



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

09/11/2015

Ref.: CL/4140

Subject: **Invitation for the 11th Global Summit of National Ethics/Bioethics Committees**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Government to nominate a participant to the **11th Global Summit of National Ethics/Bioethics Committees**, which will take place in **Berlin (Germany)** on **17 and 18 March 2016**.

This Global Summit is being organized jointly by the German Ethics Council (Deutsche Ethikrat) and the World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with UNESCO. It will be chaired by Dr Christiane Woopen, Chairperson of the German Ethics Council. The theme chosen for 2016 is "Global Health, Global Ethics, Global Justice". Please find attached herewith a tentative programme for the meeting.

Member States may wish to consider nominating the chairperson of their independent national ethics/bioethics committee/commission/advisory body (NEC) to attend the meeting. Member States without an NEC might consider nominating, to act as an observer to the Summit, any person who is supporting their action to build an ethics of science/bioethics infrastructure, for example by establishing an NEC, as Member States are called upon to do by Articles 18 to 20 of the *Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights* (2005).

Ministries of Health will be contacted directly by WHO to request nominations, and the German Ethics Council will be contacting its respective partners, hence, it might be relevant to take into account the fact that there might be additional representatives from your country participating in the Summit.

The objectives of the Global Summit, which are closely aligned to the objectives of current UNESCO programming on bioethics and the ethics of science and technology, are to:

1. bring together NECs from around the world to share thoughts and experiences in relation to bioethical issues;
2. serve as an international forum for the exchange of views and debate on bioethical issues of common global interest, based on the revision of the state of the art of the topics chosen for discussion;
3. contribute both to common understanding and consensus-building between nations;

4. assist those nations developing their national bioethical institutional and regulatory framework and guidelines; and,
5. provide the space and opportunity to convene regional forums of NECs.

Further information, including on the venue, on suggestions for accommodation and on visa requirements, can be found at the Global Summit website (www.globalsummit-berlin2016.de). Kindly note that the language for the meeting will be English, with simultaneous interpretation in French, Spanish and German being provided. Moreover, the German Ministry of Education and Research will provide funding so as to offer limited support to participants from NECs of low and middle-income countries, to cover the costs for travel and accommodation (information on this can be found on the abovementioned website, under travel information/travel grants).

Nominations for participation in the Global Summit must be sent by e-mail to globalsummit@unesco.org, with copies to both globalsummit@ethikrat.org and ct_ethics@who.int by 15 December 2015 using, as the subject, "Global Summit 2016". Instructions to register will be sent directly to the nominees, together with other logistical information.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Enc. 1

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

Draft Programme – Global Summit 2016
“Global Health, Global Ethics, Global Justice”
17 and 18 March 2016

**Venue: Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities,
Jägerstraße 21/23, 10117 Berlin/Germany**

16 March

Day of Arrival

16:00 – 18:00	Steering Committee Meeting at the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities	Chair: Prof. Dr Christiane Woopen	
18:30 – 21:00	Informal Reception/Get-together		

17 March

1st Conference Day – Opening and Stream 1: Global Cross Border Issues

10:00 – 11:00			
Opening			
10:00 – 10:30	Opening Speech by the Federal President of Germany	Mr Joachim Gauck	
10:30 – 10:45	Video message by WHO General-Director (or live connection)?	Dr Margaret Chan	Yet to be confirmed
10:45 – 11:00	Welcoming Speech by the Chair of the German Ethics Council	Prof. Dr Christiane Woopen	
11:00 – 11:30			
Report on the Global Summit			
11:00 – 11:15	Report by the Permanent Secretariat of the Global Summit	Dr Najeeb Al-Shorbaji/ Abha Saxena? (WHO)	
11:15 – 11:30	Report on the 10 th Global Summit	Dr Manuel H Ruiz de Chávez (Mexico)	
11:30 – 13:00			
Session I: Emerging and Converging Technologies			
11:30 – 11:45	Presentation of a Background Paper	Dr Rinie van Est (Netherlands)	
11:45 – 12:00	Co-Presentation 1 by NEC	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
12:00 – 12:15	Co-Presentation 2 by NEC	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
12:15 – 13:00	Discussion		
13:00 – 14:15			
Lunch Break and Marketplace			
14:15 – 15:45			
Session II: Epidemics and Outbreaks			
14:15 – 14:30	Presentation of a Background Paper	Dr Paulina Tindana (Ghana) with Dr Ezekiel Emanuel (USA)	Yet to be confirmed
14:30 – 14:45	Co-Presentation 1 by NEC	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
14:45 – 15:00	Co-Presentation 2 by NEC	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
15:00 – 15:45	Discussion		
15:45 – 16:15			
Coffee Break and Marketplace			
16:15 – 17:15			
Report International Organizations (European Commission, Council of Europe, UNESCO, WHO)			
16:15 – 16:55	Report of each organization (each 10 min.)		
16:55 – 17:15	Discussion		
17:30 – 21:30			
Evening Programme			
17:30 – 18:15	Transport to the German Bundestag and Security Check		
18:15 – 19:30	Guided Tour in the German Bundestag		
19:30 – 21:30	Dinner, Roof Terrace Restaurant Käfer in the German Bundestag Welcoming by the President of the Federal Parliament Dr Norbert Lammert		
21:30	Return Trip to Gendarmenmarkt		

18 March

2nd Conference Day – Stream 2: Global Common Issues to all Countries

9:00 – 10:30			
Session I: Bioethical Policies and Bioethical Law, and the Relationship Between Them			
9:00 – 9:15	Presentation of a Background Paper	Dr Ryuichi Ida (Japan)	
9:15 – 9:30	Co-Presentation 1 by NEC on country-specific aspects	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
9:30 – 9:45	Co-Presentation 2 by NEC on country-specific aspects	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
9:45 – 10:30	Discussion		
10:30 – 11:00			
Coffee Break and Marketplace			
11:00 – 12:30			
Regional Meetings			
12:30 – 14:00			
Lunch Break and Marketplace			
14:00 – 16:00			
Session II: Raising Social Awareness on Bioethical Issues Including Education, Media and Communications			
14:00 – 14:15	Presentation of a Background Paper	Dr Jorge Linares Salgado (Mexico)	
14:15 – 14:30	Co-Presentation 1 by NEC on country-specific aspects	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
14:30 – 14:45	Co-Presentation 2 by NEC on country-specific aspects	By a Member of a NEC	Yet to be determined
14:45 – 15:30	Discussion		
15:30 – 16:00	Wrap-up on Common Issues		
16:00 – 17:00			
Debate about the Global Summit 2018 and Closing Remarks			