Draft Resolution EC-XLVII/DR.(7.1)

Submitted by: The Financial Committee (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America

Financial matters of the Commission

The Executive Council,


2. Confirms that the IOC budget for 2012-2013 has been executed in accordance with the approved Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5) and the Priority Funding Plan adopted by the IOC Executive Council in its decision EC-XLV/Dec.5.1;

3. Expresses great concern for the impact of the financial difficulties of UNESCO on the delivery of the IOC programmes, with the reduction of the IOC budget from US $12,026,200 in the approved Programme and Budget for 2014-2015 (37 C/5) to US $8,643,600 under the US $507 M budgetary envelope (or 72% of the 37 C/5 approved);

4. Further expresses great dissatisfaction with the fact that the budgetary allocation to the IOC for the biennium 2014-2015 at the level of 72% of the 37 C/5 approved is not consistent with the recommendations of the 5th special session of UNESCO Executive Board (Paris, 4 July 2013) to allocate between 100% and 80% to high priority Expected Results, like those of the IOC;

5. Recognizes the efforts of the IOC Executive Secretary to maintain programme continuity under these challenging circumstances and the difficulty to fully implement the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2), given that the Assembly provided its recommendation on a scenario with an allocation of 86% (and not 72%) of the 37 C/5 approved budget;

6. Welcomes the programmatic choices of the Executive Secretary;


8. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary for the development of a Complementary Additional Programme (CAP) of Extrabudgetary Resources (Proposals for 2014-2015) contained in document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Addendum;

9. Further expresses its thanks to Member States who have already contributed to the CAP, and;
10. **Urges** all Member States to provide voluntary contributions for the financing of the CAP, preferably to the IOC Special Account;

11. **Further urges** Member States to:

   (i) continue to advocate to the UNESCO Director-General and the Governing Bodies of UNESCO the importance of IOC as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, focusing in particular on the value that IOC provides to UNESCO and to the sustainable development of coastal areas and islands;

   (ii) support the reinforcement of the IOC in the consultation process for the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget for 2016-2017 (38 C/5);

12. **Invites** the Director-General of UNESCO to:

   (i) consider further reinforcement of IOC in this biennium as well as in the Draft 38 C/5 in order to address current and emerging priorities;

   (ii) request the Governing Bodies of UNESCO to ensure that resources allocated to the IOC in the Draft 38 C/5 be clearly identified in the appropriation resolution;

   (iii) maintain all IOC activities in a single Main Line of Action in the Draft 38 C/5 entitled “Promoting knowledge and capacity for protecting and sustainably managing the ocean and coasts”;

13. **Requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to:

   (i) prepare a Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017 to be submitted to the IOC Assembly at its 28th Session, based on the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2), and consistent with the high level objectives defined in the IOC Medium Term Strategy for 2014-2021; and

   (ii) support the work of the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group by providing timely information on the UNESCO budgetary planning process;

14. **Further requests** the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group to provide guidance to the IOC Executive Secretary in preparing the Draft Programme and Budget for 2016-2017;

15. **Invites** the Chairperson of the IOC to forward this Resolution to the Director-General of UNESCO.