

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON SAUDI ARABIA / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO: 4 November 1946**

2. **Membership on the Executive Board: No**

3. **Subsidiary organs of the General Conference**

Other intergovernmental organs

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
Member

4. **Saudi National Commission for Education, Culture and science (Established in 1964)**

Chairperson : Prince Khaled Al Faysal BIN ABDULAZID AL-SAUD

Secretary-General : Mr Ghormallah AL-GHAMDI

5. **Personalities linked to UNESCO :**

- **His Royal Highness Prince Talal, UNESCO Special Envoy for Water**_was designated as a UNESCO Special Envoy for Water on 18 December 2002 “in recognition of his contribution to sustainable development in his native country, regionally and on the international level, in addition to tackling the issue of water scarcity through AGFUND and its affiliated institutions and organizations”.
- **Dr Hayat Sindi, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador**_was designated as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador on 1st October 2012 “in recognition of her work to create an eco-system of entrepreneurship and social innovation for scientists, technologists and engineers in the Middle East and beyond, her efforts to bring young people closer to innovators and her dedication to the ideals and aims of the Organization.”

6. **Permanent Delegation:**

H. E. Mr Ziad Aldrees, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate (21/04/2006)

7. **World Heritage Sites: 2**

- Al- Hijr Archaeological Site (Madâin Sâlih) (2008)
- At-Turaif District in ad-Dir'iyah (2010)

8. **Tentative List: 2**

- Historical Area of Jeddah (2006)
- Rock Drawings in the Hail Region (2012)

9. **UNESCO Chairs:**

The UNESCO - His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz AL-SAOUD Chair in Health Education and Teacher Education (537) - Sebai Institute for Development - established in 2001.

10. Conventions: 13 ratified and 26 not ratified

11. Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage: non ratified

12. Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: ratified

Saudi Arabia is a State Party to the Convention; it deposited its instrument of ratification on 10 January 2008.

13. Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: non ratified

14. International Convention against Doping in Sport: ratified

Saudi Arabia is a State Party to the Convention; it deposited its instrument of ratification on 22 May 2005.

15. Memory of the World: Earliest Islamic (Kufic) inscription

Documentary heritage submitted by Saudi Arabia and recommended for inclusion in the Memory of the World Register in 2003.

The inscription is the earliest dated Arabic inscription so far located in the world. It mentions the date of the death of the second Caliph of Islam, Omar bin al-Khattab who died on the last night of the month of Dul-Hajj of the year 23 Hegrah, and was buried next day on the first day of Muharram of the new year 24 Hegrah (corresponding to 644 AD).

16. Representation within the Secretariat: under-represented

All categories included: 2

Professional staff in geographical posts: 2

Professional staff in non geographical posts at HQs: 0

Professional staff in non geographical posts in the field: 0

General Services Staff at Headquarters: 0

Local Field Staff: 0

With minimum 4 and maximum 7

17. Participation Programme:

For the current biennium 2012-2013 Saudi Arabia did not submit any request.

26. Category II center: Proposal by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to establish a Regional Centre for Quality and Excellence (RCQE) - 29 October 2013 – 37/C.