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COALITION CURRENTS: NEWSLETTER # 2

This is the 2nd UKCCD's newsletter to members. Please send us information or links with specific relevance to Convention/Coalition objectives & agendas which you wish to share. Please mark "newsletter" in subject box and send to ukccd1@gmail.com

1. 21 May: World Day for Cultural Diversity, for Dialogue and Development.

Further to the adoption of UNESCO's Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity in November 2001, the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 21 May as World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (Resolution 57/249).

The Day will provide us with an opportunity to deepen understanding of the values of Cultural Diversity and to learn to "live together" better. This is why UNESCO appeals to the Member States as well as to all civil society to celebrate this World Day by involving as many actors and partners as possible.

http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=35636&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

2. France's culture and communications minister meets with the French Coalition for Cultural Diversity.

On February 21, 2008, France's culture and communications minister, Christine Albanel, met with the French Coalition for Cultural Diversity to discuss her role in implementing the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

The press release issued on the occasion noted, "The Culture Ministry's involvement in promoting and implementing the Convention was at the heart of the meeting between Christine Albanel and the French Coalition for Cultural Diversity."

<http://www.diversite-culturelle.qc.ca/index.php?id=1&nocache=1&L=1#article4567>

3. The Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopts a declaration on the allocation and management of the digital dividend and the public interest.

On February 20, 2008, the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted a declaration on the allocation and management of the digital dividend and the public interest. In a press release issued on the occasion, the Council stated, "In view of the opening up of the radio spectrum as a result of the switchover from analogue to digital broadcasting, the Committee of Ministers aims to promote pluralism, cultural and linguistic diversity, and public access in preference to a purely market based approach."

http://www.coe.int/t/dc/press/noteredac2008/20080221_adoption_EN.asp?

4. Languages Matter ! On 16 May 2007, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Languages.

In its capacity as lead agency for the related celebrations, UNESCO launched the slogan "Languages Matter!" and encourages all of its partners to increase and reinforce their activities in favour of the promotion and protection of all languages, particularly endangered ones, in all individual and collective contexts.

http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=36406&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Related articles:

- Fighting for Diversity: safeguarding Endangered Languages:

<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=EN&pg=00136>

- Worldwide partners: UNESCO's work on languages and multilingualism:

http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=35470&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html