing experiences through a portal and other initiatives
- Shared advocacy and networking
- Setting up of regional task forces on cultural rights and indicators, following the positive outcomes of the work of the African Task Force
- Inter-institutional collaboration
- Proper evaluation of institutions in different continents
- Publication of results of different processes, and the questionnaire on cultural rights
- Collaboration with World Social Forum and Agenda 21
- Setting-up a follow-up, and next Congress – this time outside Europe
- Gathering information, including the Congress and its pre-process for further research and concrete action

Participants of the Congress expressed an interest in the continuity of work carried out during the event. Among the key dates, events and projects which were identified as potentially relevant to the Congress' conclusions were the following:

- Seminar on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in the Arab Region, organised by the Middle East Center for Culture and Development and Interarts. Amman, September 2004.
- Conference of Intellectuals of Africa and the Diaspora, organised by the African Union. Dakar, October 2004
- International Network for Cultural Diversity, annual meeting. Shanghai, October 2004.
- Second Intercultural Forum "Core Values for Intercultural Dialogue", organised by the Council of Europe. Sicily, November 2004
- World Social Forum 2005. Porto Alegre, January 2005.

- "Transformations - Culture and the Environment in Human Development". Canberra, February 2005.
- 2nd World Cultural Forum. Amman, September 2005.
- UNESCO General Conference, 33rd session. October 2005.

Based on the principles guiding this Congress, the measures and initiatives upon which an agreement is reached should be the shared responsibility of a broad group of stakeholders – a wide platform of agents wishing to promote the acknowledgement of cultural rights and to collect information which increases awareness about the role of culture within development.

Conclusion

The following set of principles somehow summarises the main ideas gathered in the course of the Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development.

CULTURE, CULTURAL RIGHTS AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: an appeal

A. VALUES AND BELIEFS

1. Culture is a process, not a static form.
2. Cultural rights are integral to human rights. No cultural practices should infringe human rights. Cultural rights need to be integrated with other human rights. Other human rights have very clear cultural dimensions as well.
3. Culture and creativity are driving forces, which contributes to identity, to diversity, to human and economic development.
4. Cultural life is enhanced through participation, community action, strategic partnerships and cooperation.
5. There is a need for a plurality of cultural voices to be heard.
6. Interaction and dialogue are vital.

B. CULTURE AND SOCIETY

1. Civil society needs to connect with the cultural sector.
2. The cultural sector needs to relate to the major challenges faced by Humanity.
3. The social capital of society needs to be developed.
4. Cultural choices need to be integrated with economic and social choices. The interrelation between these fields needs to be explored.
5. There is a need for pluralisation of cultural actors what want to manage their own future.

C. HOW TO PROCEED

1. There is a need for action, not just policy or debate.
2. There is need for a framework (or frameworks), particularly in the field of cultural rights, which clarifies and institutionalises certain concepts.
3. Actions need to be part of a process for strengthening the position of culture in the development agenda.
4. All sectors should be involved in follow-up actions, by sharing responsibilities of public, private and non-profit agents. Need to foster alliances (*travelling companions*)
5. When developing strategies, commitments to cultural diversity, heritage and sustainable development need to be balanced.
6. There is increased awareness about the need for further information and research in the field of culture, cultural rights and human development, including constructing indicators.

Tuesday, 24 August

INAUGURATION

The acting mayor of Barcelona, **Jordi Portabella**, officially opened the Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development.

A series of presentations made in the following made reference to and praised Eduard Delgado, inventor of this Congress – or *Dialogue*, as the Forum called it – and a great visionary in the field of cultural policies, and a great advocate for the linkages between culture and human rights. His life had also been a living proof of cultural dialogue, interaction and cooperation.

Amongst these presentations was that of **Robert Palmer**, special advisor to the Congress, who emphasized the historic character of this event, because it has gathered many already existing efforts and initiatives in the area of cultural rights, because it explicitly links culture and indicators for development, and because it reflects a great span of agents and sectors, which participate in it.

Following on directly from here **Alfons Martinell**, Director General of Cultural and Scientific Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, underlined the importance of assuring that this Congress was one element in a larger process, which will take the efforts further. He emphasized that the cultural sector has to involve itself decidedly in the great challenges that confront humanity now: the fight against poverty and insecurity, and the resolution of conflicts. Pledging the commitment of the Spanish government to assign more resources to international cooperation in the future, he called for the debates about to be held to allow a reorientation of the cultural sector's vision supported by solid references and in a practical, applied manner.

For her part, **Katerina Stenou**, Director of the Division for Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue at UNESCO, expressed the will of her organization to institutionalize the debate on cultural policies, without this having to mean their stagnation. In the paradigm proposed by UNESCO, diversity, dialogue and development are interactive concepts, and become key to guarantee cultural coexistence. Finally, she made reference to the artificiality of the fragmentation of human rights, which has led to the marginalisation of cultural rights, and mentioned UNESCO's Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, which emphasizes the importance of cultural rights.

The next speaker to take the floor, **Azza Karam** from the Regional Bureau for the Arab States of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), started out from the importance of cultural liberty, which has been made manifest in the 2004 edition of the Human Development Report. It is paradoxical that just when the possibility of a global civil society arises, many put up obstacles to multiple cultural exchanges. In the actual context of the *war against terror*, it is more important than ever to guarantee the plurality of voices and opinions. She also made references to the prejudices that Arab societies are often confronted with, and called for a global civil society which overcomes fear and generates new interrelationships.

The special representative of the UN High Commission for Human Rights at the Forum 2004, **Juan Enrique Vega**, spoke next and challenged the assumptions held both by governments and by society, which consider that until the basic human rights are being guaranteed there is no need to regulate new ones. He underlined that the recognition of rights increases when society talks makes them an issue. Therefore, and to counter a certain sense of fatalism and impotence that at times affects us, it is important, he stressed, to celebrate debates such as this one on the relevance of cultural rights.

Following on from Juan Enrique Vega, the director of the Interarts Foundation **Ramon Cosials** spoke on the tasks his organization is carrying out in the field of cultural rights, on the ethics of cultural cooperation and the research on culture and development. He reminded the audience that the Congress is part of a larger, long-term process, and called for civil society, governments and international organization to work together to make progress and advance work in this field.

Finally, **Jordi Portabella** remarked that in the same way in which humanity could not survive without biodiversity, it is necessary to recognize the importance of cultural diversity for human development. Equal respect for all languages and cultures, independent of economic or political factors, which at times are discriminatory, is an absolute necessity. He underlined that it was important to include cultural factors in the conception of human development, and emphasized the prospective character of the Congress, given that the social, cultural and environmental conditions are part and parcel of the same concern, and essential to co-living for this century.

After these welcoming addresses, **George Yudice**, professor at the University of New York, focused his keynote speech on the relationship between cultural rights and cultural industries. He argued that even today there are people who consider cultural industries to be promoting a very low minimum common denominator, and often the cultural industries remain at the margins of the reflections on cultural development. However, they do form part of the reflections on economic development. It is evident that the cultural industries contribute to identity and represent the way how citizens transmit the image of themselves and of others. The cultural industries furthermore

may contribute to cultural diversity, and it is because of this that there needs to subsist in the industry also the cultural forms and segments of minority groups.

He insisted therefore on the essential role of the state to design public policies that create a favourable context, in which other actors and operators may then intervene, in which their cultural rights are guaranteed and in which development is promoted. Firstly, the availability of information on the transcendence and efficiency of culture is essential for the design of such adequate cultural policies. Secondly, he pointed out that there needs to be an informational and analytical infrastructure that may give answers at short and long term, and which could be adapted to territorial units of varying size. Thirdly, he added the need for further research and the availability of indicators that are able to measure all these dimensions that make up culture.

PLENARY SESSION: Culture, Development, Rights. The Participation in Culture as a key to Human Development

During the main morning plenary session, **Sakiko Fukuda-Parr** presented the key elements of the Human Development Report 2004, published by the Human Development Report Office of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The document underlines the importance of cultural liberty for human development. Until today, cultural respect, dignity and liberty have been left to one side of the reflections on development, although they form an integral part of it. In the same way, cultural rights have been the neglected dimension of human rights. The attention paid to cultural factors is also increasing due to the fact that culture in the contemporary world has become essential to preserve peace.

The policies of cultural exclusion, which often coincide with patterns of social, economic and political exclusion, have been practiced for a long time now, and can still be found in all regions of the world. Today, 900 million people in the world belong to groups that see their cultural liberties restricted.

In societies which are increasingly multicultural it is necessary to integrate multiculturalism within democratic policies, while measure must be taken to enhance social and economic development. As migration flows increase all around, one has to opt for policies of integration, and not policies of assimilation. Identity tends to be complex and multiple, and therefore the policies based on the sole identity concept should be replaced by inclusive policies that explicitly recognise cultural identities together with political and economic equality.

It is important therefore to challenge the myths and prejudices, which often surround cultural diversity, such as that it is a source of conflict, weakens the states and is negative for growth and human development. Facing therefore a context of increasing multiculturalism, cultural recognition becomes the only option within the strategies of human development.

PARALLEL WORKSHOP SESSIONS

In the afternoon, four simultaneous workshops were held. Although they dealt with different areas and disciplines, all served to work on the questions on which the Congress was based, related to the respect and the exercise of cultural rights, the construction of indicators and methods for evaluating the relationship between culture and development, and the identification of good practices in each of the fields under study.

Memory and Heritage

The first of the afternoon workshops centred on Memory and Heritage, and was coordinated by the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1998, ICOMOS adopted a declaration of rights related to cultural heritage, amongst which are

- the right to have an authentic testimony of cultural heritage
- the right to better understand one's own heritage and that of others
- the right to wise and appropriate use of heritage
- the right to participate in decisions affecting heritage
- the right to form associations for the protection and promotion of cultural heritage.

Equally, a series of international declarations on heritage, amongst them several documents of UENSCO, allow to extract notions of rights related to heritage, both in terms of its tangible and intangible dimension.

Amongst the basic rights, which need to be taken into account for the field of memory and heritage to guarantee the right and foment human development, are the dissemination of information, education, training and the recognition of historical memory. Equally important are the motivation and participation of civil society and the decided action of governments in this field. There is a need for public action both in the legal and in the administrative sphere.

Furthermore, it is important to take into account that modernity can in fact be constructed from memory. It is necessary to guarantee, therefore, that there exist the means to transmit memory to the younger generations. Finally, it is important to remember that in a society different and at times opposed memories may coexist.

The work done from 1980 on by the National Archives of Zimbabwe, recording African traditions, which had until then not been documented, and the gathering of oral accounts of contemporary events, such as that country's Liberation War, were emphasised as significant cases, which foster the participation of the population in heritage.

In this field, a series of indicators were suggested, on items including the number and type of participants in a project, the degree of involvement by civil society, the grade of protection of heritage elements, and the incentives offered for preservation.

Human Development Report 2004

At the same time, a workshop was held on the Human Development Report 2004, co-ordinated by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), which had as a double title "Building Multiethnic Democracies" and "The Challenges of Multicultural Societies in the Context of Globalization".

The session emphasized that today, many models of nation states become obstacles for cultural diversity. The state should recognize culture and the values of the population instead of considering culture a threat to democracy. There is need to have public policies in different areas that permit a better mobility of cultural diversity, the inclusion of instruments in public policies, which protect cultural diversity and promote linguistic learning.

On the other hand, one should differentiate between cultural and political identity, in order to comprehend the social problems which many countries see themselves confronted with, and in order to construct a common future, for example in the African context.

The systems and processes to promote cultural diversity are not sufficient if there is not at the same time a change in the mental and educational structures in terms of the conception of diversity and the heterogeneity of culture.

Globalization can have both positive and negative effects on the cultural life of minority groups because, while transnational businesses may negatively impact on the cultural and human development of developing countries, and while some cultures can more easily become dominant than others, there are also new opportunities to be considered, which allow to expand and disseminate one's own culture. The participants acknowledged that less developed countries are more vulnerable to the negative effects of globalization since exclusion and poverty exacerbate them very easily while this situation is less likely to be seen in developed societies, although alienation, discrimination and exclusion also form part of developed societies. Furthermore, some social concepts; including terms such as minority and indigenous need closer

examination since many times confrontation arises from the criteria that define who is indigenous and who is not.

More concretely, the relationship between public space and cultural space was then interrogated and, at the same time, it was suggested to reflect on the way in which states guarantee cultural rights. Amongst other aspects, *interculturality* and *cultural ethics* were put forward as possible future elements to be considered in the next Human Development Report. Furthermore, it was pointed out with urgency that the Report should also be translated into some African languages.

Creativity

Amongst the principal elements that explain the relationship between creativity and human development, two main points were indicated. Firstly, creativity can be considered a value added in the production and services of developing countries and of minority cultures, and that in this manner to promote creativity serves to preserve cultural identity. Creativity is not only in production but also in the reception, in the democratisation of culture.

Secondly, the creative industries offer great possibilities to countries in the South, as they are very dynamic and nowadays come to make up 7% of the GDP at global level. Here it is important to discuss how intellectual property rights are managed and guaranteed, especially given that most productive models are increasingly based on knowledge.

In this respect, policies able to value the impacts of the creative terms not only in economic, but also and especially in political, social and cultural terms, acquire great significance. Therefore, indicators of creativity have to refer mainly to elements such as:

- cultural vitality and diversity
- access, participation and consumption
- identity and life style
- relationship between governance, culture and ethics, that is the capacity of culture to contribute to community development and social cohesion.

Amongst the good practices presented stood out the Huashan Art District of Taipei, Taiwan, an old commercial space converted for cultural uses and which has become a determinant factor of development and way of life. Another example was the creative business incubator Prana, situated in Bogotá, Colombia, where it has become a source of employment creation as well as a vehicle and motor for the promotion of culture.

Finally, a recent initiative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was sketched, which with the support of a range of countries, particularly

the government of Brazil, has just created an International Forum on Creative Industries, in order to gather data that are often very difficult to find and to transfer useful experiences between countries.

Cultural Policies

The workshop on Cultural Policies, subtitled *From Rights to Indicators?*, was coordinated by the Interdisciplinary Institute of Ethics and Human Rights of the University of Fribourg (IIEDH, Switzerland). The session showed up the clear necessity to promote cultural policies based on values, and the interrelationship between rights, cultural diversity and human security.

When they can be exercised, cultural rights allow to balance both individual and collective aspects. In practice, however, and given the diverse forms of violations to which these rights are being subjected – ranging from poverty to cultural humiliation – it is necessary to have a number of indicators that can guarantee the effectiveness of cultural rights. Cultural policies are particularly well positioned to accommodate the tension of diversity.

Different international instruments, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity or the European Charter of Fundamental Rights provide a basis for developing cultural policies based on values. More recently, the Agenda 21 for Culture adopted last May in Barcelona within the framework of the 4th Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion made another contribution to these instruments.

Amongst the good practices that respond to these parameters, the session presented the *Policies for Culture* programme, which is carried out by the Romanian association ECUMEST in cooperation with the European Cultural Foundation in South-Eastern Europe. Through this initiative, which puts an emphasis on participation, civil society and the legislative and executive powers interact in the design of cultural policies. It is a kind of attribution of responsibility to persons and civil society, and a contribution to social cohesion and conflict management.

Further to that, the IIEDH has set up, together with the Association for the Promotion of Non-Formal Education in Burkina Faso, a research project to measure the right to education in that country. This project is based on the creation of a table of indicators to measure the effectiveness of cultural rights. Amongst the indicators being used are those relative to diversity, resources, information and access. In this sense it was emphasised that the differentiation between culture and education, and their separation into different compartments, should indeed be overcome.

In reference to the European Union, the workshop repeatedly called for a cultural policy of the EU to be based on values, and to serve both its internal and external action. Beyond the economic and commercial logic that has until now dominated its policy-making, the EU can no longer ignore its cultural dimension. Amongst the background elements which ought to be considered here were globalisation, cultural diversity, memory and creativity, sustainable development, cultural liberty, cultural security and confidence, conflict prevention and management, and cultural citizenship and governance. Such policies need to be built, it was argued, around principles such as public space, partnership, empowerment, participation and cooperation. Amongst the possible instruments to monitor the policies, the session suggested an observatory for cultural cooperation and a unit monitoring cultural transversality within other policies.

Wednesday, 25 August

PLENARY SESSION: Culture and Development. Voices from the field.

Wednesday's Plenary Session, chaired by Máté Kovács from the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA), had as its objective to underline the importance of culture in development processes and to offer a critical vision of the development theories that base their criteria exclusively on economic aspects. Five speakers presented their experiences and perspectives on the various forms in which cultural processes and development may interact favourably.

Professor Sasaki from the University of Osaka in Japan discussed the role of culture in human revitalization and pointed out that the global society of the 21st century has acquired an important paradigmatic change since the century of cities has begun. He claimed that a city's creativity is the meditation between culture and industry, and that citizens should unfurl their creative activities since the production of valuable goods is necessary and cultural goods should have a value beyond consumption.

He then presented three examples of cities, in which culture and the creative industries have occupied a central role in the processes of urban regeneration. In this context, he emphasized the importance of integrating creativity within urban policies in order to strengthen the link between the arts and social well-being for the development of communities.

Following on from there, Professor Mbuyamba from the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa presented his perspective on the importance of strengthening Cultural Policy Observatory as instruments of observation and measurement, in order to construct

indicators that may permit the design of cultural policies in coherence with reality; especially on the African continent. He underlined that all cultural policy must involve identity, diversity, a global understanding of heritage, the relationship between science and education, international co-operation and memory. He presented the list of elements included by UNESCO in the design of cultural policies, and proposed five key elements that should be contemplated by observatories:

1. Cultural liberty as an indicator of human development
2. Cultural policies derive from a certain conception of culture which impels to politics
3. Definition of indicators to take note of needs and aspirations of communities
4. Validation of indicators through research and their integration in overall strategies
5. Cultural choices reveal political options and show the type of society on which one believes.

Taking the floor next was Johan Galtung, director of Transcend - A Peace and Development Network, who emphasized the importance of diversity and criticized a vision of the relationship between culture and development that starts from purely economic concepts, which make culture an omnipresent element. It is through dialogue and learning that Professor Galtung considers that one can achieve a truly integrated cultural process.

Professor Galtung underlined that people need to be asked about their basic needs in relation to culture and base it on four concepts: survival, well-being, freedom and identity. Furthermore, he called for abandoning artificial divisions such as minorities or majorities, and reminded that we are all carriers of values, which generates more diversity, federalism, autonomy and anarchy.

For her part, Alinah Segobye from the University of Botswana argued that there is a crucial need to incorporate a cultural perspective to confront the problem of HIV/AIDS in Africa, which is one of the key challenges for human development on the continent. A cultural stance is indispensable, she showed, in order to better comprehend the visions and choices of the population facing such a dramatic and incisive challenge such as HIV/AIDS. Towards this end, she particularly emphasized the importance of preserving collective memory (through various cultural practices, traditions and customs) in order to try and fight the epidemic through prevention and the maintenance of social and cultural relationships.

Dr Segobye underlined that Africa is many times viewed as a homogenous whole, when within the continent there are numerous cultural systems as there are different responses to fight HIV/AIDS. She reminded that Africa is not the world's pocket, but a great potential for humanity.

The last speaker, Amar Galla from the Australian National University and the Asia-Pacific Observatory for Culture in Development underlined the importance of cultural conservation as maintenance of local cultural diversity and development of the community. He highlighted the need to experience many different cultures in order to go beyond 'they' and 'we'. He also regretted that cultural diversity is mainly understood in simplifying terms based on difference of 'us' and 'others, 'black and white' and not as an interrelation. He also called for global action to detain cultural vandalism as a pre-condition for calling ourselves civilised.

Dr Galla then presented three practical case studies from the field, carried out with local communities to promote development with the help of culture and heritage. Drawing on these experiences, he emphasised four key elements:

- 1) Cultural conservation and the development of the community are obligatory and the combination of the two is the holistic paradigm useful for a sustainable cultural development.
- 2) Culture can be a powerful instrument to help poverty reduction and the creation of employment, if and when it is controlled by the sectors involved.
- 3) Culture is not static but dynamic; with changes due to globalisation, culture is strengthening and evolving constantly into new forms of cultural expression.
- 4) Cultural liberty and cultural diversity may only be affirmed through pilot projects that allow to develop appropriate cultural indicators.

PARALLEL WORKSHOP SESSIONS

During the afternoon, five parallel workshop sessions were held, which dealt with diverse aspects and disciplines of the cultural sector yet were intimately related to the main themes and objectives of the Congress.

Cultural Tourism

The workshop on Cultural Tourism was organized by the network ATLAS (Association for Tourism and Leisure Education). It emphasized the importance of promoting the development of cultural tourism from a cultural base itself; in other words, it is necessary to work first for the development of culture and then on its relationship to tourism and the development of cultural tourism itself. The impact of tourism on local culture, and the necessity to measure and control this impact, was also central to the session.

The presentations generated considerable discussion on the relationship between culture, tourism and cultural rights. In particular the problem of potential conflicts between the cultural rights of visitors and residents was debated. Although much current thinking in the field of sustainable tourism or responsible tourism tends to take the view that the needs and rights of locals should always take precedence, there are cases in which 'local wisdom' may be in direct conflict with human and cultural rights. These problems suggest there is a need to create consensus and understanding between locals and tourists if problems of conflicting cultural views are to be resolved. It is also important to create effective indicators to identify potential problems and point towards solutions.

Although the development of cultural tourism needs to take into account the needs of tourist, it was clear from the discussion that culture has to be the starting point for development, rather than tourism. Unless the cultural basis of cultural tourism is secured, tourism is likely to end up damaging the very resources that attract it.

The increasing globalisation of cultural tourism was also seen as posing problems for future development. As more and more destinations compete to attract tourists with their 'unique' cultural resources, the cultural tourism product paradoxically becomes more and more similar everywhere. Avoiding these problems of the 'serial reproduction' of cultural tourism requires the injection of creativity into the tourism system. Not only can creative processes become a course of new tourism products, but the tourism sector can also benefit from new approaches to product development and marketing.

Thirdly, the session underlined the importance of the use of creativity in developing new products, as at the moment cultural tourism is fairly standardised and does not contemplate the diversity on offer. One area in which creativity is required is the development of language as source for tourism. At present, language tends to be seen as an education issue, or is present in a passive form in bilingual destinations (for example through signage and tourist brochures). More active use of language as part of the tourism product requires more active intervention and more creative approaches to product development. Creative tourism, which utilises the desire of many tourist to learn about the culture that they visit can be an important part of this process. This in turn implies a new vision of language learning, and of the relationship between language and culture.

Culture and Social Inclusion

The workshop on Culture and Social Inclusion was coordinated by the International Association Arte Sem Fronteiras. Through the presentation of three specific research projects it aimed to show how narrative can be used to reconstruct individual,

collective and national identity, and how it may serve to deal with violence as an inherent element of humanity. In this process, the institutions have a central role to fulfil to maintain the balance and equilibrium. Equally, the session presented a perspective on the development of indicators in the megalopolis and in relation to quality of life and cultural development. The importance of taking diversity into account as a primary element constitutive of all and everyone was also underlined, as was the concept of participation as a vehicle for creativity itself.

The three themes; *Culture as an element of peace and the origins of and amplitudes of the culture of violence*, *How culture can serve as a base for sustainability and development of a contemporary city* and *How cultural rights can secure the cultural diversity and become defining elements of daily life* represented the conclusions of a larger process on public policies and diversity including examination and considerations around social issues that present a challenge to design of public policies.

It was also acknowledged that today culture is used for non-cultural purposes and that there is a tendency to give priority to heritage over living cultures. An example of good practices included the presentation of the project of cultural sustainable cities where great importance is given to public opinion and the civil society is strongly engaged and involved in cultural decision-making, and culture is set as a central instrument of the projection of the city and the indicators of cultural development are redefined.

Education and Culture

In the workshop on Education and Culture, organised by the European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA), different aspects were discussed that had to do with the culture and education and their impact on personal development. A particular point of discussion was the role of educators and multipliers and their influence on the cultural life of society. It was underlined that this influence and shaping role also bring with them the responsibility to use it for the good of cultural development and co-living.

Another issue raised was how education could be promoted and harnessed to educate active agents and passive consumer habits in respect of culture and creative life. Of particular importance here was the point that currently, most artistic and cultural education tends in fact to be addressed to marginal groups of society or less favoured urban areas. The inclusion of arts education in the general curriculum, it was argued, should be considered for the whole of society.

The London borough of Newham, and in particular its Sixth Form College (NewVic), were cited as examples of how to involve students from the earliest ages on in their community, to promote dialogue between the different cultural communities present in the area, and how to foster and promote their use of artistic expressions.

Secondly, the International Association of Educating Cities was mentioned as another important example of the possible cooperation between local authorities and civil society with the objective to improve the quality of life of the citizens through participatory and democratic processes.

Languages

The workshop on Languages was organized by the European Minority Language Press Agency EUROLANG, and included experts on legal, linguistic, anthropological and political aspects on languages and the role they play for approaching cultural rights and human development.

The speakers underlined that linguistic diversity needs to be assumed as an integral part of cultural expression. Linguistic rights should be enshrined as a part of Human Rights, given that language and culture form an essential part of human development. In this sense, the link between cultural rights and linguistic rights should be regarded as interrelated and should yet be clearly differentiated. The relation between both sets of rights is complex mainly due to the different international instruments that deal with cultural rights yet do not specify with sufficient clarity if languages are just a medium of cultural transmission or if they represent a value in themselves. A general lack of legal instruments as well as specific international organizations to do with linguistic diversity was remarked upon.

The precarious situation of many spoken languages in the world is an important factor to be articulated by the media and by organisms in order to guarantee their survival, and to assure their usage beyond that of the personal or domestic relations. If no action is taken decisively to remedy the current situation, it is estimated that by 2100, around 50% of the languages currently spoken in the world will have disappeared.

The Action Plan for Linguistic Policy and Planning 2004-2005 of the Generalitat de Catalunya was presented, and the past 25 years of Catalan linguistic policy reviewed. The new policy will be more transversal in order to affect everyday life more, especially in view of new immigration and the need for newcomers to take up Catalan as part of a natural process.

Further to that, the model of linguistic recuperation of Euskera (Basque), which has been carried out by the Basque government, was also presented. As a key element of this model it is worth pointing out that after 20 years of application, it has not yet been possible to have the greater part of the school-leavers achieve full linguistic competence in the language. Certain social and political factors were cited as obstacles to the success of the model.

Culture and Art Networks

Coordinated by the European Forum for Arts and Heritage (EFAH), the workshop on Culture and Art Networks centred on the function of networks as entities that manage to bring together different organisations both at local and international level, and which have strong influence on the role of culture in civil society.

To network is to work with other entities that have the same aims and objectives, to identify good and bad practices amongst the different organisations, and to deal with people from very different areas and cultures. The dialogue between differences is, it was argued, the very birthplace of networks and promoting this difference was seen as the most practical application of democracy.

Another key element was the call for greater transparency in the way information on art and culture is being provided by governments in particular, given that the role of networks is, after all, to share knowledge amongst their members. Democratic participation, especially at decision-making level is at the heart of successful operation in networks, as is the identification of clear objectives. Recently, some networks have been created for specific fundraising reasons yet they have not survived the end of the funding cycle for lack of clear visions and objectives.

It was argued that there do not exist adequate policies on networks in general, but there are good examples at local level in some countries, such as Finland. The presentations all put forward different proposals on how to improve the production of policies, depending each on the focus of the network in questions. Common key elements were: transparency of information, financing and funding, protection of cultural diversity, improvement of management practices in the artistic sector. It was argued that networks can be the instrument for artists to influence cultural policy-making.

Throughout, reference was made to the importance of cultural rights in terms of access, democratic participation, and the influence of different agents in national as well as transnational policy-making. In order to do so, indicators were cited as main instruments of selection, information, and evaluation. The production of these indicators are most important for the advocacy work.

Thursday, 26 August

PLENARY SESSION: Cultural Rights in Perspective

Thursday's Plenary Session was dedicated to one of the two main working strands of the Congress. Entitled "Cultural Rights in Perspective", and opened by **Juan Enrique Vega** (the Special Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to the Forum 2004), it counted with four contributions towards, or as the title suggests perspectives on, the topic of cultural rights.

Stephen Marks from the Harvard University opened the session with a presentation, which discussed the place of culture and of cultural rights within the human rights framework. He argued that cultural rights are not new, but are and always have been an integral and foundational part of the human rights regime. He therefore discussed the interrelation and interdependence of cultural rights with other collective and individual rights, and mentioned six specific dimensions to cultural rights. These dimensions include for example cultural identity and diversity, conservation and protection of cultural goods, cultural cooperation etc. At the same time, Dr. Marks stressed that cultural rights and practices may not be invoked in order to infringe human rights, which in case of conflict must take precedence. He referred to the obligations of states to respect and provide for cultural rights and to prevent and counter their violation. He also referred to the need to protect creators, interpreters and transmitters of culture. Furthermore, he referred to the obligation of non-state actors – international organisms on one hand, civil society on the other – to promote their application, and to monitor the implementation of relevant international instruments. He stressed that the private sector has a role and an obligation to cultural rights.

Following on from there, **Yvonne Donders** from the Human Rights Division of UNESCO spoke more specifically on the issue of cultural identity and human rights. She argued that cultural identity, while a difficult topic to grasp and define, is at the very heart of human rights because it is in fact a vital aspect of human dignity. She argued that currently no legally binding international instrument – a Convention, for instance – specifically addresses the right to a cultural identity, and posed the question whether such an instrument should be drawn up. She set out a series of already existing declarations and recommendations, which cover certain aspects of cultural identity, and concluded that instead of drawing up new instruments, the existing legal instruments should be fleshed out, applied and implemented.

After the break, **Miloon Kothari**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing focused on housing as a specific human right with very clear cultural dimensions. These dimensions include for example the types of building material used,

the cultural appropriateness, or the participatory decision-making processes involved. Housing rights link with other associated rights including right to property, inheritance, women's rights, right to participation and self-expression that have clear cultural dimensions. Mr. Kothari insisted that despite the difficulties in implementation and effectiveness, legal instruments are of great importance as it is they who become tools to face particular threats, find solutions to specific problems, challenge power structures and help to focus on the most vulnerable parts of society. The main obligations of the different actors in this respect are, he argued, to implement and flesh out existing legislation, to achieve a global consensus on human rights and their indivisibility. Furthermore, Mr. Kothari underlined that "in order to protect cultures it is necessary to protect people" and many basic needs such as water and adequate housing should be treated as cultural and social good.

Last speaker was **Nawal El Saadawi**, renowned writer and doctor and President of the Arab Women's Solidarity Association. The thematic thread of her presentation focused on the way language is used or rather utilized in various ways as cultural markers, especially by the more powerful states and state agents. She reclaimed the right to resist this usage; that is, not to have one's cultural identity imposed from outside. Specifically, she addressed the way in which Arab cultures and countries are represented and defined in Western media and politics. She traced these representations and usages of terminologies in various contexts by looking at contemporary power relations between different states, and called for actively connecting dissidence and creativity in unveiling these power relations and the political mechanisms at work there. Furthermore, she called for "unveiling the mind" and resisting ignorance of our surroundings.

In the ensuing discussions three main points were raised that were considered crucial to the further definition and the future usefulness of cultural rights. These three points were:

- The question of the rights may not be divorced from the question of power; and the duties and actions at international, national and civil society level must be carefully examined in this regard.
- Equally, and related to the first, the role of the market needs to be analyzed and monitored in relation to cultural rights.
- Thirdly, it was argued that even when an international legal instrument is ratified by a country, it does not always mean that there is a real commitment on the part of the state to implement or apply the principles. There is a need to follow up and ensure real implementation of the conventions.

PARALLEL WORKSHOP SESSIONS

During the afternoon, 4 workshops were held on different aspects related to the objectives of this Congress, and its two main working strands, cultural rights and human development.

Minorities

The workshop on Minorities was organized by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI), and counted with different insights from the perspective of local communities to the treatment of ethnic, national and cultural minorities in the constitutional law and legal framework of different nations. Due to the fact that the name of the session was considered misleading, the interventions underlined the necessity to conceive of indigenous ethnic minorities not as “minorities” as such but as integral elements of a given society. A crucial part of this effort, it was argued, was to recognize existing cultural pluralism within states and to recognize their specific cultural, social and political rights. Specific mention was made in this context of the Ayllus in Bolivia and a proposal from 2002 in which an agenda was drawn up requesting that the government should recognize the land of indigenous peoples and hold a constituency assembly in which the rights of all are included and to create indigenous cultural policies, as well as of the indigenous movements in Argentina for legal and constitutional reforms. Another such element, participants insisted, is to follow up on the implementation of international norms and regulations as well as national legislations for the protection of minorities and their representation within the political and legal systems.

The participants of the session rejected the negative aspects of minorisation of indigenous peoples saying that this leads to the lack of respect and dignity. Largely recognized was the efforts made by international and national legislations as well as organizations that are devoted to dealing with indigenous peoples, but in practice indigenous people are prevented from participating in shaping public policies, including those policies concerning indigenous issues. The participants reminded that indigenous people enjoy several achievements of modern society, but have rejected the destruction of natural environment, accumulation of wealth and social class system.

Participants at the session also discussed some current efforts to design and implement adequate policies. These focused amongst others on the recognition and use of minority languages, or the setting up of specific monitoring institutions and the gathering of statistical data and indicators. The return of land rights to indigenous communities and the support to decentralized education were other priority issues.

Access and Participation

The second workshop of the afternoon had as its theme Access and Participation, and was coordinated by the Middle East Centre for Culture and Development (MECCAD). The session brought together perspectives from the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and Europe, which concurred that participation is the top driving force of culture and development; as expressed amongst others in the right to participate in cultural life. The crisis of the traditional nation state and the changing role of the market both require that civil society take up roles and responsibilities in organizing cultural life, which had hitherto been delegated mostly to the state. Mention was made specifically of the impact of globalization on human development, and of the cultural approach to human development as the most adequate tool to ensure sustainability in this field.

In relation to access, participation and cultural development, possible indicators could be related to the appearance of new cultural expressions, related facts of the place where produced and the public at large through their participatory actions.

Special emphasis was also placed on the territorial aspects of cultural development, and thus the advancement of fair and integrated projects. As good practices, two Latin American projects were put forward: An Argentinean network built by the community to foster culture through workshops, community organizations, public festivals, and radio programmes, amongst others; and a Mexican participatory program run through local councils.

Diversity

The workshop on Diversity, co-organized by the International Network of Cultural Diversity (INCD), also took up the aspect of local cultural development and creativity. It postulated that the aspects, with which the relationship between cultural diversity, cultural rights and human development may be established, is the promotion of local cultures. Local creativity and cultural industries may serve, it has been argued, as a counterforce to an increasingly globalized world. To ensure these developments it is necessary on the one hand for networks and civil society to promote the adoption of international agreements to protect cultural diversity, and on the other hand for national legislation in favor of local cultures to be enacted.

The two aspects of diversity, according to the coordinators to take into account are the diversity between nations and the diversity within societies between the majority and

the minority that do not have access to culture. It was acknowledged by the coordinator of the Network that “there is a tendency towards standardization rather than cultural diversity” and that “governments should apply a policy to protect national culture through subsidies to artists, the regulation of contents and control of monopolies”. In 2003 INCD made a declaration in order to encourage governments to work for the protection and conservations of language, respect for culture and the non-transformation of culture into merchandise.

As regards cultural indicators, it was acknowledged that indicators being related above all to economic well-being is in fact a cultural problem. The participants also recalled the importance of respecting and understanding culture and also that the development programs give consideration to the people and their problems and identify the factors that can be adapted to them, because in general these programs do not consider the problems of the people. Furthermore, it was underlined that in some societies the access to information is restricted, and the members of the societies do not have knowledge or understanding of their own societies, and that cultural aspects continue to be the driving force of many nations.

The good practices brought forward in this session included the introduction of quota systems for the media to support national or regional productions and thus encourage their development, or of tax benefits for investments in cultural productions. Generally, most contributions recognized that, in order to ensure cultural diversity, one will need to educate and foster critical and responsible cultural consumption, for example of local cultural production, rather than to prohibit the consumption of global products.

Local and Urban Development

Organised by the Cultural Department of the Barcelona City Council (*Institut de Cultura de Barcelona*, ICUB), the workshop on Local and Urban Development also included perspectives from Gambia and Germany. The workshop developed three key elements:

1. The question of social inclusion; with a particular emphasis on contemporary migration movements and the need to conceive them as an opportunity rather than a problem.
2. Urban regeneration; or put differently, the question of what should be preserved and what should be replaced by new constructions; and the relationship between public space, identity and territory.
3. And thirdly, the issue of decentralization and the accompanying processes – the devolution of competences and their relationship to cultural rights.

The Agenda 21 for Culture was presented at the beginning of the session. This document was approved in May 2004 by 300 local authorities as the guiding action plan for cultural development at a local level. Agenda 21 for Culture aims to put

cultural development at the heart of urban policy-making. The Agenda will be shortly presented to UNESCO and UN-HABITAT, and it will be followed-up by the United Cities and Local Authorities Association, the EURO CITIES Network and the MERCOCIUDADES Network.

Examples presented showed that in an African context, the decolonization process has brought the concept of culture to the fore in urban and local policy-making, given the problematical influence of colonizing cultures in the communities; and especially in terms of the relation between an “official” culture and local cultures.

Friday, 27 August

PLENARY SESSION: Culture and Quality of Life: What are the Parameters ?

The last plenary session of the Congress commenced with a presentation by Colombian professor **Jesús Martín Barbero**, who emphasized the importance we have as individuals to be recognized for what we are, and furthermore argued that all individuals have the necessity as persons to work, produce and create. These basic principles for a good quality of life are nowadays constantly under threat in the greater part of the world (Latin America, Asia and Africa), he argued, and placed the reason for these developments on the imposition of mercantile values.

He called for a new cultural citizenship around the world, a space in which culture becomes key for citizens to feel included or excluded by the system. And this citizenship, he insisted, needs to take account of difference. Youth plays a key role here in their relation to society, the invention of new artistic languages, and social and cultural evolution. Lastly, he argued that the key for the quality of life of a society resides in the plurality of its cultural actors. Today, every cultural group wants to manage its own culture, and there needs to be a new institutionality to foster citizens' involvement in the management of their own identities.

Following on from him, **Mércia Brito**, from Brazilian association Nós do Cinema, spoke about her personal experience regarding her growing up in the Brazilian *favelas*, and of having been a member of the production team of the film *City of God*. She pointed out that inhabitants of *favelas* tend to have a bad reputation and their identity is poorly assessed both internally and towards the exterior. The shooting of this hugely popular film has intervened in this cycle, and has produced a phenomenon of cultural recuperation. Inhabitants have started to feel proud of belonging to this community, and also start to value their own history and to express their concerns.

She also pointed out that even if the final product of later film shootings does not turn out so well, this is not as important as the creative process – it is through the latter that identity is constructed. The will is there to change the perception and attitude of the world towards its reality, starting off from the production of these films.

In his presentation, **Alioune Sall** presented the document drafted in Mozambique by the Task Force on Cultural Indicators in Africa a few weeks prior to the Congress. He emphasised the great importance of this document, entitled *Cultural Indicators of Human Development – Towards an African Perspective*, which identifies a series of possible indicators for measurement. As priority areas from an African perspective

were identified: good governance (legal and political pluralism), equity of resources, access and distribution, cultural liberties, creativity and cultural entrepreneurship and knowledge generation and management. As transversal issues cutting across these areas, capacity-building, gender and HIV/AIDS were mentioned.

Amongst other issues he pointed out that in Africa, the identities and political aspects are very much related, a fact that contributes to the generation of conflicts. In the same manner, he considered that the identities based on the market marginalize Africa, given that the continent does not participate as actively in the world market. He also called for equality among nations and partnership, within the African continent and diaspora as well as elsewhere as a way of living life in the future. Therefore he argued that one cannot reflect on cultural rights and human development on a global scale without taking these cultural and political specificities into account. To close, he argued that poverty is still the main threat to cultural diversity. To fight poverty is indispensable for preserving cultural diversity; the market must not submit society to its rules.

As second-last speaker, **Sydney Bartley**, Director of Culture at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture of Jamaica, started off by questioning the significance of the term “quality of life”, and argued that this depended on the expectations of each and everyone and stressed the importance of everyday issues.

Secondly, he indicated that cultural identity does not correspond to national identity, as the latter tends to hide and subsume other realities, such as for example immigrant groups. The manner to arrive at the so-called quality of life is education, but an education without prejudices, without putting one culture above another, and without concealing “undesired” aspects of history. He reminded that multiculturalism forms part of everyone and building a society means creating a space where everyone matters.

He stressed that language is an important aspect of culture, but warned that it can also become an instrument of discrimination for so-called “minority cultures”. Lastly, he also drew attention to the dangers some media and means of communication may suppose for culture, given that they may distort reality or employ an inadequate or dangerous language.

Lastly, **Liu Thai Ker**, from the Arts Council of Singapore, concentrated on the case study of this state and the difficulties encountered when aiming to manage the cultural diversity that has come as the result of the rapid growth of the city in all areas over the past few years. The strong growth of the country has denaturalized its culture in a certain manner. The development of a country and the articulation of its identities when growth has not been gradual demand serious consideration.

This phenomenon of rapid urban and population growth requires policy-making on part of the authority that has a clear will to protect diversity and confront homogenization.

No culture should here have its worth and value predetermined. Therefore, one needs to establish actions that recognize, respect, protect and guarantee ethnic, cultural and religious harmony of the inhabitants of any region and territory.

The closing session started with a presentation by **Annamari Laaksonen**, who presented main preliminary conclusions of the study on cultural rights, which the Interarts Foundation is currently carrying out. In order to better understand the cultural needs of individuals and communities and their views on cultural rights, a questionnaire had been produced and made available internationally to 4000 organisations and members of the public at large. Questions referring explicitly to legal concepts were here combined with more general ones, which provide for reflection on larger issues of culture and development. The objective of the of the questionnaire is to give a better picture of how people understand cultural rights, instruments and institutions and according to Ms Laaksonen the conclusions will be useful for identifying themes for the development of cultural rights and for finding out how to convert policies into an instrument for dialogue.

According to the data available, over 90% of respondents think that globalisation has an impact on the cultural life of people, and a large majority believe that there is an urgent need for cultural rights to be protected. When asked to identify the core elements that should be part of the definition of culture, "artistic creativity and expression" was most often singled out by respondents, followed by "the way people understand themselves and their way of life". Respondents were also asked about the most important aspects of cultural rights – here, aspects related to "collective identity" were preferred to those of "individual identity", whereas "education", "access" and "participation" were also chosen by many. Evidence gathered so far also indicated that cultural rights were perceived to apply to everyone, rather than pertaining solely to ethnic and religious minorities or artists, and that their universal nature was mostly recognised. In addition to cultural rights, 80% of respondents thought that cultural duties exist as well. Answers to one question, which inquired about the most effective instruments to identify and address violations of cultural rights from the point of view of the respondent, attributed this role first to the United Nations, yet alongside it to a civil society-led, independent instrument to monitor such developments.

Participants who had not yet responded to the questionnaire were invited to do so. Ms Laaksonen hoped that the Congress would be one step towards further cooperation among many agents active in this field, which should strengthen their abilities to work together, to exchange information and to sustain the momentum. She also mentioned that Interarts had just set up an Internet Portal on Cultural Rights (www.culturalrights.org) on the occasion of the Congress, which participants were

invited to use as a virtual meeting point where information could be consulted and exchanged.

The next contribution was made by **Robert Palmer**, the special advisor to the Congress, who was faced with the difficult task of summarising the main ideas and achievements collected in the course of the Congress. He highlighted that the event had responded to its initial aims of providing information, sharing experiences and mobilising a fragmented, diversified sector. This was achieved by congregating a wide mix of agents – even though it might have been easier to gather a smaller number of experts, organisers had chosen to enable everyone to take part. The wide range of issues dealt with in the event was one of its strengths, as was the rich dialogue in plenaries, workshops and additional conversations.

Among the main ideas derived from sessions were the beliefs that the cultural sector had to engage further in the major challenges faced by humanity and that the time was ripe for a global alliance in the field of culture – this should go hand-in-hand with an ability to engage more individuals and organisations that had not attended the Congress but who had a contribution to make on the issues raised.¹

It was difficult to be explicit about the conclusions – can a process such as this ever be concluded? Maybe not, but a series of principles – in the form of values and beliefs, elements related to culture and society, and ways in which to proceed – were suggested. He explicitly referred to the working meeting on Thursday 26, when several participants gathered to indicate their willingness for further cooperation, and suggested some of the ways to follow up the Congress with other projects. It proved, he argued, the necessity and willingness to take this process many steps further. Finally, he detailed a series of forthcoming events at which the conclusions of the Congress could be presented with the hope that intergovernmental organisations, NGOs, artists, networks, cultural organisations and communities would take responsibility for pursuing the principles agreed upon. Mr. Palmer suggested that if every person would light a fire in the darkness, all the fires together could make the night turn into the day. His final quote of Ben Okri reminded participants that new worlds are born constantly.

The final roundtable gathered together representatives of several organisations and institutions, which had either been active supporters of the Congress prior to its celebration, or are willing to take part in the subsequent steps.

Opening the proceedings, **Rosa Maria Carrasco**, president of the Interarts Foundation, stressed the significance of the event that was about to conclude, and

¹ The main elements of Robert Palmer's presentation form the backbone of the introductory section to the present report.

referred to the difficulties initially encountered to convince other stakeholders of the need to hold a Congress on Cultural Rights in the framework of Forum 2004. She also indicated her organisation's willingness to continue to pursue activities in the field of cultural information, knowledge and cooperation, so as to ensure the sustainability of ideas gathered in the course of the event.

François Nizery, representing the European Commission, welcomed the fact that the place of culture be increasingly recognised in international affairs, as the recent UNDP proved. However, debates on cultural rights should not exclusively concentrate on minorities, as the issue concerned everyone. In addition to the oft-quoted *diversity*, *dialogue* and *development*, he also mentioned the relevance of *desire* to cultural debates. It was also important to include in dialogues those with irreconcilable convictions. He emphasized that "we should not place culture at the forefront, as we would be falling into the same error that we are currently criticizing. Instead, culture has to be included in our set of values." The experience of the European Union could provide a useful example, as recent developments indicate an increasing willingness to take account of culture in external and internal policies. Yet it was worth bearing in mind that the design of cultural policies should be more aware of the cultural needs of the public.

The next speaker was **Edgar Montiel**, who stressed UNESCO's role in the process that had led to the Congress and in the event itself. As regards the subjects at stake, two issues were worth noting. On the one hand, the risk of excessive formalisation in the field of culture, as some cultural forms based on habits and tradition are difficult to measure with proper indicators. Likewise, the specificity of culture means that its role within development cannot be equal to that of, say, economic aspects. On the other hand, he argued that new parameters are needed to deal with culture in the international agenda, so that the contribution of culture to quality of life can be adequately appraised. The Congress had been a very good opportunity to discuss these issues.

Jaume Pagès, representing Forum Barcelona 2004, admitted that difficulties might have been encountered as the idea of the Congress was first launched, but went on to congratulate the coorganisers. The Forum 2004 was hugely satisfied with the results of the Congress and was sure that its legacy would be patent in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain and even the world at large.

Finally, Spanish Secretary of State **Leire Pajín** referred to the relevance of a debate on cultural rights in the context of globalisation and mentioned the importance of mobilisation by civil society agents at global scale in the face of existing international challenges. The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation is willing to publish the proceedings of the Congress. It was also important that research, action and networking be pursued, yet the difficulties of working in the field of cultural rights

should be acknowledged. Increasing recognition of culture in international development and cooperation was noted by AECI, which intends to introduce this dimension in its international relations, by promoting cultural diversity in international debates and by providing more resources to cultural projects in development cooperation.

She, as all of the speakers before her, mentioned the outstanding vision and contribution of the late Eduard Delgado, former Director of the Interarts Foundation and the original initiator of the process that was to lead to the celebration of the event that was now to close.

The Congress was then closed by **Robert Palmer**, who thanked the organising bodies and the persons involved in running the event.

**Cultural Rights and Human Development
AECI (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation) - Interarts Foundation
– Universal Forum of Cultures Barcelona 2004- UNESCO**

PROGRAMME

The Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development has as its basic aim to stimulate reflection on, and discussion of, culture and development in the 21st century.

It has two main working strands: Firstly, it aims to discuss the relevance of cultural rights (particularly the Right to Take Part in Cultural Life) to contemporary society in general and to development in particular. Secondly, it advocates the contribution culture may make to human development, and aims to find tools and indicators to measure this contribution.

The link between the two objectives is warranted by the fact that arguing about cultural rights without appropriate benchmarks to monitor their fulfilment might not lead to practical results, whereas discussing indicators without a solid reference to the cultural rights discussion might lose the intercultural quality needed to sustain a global positioning on the topic.

The Congress comprises three fundamental features:

- To contribute to already existing projects and initiatives across the globe on culture and development, in order to find synergies between them and allow them to engage with a variety of approaches and perspectives concerning culture in contemporary society.
- To offer tangible and lasting results by 1) developing an approach to cultural indicators of development and defining other instruments for such evaluation, and 2) identifying key elements of the Right to Take Part in Cultural life.
- To produce these results by combining theoretical and academic reflections on the topics with case studies and practical implications of culture's contribution to development, in order to respond directly to the needs and interests of the Congress participants.

Main objectives

- To discuss possible core elements of the right to take part in cultural life; a right, which is defined by Article 15 of the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations.
- To identify possible indicators measuring the contribution of culture to human development, which can be relevant both to the UNDP's Human Development Index and to other research and policymaking processes.
- To develop an action plan for research, information, advocacy and action on culture as an essential element in development, thus guaranteeing a continuity of issues discussed in the course of the Congress and taking advantage of other civil society, public and private initiatives which place culture at the core of development strategies.

Working languages in plenary sessions are: Spanish, Catalan, French, English

Working languages in the afternoon sessions are: Spanish and English (*except one session on Cultural Policies on 24 August which will be held in English and French*).

Direction of the Congress: Interarts Foundation

Dedicated to the Memory of Eduard Delgado (1949 – 2004), Founder of Interarts Foundation

TUESDAY, 24 AUGUST

09:30 - 12:30

Opening

Chair: Robert Palmer, Special Advisor to the Congress

Welcoming addresses

- Alfons Martinell, Director General of Cultural and Scientific Cooperation of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation / Spanish Agency for International Cooperation
- Katerina Stenou, Director of the Division of Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue, UNESCO
- Azza Karam, Senior Policy Research Advisor for the United Nations Development Programme, Regional Bureau for Arab States
- Luis Enrique Vega, Special Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to the Universal Forum of Cultures
- Ramon Cosialls, Director, Interarts Foundation

- George Yudice, Director, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies Director, Privatization of Culture Project for Research on Cultural Policy Professor of American Studies; Spanish & Portuguese

Coffee break

Plenary session: "Culture, human development, rights. Participation in culture as key to human development"

- Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Director, Human Development Report Office, United Nations Development Programme

Artistic intervention

- Pep Bou, Barcelona

Lunch

14:30 – 18:30

(coffee break

16:00 – 16:30)

Simultaneous sessions:

Memory and Heritage (Coordinated by the International Council on Monuments and Sites, ICOMOS)

- Dinu Bumbaru, Secretary General, ICOMOS
- James K. Reap, President, ICOMOS International Committee on Legal, Administrative & Financial issues
- Angeline S. Kamba, Chair of Board of Trustees, Harare International Festival of the Arts (Hifa), Zimbabwe
- Woljcieh Kowalski, Poland

Human Development Report 2004: Cultural Liberty in Today's Diverse World (Coordinated by the United Nations Development Programme, UNDP)

- ***Building Multi-ethnic Democracies***
- ***Challenges for Multicultural Societies in the Context of Globalization***

- Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Office of the HDR, New York
- Azza Karam, UNDP, Regional Bureau for Arab States
- Agustí Colomines, Director, UNESCO Centre of Catalonia
- Alioune Sall, Regional Co-ordinator, African Futures
- Joy Moncrieffe, Researcher, Overseas Development Institute
Associate, Center for African Studies, University of Cambridge
- Juan Enrique Vega, Special Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to the Universal Forum of Cultures

Creativity (Coordinated by Interarts Foundation)

- Colin Mercer, Cultural Capital Ltd, UK
- Ramon Cosialls, Fundació Interarts, Barcelona
- Margaret Lai-Hung Shiu, Association of Culture Environment Reform, Taiwan
- Zeljka Kozul-Wright, Creative Industries and Development – Experiences from UNCTAD XI

Cultural Policies (Coordinated by the Interdisciplinary Institute of Human Rights IIDH, University of Fribourg) *in French and English*

- Patrice Meyer-Bisch, University of Fribourg, Switzerland
- Raymond Weber, Lux-Development, Luxembourg
- Corina Suteu, ECUMEST, Romania

18:45

“Mishoni” Documentary by Director Augustín Hatar, Tanzania (30 minutes) *(in English without subtitles)*

WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST

9:00 –09:30

Resume and synthesis of previous day's sessions. Conclusions and recommendations.

9:30-13:00
the field.”

(coffee break:

Plenary Session “Culture and Development. Voices from

Chair: Máté Kóvacs, Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

11:00 –11:30)

- Masayuki Sasaki, University of Osaka , Japan
- Lupwishi Mbuyamba, Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa, Mozambique
- Johan Galtung, Professor of Peace Studies, Director TRANSCEND: A Network for Peace and Development
- Alinah Segobye, University of Botswana
- Amareswar Galla, Professor, The Australian National University & Asia - Pacific Observatory for Culture in Development

Lunch

14:30 –18:30
(coffee break
16:00 – 16:30)

Simultaneous sessions:

Tourism and Culture (Coordinated by the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education, ATLAS)

- Greg Richards, Coordinator at the Interarts Foundation, and leader of ATLAS Cultural Tourism Research Programme
- Michael Hall, Professor, Otago University, New Zealand and expert on international tourism, culture and heritage
- Florence Ian, ATLAS World Board Member, China

Languages (Coordinated by EUROLANG)

- Davyth Hicks, EUROLANG
- Robert Dunbar, University of Glasgow, Scotland / Canada
- Rafael Rodríguez-Ponga, Spain
- Paula Kasares, Profesora de Universidad Pública de Navarra
- Miquel Pueyo París, Director of Linguistic Planning, Generalitat of Catalonia

Culture, Social Inclusion and Civil Society (Coordinated by Arte Sem Fronteiras)

- Mónica Allende Serra, President, Arte Sem Fronteiras, Brasil

Diversity and Cultural Rights

- Saúl Sosnowski, Professor of Latin American Literature and Culture at the University of Maryland, College Park, and Director of the Latin American Studies Center

Culture and Sustainable City

- Teixeira Coelho, Professor of Cultural Policy and Coordinator of the Observatory of Cultural Policy, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

A Culture for Peace

- Nicolas Shumway, Tomás Rivera Regents Professor of Spanish American Literature , University of Austin, Texas

Culture and Art Networks (Coordinated by EFAH, European Forum for the Arts and Heritage)

- Alessandro Stillo, International Association for the Biennial of Young Artists from Europe and the Mediterranean

- (BJCEM) / European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH), Italy
- Risto Ruohonen, International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA), Finland
- Education and Culture** (Coordinated by ELIA, European League of Institutes of the Arts)
- Jeremy Diggle, ELIA, United Kingdom
- Graham Jeffery, NewVic, United Kingdom
- Rachel Fell, Pathways into Creativity, NewVic, United Kingdom
- Marcos Antonio Cândido Carvalho, Pedagogic Advisor of Art Education, AXE Project / AVINA Network, Brazil
- Ismael Ràfols, Network Coordinator, International Association of Educating Cities, Barcelona
- Maria Àngeles Cabeza, Documentation Centre, International Association of Educating Cities, Barcelona

18:45

The Making of “Tom’s Diary”

Jordi Barrachina, Journalist and film maker, Barcelona, Spain

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST

9.00-09:30

Resume and synthesis of previous day's sessions. Conclusions and recommendations.

9:30 – 13:00

Plenary Session “Cultural Rights in Perspective”

Chair: Juan Enrique Vega, Special Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to the Universal Forum of Cultures

(coffee break:
11:00 – 11:30)

- Stephen Marks, Harvard University, United States
- Yvonne Donders, Human Rights Division, UNESCO
- Miloon Kothari, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, India
- Nawal El Saadawi, Writer, Medical Doctor, President of the Arab Women’s Solidarity Association, Egypt

Lunch

14:30 – 18:30

(coffee break
16:00 – 16:30)

Simultaneous sessions:

Developing Diversity: the role of cultural policies in development (Coordinated by the International Network for Cultural Diversity, INCD)

- Garry Neil, Coordinator, INCD, Canada
- Leonardo Brant, Pensarte, Brasil
- Augustin Hatar, Department of Fine and Performing Arts, University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

Minorities (Coordinated by Spanish Agency for International Cooperation / Fondo Indígena)

- Jesús Prieto de Pedro, National Open University, Spain
- Humberto Mancilla, Lawyer and film maker, Bolivia
- Giselle Perez García
- Viviana Arrocha Vásquez

Access and Participation (Chaired by the Middle East Center for Culture and Development, MECCAD)

- Iman Al-Hindawi, Executive Director, MECCAD, Jordan
- Sultan Muhammad Razzak, Executive Director, Forum for Culture and Human Development, Bangladesh
- Eduardo Balán, AVINA Network, Argentina
- Ivonne Cruz, PhD student, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Barcelona
- José Antonio Mac Gregor, National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA), Mexico

Local and Urban Development (Chaired by the Institute of Culture, Barcelona City Council)

- Oriol Balaguer, Managing Director, Institute of Culture, Barcelona City Council
- Carles Giner, Head of Research and Development, Institute of Culture, Barcelona City Council
- Jordi Pascual, Researcher in Cultural Policies and Urban Development, Barcelona
- Burama K. Sagnia, Gambia - Senegal
- Rainer Blankenburg, RAW-Tempel e.v., Berlin, Germany

18:45 **“Announcing Restoration”** Documentary by Director Humberto Mancilla, Bolivia (20 minutes) *(in Spanish only)*

FRIDAY, 27 AUGUST

9.00- 09:30 **Resume and synthesis of previous day's sessions. Conclusions and recommendations.**

9:30 – 13:00 **Plenary Session: “Culture and Quality of Life: How do we know?”**

(coffee break:
11:00 –11:30)

Chair: Colin Mercer, Cultural Capital Ltd, United Kingdom

- Alioune Sall, Representative of the Experts' Task Force on the Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa, Senegal
- Sydney Bartley, Ministry of Culture, Jamaica
- Jesús Martín Barbero, Profesor, Colombia
- Mércia Brito, Nós do Cinema, Brasil
- Liu Thai Ker, Arts Council of Singapore, Singapore

14:30 **Final Plenary Session**

Presentation of the results of the study on Cultural Rights

- Annamari Laaksonen, Interarts Foundation

Report of the Congress

- Robert Palmer, Special Advisor for the Congress

15:30

Closing session

- Rosa Maria Carrasco, President, Interarts Foundation
- Edgar Montiel, UNESCO
- François Nizery, EuropeAid, European Commission
- Jaume Pagès, Chief Executive Officer of Universal Forum of Cultures Barcelona 2004
- Leire Pajin, State Secretary for International Cooperation and President of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation

During the Congress week within the premises of the Congress the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation will organise an exhibition of posters and design by Spanish and Ibero-American artist and designers on Cultural Rights called

Culture(s) – alternatives, diversity, rights

Organised by the **Interarts Foundation, UNESCO, the Spanish Agency for Cultural Cooperation (AECI) and the Forum Barcelona 2004.**

Congress Coordinator: Annamari Laaksonen, Interarts Foundation
alaaksonen@interarts.net

Partner Organisations:



Prince Claus Fund
For Culture and Development



Avina Foundation



Arte Sem Fronteiras

MONDAY, 23 AUGUST

Special Pre-conference: New geocultural spaces in globalisation

This one-day conference is an event linked to the Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development, although it remains separate in terms of organisation and responsibility for content. It is organised in its entirety by the the Organization of Iberoamerican States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) the International Organisation of the Francophonie, the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP), and the Latin Union (UL).

It is the third conference to be organised in the line of work of the so-called "Three Linguistic Spaces"(Francophone, Hispanophone and Lusophone), and takes place in the framework of ongoing cooperation between the above named international organisations representing these areas.

09:30 –11:00

Inauguration

- Alfons Martinell, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Eugenio Bregolat, Special Ambassador for the Universal Forum of Cultures Barcelona 2004

The three linguistic spaces as a model of articulation of linguistic and cultural spaces in the world

- Francisco Piñón, Secretary General, Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture
- Bernardino Osio, Secretary General, Unión Latina
- Abdou Diouf, Secretary General, OIF
- Mongi Bousnina, Director General, ALECSO

The Challenges of Cultural Diversity

- Katerina Stenou, Director of the Division of Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue, UNESCO
- Rafael Rodríguez-Ponga, Spain
- Fernando Gómez-Riesco, Spain

11:00 –11:30

Presentation of the Permanent Forum on Cultural Pluralism

Scientific Committee

11:30 – 13:30

Defining Cultural Globalisation: the geocultural challenges

- Jesús Martín Barbero, Colombia
- Joseph Pare, Burkina Faso

15:30 – 17:00

Constructing Cultural Pluralism: agents, spaces and territories

- Joëlle Farchy, France
- Jesús Prieto de Pedro, Spain
- Silvia Baléa, Romania

17:00 –18:30 Governing Cultural Globalisation: Exception, Spaces and Territories of Pluralism

Chair-Moderator: Pierre Calame, Foundation for the Progress of

Man

- Jean Tardiff, Canada
- Renato Ortiz, Brasil
- Patrick Zelnik, France

18:30 – 19:00 Closure: Synthesis of the debates

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