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## Evaluation report of the MOST National Liaison Committees (NLCs)

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# I. Framework of the Evaluation

## 1. Mandate, purpose and scope of the evaluation

The evaluation was undertaken in keeping with the Recommendations of the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme (Paris, 19-21 February 2003) which stipulated that "the MOST Secretariat in collaboration with National Commissions should undertake a review of the structure, operations and impact of the NLCs" and submit appropriate proposals and recommendations to the IGC Bureau.

This is the first comprehensive evaluation of the NLCs undertaken within the framework of MOST. Its purpose is prospective rather than retrospective, focusing on the transition process initiated in 2003 and currently underway, more specifically on "*How to adjust the structure and operations of the NLCs in order to implement the new mission of the Programme.*"

## 2. Evaluation methodology

In keeping with the Terms of Reference approved by the Social Science Sector and the IOS (Annex 1), an Evaluation Plan was submitted to the MOST Secretariat and the following activities were carried out:

- gathering, analyzing and systematizing information from the MOST documents available in the Secretariat files and on the MOST website;
- discussions and consultations with staff members of the SHS Sector and with various experts inside and outside the Secretariat –including representatives of social science NGOs - who had been involved in, and had intimate knowledge of MOST activities;
- contacts (via Internet and by phone) with members of the IGC Bureau and of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), as well as with one former external evaluator of MOST;
- exchanges of views - by telephone, via Internet or face to face during the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC - with representatives of the National Commissions, the NLCs and social science experts in several countries;
- visit to one NLCs (Romania) for which an extensive evaluation has been prepared and placed in the MOST files. (Two more visits to NLCs had been envisaged, but lack of time (and funds) did not allow for them to be made). The evaluator attended a meeting devoted to a MOST Project (CODENOBA) organized by the Social Sciences Sub Commission of the French National Commission for UNESCO;
- gathering up to date information on the situation of MOST NLCs through a **Questionnaire** (Annex 2) which was circulated in two rounds to Member States (May-June and August-September 2005). The Questionnaire turned into a very useful tool for the evaluation. There were 64 replies: 45 filled-in Questionnaires and 19 "other" replies indicating that there was no NLC in the respective country, but a new one is being envisaged for MOST Phase II (see Annex 3 for a presentation of replies by country). The information collected via the

Questionnaire was used to assemble Tables 1, 2 and 3 (Annexes 5, 6 and 7 respectively). They have been placed on the MOST Website with a triple purpose: (a) to serve as a Data Base and a source of information and to facilitate contacts and exchanges of information and experience among NLCs, (b) to allow for their constant updating by the MOST Secretariat, with the support of the NLCs and the National Commissions for UNESCO and, (c) to encourage restructuring NLCs - or setting up new ones where they do not exist – so as to better meet the requirements of MOST Phase II.

Several additional activities were of great help to the evaluator in order to complete his task:

- **Consultations with SHS staff.** The preliminary results of the evaluation were presented to a meeting of the SHS staff on 27 June 2005. Upon the initiative of the Assistant Director General for Social and Human Sciences (ADG/SHS), a second working meeting, attended by members of the MOST Secretariat, by Directors (or their representatives) and social science experts of the UNESCO field, cluster and regional offices, was organized on 30 June 2005. The meeting occasioned a frank and constructive exchange of views, which indicated that MOST Phase II needs rethinking seriously the structure, composition and functions of the national MOST arrangements/ mechanisms/ structures. As a result of the meeting, the UNESCO field, cluster and regional offices provided very useful assistance in obtaining information from Member States via the Questionnaire. They are at present more closely involved in assisting Member States to set up appropriate structures at the national and regional level that would better fit the needs of MOST Phase II.
- **Presentation of a Preliminary Evaluation Report to the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC,** 25-27 July 2005 (Annex 4 Doc. SHS-05/CONF. 205/08d). The members of the IGC took note of the preliminary findings of the evaluation and of the comprehensive proposals and recommendations. They engaged in a thorough discussion of the action to be taken in view of a focused re-launch of MOST at the national level, emphasizing the need for a MOST national liaison officer, to be anchored in the structure of National Commissions, who could ensure stability and continuity of national MOST follow-up. They expressed agreement with the other proposals and recommendations submitted in the Preliminary Report, insisting on the need to set up and coordinate national and regional networks, as well as on MOST's increased cooperation with social science organizations, with the organizations in the UN System and with other IGOs that are active in the fields covered by MOST.
- **Informal Round Table of UNESCO Intergovernmental Science Committees and the National Commissions.** Organized during the 33<sup>rd</sup> General Conference (7 October 2005), the Round Table stressed on the one hand the need for increased cooperation between MOST NLCs and the national structures set up for the other scientific programmes of UNESCO and, on the other hand, on enlisting the support of the National Commissions in setting up MOST support-structures at the national and regional levels. It was also proposed to work together for the revision of the Guidelines of the NLCs of the Scientific Programmes, including the MOST NLCs.

### 3. Previous analyses of the MOST National Liaison Committees (NLCs).

The MOST Secretariat reviewed the situation of MOST NLCs in the year 2000. It found out that NLCs (or, rather incipient structures in support of MOST) had been established by that time in 61 countries, namely: *Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Colombia, Congo D.R., Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vietnam.*

The Intergovernmental Council of MOST examined the work of the NLCs at its statutory meetings and adopted appropriate recommendations to improve their operation. The *MOST Evaluation Report (1994-2001)*, took note of the fact that Member States have adopted widely varying solutions for the proper functioning of MOST at the national and local levels. It concluded that "the level of activity of MOST NLCs varies, depending on available funding and the enthusiasm of their members". It further pointed out that NLCs encounter difficulties (i) to reach the scientific community, and especially the younger researchers, (ii) to secure supportive links with funding agencies and (iii) to reach out to the national policy-making bodies and to the society, a function, which, in the opinion of the evaluators, was "...only partially fulfilled."

In her *Proposals for MOST Phase II (2003)*, Professor Elvi Whittaker former President of the MOST Scientific Advisory Committee, corroborated the conclusions of the Evaluation Report: the NLCs do not perform as originally envisaged and expected. She made several proposals to improve the work of the NLCs, namely: (i) to look at the liaison committees of the other UNESCO scientific Programmes (IOC, IGCP, IHP, MAB) in order to find more efficient structures and links; (b) to initiate a reporting system (biannual); and, (c) to consider setting up looser, thematic research networks, which are kept alive by shared academic interests. Her advice was "to use them for MOST, but not as appendages of MOST".

### 4. Evaluation premises

Setting up efficient structures and building up a complex system of networking and linking arrangements at the national, regional and international level is essential in the efforts to render MOST more *credible* and *visible* and to increase *its impact*. Twelve years after its inception and faced with new tasks posed by the reorientation of the Programme, MOST needs a new architecture of support structures to achieve the objectives set for its second phase.

This depends on a number of factors, of which the most important are the following:

- a. the interest of the Member States in the Programme and their readiness to allocate appropriate resources for its activities;
- b. the interest of the community of social science researchers to engage in research and other activities that are in keeping with the objectives of the Programme.

- c. The wider support of other stakeholders in society - including civil society actors and the public opinion at large.

The decision to shift the focus of MOST on the research-policy interlink has been taken by UNESCO and the IGC in response to the perceived need to bridge the gap between research in social sciences and policy formulation and implementation. This engaged MOST on a track that requires increased effort to gain broader interest among Member States, to have wider visibility and increased impact. While the need to base policy on solid research is unanimously recognized, achieving a close and harmonious link between them is still in the making. It requires building up a stable, long-term relationship of confidence between policy and decision makers on the one hand and the community of social science researchers on the other hand. This can only be achieved through conducting theoretical and applied research at various levels (local, national, regional, and international) and by a long process of adjustments and changes of attitudes and practices. This is the major challenge for MOST and represents the specific *niche* that it is called to fill in.

The interest in and commitment to MOST of the community of social science researchers are unanimous and represent a major asset of the Programme. There are, however, limitations as to how long this commitment can be maintained. Research institutes and universities are increasingly being obliged to look for funding to programmes, institutions and organizations that offer funds for contractual research. MOST is not and will never be in a position to be funded on a regular basis at the level that is required to attain its objectives. But, if it is intended to turn it into a "central programme of UNESCO" as recommended by the Intergovernmental Council at its last Session in July 2005, then it must be allocated minimum resources both from the UNESCO regular budget and from extra budgetary sources. As indicated in many replies to the Questionnaire, it cannot rely indefinitely on the voluntary commitment of scientists.

The other necessary link for the Programme to succeed is with the other stakeholders in society (civil society actors, trade unions, business and industrial entrepreneurs, the private sector and public opinion in general). MOST has still a long way to go in order to gain their full interest.

## **II. Evaluation Findings**

### **5. The situation of NLCs in the countries represented in the MOST IGC**

In light of the above considerations, the evaluation paid attention in the first place to **the situation of NLCs in the countries having served in the Intergovernmental Committee of MOST**. Seeking membership to the MOST IGC should indicate both interest and readiness to support the Programme.

A number of 88 Member States have served as members of the MOST IGC since 1993, when it was set up (see Annex 4 for a detailed analysis). By the year 2000, only 46 of them (slightly above 52%) had taken steps to set in place a working arrangement to handle MOST at the national level. In some cases, a proper NLC had been set up, usually with the help of the Social Sciences sub Commissions of the National Commissions for UNESCO. In a few countries, NLCs were set with the help of research institutes which had proposed MOST research projects and had them approved by the MOST Scientific Committee. Not all existing committees had a sustained activity. There has even been a decline in the activity of some of them over the last few years. In two countries, the NLCs were discontinued three years ago and one of them does not intend to revive it.

On the other hand, 15 countries which have never been members of the IGC had set up an NLC by the year 2000. Moreover, other countries which have not been and are not members of the IGC, especially from Africa, sent replies to the Questionnaire indicating willingness to join MOST during its second phase. *It seems necessary to consider ways by which membership to the MOST IGC reflects real interest in MOST of Member States and readiness to support the Programme.* The IGC members, especially the members of its Bureau, should also be more active not only in their countries, but also in the regions for which they have responsibilities.

### **6. Structure/affiliation, composition, roles and functions of NLCs**

#### **6.1. The legal and institutional status of the NLCs or of equivalent bodies/structures responsible for MOST at the national level**

The overall situation of the national structures, mechanisms or other arrangements and of the way they handle MOST at the national level is presented in the annexed Tables to the Report. Table 1 (Annex 5) presents the current situation (*existence/ non existence/ envisaged action*) of the *institutional status, composition/ roles and functions* of MOST National Liaison Committees in 119 countries, namely 64 countries which sent a reply to the Questionnaire and 55 other countries (marked by a double asterisk) for which information is available in the MOST Secretariat files. Included in this second category are all the countries which have been or are currently represented in the MOST IGC but did not send a reply. Whenever possible, the MOST coordinator, focal point/ or contact person in the respective country has been indicated. Additional information, arranged in



similar Table form, presents the *activities* of NLCs (Table 2, Annex 6) and the *proposals made and the positions expressed* in the replies to the above mentioned Questionnaire (Table 3, Annex 7).

The information assembled in Table 1 allows establishing a typology of structures that handle MOST which is presented briefly below.

### **A) The National UNESCO Commissions follow up MOST as part of their overall functions**

In 54 out of the 119 countries, MOST issues are handled at a minimum level by the National UNESCO Commissions as part of their overall functions and duties. This is limited to receiving information from the MOST Secretariat and disseminating it to national interested institutions and persons. The National Commission responds also to requests of the MOST Secretariat, but not on a regular basis. (The evaluation exercise, especially the request to fill in the Questionnaire, served to raise awareness of the National Commission to MOST responsibilities: in a number of cases it was for the first time that they responded to MOST - related requests). Sometimes an employee of the National Commission is assigned to handle MOST, together with the other UNESCO Science Programmes.

The fact that a large number of countries give limited attention to MOST indicates that the process of setting up support structures for MOST is still at an initial stage and needs persevering efforts on behalf of the Member States and of UNESCO. It should be pointed out that 16 of the 54 Member States in this category, especially from Africa, indicated their interest and willingness to set up a proper NLC for MOST 2.

### **B) More advanced structures to handle MOST at the national level**

More advanced structures to handle MOST at the national level (i.e. a proper NLC or equivalent) exist in 65 countries at present. They fall into several sub categories:

(i) When the National Commission has a *sub commission for Social Sciences*, the latter assumes responsibilities and serves therefore as the MOST NLC. This is the case of 6 countries in the Europe Region, 3 in Africa, 3 in Asia and the Pacific Region and 1 in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is significant to note the small number of countries in which the Social Science (sub) Commission plays a significant role for MOST.

(ii) In many countries, it is a *research institute* (usually an *institute of social sciences*) or a *university Department* that is assigned by the National Commission to assist with MOST activities at the national level. The advantage of this arrangement resides in the fact that an institutional responsibility for MOST assures continuity of action. But there are also disadvantages and limitations if one has in mind the complex activities required by MOST 2 which place emphasis on networking and on involving all stakeholders in the social science research/policy nexus. In a few countries it is institutes or newly created networks for the thematic projects of MOST Phase I, which have assumed and continue to discharge the MOST NLC function.

Sometimes it is a *national research council*, which handles MOST together with all other Science Programmes of UNESCO. The obvious advantage of this arrangement is the links that can thus be established with the other Programmes and the interdisciplinary approach that is thus promoted. Arrangements of the type mentioned under (ii) exist in 34 countries: 9 in the Europe Region, 10 in Africa, 5 in the Arab States, 6 in Asia and the Pacific and 4 in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) The third category includes Committees/groups set up by the National Commission (NatCom) to serve as MOST NLC proper. Membership tries to be representative of stakeholders. In a number of cases the NLCs act mainly as *ad-hoc* committees/groups. Such arrangements, which could be considered closer to the functions and roles of a proper NLC, exist in only **18** countries (7 countries in Europe, 2 in Africa, 2 in the Arab States, 3 in Asia and the Pacific and 4 in Latin America and the Caribbean).

For all categories under (i), (ii) and (iii) there is a focal point or contact person who coordinates MOST activities in the respective country and serves as the liaison officer for the relations with the MOST Secretariat and with the other NLCs. As a rule, the coordinator/liaison officer is the president of the NLC. When the respective country is represented in the IGC, it is the designated representative to the Council who performs that function.

Figure 1 below displays the distribution of various types of support structures for MOST by region.

*Figure 1: Typology of structures to handle MOST by Region*

	NatCom follows MOST activities at minimum level (receives and disseminates information, responds to requests from the MOST secretariat)	The (sub) Commission for Social Science assist NatCom to handle MOST issues. As a rule, the President/Vice-president of the sub commission is also the coordinator of MOST activities	A Research Institute (usually an institute of social sciences) or a university Dept. are assigned by the NatCom to assist with MOST activities at the national level. Some times it is a national research council, which handles MOST together with all other Science Programmes of UNESCO	Committees/groups set up by the NatCom to serve as MOST NLC. Membership tries to be representative of stakeholders. In other cases, the NLCs act mainly as <i>ad-hoc</i> committees/groups	Total
Europe	15	6	9	7	37
Africa	15	3	10	2	30
Arab States	7	-	5	2	14
Asia and the Pacific	9	3	6	3	21
Latin America/ Caribbean	8	1	4	4	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>119</b>

In the following paragraphs an assessment is made of where MOST stands with regard to support structures at the national level and what are the prospects for further development.

(a) In the **Europe Region**, there is a core of **22** countries in which more advanced support structures for MOST have been established. They have been highly supportive of the Programme and MOST can count on their further support in the future as well. They include in the first place the Nordic countries, (Finland, Sweden, Norway), the Netherlands, France, Switzerland, etc. Several countries in Eastern and Central Europe (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland,

Romania, Slovakia), are also active and have indicated readiness to take action to revive MOST-related activities in the future. The Romanian NLC, for which a more comprehensive analysis has been made, puts emphasis on developing cooperation at the sub regional and regional levels. Israel, Italy and Turkey were very active at the last IGC meeting and remain strong supporters of MOST. A case apart is Canada, which has shown keen interest in MOST in the past by supporting national and international projects. A sectoral Commission dealing with natural, social and human sciences has been set up by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO to coordinate action for all scientific programmes, including MOST.

During the evaluation, possibilities were examined for reviving MOST activities in the Mediterranean countries through the involvement of UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN networks (Italy, Portugal, Spain and Greece) and proposals were made to that effect. The National Commissions for UNESCO of the United Kingdom and the United States indicated that they are following the reform process of MOST and will get in touch with the MOST Secretariat after they come to know the Programme better. Despite efforts made with the help of the Moscow UNESCO Office, no reply to the Questionnaire has been received from the Russian Federation, the Ukraine and other former soviet republics in the Europe Region. This is regrettable, particularly in light of the fact that interesting activities had been carried out in these countries during the first phase of MOST.

(b) Special attention has been paid to **Africa** during the evaluation exercise. The number of replies to the Questionnaire (14) shows that Africa needs MOST and expects the Programme to extend its action to the continent. The African countries need support to raise the level of training and research in the social sciences. At the present moment, MOST issues are handled at a minimum level by National UNESCO Commissions in 16 countries. In another 10 countries (Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Mali, Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe, etc.) the Commissions have designated university departments to assist them in this task. More elaborate structures exist or are being envisaged in 3 countries (Cameroon, Tanzania and Uganda). The fact that in only 1 African country (Ghana) it is the Social Science sub Commission that extends support and has responsibilities for MOST is indicative of the weak position social sciences hold in the educational and research systems of the African countries. Capacity building is a priority for them and the support of UNESCO and of the developed countries is of paramount importance.

Several countries (Madagascar, Rwanda, Gambia, etc) requested the UNESCO Secretariat for assistance to set up MOST structures during the evaluation process. The UNESCO field offices in the Region are aware of these requests and are examining the possibilities for assistance in the very near future. This is very encouraging. There is thus the possibility to engage into a serious effort for the creation of national structures, while looking also at ways and means to set up regional ones. This all-out effort is expected to change the situation of MOST in Africa.

(c) Good working solutions have been found for MOST in several **Arab States** (Algeria, Tunis, Libya, Jordan) but activities are scarce and the level of interest in MOST is still low. There still are a number of countries in which MOST is little (if at all) known. The UNESCO Office in Beirut extended useful support throughout the evaluation and is pursuing further support to the Member States in the future. A proposal has been made for a MOST Project for Palestine. A similar one could be envisaged for Iraq.

(d) In **Asia and the Pacific**, several countries (Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand and Philippines) have been the active supporters of MOST during Phase I and continue to show interest. But the vast continent remains uncovered by MOST. An interesting MOST Policy Paper on rural migration in China has been published recently. However, there is room for more encompassing MOST initiatives to be taken in China and in the other large Asian countries such as India and Pakistan. It is important to note in this respect that Bangladesh sent a very comprehensive reply to the Questionnaire and its representative at the last Session of the IGC informed about steps to set up what looks a very promising NLC for MOST. The possibilities for future action in the Central Asian republics are also real and the UNESCO Office in Almaty is pursuing the matter with all due attention. So is the UNESCO Office for the Pacific, which, in a communication to the evaluator, mentioned a meeting, held with the National Commissions in August 2005, when steps were envisaged to set up MOST structures in at least five countries of the sub region.

(e) During the first phase of MOST, several countries of **Latin America and the Caribbean** were particularly active: Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Uruguay, etc. The NLC set up in Uruguay in 1999 looked like an excellent model. It was envisaged to act as a network of institutions including three universities, four regional research and training centers (CEFIR, CLAEH, CALEN and Red MERCOSUR) working also in close cooperation with the UNESCO office in Montevideo. The intention to plan and carry out activities on a regional scale was evident. Although, like in other regions, there has been a decline in MOST action in Latin America during the last few years, the possibilities for a revival of interest are real, particularly in connection with the establishment of the Regional Forum of Ministers for Social Development and the forthcoming Global Forum on Social Science/Policy Nexus (February 2006).

The evaluation indicates that a lot remains yet to be done in order to arrive at a satisfactory number of countries in which support structures for MOST are in place to set MOST 2 into real motion. During the evaluation many National Commissions for UNESCO, especially from the developing countries, expressed interest to be associated to MOST and to set up an NLC for its support. On the basis of those expressions of interest and of the commitment of the cluster and regional UNESCO offices to provide requested assistance, it is realistic to expect that MOST could count, by the end of 2006, on having adequate support structures in at least **80-85** countries.

No uniform solution is proposed in the present evaluation. The Member States should retain their sovereign right to choose the solution they consider to better fit the conditions in their country. Nevertheless, from the typology presented above and from the subsequent sections dealing with the composition, roles and functions and activities of NLCs, lessons can be learned as basic requirements for them to work.

This fairly optimistic expectation of the evaluator is accompanied by clear warnings with regard to several possible dangers that need to be avoided. In the first place, setting support structures for MOST runs the risk to turn into a formal exercise by which persons or institutions are designated, without a clear view of what they are supposed to do and, more importantly, with what means. Secondly, as rightly pointed out in a communication from a UNESCO Office in Africa, it is imperative to avoid at all cost turning responsibilities for MOST into sinecures.

The other warning concerns the great variety of solutions adopted by Member States with regard to the structures, bodies or institutions that handle MOST at the national level. As indicated in one reply, "the institutional settings and assignments of NLCs in different countries are too varied and

diverse, to make easy linkages and cooperation possible..." Certainly, flexibility is necessary, allowing for diversity of solutions as considered fit by Member States. But it is necessary to assure common features of NLCs that can facilitate links and cooperation.

## **6.2. Composition of NLCs**

Information about the composition of NLCs is rather scarce and the evaluation should be regarded as tentative in this respect. The items in the Questionnaire referring to "composition" were fairly detailed, but few replies were comprehensive enough in order to allow for a valid picture as to the major stakeholders and potential partners that are represented in, or associated to NLCs.

Nevertheless, a few general remarks could be drawn. Of the main actors : (a) research institutes and universities, (b) ministries and other governmental bodies, and (c) institutions and associations, representing civil society, it is the research community (research institutes and universities) that are most active in all support structures for MOST at the national level. Ministries, other governmental bodies and decision and policy makers in general, are represented in few NLCs. Even when this is the case, representation is in an indirect manner, i.e. via one or two representatives of such bodies in the NLC proper, in the Administration Council of Research Institutes or in the National Commission. Professional associations and other organizations of civil society are rarely represented in the NLCs. There are few representatives of civil society in the current composition of NLCs. The main concern is how to assure that representation goes beyond formal membership and is actually reflected in active participation and involvement of the respective bodies and institutions in concrete activities.

Many replies to the Questionnaire indicated a constant concern to assure representation (and participation) of women and young researchers in MOST NLCs and in MOST activities in general.

## **6.3. Roles and Functions of NLCs**

There are considerable differences among NLCs with regard to the roles they assume and the functions they discharge. Information about this aspect is based mainly on the replies to the Questionnaire, which identified 11 primary roles and functions incumbent on NLCs: (a) promoter and facilitator of research; (b) mediator of the research policy inter-link; (c) policy design and implementation; (d) consultancies; (e) platform for intellectual debate; (f) communication and networking facilitator; (g) advocacy; (h) monitoring/evaluation and elaboration of indicators of social transformation and social developments (i) capacity building and training activities; (j) standard setting; (k) collection, processing and dissemination of information.

Most NLCs are engaged in (a) promoting research and in facilitating networking and in the collection and in (k) processing and dissemination of information. The other functions, especially (b) mediator of the research/policy interlink, (c) policy design and implementation and (g), advocacy for MOST, which are of particular importance for MOST Phase II are assumed by few NLCs only.

Many replies requested the MOST Secretariat to provide more information and guidance with regard to what roles and functions the NLCs are expected to perform. This should be provided by

the MOST Secretariat and by the field offices of UNESCO. At the same time, the present Guidelines for the NLCs should be revised. In addition, as requested in many replies, the MOST Secretariat should facilitate increased exchanges of experience among NLCs through the MOST website and, whenever possible, through regional meetings of NLCs.

## **7. Activities**

The analysis of activities of NLCs was covered by the evaluation mainly via the responses to the Questionnaire. The replies tend to indicate that, while MOST has carried out valuable work during its first phase to promote social science research and to enhance capacities for it in the developing countries, its relevance has not been fully perceived and recognized by decision makers and by public opinion at large. The new emphasis on the research/policy interlink envisaged for Phase II of MOST is still at an initial stage.

The Questionnaire asked for specific information as to how NLCs have, or envisage to:

- assist in the identification of priority areas in which research-based evidence is needed in order to formulate viable policies leading to sustainable social transformation;
- assist in the formulation and planning of research projects in such priority areas;
- assist in setting up research teams and networks for their execution;
- build up linkages and maintain continued dialogue between national researchers and policy makers;
- contribute to increased awareness of MOST among the research community, the decision and policy makers and the public opinion and civil society, through persevering, pertinent and credible advocacy action;
- promote and strengthen the role of the social sciences, in line with UNESCO's overall mission in the fields of science and education.

While there were examples of work undertaken within the framework of MOST in various countries that are in keeping with the new emphasis of MOST, the experience acquired thus far needs to be further enriched in order to be really convincing. What emerged from the evaluation that is relevant for NLCs, allows for tentative appraisals on the basis of which proposals for future action could be formulated.

### **7.1. Promoting policy-oriented research; Enhancing the research-policy link**

The replies to the Questionnaire indicated that there is general agreement with regard to the emphasis placed on the research-policy interlink for MOST Phase II. This is very important, because, as mentioned earlier, there continues to persist reservations with regard to the possibility of bridging research and policy-making in the highly sensitive field covered by the concept of "social transformation". One reply from the Europe Region doubted whether politicians would accept and apply the results of research in policy making in that country.

The answer to these doubts seems to be - as emphasized in several responses received from NLCs - **research quality and relevance**. "Of the two poles of the relationship, it is the research

one that has to be given priority” insisted another reply from the same region, it is only through its validity, quality, integrity and objectivity that it has chances to be applied into policy making. The relationship cannot be “one way” if it is to work, irrespective as to whether it is the research pole or the policy-making one that is the starting point. Policy-makers and other stakeholders should be involved in defining research priorities, while researchers should be engaged in the use of the findings of their research in policy formulation. Equally important is to prove convincingly that *there is an added value* which MOST can bring and it can have an *impact* on policy formulation and implementation.

Many responses indicated that policy-oriented research in social sciences is carried out in many countries. Social scientists are often involved in the elaboration of studies that are meant to provide evidence for outlining policies in the social sphere. Leading researchers - including members of NLCs – serve as councillors to ministers, prime ministers and presidents on social issues, particularly in the Eastern and Central European countries. Several replies included concrete examples of major *themes and projects* (they are presented in Tables 1 and 2). However, the contribution of MOST is not direct and is not visible in many countries. In fact, according to the replies, interest in MOST, while fairly high among the research community, is rated low, among policy and decision making bodies as well as in the media and the general public in many countries.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the IGC outlined the goals, priorities and activities aimed at improving the relation of policy-making and social science research. They should guide the future action of the National Commissions and of the NLCs. Thus, when setting up research networks at the national, regional and international levels, they should have in mind the priority themes identified for each region, while trying to further fine-tune key cross themes. The MOST Knowledge Platform - for Policy Platform developed by the Secretariat acquires particular importance in this respect. Many replies singled out the Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus in February 2006 as a major event that could play an important role in enhancing the research-policy interlink and in the focused re-launch of MOST 2.

## **7.2. Capacity building and training**

When setting the mission of MOST Phase II, the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the IGC (June 2003) specified that capacity building should be pursued “whenever necessary”. The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the IGC reiterated this need by emphasizing that MOST should “assist developing countries to build a critical mass of high level social scientists” as a means to stem the tide or market driven “expert bureaus” which sometimes propose expertise of questionable quality. Capacity building and training activities acquire therefore particular importance for MOST in the developing countries and the IGC insisted that the Secretariat should use available funds, while also looking for additional resources for that purpose.

Information on capacity building and training activities collected during the evaluation is presented in Table 2 (Annex 6) to this report. In most countries training activities are organised with the support of universities and research institutes (Algeria, Australia, Barbados, Benin, Columbia, Latvia, Iran, Kuwait, etc.) within the framework of their usual graduate programs. In several countries, national training workshops are organised (New Zealand, Philippines, Uzbekistan). Summer schools, sometimes organised at the regional level (by the NLCs of Bulgaria, Uruguay, etc

and by UNESCO Chairs and partner institutions e.g. ISSC, CODESRIA) have emerged as a successful form of training, and should be continued, if funds are secured.

It is particularly encouraging to see the efforts made by NLCs in several countries (Canada, France, Sweden, Switzerland) to provide assistance for capacity building and high level training in the social sciences to the developing countries. It is a line of action which should be further promoted during the second phase of MOST.

Support for capacity building and training is also needed for the staff of the NLCs in the developing countries. Many replies to the Questionnaire indicated this as an immediate necessity. They need training with regard to organizing and coordinating MOST-related activities and to securing funding for their execution. Some situations present are quite dramatic, such as the case of Cameroon, where the Social Science Research Institute, which had been designated to perform the NLC function for MOST was closed under financial constraints.

### **7.3. Collection, processing and dissemination of information**

The information gathered for the evaluation indicates that, with very few exceptions, NLCs are engaged in the *collection, processing, use and dissemination of information* as a major need for MOST. There are *national databases* on social science research in many countries, including *inventories of research institutes* and *research networks*, of on-going or past projects. This can be of real use in setting up networks for priority research and a rostrum of leading researchers for MOST Phase II.

In most cases the national databases of social science research are linked to similar ones abroad - especially at the regional level. This is a major asset for envisaged research on the six regional priority themes identified for MOST Phase II. The use of the *MOST Clearing House facilities* is still restricted because they are little known. However, most replies indicated readiness to contribute to building up such facilities and to make use of them in the future.

The plans of the MOST Secretariat to initiate - through consultations and with the active participation of NLCs, of research networks and institutions - link-ups and harmonization of available data bases on social policies, to create cross-reference systems on the web, to elaborate and agree upon a format of integrating data into the MOST-On-Line-Policy Research Tool are very much appreciated. The MOST Secretariat needs to continue efforts to make all communication and information facilities better known, so as to be better used. One way to achieve this is to involve researchers in various countries more directly in planning and setting them up, especially the research tools.



## 7.4. Communication strategies and outreach capacities

Various *communication* strategies and appropriate activities are used in order to increase the outreach capacities of MOST and thus render the programme more visible. National seminars, round tables and conferences are organized jointly with governmental bodies or with NGOs. Public events on policy questions dealt with under MOST are also organized and reflected by the media. Diffusion of MOST information and publications to relevant governmental bodies/members of the National Parliament/social organisations/NGOs/ research institutes is assured by UNESCO National Commissions.

However, according to the replies to the Questionnaire, public opinion interest in MOST was rated as "low" in many countries. Even if such ratings were not based on actual studies, of population samples, they call for appropriate steps to be taken in order to considerably improve the outreach capabilities of the NLCs, to enhance the visibility of their activities and to achieve accrued awareness and deeper understanding of MOST at the national level. The MOST Secretariat should also continue efforts to make MOST better known in the Member States and by the community of social scientists and by the international community in general. It is only in this manner that it can arouse interest and build up partnerships for the implementation of the Programme. ICTs are of great help in increasing the outreach capacities of MOST. This will be dealt with in the subsequent section.

## 8. The use of ICTs

At the present stage of its development, the MOST Programme needs heavily increased use of ICTs for the whole range of activities it encompasses. According to the information collected during the evaluation, countries differ considerably in their use of ICTs for the purposes of MOST. Many NLCs and institutions which have responsibilities for MOST are not equipped for their full use. It is not within the capacity of the evaluation to indicate how this situation could be remedied. The experience gained for other international projects indicates however that the worst possible choice would be to neglect using ICTs on the ground that facilities are not available for all participants, especially in the developing countries. This is the case of MOST as well. That is why the evaluator wishes to stress the appreciation which the IGC gave to the *MOST ICT-based Knowledge-for-Policy Platform*, newly established by the MOST Secretariat and the request it made that it should be broadly used for the enhanced dissemination of research results to a broad range of users. The other recommendation to start an *electronic newsletter* for the benefit of MOST National Liaison Committees is equally important.

All communication and exchange of information becomes interactive with the help of ICTs. Links could be established not only between the NLCs, the National Commissions and the Secretariat, but also with all potential partners, as indicated under 7.3. above. The MOST website and websites of other providers of social science data, including scientific research councils, UN agencies and the World Bank could be linked. This would provide access to genuinely global research databases, with enormous benefit for researchers everywhere.

## 9. Cooperation strategies

### 9.1. Cooperation between NLCs and the MOST Secretariat

Most replies received from NLCs stress the importance of communication with UNESCO and with the MOST Secretariat in particular. In a number of replies such communication was considered irregular, even insufficient. With very few exceptions, the replies were in favour of introducing a regular *periodic (biannual) reporting system* by the NLCs to the MOST Secretariat. This need not become an additional "burden" on people and institutions that are already heavily engaged in work often carried out on a voluntary basis. In fact, the setting up of a new, interactive section of the MOST Website so as to provide an interface between the MOST NLCs, the UNESCO Secretariat in Paris, the UNESCO field Offices, the National Commissions for UNESCO and the emerging regional research-policy networks would facilitate this task considerably. So would the electronic newsletter mentioned above.

At the same time, systematic use should be made of international meetings and other occasions where representatives of the Secretariat are present to maintain face-to-face contact, which remains a necessity. Also, the newly envisaged relationship between the UNESCO field Offices and the NLCs offers a possibility for increased such direct contact.

### 9.2. Cooperation and communication among NLCs; Regional cooperation

In keeping with the recommendations of the IGC, regional cooperation is to be considerably reinforced during MOST Phase II. Indeed *fostering a region-specific approach* to the science-policy link is at present a major task ahead for MOST. There are two dimensions of this issue as far as the present evaluation is concerned. The first refers to the need to build up closer links among NLCs at the regional level. One item in the Questionnaire asked the NLCs to what extent they considered it useful to set up a proper cooperation structure at the regional level. Most replies were in favour, but caution was expressed to avoid setting up heavy and costly structures. This caution has been retained in the final proposals presented by the evaluator.

The second aspect is more complex, referring as it does to how the whole range of MOST-related activities can be given a truly regional dimension. The most important development in this respect is the emergence of the *Regional Ministerial Forums for Social Development*, first in Latin America, then in Africa, with prospects of extension to other regions. It is probably the most promising development which was initiated parallel to MOST but with highly beneficial consequences for its future. The second aspect refers to the identification of *priority research themes* for each region. The replies to the Questionnaire indicated general agreement with regard to the themes. However, few concrete projects have been launched or are envisaged to cover them. In fact, as stressed at the last session of the Intergovernmental Council, further refinement and tuning is necessary with regard to their formulation and, more importantly, with regard to ascertaining the ways and means to carry them out.

In pursuing increased regional cooperation, emphasis should be placed on networking and linking arrangements among partners, concomitantly with the establishment of viable *research networks*, with the avowed aim to arrive at a *critical mass of regional excellence* in the areas covered by MOST, to enhance a regional MOST platform, with closer networking of NLCs.

## **10. Alliances and partnerships with UN System organizations and other IGOs**

Based on the recognition of the central role of social sciences for the development of society, MOST had, from the very beginning a broad international character, seeking to feed policy-relevant research results into various organizations and agencies in the UN system when setting their agendas and formulating, implementing and evaluating social policies. In fact, the very idea of MOST emerged in the context of the preparations of the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD) held in Copenhagen in 1995. The links with the UN organizations has been maintained, both at the level of the UNESCO Secretariat and at the country level. Indeed, many replies to the Questionnaire give examples of cooperation and links between MOST activities and other UN ventures carried out in the respective countries with the support of UNDP, ECOSOC, UNICEF, WHO, etc.

Currently it is the follow up to the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen +10) the follow up to the Johannesburg summit and, more especially the MDGs that provide the framework for links between MOST and related UN action. The Decade for Sustainable Development Education (DESD), for which UNESCO is the lead organization reinforces possibilities of joint action.

However, the objectives of setting up stable coalitions with the UN system organizations that are active in social development have not been fully attained. It is necessary to pursue establishing partnerships in a more systematic manner with a view to share policy-relevant research. The international and interdisciplinary character of MOST based on comparative research is its main asset in this regard. It depends on its capability to generating new ideas and formulating new approaches in solving social challenges and issues to see itself established as a recognized international partner. There is room to work closer with UNDP in the first place. MOST can indeed bring a contribution to the elaboration of the Human Development Reports (refining concepts, developing ways to measure indexes, monitoring, evaluation of development trends, etc.). Links and partnerships with ECOSOC, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR etc. could and should be established. The World Bank is increasingly involved in in-depth studies prior to the approval of loans for social development. It is an opening for MOST that should be used more intensively. Initial links have already been established with the United Nations University and its network of research institutions, they should be further developed and if possible lead to joint projects.

Links, coalitions and partnerships should be sought with other IGOs, with regional organizations and institutions that are active or make use of social science research (the European Union, OECD, the Commonwealth Secretariat etc.). As indicated by many replies from the Europe region it is not possible at present to conceive a valid action plan of MOST in Europe (particularly in Eastern and Central Europe) without building up links with related projects supported by the European Union. The same is true for other regions where other funding organizations are active.

## **11. Links with social science associations and NGOs**

MOST is UNESCO's major programme aimed at promoting the social sciences and their use in society. It is only natural therefore to expect a privileged relationship between MOST on the one hand and the social science educational and research institutions and associations on the other hand. UNESCO helped establish the International Association of Universities as a privileged partner for its Higher Education programme and ICSU for its Science one. It did the same for its social science programmes by helping establish the International Social Science Council. At the same time, MOST has established links with a broad range of social science associations and NGOs on which it relies as research partners and as advocacy actors for the programme.

However, it is the feeling of the evaluator that the links of MOST to the social science associations and NGOs, beginning with ISSC, is not visible enough and does not work at the required level. The fact that aside of the Secretary General of ISSC, no NGO and no science association attended the last IGC meeting, is a matter of concern. There could be objective explanations. Indeed, many research institutes which have responsibilities for MOST indicated in their responses to the Questionnaire that since they are all faced with serious funding problems and since MOST has seen its budget reduced from year to year, they lose interest and look for funding sources elsewhere. The NGOs and the social science associations may have similar arguments. But this is not the only reason, or it cannot explain entirely the current level of their cooperation with MOST. This cooperation needs to and can be improved and the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee could play an important role in this respect. So can those members of the IGC and presidents of NLCs who hold leading positions in the research institutions in their countries and have close links with international and regional science associations. The framework agreement between UNESCO and ISSC should be rendered more specific with regard to MOST.

## **12. Collaboration and coordination of action among the Scientific Programmes of UNESCO.**

The Seventh Session of the MOST IGC stressed the need for closer links between MOST and the other Science Programmes of UNESCO. The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and the related Millennium Development Goals continue to provide a strategic vision for the scientific programmes of UNESCO, which are united by the common theme of sustainability. Their objective is to provide basic scientific underpinning for understanding on-going global changes, while feeding into policy decision-making. MOST is particularly fit to provide support (knowledge and advice for policy outlines) concerning the social aspects of the issues covered by the other scientific programmes of UNESCO.

The solutions adopted by several countries with regard to MOST facilitate interaction among programmes. Thus, Canada has set up a Sectoral Commission for the natural, human and social sciences, which deals with all the scientific programmes. It is within its framework that a special Sub Committee deals with MOST. Similarly, Sweden has entrusted the task to secure and coordinate support at the national level to all scientific programmes to the Swedish Research Council. In many other countries – especially in Eastern and Central Europe - responsibilities for MOST (and for the other UNESCO Science Programmes) have been entrusted to specialized research institutes of the national academies of sciences. Yet other interesting solutions have been

found in other countries (Indonesia, Uruguay, Tunisia, etc.). However, promoting inter programme cooperation as outlined at the last meeting of the Chairs of the six Scientific Programmes of UNESCO (Paris 5-6 October 2005) should be pursued more systematically.

### **13. Links with UNESCO Chairs**

It is the opinion of the evaluator that the potential of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme has not been fully used for the benefit of MOST. They provide an excellent means to reinforce activities. The UNESCO Chairs on Sustainable Development, already working as a network could provide the core. Networking chairs and using them to reinforce MOST is a line of action to be pursued systematically in the future. They can assist NLCs in reinforcing action at the national level and more importantly they can facilitate networking and joint research on a regional scale.

Several UNESCO Chairs are linked to the NLCs and carry out activities in support of MOST (Bulgaria, Chile, Romania, Uruguay, etc.). In one country (Republic of Moldova), the MOST focal point is also the national coordinator of the UNESCO Chairs. It is both possible and necessary to make fuller use of the UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN networks in order to reinforce MOST in all regions. Several initiatives taken along these lines during the evaluation indicate the large possibilities that exist in this sense.

- The Romanian NLC has solicited the support of UNESCO's European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES) to enhance regional cooperation for the benefit of MOST through the UNESCO Chairs for which it has responsibilities, especially in the countries of Eastern and Central Europe;
- Setting up a UNESCO Chair at the University of Pavia, where the Centre for International Development and Cooperation is involved in activities that are very much in consonance with the concerns of MOST. The Director of the Centre met ADG/SHS and discussed this possibility. The University of Pavia and the UNESCO Chair, if set up, could play a useful role in supporting MOST in Italy.
- Associating the UNESCO Chair on Human Rights, Democracy and Peace Education at the University of Thessaloniki, in order to reinforce MOST action in Greece. The Chair holder will discuss this issue with the National Commission of Greece to agree on modalities.
- A proposal to launch a MOST Project for Palestine has been outlined, based on the expected support of the UNITWIN PEACE Network of European universities.

Based on the conclusions and recommendations, of the external evaluation of the UNESCO Chairs in the social sciences which is currently underway, steps should be taken to increase their contribution to reinforcing MOST.

## 14. Funding

The evaluation took note of the almost unanimous complaint of NLCs and National Commissions about the severe lack of means and funds placed at the disposal of MOST both by UNESCO and by Member States. The 7th Session of the IGC expressed concern with the worsening financial situation of social sciences worldwide, in both developing and developed countries. They voiced a plea to both governments and UNESCO to pay due attention to the need for strengthening social science research and training and to provide adequate funding for that purpose.

The following observations can be made with regard to funding, based on the evaluation:

- many countries gave examples of MOST projects carried out with financial support from internal and external sources, which indicates that there are solutions when due attention is paid to secure funds;
- the expectations for funding by UNESCO are high. This is in many ways a carry over of the practice used during MOST Phase I, when National Commissions and NLCs proposed research projects for full funding – on a competitive basis – from the MOST Budget. That practice cannot continue, for obvious reasons and alternative solutions should be sought;
- very little use is made of the Participation Programme funds for MOST activities.

The evaluation cannot and was not meant to find solutions to the funding financial situation of MOST. It can only point out priority needs and experiences that could be extended and possible tracks that could be followed.

- Appropriate funding by the Member States and by UNESCO is essential at present in order to re-launch MOST and set into motion the range of activities - including the setting up of support structures and networks foreseen for its reoriented Phase II.
- The recommendation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC to set up an international fund for MOST, similar to the one set up for IPDC should be pursued with the full implication of UNESCO, the National Commissions and the members of the IGC.
- The track to follow in order to implement the objectives of MOST is to seek partnerships and alliances (cf. Section 10 above) with related programmes and activities carried out by UN system organizations, IGOs and other organizations, foundations and agencies.
- UNESCO funds, however scarce, need to be used more judiciously by balancing out expenses for publications, for meetings for the MOST website and the Research Tool etc., with necessary allocations for assisting Member States to set up support structures for MOST and to carry out activities.
- MOST is essentially an international cooperation undertaking in which the spirit of solidarity and sharing should prevail, particularly in relation to capacity building for the benefit of the developing countries.

### III. Conclusions

The main conclusions of the evaluation which were presented to the 7th Session of the IGC retain their validity:

- The number of Member States having set up proper NLCs (or adequate arrangements, mechanisms and structures to handle MOST at the national level) is still reduced,
- Even when NLCs do exist, their structure, institutional status and the range of roles and functions they assume are (i) highly diverse, which renders regional and international cooperation difficult, and (ii) they are not well tuned to the requirements of the reorientation of MOST Phase II on the research/policy/practice interlink;
- There is a clearly felt need – in addition to improving capacities for action at the national level - to also develop such capacities at the *regional level*, for which corresponding structures have to be built up, especially in connection with the Regional Forums of Ministers of Social Development.
- There is a general complaint about lack of resources and a funding base for MOST.
- The MOST Secretariat is understaffed and cannot possibly cope with the amount of work required – among other responsibilities - to assure regular contact with MOST structures and networks at the national, regional and international level.

On the other hand, despite a discernible slowing down of MOST activities during the transition period, the evaluation has shown continued interest in MOST not only by the research community, but also by a large majority of Member States. The evaluation itself has been received with interest and regarded as an opportunity to renew and reactivate MOST. It is significant that practically all the replies to the Questionnaire stressed that the evaluation is expected to lead to strengthening MOST activities or to set up appropriate structures to handle MOST Phase II. There are good chances for the process of redefining the architecture of MOST National Committees to succeed.

Its aim should be to adjust affiliation, structure, and operations of the NLCs with a view to implement the new mission of the Programme by:

- bridging the gap between the formulation of social policies and social science research at the national level;
- supporting and promoting social sciences at the national level;
- articulation of concrete action at the national level and the regional research and political networks defined through consultations;
- setting up “research communities” around specific themes;
- organization of exchanges at the regional and international levels.”

The next Section of the Evaluation outlines proposals and recommendations submitted to the IGC and SAC for that purpose.

## IV. Proposals and Recommendations

### 15. Proposals for the reorganization of MOST implementation structures at the national, regional and international levels

On the basis of the evaluation and having in mind the recommendation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the IGC, a thorough reorganization of the support structures and of the networking and linking arrangements for MOST at the national, regional and international levels is submitted for discussion and decision by the IGC and SAC. The proposals are aimed at having, at each level, (a) clear responsibilities of persons/institutions/structures dealing with MOST, (b) representative bodies where MOST-related issues are discussed, activities are planned and their implementation is evaluated regularly, (c) a system of research networks engaged in major research projects and in various other activities, and (d) links with a broad range of partners, including links with governmental and decision making bodies.

Particular care has been given to avoid proposing heavy and over ambitious structures for a Programme which is facing serious financial constraints. They are in fact extensions of what could be called "best practices" already in place in some countries. In principle, they should not involve additional costs over and above what many Member States do assure for MOST activities at present. However, attention is drawn to the fact that minimum funds are necessary to assist setting up structures in the developing countries.

#### 15.1. Implementation arrangements/mechanisms/structures at the national level

- *designation of a liaison officer/focal point/ contact person*, who has the time, capacity and resources to carry out a wide range of tasks and responsibilities – spelled out in his/her job description - to promote MOST at the national level. He/she could be placed in the National Commission for UNESCO. Alternatively, he/she could be placed in a Ministry that has responsibilities for the areas covered by MOST (i.e. the Ministry of Social Development), or in a research institution, provided the latter has a well defined status and close links with the national authorities.

- **MOST National Forum (MNF) or MOST National Liaison Committee (MNC)** – consisting of a *group* of well informed, committed and resourceful people and representing the national authorities, the research community and civil society actors - who can effectively promote MOST by planning, coordinating and securing implementation of a broad range of activities at the national level. It is through MNFs that research networks are set up and the link between research, policy and practice could be secured. They assure links with the other UNESCO Science Programmes and with relevant programmes/ projects undertaken with the support of UN agencies and organization and of IGOs. Its secretary could be the MOST focal point/contact person. MNFs should submit a Report to the MOST Secretariat every other year.

- **MOST research network(s) (MRN)**, set up by the Most National Forum (MNF) to undertake policy-oriented research on priority themes identified at the national level and to provide



advice to policy makers. MRNs should also be in a position to fulfill the think tank, platform for dialogue and advocacy functions foreseen for MOST. MNFs will cooperate closely with the *sub commissions for social sciences* of the National UNESCO Commissions, with *research institutes and university departments* with *professional organizations* and *civil society actors*. The *UNITWIN networks and the UNESCO Chairs* will be associated to their activities.

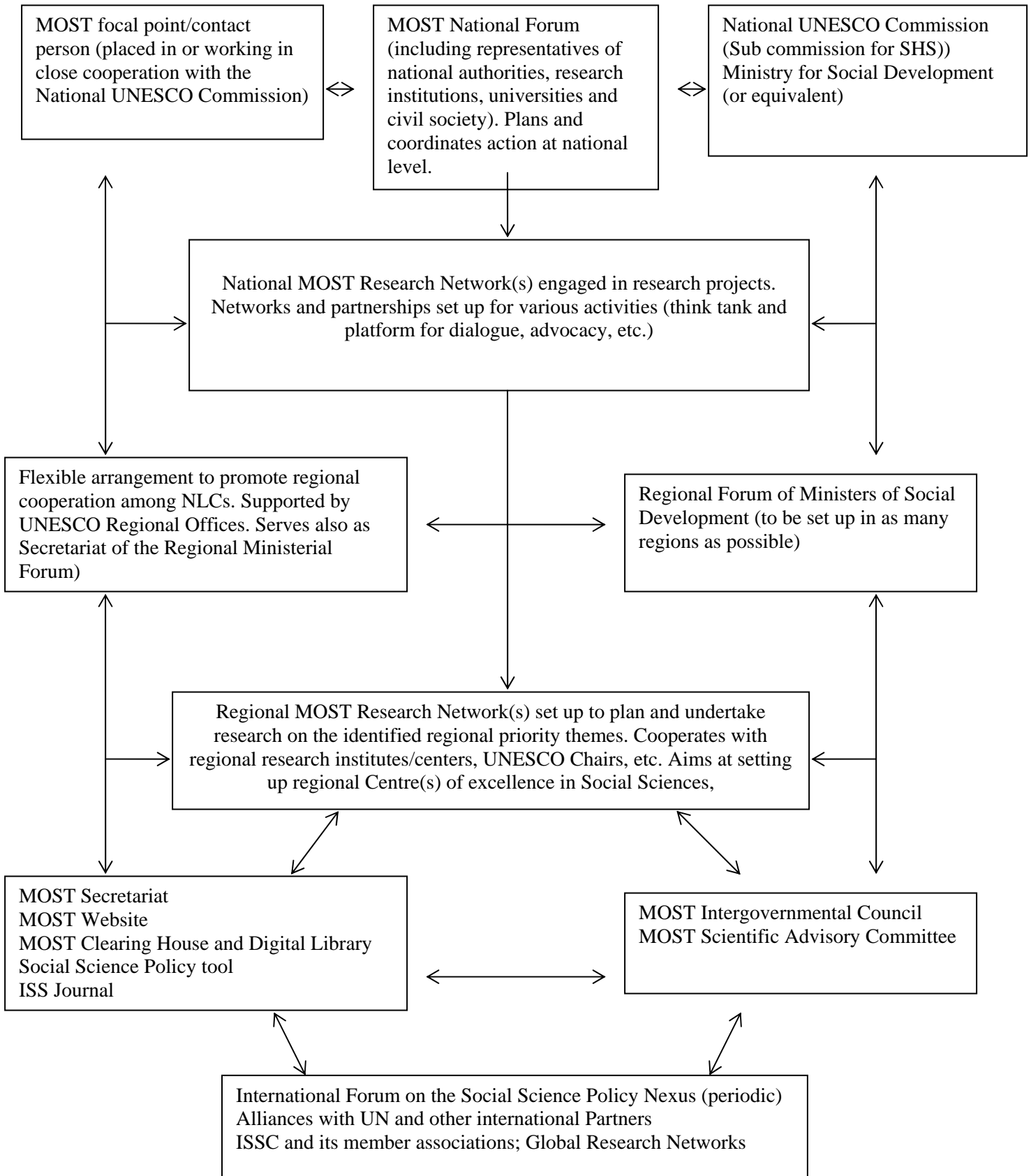
## **15.2. MOST implementation arrangements/mechanisms/structures at the regional level**

- **The Regional Forums of Ministers for Social Development** are emerging as a most important initiative to promote MOST activities at the regional level. They should be extended so as to cover other regions than they do at present.
- **Regional Ad-Hoc MOST Committees**, set up to facilitate cooperation among MNFs. They should help implement decisions adopted by the Regional Ministerial Forums. They are not envisaged as rigid, costly structures, consisting of flexible arrangements (periodic meetings when necessary and constant contact by telephone and the Internet) by which the national focal points and the MNFs agree to carry out regional activities. The MNF and focal point of the country which is hosting the Regional Ministerial Forum will take the initiative and serve as coordinator.
- **Regional MOST Research Networks**, established with a view to promote policy-oriented social science research particularly on the six identified regional priorities themes. They will be set up through links established with MOST potential partners in the region (regional social science associations and institutions such as CODESRIA, FLACSO, etc) the networks of UNESCO Chairs, etc. The ultimate objective is to set up Regional Centers of Excellence in Social Sciences.

## **15.3. MOST implementation arrangements/mechanisms/structures at the international level**

- **The Intergovernmental Council and the Scientific Advisory Committee** will provide guidance and supervision for overall MOST activities;
- **The MOST Secretariat** will assist and be responsible for the execution of the Programme.
- **The International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus** could emerge as the proper structure at the international level where all major actors of MOST – from social scientists to policy makers and civil society actors meet and exchange views on the research/ policy/practice link for positive social transformation. It can contribute significantly to the visibility and credibility of MOST. If the Buenos Aires Forum so decides, all support should be extended to it in order to become a regular, periodic MOST event.
- **Partnerships and alliances** with projects and programmes undertaken by UN agencies and organizations, by IGOs and donor agencies that cover areas related to the concerns of MOST. Cooperation with a broad range of NGOs is also part of the working arrangements at the international level. In particular, cooperation with ISSC should be strengthened on a mutual benefit basis.

Figure 2: MOST Organizational Chart



## 16. Recommendations

### 16.1. Reorganization of MOST NLCs and other support structures

- a) The *MOST Secretariat* and the *UNESCO field, cluster and regional offices* should assist Member States to *reorganize NLCs* and to put into place the *support structures for MOST* as discussed by the MOST IGC at its 7<sup>th</sup> Session and presented under A (above).
- b) The *National Commissions for UNESCO* should extend support, in close cooperation with appropriate bodies, organizations and institutions in their countries to the reorganization process of the NLCs and of other support structures for MOST at the national level.
- c) The *MOST Secretariat* and the *UNESCO field, cluster and regional offices* should take action, in close cooperation with the National Commissions and with other MOST partners to begin setting in place the *networks and linking arrangements* proposed for MOST at the regional and international levels.
- d) The *members of the IGC* - especially of its *Bureau* – and of the *Scientific Advisory Committee* should be more actively involved in setting up the proposed structures. In particular, the *IGC Regional Vice Presidents* should take initiative and assist in setting up appropriate cooperation structures in the sub regions for which they have responsibilities.
- e) A *debate* on the organizational aspects of the national and regional MOST structures that are best suited to serve the research/policy interlink should be organized on the occasion of the International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus in Buenos Aires (February 2006), with broad participation of representatives of the main MOST constituencies - policy makers, researchers and civil society actors.
- f) The *Guidelines for the MOST NLCs* should be revised in keeping with the new requirements of the Programme. The revision will be carried out in close consultation and cooperation with the *Secretariats* of the other *Science Programmes* of UNESCO.
- g) A *biannual reporting system* of NLCs to the MOST Secretariat and the IGC should be introduced, while also developing regular interactive communication between them , based on ICTs.

### 16.2. Coalitions, partnerships, networking and linking arrangements to reinforce programme activities

- h) Close *links, coalitions, networks and alliances* will be established and synergies will be built with projects and programmes undertaken by *UN agencies and organizations* under the federating umbrellas of WSSD, DESD and MDGs. Similar action will be

taken to strengthen cooperation with a broad range of like-minded partners, including IGOs, agencies and institutions that cover areas related to the concerns of MOST.

- i) Close links with the other *Science Programmes of UNESCO*, as recommended by the meeting of the Presidents of their IGCs, will be further developed with a view to arrive at coordination and joint planning and execution of activities that are of mutual interest.
- j) Links will be established with other major programmes of UNESCO, such as *Education for All* and action taken by UNESCO within the framework of the *World Decade of Education for Sustainable Development*.
- k) The UNESCO field offices will also be more closely involved in promoting and coordinating activities of MOST Phase II at the *regional level*, particularly, in activities related to the regional priority research themes.
- l) Based on the results of the on-going evaluation of the *UNESCO Chairs in social sciences*, the MOST Secretariat, should take steps - with the support of the National Commission and of the UNESCO field offices - to associate a larger number of UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN networks to MOST,
- m) Action should be taken by the MOST Secretariat, the IGC and SAC to establish closer *working ties with national, regional and international social science associations and NGOS*. *Cooperation with ISSC* within the existing framework agreement with UNESCO, should be further strengthened and should be rendered more specific with regard to MOST.

### **16.3. Communication strategies and outreach capabilities**

- n) The MOST Secretariat should continue efforts to enhance communication capabilities and strategies with NLCs, Member States and various partners. All the facilities at its disposal – especially the *MOST Website* – should be used to assure these links. The Website should increasingly serve as an *interactive communication tool*, allowing MOST focal points and MOST National Committees to be in constant touch with the MOST Secretariat, to have access to the MOST Data Bases and Clearing House facilities, while also contributing to their up-dating.
- o) Plans to establish an *Electronic Newsletter* and of *MOST Electronic Forums* should be pursued, so as to enhance the communication and outreach capabilities of MOST and to organize debates and consultations whenever large scale research projects are launched or major international MOST events/debates are organized.
- p) The work started by the MOST Secretariat to launch a *MOST ICT-based Knowledge-for – Policy Platform* should be continued with pursued in close consultation with experts and researchers to make sure that it meets identified needs.

## **16.4. Funding**

**and**

**resources**

- q) UNESCO should give due attention to the recommendation of the 7th Session of the MOST IGC to turn MOST into a central programme of the Organization and to allocate adequate resources for its implementation. At the same time, the Social Science Sector should take steps to reinforce the programme by linking its ongoing relevant activities of the Sector under the umbrella of MOST.
- r) Member States should extend increased material and financial support to MOST, particularly at the present stage, when MOST Phase II needs resources to take off successfully.
- s) Action should be taken jointly by UNESCO and the Member States to set up an International Fund for MOST, as proposed by the IGC at its 7th Session (July 2005).

## **ANNEX 1**

# **Terms of Reference for the evaluation of the MOST National Liaison Committees**

March 2005

# 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**1.1 MOST programme background:** The Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme, part of the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS) of UNESCO, was launched in March 1994. Its establishment was prompted by concern amongst social scientists, Member States, and development and UN agencies that governments across the globe resorted to social science analysis on a fragmented and disorganised basis. They appeared to use policy research for specific ad hoc tasks and neglected the need to base development and policy decisions on longer term, analytical social research.

This observation was reinforced at the time and in subsequent years by the recommendations contained in the reports on the five preceding United Nations World Summits: the Summit on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, June 1992), the Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, September 1994), the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen March 1995), the World Conference on Women (Beijing September 1995) and the Conference on Human Settlements (Istanbul, June 1996).

One element common to these five Summits was the sweeping consensus for a new approach to development that puts people and social equity at the heart of the development agenda. Social science, as the study of social and human relationships, is the obvious centre stage for new and innovative thinking on policy alternatives and social development models. Hence, the need for a programme that could amongst others: encourage the social science community to co-operate in a more interdisciplinary and international manner; assist the social science community in translating the results of major social research undertakings into policy or planning alternatives; and reach out to national and local governments to convey the importance of considering results from sustained, endogenous social research in decisions regarding social policy alternatives.

**1.2 MOST Programme mandate and role:** The MOST programme falls within one of UNESCO's key objectives stipulated by the founding member states in 1946, namely the promotion of the social sciences and their practical utilisation. MOST was created with the twin goals of improving our scientific knowledge of social transformations as well as generating practical policy-relevant recommendations. During its first life cycle (1994-2002), it strongly emphasized research that was comparative, international, interdisciplinary and policy relevant. In this vein, MOST was designed to organize and promote international research networks, to focus attention on capacity building and to establish a clearing-house for social scientific knowledge. MOST-Phase I was characterized by three major thematic orientations: Multi-Culturalism, Urban Development, and Governance-Globalisation issues.

MOST is the only programme in UNESCO fostering and promoting social science research and occupies a pivotal position in promoting UNESCO'S overall goals. Its role in supporting interdisciplinary and intersectoral programme development and conceptual work within the different Sectors of UNESCO should also be stressed.

The MOST Evaluation Report 1994-2002 identified the programme's principal strengths as follows: its capacity to mobilize networks, to co-ordinate projects from UNESCO's headquarters and field offices, to provide high level expertise for the upstream preparation of projects as well as their evaluation at both national and regional levels. MOST's concerted efforts to ensure involvement from almost all geo-political regions were paid tribute to.

In general terms, MOST should attempt to achieve the following:

- (a) To further understanding of social transformations;
- (b) To establish sustainable links between social science researchers and decision-makers;
- (c) To strengthen scientific, professional and institutional capacities, particularly in developing countries; and
- (d) To encourage the design of research-anchored policy.

**1.3 Reorientation of the MOST Programme:** In 2000-2003, a thorough external evaluation assessed the programme's achievements since its creation in 1994. The ensuing broad consultations redirected the programme both thematically and logistically. Following the recommendations of the 6th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the MOST Programme (February 2003) and the debates held at the 166th Executive Board Session (April 2003) to which the MOST evaluation was submitted by UNESCO's Internal Oversight Service, MOST has been reoriented in line with the overall concentration effort specified in UNESCO's Medium Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4). The core business of the retooled MOST programme is to broker policy-relevant knowledge to a range of established and emerging policy-actors and to support multi-actor approaches conducive to the generation of evidence-based policy.

The overall expected results for Phase II of the MOST Programme include:

- Improved image of the usefulness of research results for policy design and implementation with policy-makers, media and communities;
- Improved information and learning processes with a view to integrating research results in strategic/policy-frames;
- Improved quality of decision-making and policy implementation; and
- Enhanced public acceptance of social policies.

**1.4 Governance of the MOST Programme:** An Intergovernmental Council (IGC) and an independent Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) govern the MOST Programme. Co-ordination is provided by a small Secretariat in UNESCO Headquarters (see item 1.5). The elected Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council, consisting of the MOST Chairperson, the Rapporteur and the six Vice-Presidents representing the six electoral groups (regions), has been considerably strengthened during Phase II, through regular meetings and close following-up on programme development. These debates have been enriched by the new modality of holding Joint IGC Bureau and SAC meetings, the first one of which was organized from 2-5 July 2004, at UNESCO Headquarters.

**1.5 Structure of the Secretariat:** The refocusing of MOST on the science-policy interface was paralleled by the restructuring of the UNESCO SHS sector within UNESCO's overall reform process. MOST continues to be hosted by one of SHS's four divisions: the Division of Social Science, Research and Policy. The SHS environment provides closeness to the other three divisions: 1) Ethics of Science and Technology, 2) Human Rights and Democracy, 3) Anticipation, Philosophy and Human Security, as well as to the Coordination Section of the Cross-Cutting–Theme on Poverty.

Within the Division of Social Science, Research and Policy, MOST is now managed by the “**Section on Policy and International Cooperation in the Social Sciences (SHS/SRP/POL)**”. In comparison to MOST Phase I, the transfer of MOST to a section (SHS/SRP/POL) translated into a far more contained set-up in terms of human and financial resources. Two former thematic orientations of MOST-Phase I have been merged and transferred to an independent section within the same division: the section dealing with Migration and Multi-Cultural Policies; especially in Urban Environments. The third former MOST theme on “Globalisation and Governance” is now dealt with by the Byblos Centre, Lebanon. Following the basic structure laid out for sections in UNESCO, the section responsible for MOST is headed by a Chief of Section (P5) and ideally staffed by a programme specialist (P3), an assistant programme specialist (P1) and a secretary (GS5). As a result of restructuring and reform, the latter staff positions are



not yet fully settled within section SHS/SRP/POL. Financial resources are likewise subject to the principles guiding the management of SHS sections: in 32 C/5, the overall budget for a section revolved around US\$ 350,000.- whereas it will be further reduced in 33 C/5.

**1.6 MOST National Liaison Committees:** The National Liaison Committees (NLCs), which are presently established in 61 countries, are important bodies for the national programme development and implementation.

History: They are established following Recommendation 7 of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of MOST during its First Session of 7-10 March 1994 and Recommendation 2 of the IGC's Second Session of 3-7 July 1995. Member States are free to establish the structure and composition of a MOST National Liaison Committee according to their own priorities. Liaison Committees are generally constituted with the support of UNESCO National Commissions, in conformity with Resolution 13.1 of the 28th General Conference. Alternatively, any institution with responsibility for scientific policy, such as a national research council, may host a liaison committee.

The composition of NLCs may include social science researchers based in universities or other research institutions and representatives of bodies co-ordinating research funding and of research-user groups such as governments, the private sector, trade unions, professional associations, NGOs or community based organisations.

Their mandate is to create and enhance the links between the MOST Programme and national social science and policy communities. Member States, United Nations Agencies, and Funding Agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, UNODCCP)<sup>1</sup>, as well as bilateral funding sources, should thus be in a position to draw on the Programme for increased technical assistance in social policy planning. The MOST Clearing House on the Internet is an important tool for sharing and disseminating knowledge in the fields covered by the Programme.

The key functions of the MOST NLCs, as established during MOST-Phase 1 included:

- identify and motivate national institutions concerned with social science research related to the principle thematic interests of the MOST Programme, with particular emphasis on involving younger generations of researchers and university teachers;
- regularly disseminate information about MOST Programme activities sent by the MOST Secretariat to National Commissions;
- constitute a permanent forum to facilitate the flow of information between UNESCO-MOST and interested national institutions;
- assist the constitution of national research networks; and
- assist in obtaining funding for groups participating in MOST projects from national bodies such as national research councils, or appropriate government Ministries (Research, Education, Science and Technology, Social Development, Foreign Affairs etc.).

MOST NLCs have so far been established in the following 61 countries: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Colombia, Congo D.R., Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Papua

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<sup>1</sup> UNDP = United Nations Development Programme

UNFPA = United Nations population Fund

UNODCCP = United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention

New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vietnam.

## 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

**2.1 Legislative mandate for this evaluation:** At the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the MOST Programme held in Paris on 19-21 February 2003, the Members adopted a number of measures, including the Director General's recommendation that "the MOST Secretariat in collaboration with National Commissions should undertake a review of the structure, operations and impact of the NLCs during the 32 C/5 with recommendations and proposals to be submitted to the IGC Bureau. Evaluations will be carried out throughout the course of the programme."<sup>2</sup> The Director-General's actions to be taken in response to the MOST evaluation, submitted to UNESCO's 166<sup>th</sup> Executive Board in March 2003, reaffirms the prior call to the IGC Bureau and Secretariat to conduct this evaluation.<sup>3</sup>

**2.2 Purpose of the evaluation:** In accordance with the recommendation of the Director General to the 166<sup>th</sup> Executive Board and the recommendations of the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Conference of the MOST Programme, the purpose of the evaluation is to review the structure, operations and impact of the National Liaison Committees. The overall purpose of the evaluation is to identify lessons and provide recommendations to strengthen the work of the NLCs that will support the Social and Human Science sector in achieving the MOST Programme objectives. On a more general level, the evaluation aims to contribute to a culture of learning in UNESCO, to improve programme performance and results-based management and to assist decision-making through the provision of evidence-based evaluation knowledge.

**2.3 Scope of the evaluation:** Bearing in mind the recent reorientation of the Programme (described in section 1.3), the work of the NLCs needs to be reoriented accordingly. It is important to highlight that the evaluation aims to contribute to the accomplishment of the expected results for Phase II of the Programme. This implies that the evaluation should not focus on MOST Phase I (1994 - 2002) but rather emphasize the transition process currently underway, with a view to strengthening the Programme for the future. Therefore, the evaluation should provide adequate elements to answer the following fundamental question: "*How to adjust the structure and operations of the NLC's in order to implement the new mission of the Programme?*"

This suggests that the evaluation must result in setting a profile of the appropriate institution(s) to serve the refocused Programme. The final outcome of the evaluation exercise should give the MOST Secretariat a clear orientation on how the MOST NLC's should be structured and operate in order to best fit the Phase II requirements of the Programme. Consequently a general overview of MOST NLC's activities during Phase I of the programme, should only be useful as a way to identify lessons from the past, recognizing some (4 or 5) NLC's "success stories" that best suit the re-orientation of the MOST Programme on the science-policy link, in order to inspire the MOST NLC's future *modus operandi*.

**2.4 Key evaluation questions:** The evaluation commitment as announced above in section 2.1 specifies that the evaluation review the structure, operations and impact of the National Liaison Committees. Several key questions pertaining to these issues are listed below under (1) Structure; (2) Operations (Practice and Processes); and (3) Added Value / Impact. The questions below are intended to be illustrative and not exhaustive. They should serve as a framework within which the consultant(s) is

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<sup>2</sup> Refer to document (SHS-2003/CONF.201/10), 21 February 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to "Comments by the Director General on the external evaluations reports submitted in the 2000-2001 and the 2002-2003 biennia" – Document 166EX/41

expected to provide further refinements in the Evaluation Plan. The classic evaluation criteria (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and impact) should serve to carving out the specific niche for NLCs that will allow them to enact the role of a science-policy interface mechanism, drawing strength from appropriate coalitions and carefully avoiding duplication of efforts.

### **3. Structure (Stocktaking and Outlook)**

- 3.1 What is the composition / structure of the NLC and how is it legally and institutionally anchored? Which local obstacles must be taken into account? What are the primary roles / functions that NLCs perform within their respective country? How is the NLC linked to other institutions (universities and research centres, decision-making bodies at national and local level, National Commissions for UNESCO and the MOST Secretariat)? Does the NLC reach out to “like-minded” ventures, such as research-policy networks, UNESCO Chairs, other UNESCO allies, such as the national representation bodies of UNESCO’s other scientific programmes (MAB, IHP, IGCP, IOC)? To other UN joint ventures in its own country (such as WHO Collaborative Centres etc)? Does it reach out to donors, media, business in its country? Does it have alliances with “like-minded” NLCs in its (Sub-) Region? Is it involved into the creation of/ follow-up to MOST Regional Fora of Social Ministers?
- 3.2 What lessons can be learned and applied from other institutions in the different regions that could inspire an improvement for the structure of the MOST NLCs ? What are the best-suited modalities to strengthen the NLCs function as a platform for the MOST programme?
- 3.3 Which incentives (other than funding) are needed to assert the NLCs’ identity, image and sustainability? How to promote their autonomous raison d’être? How should the NLCs be structured in order to improve their links to other institutions (Universities and research centres, decision-making bodies at national and local level, National Commissions for UNESCO and the MOST Secretariat), with a view to fostering closer ties between social science research and policy-making? What are the key factors that either facilitate or prevent the NLC from fully carrying out its roles/functions? How can the NLC ripe benefits from increased networking opportunities, such as ICTs, synergies between partners, shared resources, shared work load, increased comparative capacities etc?

#### **Operations (Practices and Processes: Laboratory of ideas, knowledge broker, advocacy agent, promoter of democracy, standard setter, )**

- 3.4 What do NLCs receive from UNESCO? (i.e. what kind of support - intellectual, technical including ICTs, financial, material, advisory or other - is UNESCO delivering to the NLCs?) How does this correspond to the kind of support the NLCs want to receive from UNESCO under the new MOST focus? What arrangements do NLCs have in place for dealing with UNESCO? (i.e. for benefiting from MOST programme offers, as well as for the purpose of making MOST aware of NLC requirements)? What modalities are in place for monitoring trends in social transformations at national/regional level, and keeping MOST up-dated on a regular basis etc.?
- 3.5 What are/were NLCs’ primary activities (i.e. what NLCs do with input and/or support provided by UNESCO?) Who are / were the primary target groups of the NLC activities? How do these activities correspond to the kind of support the target groups want/ed to receive from NLCs? What arrangements do NLCs have in place for dealing with the target groups? (i.e. for the purpose of making NLCs aware of target groups’ requirements, informing NLCs about their satisfaction/wants/needs, etc.) What are the primary challenges experienced?

- 3.6 Which arrangements are needed for NLCs becoming proficient advocacy agents for integrating evidence into policy-making? How to improve the communicative competence of NLCs? How to spur on NLCs' developing means for supplying user-focused access to knowledge? How to ensure scientific evidence is disseminated where and when most needed? How to improve evaluation and monitoring capacities? How can NLCs improve their negotiation capacity?
- 3.7 What arrangements are needed for NLCs dealing with the decision-making level? For being turned into non-partisan, action-oriented policy analysis centres? Are institutional practices and structures of the NLC appropriately matched to the country's political structures? What products are sought for by policy-makers, and at which point in time? What does the NLC need for providing an intellectual space of debate for alternative ideas and fostering participatory arrangements? For training MPs and other policy-actors? For being effectively linked to the policy-making community?
- 3.8 How to maintain/ and/or expand the NLC over time? How to assert good management practices? How to get the best out of intellectual resources that are loosely connected with the NLC?
- 3.9 How provide the NLC with a reasonably sound financial basis? How to strengthen strategic alliances and skills in fund-raising?

**Added value and Impact: Enabling research to be useful, usable and used**

- 3.10 What is the added value of the NLCs' action in terms of their contribution to the goals and objectives of MOST? Was/is there any articulation of expected results? Do the various stakeholders (primarily the UNESCO Secretariat and NLCs) share a common understanding of what is to be accomplished ?
- 3.11 Are NLCs proactively creating opportunities for research to play its role alongside the other forces shaping policy? Are NLCs building "formative evidence" networks to support change processes, that is, ensuring multi-stakeholder involvement in the knowledge generation process? Have NLCs been involved in the design, undertaking and dissemination of research that impacted policy in their country? Are there examples of NLCs having delivered "the right information to the right people at the right time"?
- 3.12 What do the NLCs do differently as a result of having received UNESCO support, as demonstrated by several successful activities / achievements?
- 3.13 What do NLC target groups do differently as a result of having received NLC support, as demonstrated by several successful activities / achievements?

**Feedback**

- What are the NLC's views about
- Their Committee?
  - UNESCO?
  - The MOST Secretariat?
  - The action to be taken?

-This evaluation?

## 4. Evaluation Planning and Implementation Arrangements

**4.1: Evaluation Plan:** The Consultant(s) will prepare an evaluation plan to operationalize the evaluation. The evaluation plan should clearly describe how the evaluation will be carried out and how data will be collected and analyzed. It is important that the evaluation plan complies with the TOR, but the Consultant(s) should also provide any refinements necessary to explain their proposed approach to the evaluation.

The evaluation plan should include, but not be limited to, the following elements<sup>4</sup>:

- Programme context. A description of the programme being evaluated, its external context, and previous significant evaluation findings.
- Programme logic / theory. A description of how the programme is supposed to work: its objectives, activities, outputs and outcomes and their interrelationships.
- Evaluation objectives. A clear statement of the objective of the evaluation; the matters the evaluation will conclude on.
- Evaluation criteria. The criteria the evaluation will use to assess performance, and an explanation of where the criteria came from.
- Evaluation scope. The scope of the evaluation; what aspects or elements of the programme in question will be examined.
- Evaluation methodology. An outline of the methodology to be followed – what will be done in conducting the evaluation – and the cost involved.

**4.2 Draft Evaluation Report** The Consultant(s) will prepare an evaluation report that describes the evaluation and puts forward the evaluator’s findings, recommendations and lessons learned. The presentation of results is to be intrinsically linked to the evaluation issues, establishing a flow of logic development derived from the information collected. The report must include an Executive Summary corresponding to the following format: background of the programme evaluated, major findings (key achievements and key challenges), lessons learned and recommendations. IOS will submit written comments on the draft report to the Consultant(s) within a pre-determined time period.

**4.3 Final Evaluation Report:** The final evaluation report should follow the same formula outlined above.

**4.4 Evaluation team composition:** The Consultant(s) should be selected after a competitive process. The individuals must have experience in conducting organizational / institutional evaluations or assessments. The Consultant(s) should possess (a) 10 years programme evaluation experience, ideally within areas related to UNESCO’s fields of competence, (b) demonstrated experience and professional standing in the social sciences, and (c) some demonstrated knowledge of UNESCO’s mandate, structure and processes. The Consultant(s) should also possess appropriate linguistic competencies necessary for fieldwork (English, French or Spanish).

The Consultant(s) will need to rapidly develop a sound knowledge of the MOST programme and NLCs activities, especially a proper understanding of what the transition period after Phase I should lead to. UNESCO will provide all available documentation for that purpose. However, the Consultant(s) should

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<sup>4</sup> Excerpt from paper by John Mayne, “Ensuring quality for evaluation: lessons from auditors”.

have not been directly involved in any MOST-related activities, nor held any key positions (Presidents of NLCs, leaders of research teams, etc.) for the obvious reasons of objectivity and transparency.

**4.5 Evaluation budget:** The estimated budget available to carry out the evaluation is \$20,000. The Consultant(s) will have to be self-sufficient with regard to logistics (office space, administrative and secretarial support, telecommunications, printing of documentation, etc.). However, the Social and Human Sciences sector will provide appropriate office space for time spent in UNESCO Headquarters.

**4.6 Evaluation schedule:** The following timetable is suggested for the evaluation process:

A: Circulation of Terms of Reference to potential evaluators	March- April 2005
B: Submission deadline for evaluation proposals	23 April 2005
C: Submission of document review, evaluation plan and draft terms of reference for any case studies, questionnaires, etc.	30 April 2005
F: Meeting of Evaluation Reference Group to approve above	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2005
G: Consultant(s) briefing in Headquarters	4 May 2005
H: Implementation of evaluation	4 May – 30 June 2005
I: Submission of draft final report	4 July 2005
J: Meeting of Evaluation Reference Group	7 July 2005
K: Presentation of draft final report to MOST IGC 7 <sup>th</sup> session	26 July 2005
L: Submission of Final Report	1 August 2005

**4.7 Evaluation deliverables:** The Consultant(s) will submit the following deliverables for the review and approval of IOS: draft and final evaluation plan; Terms of Reference for any data collection instruments (e.g. surveys, questionnaires, etc.); and the draft and final evaluation report.

## Background Documentation

Documents to be provided by UNESCO: The Social and Human Science sector (SHS) will provide the Consultant(s) with the documents listed below at the signing of the contract.

- Intergovernmental Council of MOST, First Session, Paris 7-10 March, 1994, Final Report (See : VIII. The Organization of MOST at the National and Regional Levels)  
<http://www.unesco.org/most/igc94re.htm>
- Intergovernmental Council of MOST Second Session, Paris, 3 to 7 July 1995, Final Report (See Funding and National MOST Liaison Committees and ANNEX I, RECOMMENDATION 2)  
<http://www.unesco.org/most/igc95re.htm>
- MOST Evaluation Report (1994-2001), - O. V. Lindqvist (Finland), R. Radhakrishna (India), R. de Oliveira (Brazil).
- Bridging research and policy, MOST Annual Report 2001
- Research-Policy Linkages, MOST Annual Report 2002
- Proposal for Phase II (2002-2009) of the MOST Programme, Elvi Whittaker (former Chairperson of the Scientific Steering Committee, 1994-97), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
- Recommendations of the Sixth Session of the IGC MOST (19-21 February 2003)
- Report by the IGC MOST, General Conference 32<sup>nd</sup> session, Paris 2003
- Joint Communication of the Chairpersons of the Five Scientific Programmes to the Director-General and to the 165th session of the Executive Board - Fourth meeting of the Steering Group of the Five Chairpersons, Paris, 3-4 October 2002
- Joint Communication of the Chairpersons of the Five Scientific Programmes to the Director-General and to the 31st session of the General Conference - Third meeting of the Steering Group of the Five Chairpersons, Paris, 17-18 October 2001
- Joint Communication of the Chairpersons of the Five Scientific Programmes to the Director-General and to the 161st session of the Executive Board - Second meeting of the Steering Group of the Five Chairpersons, Paris, 18 May 2001
- - Mid-term evaluation report of the Management of Social Transformation (MOST) Programme (1994-1998), 156 EX/12, <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001156/115696e.pdf>
- Report on the refocusing of the Management of Social Transformation (MOST) Programme, 160 EX/12
- Document (SHS-2003/CONF.201/10), 21 February 2003.
- "Comments by the Director General on the external evaluations reports submitted in the 2000-2001 and the 2002-2003 biennia" – Document 166EX/41
- A preliminary STRATEGY for the MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS (MOST) PRPGRAMME, C.v. Furstenberg, 29 June 2003.
- More information on MOST National Liaison Committees : <http://www.unesco.org/most/partlist.htm>
- MOST National Liaison Committees Contact Persons by countries:  
<http://www.unesco.org/most/nlccp.htm>

### Documents from MOST NLCs

- République Algérienne Démocratique et Populaire: Centre de recherche en Anthropologie Sociale et culturelle. Rapport final de la Journée d'étude du 31 octobre 2001: "Quel développement durable pour l'Algérie ? Contribution à un débat." - <http://www.unesco.org/most/nlcalgeria2001.htm>
- Comités de liaison MOST dans la sous-région du MAGHREB (MOST National Liaison Committees of Maghreb Countries, available in French) - <http://www.unesco.org/most/nlcmaghreb.htm>

- Uruguay: Informe de Gestion 1999-2001 (Annual Report of Activities for 1999-2001, available in Spanish) - <http://www.unesco.org/most/nlcurgay2.htm>
- Uruguay: Informe Anual de Actividades, Año 2000 (Annual Report of Activities for 2000, available in Spanish) - <http://www.unesco.org/most/nlcurgay.htm>
- Public Opinion Is a Barometer of the Civil Society Situation, organized by the MOST National Liaison Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 27 September 2002 - <http://www.unesco.org/most/nlcuzbek.htm>
- ADVA Centre: <http://www.adva.org>
- Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation (TESEV): <http://www.tesev.org.tr/eng/>



## **ANNEX 2**

### **Evaluation of the MOST National Liaison Committees (NLCs) Questionnaire**

13 May 2005

# **Evaluation of the MOST National Liaison Committees (NLCs)**

## **Questionnaire**

*The purpose of the Questionnaire is to gather information on how MOST-related issues are dealt with at the national level, whether handled by National Liaison Committees (NLCs) or by another appointed body/structure/ institution. It begins with questions relative to their structure, composition and legal and institutional status, proceeds to their roles and functions and focuses on their performance, their outreach capabilities in promoting the research-policy interlink and the impact of their action. Other questions refer to their links to, and communication with the MOST Secretariat, with the national Commissions for UNESCO, with the other NLCs and with co-operation partners at the regional and international levels. It is also intended to collect information about perceived difficulties encountered in their work and proposals to overcome them.*

*In order to cover the highly diverse situations in various countries and regions, the questions have been phrased very broadly. For this reason, some of them may seem less relevant for the NLC in your country. Others, on the contrary, may seem too broad and encompassing, so that elaborate studies would be required in order to answer them properly. In order to render their task easier, the questions have been divided into two categories:*

- *simple questions of the yes/no or multiple choice type that can be answered by simply ticking the appropriate boxes;*
- *questions that ask for examples to be given or to make qualitative appraisals about the respective items. In their case, please try to give brief and pertinent answers. Whenever relevant documents, previous analyses and studies are available (preferably on the Internet) indicate them and the way they could be accessed by the evaluator.*

## **Structure/composition/legal and institutional status/roles and functions of the MOST NLC in your country**

### **1. The structure of the NLC and how it is legally and institutionally anchored**

1.1. What institution/body or structure handles MOST in your country? *(Please indicate the appropriate response by ticking out the corresponding box).*

- a) A National Liaison Committee (NLC)
- b) Another body/institution or structure, such as:
  - Social science research council
  - Research institute
  - Other
- c) The National Commission for UNESCO or one of its (sub)committees

1.2. What is the legal and institutional status of the MOST NLC or equivalent body in your country? *(Answer briefly and indicate where fuller information could be found, especially if available on the Internet).*

### **2. The composition of the NLC or of the body in charge of MOST in your country**

2.1. Does it include representatives of:

- (a) main scientific research institutes or centres
- (b) universities
- (c) ministries or other governmental bodies
- (d) other institutions/associations, etc.

2.2. Is its composition interdisciplinary so as to cover the fields of interest of MOST?

- Yes
- No

2.3. Give examples (if existing) of how the NLC encourages the participation of female researchers and of young scientists in MOST related activities in your country.

### **3. The primary roles and functions of the NLC**

3.1. Does it focus on its function as: *(Please tick out as many functions as it performs)*

- a) Promoter and facilitator of research on trends

- in social transformation
- b) Mediator of the research-policy interlink
- c) Policy design and implementation
- d) Consultancies
- e) Platform for intellectual debate
- f) Communication and networking facilitator
- g) Advocacy
- h) Monitoring/evaluation and elaboration of indicators  
of social transformation and sustainable development
- i) Capacity building and training activities
- j) Standard setter
- k) Collection, processing and dissemination of  
information relevant to MOST

3.2. Does your NLC have links with:

- (a) governmental authorities
- (b) decision making bodies
- (c) universities
- (d) research centers
- (e) NGOs and civil society groups

*Please specify for each case how the links are established.*

3.3. Does the NLC help build up links between MOST and:

- a) existing research policy networks
- b) UNITWIN networks and UNESCO Chairs
- c) UNESCO's other scientific programmes  
(MAB, IHP, IGCP, IOC, etc.) at national level
- d) other activities coordinated by the National  
UNESCO Commission in education, science,  
culture and communication
- e) UNDP, ECOSOC, UNICEF, WHO and other  
UN Joint ventures in your country
- f) Projects/programmes supported by  
the World Bank, IMF, etc. in your country
- g) Projects/programmes in MOST - related fields  
supported by IGOs and by donor  
agencies and foundations

3.4. Does it reach out to:

- a) the parliament
- b) the media
- c) the trade unions
- d) the business community in your country
- e) NGOs and other actors of civil society in general

*(Click the appropriate link(s), provide basic information and indicate where additional information could be found).*

3.5. With relation to questions 1, 2 and 3 above, indicate:

- a) key factors that either facilitate or prevent the NLC from carrying out its roles/functions in an optimum manner;
- b) what changes in the structure, composition and functions of your NLC are – to your mind - needed in order to improve its overall action?

### **Activities (operations, practices and processes)**

#### **4. Research Themes and Projects; Enhancing the Research-Policy Link**

4.1. Does the NLC assist in the identification of priority research themes that are of direct relevance to MOST in your country?

- Yes   
 No

*If yes, please list some of them.*

4.2. Does the NLC assist in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution?

- Yes   
 No

*If yes, list a few examples and indicate where additional information about them could be found, especially if available on the Internet.*

4.3. Indicate whether a research project is planned on the priority research theme identified by MOST for your Region. (The priority research themes are: *Regional Integration Processes* for Africa; *Human Security* for the Asia-Pacific region; *Fighting poverty* for Latin America and the Caribbean; *the Role of the State in Social Development*

for the Arab States; *The Social Science Policy Interface* for Europe, including Eastern/Central Europe; *Sustainable Social Development* for the Small Islands Development States (SIDS).

Yes   
No

4.4. Does your NLC encourage and facilitate the building up of linkages and maintain continued dialogue between national researchers and policy makers?

- a) Yes, on a regular basis
- b) Yes, occasionally
- c) No

*If yes, give examples of how this has been done.*

4.5. Does your NLC provide or mediate provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers?

- d) Yes, on a regular basis
- e) Yes, occasionally
- f) No

*If yes, give examples of how this has been done.*

4.6. Does it engage itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for:

- a) policy and decision makers
- b) the research community
- c) public opinion and civil society
- d) the media
- e) other

4.7. What modalities are in place for monitoring trends in social transformations at national/regional level, and keeping MOST up-dated on a regular basis? Is the NLC in any way involved in keeping track of them? (*Provide basic information and indicate where additional information could be found*).

4.8. Do decision makers in your country feel that the NLC provides a useful service for the research-policy link?

- a) Yes, very much so
- b) Yes, on some issues
- c) Only rarely
- d) Not the case

4.9. In general, how would you evaluate the interest of the decision and policy making bodies of your country in MOST activities?

- a) High or very high
- b) Moderate
- c) Rather low

4.10. Does your NLC provide media with MOST information on its activities for the public at large?

- a) Yes, on a regular basis
- b) Yes, occasionally
- c) Rather rarely
- d) Not the case

4.11. In general, how would you evaluate the interest of the public in MOST activities?

- a) High or very high
- b) Moderate
- c) Rather low

4.12. Does the NLC contribute to strengthening the role of the social sciences through the dialogue between researchers and policy makers?

- a) Yes, very much so
- b) Yes, in some domains
- c) Only rarely
- d) Not the case

## 5. Capacity building and training

5.1. Does the NLC contribute to strengthening scientific, professional and institutional capacities in your country through capacity building and training activities?

- Yes
- No

5.2. If yes, please specify how this is done:

(i) through:

- a) special training courses
- b) summer schools,
- c) other forms of training

(ii) with the support of:

- a) universities
- b) research institutes
- c) other institutions

(iii) for what target beneficiaries:

- a) social scientists - especially young scholars
- b) professionals involved in social work and planning for social development
- c) national and local policy-makers
- d) MOST National Liaison Committees
- e) University social science departments
- f) mass media professionals
- g) NGO activists
- h) other

5.3 Have special materials been developed for training purposes?

- Yes
- No

*If yes, indicate sources where they can be examined (preferably by Internet, if accessible)*

5.4 Are new training materials being envisaged?

- Yes
- No

*If yes, specify*



## 6. Collection, Processing and Dissemination of Information

6.1 Is there a *national data bases* on social science research?

- Yes   
No

If yes, does it include inventories of:

- a) research institutes   
b) research networks on specific issues   
c) on-going and past research projects   
d) bibliographical references   
e) other

6.2. Are they linked to similar data bases abroad?

- Yes   
No

6.3 Do regional data bases exist, or are there plans to build them in the future?

- Yes   
No

*If yes, please specify*

6.4. Does your NLC (and researchers linked to MOST in general) use the *MOST Clearing House facility* ( [www.unesco.org/shs/most](http://www.unesco.org/shs/most) )?

- Yes   
No

*If yes, could you assess how often and whether it has been found useful?*

6.5 Do you contribute at present to its updating and/or are you willing to do so in the future?

- Yes

No

## 7 Use of ICTs by the NLC

7.1 Is your NLCs equipped to use ICTs in its activity?

- Yes, well equipped   
Yes, for limited purposes only   
Not at all

7.2. Does it use ICTs for any of the following functions (*Tick the boxes that apply. Provide any additional information you may wish to give*):

- a) to facilitate research   
b) to network researchers   
c) for training purposes   
d) for the collection, processing  
and dissemination of information   
e) for communication at the national,  
regional and international levels   
f) other

7.3. Does the NLC (and the research institutes, university departments, etc. in your country) make use and contribute to the updating of the *MOST Website* established by UNESCO?

- Yes   
No

*If yes, please specify how you would like it to be further developed, particularly in order to improve its interactivity.*

7.4. Do you envisage upgrading the use of ICTs in your future work?

- Yes   
No

*If yes, please specify in what way and with what means.*

## 8. Communication and co-operation with UNESCO

8.1. Does the NLC receive MOST information (newsletters, publications etc.)?

- a) Yes, regularly
- b) Yes, occasionally
- c) Rarely
- d) No

8.2. What kind of support would your NLC expect from UNESCO?

- a) Intellectual and technical
- b) Financial and material
- c) Other (*please specify*) .....

8.3. With whom in the MOST Secretariat do you interact more frequently?

(*Indicate persons/units and how would you like such communication to be improved.*)

8.4. Is your NLC ready to assist the UNESCO MOST Secretariat to set up thematic *research networks* and to produce *Policy Papers*, as planned for MOST Phase II?

- Yes
- Yes, but need more information  
about the proposed networks and themes
- No

8.5. Does your NLC inform regularly the MOST Secretariat on MOST-related activities at the national level?

- a) Yes, regularly
- b) Yes, sometimes
- c) No

8.6. Would your NLC support the proposal to introduce a periodic report system (annual or biannual) to the MOST Secretariat, to be presented to the IGC sessions?

- Yes
- No

## 9. Regional and International Co-operation of your NLC

9.1. Does the NLC communicate with other NLC of the region/ world-wide?

- a) Yes
- b) Yes, but on a limited scale
- c) No

9.2. Has it forged alliances with other NLCs in your (sub-) region?

- a) Yes
- b) Not yet, but intending
- c) Not the case

9.3. Does your NLC support the initiative to set up a MOST Regional Forum of Ministers for Social Development?

- a) Yes
- c) No

9.4. Is your NLC in favour of establishing a structure/platform for the promotion of regional co-operation among the NLCs of a region/sub region?

- Yes
- No

9.5. What possible alliances and partnerships do you see at the regional and international levels and how could UNESCO assist you to achieve them?

## 10. Added value and Impact: Enabling research to be useful, usable and used

10.1. To what extent does the NLC consider its action as bringing an added value in terms of its contribution to the goals and objectives of MOST?

- a) High
- b) Moderate
- c) Rather low

10.2. To what extent is your NLC proactively creating opportunities for research to play its role alongside the other stakeholders and actors shaping social policies in your country?

- a) To a large extent
- b) To a moderate extent
- c) To a rather low extent

10.3. What does your NLC do differently as a result of having received UNESCO support? *(Please list a few successful activities / achievements).*

10.4. What do NLC target groups do differently as a result of having received NLC support, as demonstrated by several successful activities / achievements? *(Please describe).*

## 11. Funding

11.1. Has the NLC trained personnel for securing funding of activities (project formulation, identification of potential donors, submission of projects in keeping with donor requirements, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

11.2. Does the NLC succeed to secure funding for research projects and other MOST activities from national sources?

- a) ministries or other governmental bodies
- b) research institutes and university departments
- c) donor agencies and foundations
- d) private sector
- e) other

*Tick the corresponding boxes and give examples of projects funded that way.*

11.3. Is funding for MOST-related projects secured from IGOs, the World Bank, regional development banks, international and bilateral donors, etc?

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please give examples.*

11.4. Indicate how, to your mind, could strategic alliances be struck, how fund raising skills could be strengthened and what kind of support you would expect from UNESCO in this regard.

## **12. Feedback**

12.1. Give your opinion on:

(a) How to maintain and/or expand the NLC over time?

(b) How to assert and generalize “best practices” and management procedures so as to allow NLCs to perform better and have increased impact and visibility of their own action and of MOST in general?

12.2. What are the NLC’s views about:

(a) UNESCO’s overall action in areas related to MOST and of the MOST Secretariat

(b) The action to be taken for the Phase II of MOST

(c) This evaluation

*Add any further information you consider relevant. Insist in particular on most salient achievements through which you consider that the NLC has made an impact on the decision making process in your country.*

### **13. ANNEX on behalf of the MOST Secretariat:**

#### **MOST-Phase II Regional Priority Themes and related Policy-Research Networks**

13.1 The Recommendations of the Sixth Session of the IGC MOST ( February 2003), 32 C/REP.18 Annex – Para “Goals and Priorities” ( c ) state :“The research problems should build on the previous thematic areas of MOST and the expertise and networking resulting from the past two periods with the prospect of including new themes deemed critical. These new priorities and themes should be defined through consultation process at regional and other levels taking into account the priorities of UNESCO.”

13.2 In line with the above recommendation, a complex consultation process drawing upon:

- Social Science consultation meetings held in all Regions in 2002/03;
- Secretariat consultations with MOST Member States by e-mail;
- 33 C/5 Consultation Meetings with National Commissions in 2004 (Programme for 2006/07)

identified, by paying due tribute to

- a majority of expressions of interest, as well as to
- the need to foster convergence between the substance actions of the Social Science Sector,

**the following Regional Priority Themes for MOST Phase II :**

- **Latin America and the Caribbean: Combating poverty**
- **Africa: Regional Integration Processes**
- **Arab States: the Role of the State in Social Development**
- **Asia-Pacific: Human Security**
- **Small Islands Development States: Sustainable Development**
- **Europe, including Eastern/Central Europe: The Social Science -Policy Interface in Social Development**

13.3 The Secretariat is herewith making **a plea** to interested member states to kindly contribute to the constitution of policy-relevant MOST networks under the above identified priority themes, by suggesting the names of

- interested national policy-makers,
- representatives of interested research institutions,
- advocacy NGOs active in the identified priority area and, if applicable,

with a view to enrich the multi-partite MOST-Phase II networking process at regional level. The multi-partite networks are to help promote closer interconnectedness of the policy-making and social sciences research spheres.

<b>Thank you for your cooperation</b>
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## **ANNEX 3**

# **Preliminary Report on the evaluation of the MOST National Liaison Committees**

July 2005



**The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of MOST**  
(Paris, 25-27 July 2005)

**Preliminary Report on the evaluation of the MOST National Liaison  
Committees**

**Mandate, Purpose and Scope of the Evaluation.** The evaluation was undertaken in keeping with the Recommendations of the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of the MOST Programme (Paris, 19-21 February 2003) which stipulated that “the MOST Secretariat in collaboration with National Commissions should undertake a review of the structure, operations and impact of the NLCs” and to submit, on that basis, appropriate proposals and recommendations to the IGC. In light of the reorientation of the MOST Programme, decided at the last session of the IGC, the evaluation focused on the transition process currently underway, more specifically on “*How to adjust the structure and operations of the NLC’s in order to implement the new mission of the Programme?*”

This is the first comprehensive evaluation of the NLCs undertaken within the framework of MOST. It is based on the firm conviction of the evaluator that, in the last analysis, the success (or failure) of the Programme depends on the concrete action taken at the local, national and –increasingly- (sub) regional levels, which can only be assured by efficient structures set up for that purpose. They play a decisive role in rendering MOST more *credible* and *visible* and in increasing *its impact*. A review of NLCs made by the MOST Secretariat in the 2000 indicated that 61 NLCs had been established by that time. A first task of the evaluation was to clarify the exact situation of how Member States handle MOST issues at the national level and what kind of mechanisms/structures are in place to promote and implement MOST activities.

**Methodology of the evaluation.** The evaluation consisted of the following activities:

- gathering, analyzing and systematizing information from the MOST documents available in the Secretariat files and on the MOST website;
- discussions with staff members of the SHS Sector and with various experts inside and outside the Secretariat, who had been involved in, and had intimate knowledge of MOST activities;
- contacts (via telephone and Internet) with members of the IGC Bureau and of the SAC, as well as with the former external evaluators of MOST ;
- exchanges of views -by telephone or via Internet -with representatives of the National Commissions, the NLCs and social science experts in several countries

- Visit to one NLCs (Romania, for which an extensive evaluation has been prepared. (Two more visits to NLCs had been envisaged, but lack of time and funds did not allow for them to be made). The evaluator attended a meeting devoted to a MOST Project (CODENOBAs) organized by the Social Sciences Sub Commission of the French National Commission for UNESCO.
- A **Questionnaire** (Doc.SHS-05/CONF. 205/08c) was elaborated and sent out to the NLCs and the National Commissions in May 2005. It turned into a very useful tool for the evaluation. There were 41 replies: 33 filled in Questionnaires and 8 replies indicating that there was no NLC in the respective country, but it is planned to set up one for MOST Phase II.
- Presentation of the preliminary results of the evaluation to two meetings of the SHS staff, attended also by directors and social science experts in the UNESCO field (cluster) offices in various regions.

### **Preliminary findings of the evaluation**

This preliminary Report focuses on the most pertinent findings of the evaluation in relation to which proposals are formulated for discussion by the IGC so as to facilitate debates and lead to appropriate recommendations. The Final Report will be presented following the debates, opinions and recommendations of the IGC and following continued efforts to obtain more information from NLCs, especially with the support of the UNESCO field offices in various regions. It is proposed to extend the deadline foreseen for the completion of the final Report, so as to also have the benefit of the debates occasioned by the International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus (Buenos Aires, 5-9 September 2005).

The findings of the evaluation carried out thus far are summed up as follows:

- NLCs (or other arrangements, mechanisms and structures to handle MOST at the national level) exist only in a few Member States of UNESCO. Many of the 88 Member States which have been represented in the MOST IGC since it was set up do not have an NLC;
- Even when NLCs do exist, their structure, institutional status and the range of roles and functions they assume are (i) highly diverse, which renders regional and international cooperation rather difficult, and (ii) they are not well tuned to the requirements of the reorientation of MOST Phase II on the research/policy/practice interlink;
- There is a clearly felt need – in addition to improving capacities for action at the national level - to also develop such capacities at the *regional level*, for which corresponding structures have to be built up, especially in connection with the Regional Forums of Ministers of Social Development.
- There is a general complaint about lack of resources and a funding base for MOST. UNESCO and Member States are requested to provide adequate

means for the Programme. At the same time, there are many examples of national MOST Projects for which funding has been secured from governments and donor agencies.

- The MOST Secretariat is understaffed and cannot possible cope with the amount of work required – among other responsibilities - to assure regular contact with MOST structures and networks at the national, regional and international level.

On the other hand, despite a discernible slowing down of MOST activities during the transition period, the evaluation has shown continued interest in MOST not only by the research community, but also by a large majority of Member States. The evaluation itself has been received with interest and regarded as an opportunity to renew and reactivate MOST. It is significant that practically all 41 replies to the Questionnaire stressed that the evaluation is expected to lead to strengthening MOST activities or to set up appropriate structures to handle MOST Phase II. High expectations are placed on the decisions and recommendations to be adopted by the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC and on the debates of the International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus.

### **Proposals and recommendations**

Based on the preliminary findings of the evaluation and bearing in mind the above mentioned expectations placed in MOST, the following proposals and recommendations are submitted to the Seventh Session of the MOST IGC:

1. Reorganization of the structures that are needed in order to promote the Programme at the national, regional and international level along the lines shown in **Annex 1**;
2. The MOST Secretariat and the UNESCO field offices will be fully involved and will extend full support to Member States in putting into place these new structures, if approved. The UNESCO field offices will also be more closely involved in promoting and coordinating activities of MOST Phase II at the *regional level*, particularly, in activities related to the regional priority research themes.
3. The members of the IGC - especially its Bureau – and of the Scientific Advisory Committee should be more actively involved in setting up the proposed structures. In particular, the IGC Regional Vice Presidents should take initiative and assist in setting up appropriate cooperation structures in the (sub) Regions for which they have responsibilities.
4. A debate on the organizational aspects of the national and regional MOST structures that are best suited to serve the research/policy interlink will be organized at the International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus in Buenos Aires, where representatives of the main MOST constituencies - policy makers, researchers and civil society actors- from all over the world will be assembled.
5. The Guidelines for the NLCs will be revised in keeping with the new requirements of the Programme. The revision will be carried out in close consultation and cooperation with the UNESCO Secretariats of the other Science Programmes of UNESCO which

have similar structures at the national level. The MOST Secretariat will take an active part in the preparation of the Round Table of representatives of the National Commissions devoted to this issue which is envisaged to take place during the forthcoming General Conference of UNESCO.

6. Close links with the other Science Programmes of UNESCO, as recommended by the meeting of the Presidents of their IGCs, will be further developed with a view to arrive at joint planning and execution of activities that are of mutual interest. MOST is particularly fit to provide support (knowledge and advice for policy outlines) concerning the social aspects of the issues covered by the Science Programmes. At the same time, links will be established with other major programmes of UNESCO, such as Education for All and action taken by UNESCO within the framework of the World Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

7. Links and alliances will be secured with a broad range of like minded partners, and synergies will be built with projects and programmes undertaken by UN agencies and organizations, by IGOs and donor agencies that cover areas related to the concerns of MOST. Links with ISSC should be further strengthened within the existing framework agreement.

8. The MOST Secretariat should be strengthened, so that a full time member should be responsible for maintaining regular contacts with the increasing number of structures, networks and partners that are needed for MOST. All the facilities at its disposal – especially the MOST Website – should be used to assure these links. The Website should increasingly serve as an interactive communication tool, allowing MOST focal points and MOST National Committees to be in constant touch with the MOST Secretariat, to have access to the MOST Data Bases and Clearing House facilities, while also contributing to their up-dating. *MOST Electronic Forums* could be arranged whenever large scale research projects are launched or major international MOST events/debates are organized.

9. UNESCO and the Member States should extend increased material and financial support to MOST, particularly at the present moment, when MOST Phase II needs resources to take off successfully. However, aware of the heavy constraints of the Organization and of many Member States, it is strongly recommended to the MOST Secretariat and to all those involved in MOST activities to make systematic efforts in order to secure funding through partnerships and synergies as mentioned under 7 above.

10. The evaluation exercise will be extended until 15 October 2005 with a view to continue to collect further information on the structures set up by Member States via the Questionnaire. The extension is also required in order to take stock of the decisions adopted by the IGC at its 7<sup>th</sup> Session and of the debates of the International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus in Buenos Aires. At the same time, the extended evaluation will be used in order to encourage Member States which have national MOST structures to restructure them in keeping with the new requirements of MOST Phase II and those which do not have them, to set up new structures in keeping with these requirements

**Proposals and recommendations for the reorganization of MOST implementation structures at the national, regional and international levels**

**I. MOST implementation arrangements/mechanisms/structures at the *national* level**

- **focal point/ contact person**, who has the time, capacity and resources to carry out a wide range of tasks and responsibilities - spelled out in his/her job description - to promote MOST at the national level. He/she could be placed in the Ministry that has responsibilities for the areas covered by MOST (i.e. the Ministry of Social Development), or in the National Commission for UNESCO. Alternatively, he/she could be placed in a research institution, provided the latter has a well defined status and close links with the national authorities that would allow him/her to perform the duties mentioned above.

- **MOST National Forum (MNF) or MOST National Committee (MNC)** – consisting of a *group* of well informed, committed and resourceful people and representing the national authorities, the research community and civil society actors - who can effectively promote MOST by planning, coordinating and securing implementation of a broad range of activities at the national level. It is through MNFs that research networks are set up and the link between research, policy and practice could be secured. They assure links with the other UNESCO Science Programmes and with relevant programmes/ projects undertaken with the support of UN agencies and organization and of IGOs. Its secretary could be the MOST focal point/contact person. MNFs should submit a Report to the MOST Secretariat every other year.

- **MOST research network(s) (MRN)**, set up by the Most National Forum (MNF) to undertake policy-oriented research on priority themes identified at the national level and to provide advice to policy makers. MRNs should also be in a position to fulfill the think tank, platform for dialogue and advocacy functions foreseen for MOST. MNFs will cooperate closely with the *sub commissions for social sciences* of the National UNESCO Commissions, with *research institutes and university departments with professional organizations and civil society actors*. The *UNITWIN networks and the UNESCO Chairs* will be associated to their activities.

**II. MOST implementation arrangements/mechanisms/structures at the *regional* level**

- **The Regional Forums of Ministers for Social Development** are emerging as the most important initiative to promote MOST activities at the regional level. They should be extended so as to cover other regions than they do at present. (The replies to the Questionnaire indicated agreement by most countries with this approach: there were only two negative, out of 41 replies).

- **Regional Ad-Hoc MOST Committees**, set up to facilitate cooperation among MNFs. They should help implement decisions adopted by the Regional Ministerial Forums. They are not envisaged as rigid, costly structures, consisting of flexible arrangements (periodic meetings when necessary and constant contact by telephone and the Internet) by which the national focal points and the MNFs agree to carry out regional activities. The MNF and focal point of the country which is hosting the Regional Ministerial Forum will take the initiative and serve as coordinator.

- **Regional MOST Research Networks**, established with a view to promote policy-oriented social science research particularly on the six identified regional research priorities. They will be set up through links established with MOST potential partners in the region (regional social science associations and institutions such as CODESRIA, FLACSO, etc) and the networks of UNESCO Chairs, etc. The ultimate objective is to set up Regional Centers of Excellence in Social Sciences.

### III. MOST implementation arrangements/mechanisms/structures at the international level

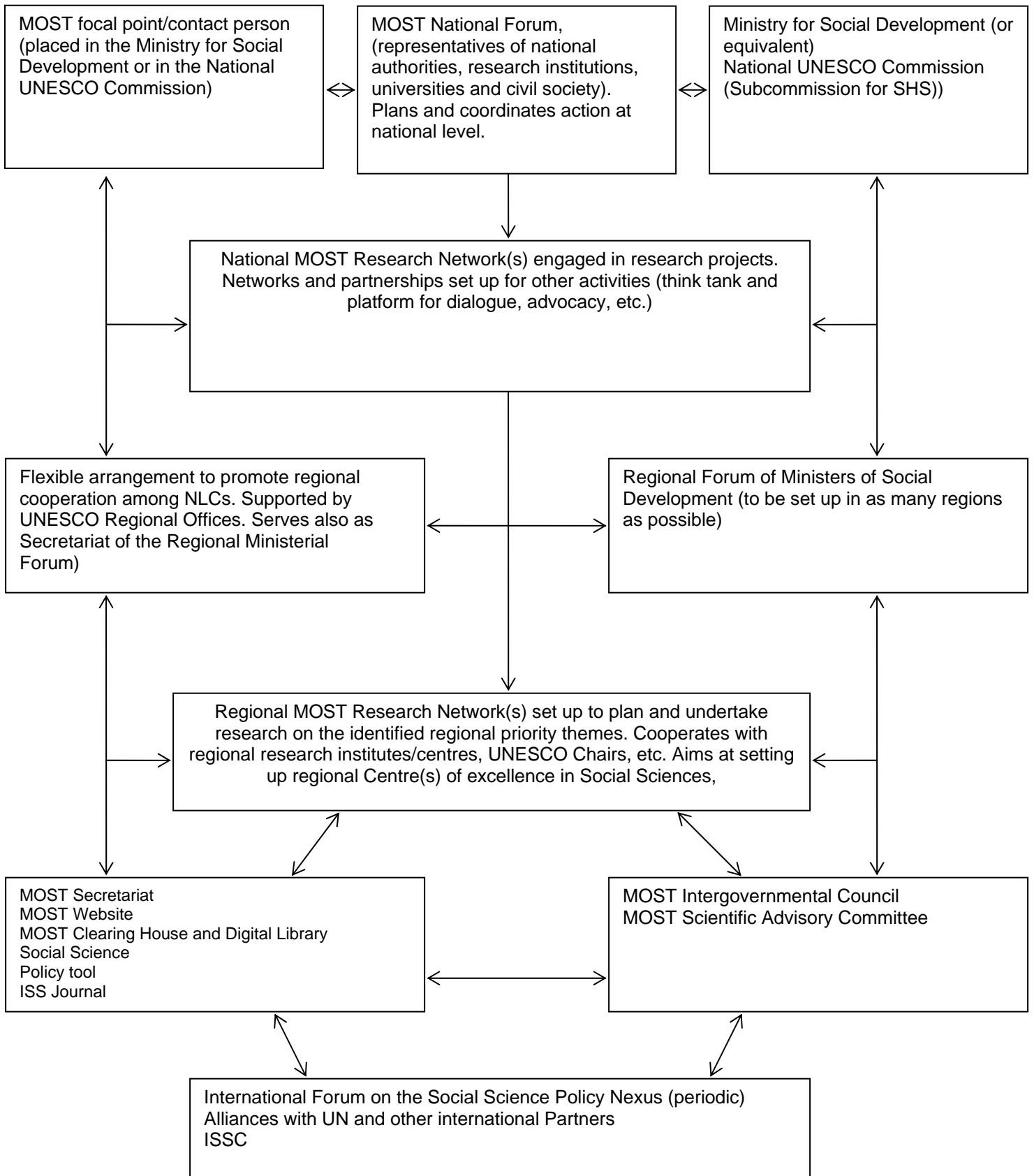
- The **Intergovernmental Council and the Scientific Advisory Committee** will provide guidance and supervision for overall MOST activities;
- The **MOST Secretariat** will assist and be responsible for the execution of the Programme.
- The **International Forum on the Social Science Policy Nexus** could emerge as the proper structure at the international level where all major actors of MOST – from social scientists to policy makers and civil society actors meet and exchange views on the research/ policy/practice link for positive social transformation. It can contribute significantly to the visibility and credibility of MOST. If the Buenos Aires Forum so decides, all support should be extended to it in order to become a regular, periodic MOST event.
- **Partnerships and alliances** with projects and programmes undertaken by UN agencies and organizations, by IGOs and donor agencies that cover areas related to the concerns of MOST. Cooperation with a broad range of NGOs is also part of the working arrangements at the international level. In particular, cooperation with ISSC should be strengthened on a mutual benefit basis. UNESCO's contribution to ISSC is higher than the funding provided at present to MOST for its Secretariat activities. It should not be reduced, but it is necessary to arrive at mutually agreed working arrangements by which the contribution of ISSC to MOST is increased.

The attached diagram presents the proposed MOST Organizational Chart outlined above. Two explanations are felt necessary:

(a) The proposed structures may seem rather heavy and over ambitious for a Programme which is facing serious financial constraints. However, particular attention has been paid to keep them as flexible and simple as possible. In fact, all the proposed structures have been set in place in some countries. They are therefore proposed as extensions of what could be called “best practices”.

(b) In principle, the proposed structures should not involve additional costs over and above what many Member States do assure for MOST activities at present. Some seed money is requested from the UNESCO MOST Budget to assist setting up structures in the developing countries with the help of the UNESCO regional offices.

## MOST Organizational Chart



## **ANNEX 4**

### **Replies to the Questionnaire for the Evaluation of the MOST NLCs**



### Replies to the Questionnaire for the Evaluation of the MOST NLCs

Filled in Questionnaires	Other replies
<b>Europe and North America</b>	
1. Bulgaria	1.Czech Republic
2. Finland	2.Cyprus
3. France	
4. Germany	
5. Hungary	
6. Israel	
7. The Netherlands	
8. Norway	
9. Poland	
10. Romania	
11. Sweden	
12. Switzerland	
13. Turkey	
<b>Africa</b>	
14. Cameroon	3.Gambia
15. Tanzania	4. Madagascar
16. Uganda	5. Kenya
<b>Arab States</b>	
17. Algeria	6. Lebanon
18. Egypt	7. Iraq
19. Kuwait	
20. Libya	
21. Tunisia	
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>	
22. Australia	
23. Iran	
24. Japan	
25. New Zealand	
26. Philippines	
27. Sri Lanka	
28. Uzbekistan	
<b>Latin American and the Caribbean</b>	
29. Barbados	8. Honduras
30. Columbia	
31. Peru	
32. Chile	
33 Uruguay	

## **ANNEX 5**

### **Table 1: Structure, Institutional Status, Composition and Primary Functions of National Liaison Committees (NLCs)**

**Table 1 Structure, Institutional Status, Composition and Primary Functions of National Liaison Committees (NLCs) (Draft)**

NOTE: Table 1 presents the current situation (*existence/ non existence/ envisaged action*) of the *institutional status, composition roles and functions* of MOST National Liaison Committees (NLCs) in 119 countries, namely 117 Member States of UNESCO and two states (the Holy See and the Palestinian Territories) which have a permanent observatory status with the Organization. Included in the Table are: 64 countries which sent a reply to the Questionnaire circulated by the MOST Secretariat in two rounds (May-June and August-September 2005) and 54 other countries (marked by an asterisk) which did not send a reply to the Questionnaire, but for which minimum information is available in the MOST Secretariat files or was obtained during the evaluation through the UNESCO regional and cluster offices or through other contacts. Column 1 indicates also the countries which have been or are currently represented in the MOST IGC. A double asterisk indicates those countries which had set up an NLC for MOST Phase One (before 2000). Whenever possible, the MOST focal point/ contact person in the respective country has been indicated. Additional information, arranged in similar Table form, presents the *activities* of NLCs (Table 2) and the *proposals made and the positions expressed* in the replies to the above mentioned Questionnaire (Table 3). They are placed on the MOST Website with a triple purpose: (a) to serve as a Data Base and a source of information and to facilitate exchanges among NLCs, (b) to allow for their constant updating by the MOST Secretariat, with the support of the NLCs and the National Commissions for UNESCO and, (c) to encourage restructuring NLCs - or setting up new ones where they do not exist – so as to better meet the requirements of MOST Phase II.

Country (by Region)	Structure/Institutional Status of the body discharging the functions of the MOST NLC		Primary Roles and Functions	How to contact
	Structure and Institutional Status	Composition Includes representatives of: a) Research Institutes and universities b) Ministries / other governmental bodies c) Other institutions/ associations	a) Promoter and facilitator of research b) Mediator of the research policy inter-link c) Policy design and implementation d) Consultancies e) Platform for intellectual debate f) communication and networking facilitator g) Advocacy h) Monitoring/evaluation and elaboration of indicators of social transformation and social developments i) Capacity building and training activities j) Standard Setting k) collection, processing and dissemination	Contact Person NLC President (when known) Other useful contacts and addresses

			of information	
<b>EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA</b>				
Albania * (MOST IGC member 2001-2005)	The National UNESCO Commission follows MOST activities by assuring links with the MOST IGC and the MOST Secretariat. The contact person is Mr. Piro Misha, Albanian representative to MOST IGC. He attended the 7th Session and indicated that steps will be taken to revive MOST activities in Albania. However, there is no information about the structure and activities of the MOST NLC. No reply to the Questionnaire.	NA	NA	Contact person: Mr. Piro Misha Directeur de la Fondation "Maison du Livre et de la Communication." <a href="mailto:piro@publish.org.al">piro@publish.org.al</a> Commission nationale albanaise pour l' UNESCO Ministère des Affaires étrangères Bulevard Zhan d'Ark, Tirana, Albanie Tel: (355.4) 364 090 ext. 167 Fax (355.4) 362 084 <a href="mailto:tosoja@mfa.gov.al">tosoja@mfa.gov.al</a>
Austria* (MOST IGC member 1995-1999). **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I.	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There were some activities and initiatives taken during the initial period of MOST. At present, there is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to the Questionnaire or report on MOST activities have been sent).	NA	NA	Mrs Gabriele Eschig Secretary-General Austrian Commission for UNESCO Strozzigasse 2/1 1080 Vienna, Austria Tel (43-1) 526 13 01 Fax: (43-1) 526 13 01 – 20 <a href="mailto:oeuk@unesco.at">oeuk@unesco.at</a> ; <a href="mailto:eschig@unesco.at">eschig@unesco.at</a> Chairperson, Social Science Sub- Commission (no name)
Azerbaijan* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I.	The National Commission for UNESCO has assigned MOST responsibilities to the Human Rights Institute of the National Academy of Sciences and has designated, M. Rovshan Mustafayev, Director of the Institute, as the MOST focal point. Fairly active during MOST Phase I. No reply to the Questionnaire. No information on the structure and activities of the MOST NLC.	NA	NA	MOST focal point: Mr. Rovshan Mustafayev, Director, Human Rights Institute, National Academy of Sciences Mr Ahmedov Shahin Sec. Gen. Azerbaijani National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Shikhali Gurbanov Str. 4 1009 Baku, Azerbaijan Tel/ fax: +(994-12) 92.76.70 <a href="mailto:unesco@mfa.gov.az">unesco@mfa.gov.az</a>
Belarus* (MOST IGC member 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).	NA	NA	Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO Adresse 29 Miasnikova Str. 220050 Minsk, Belarus Tel/fax : (375.172) 00 36 97 <a href="mailto:su@mfa.org.by">su@mfa.org.by</a>
Belgium* (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. The Flemish National Commission for UNESCO informed (e-mail of 04 /09/05) that there is no MOST NLC in Belgium.	NA	NA	Commission fédérale belge pour l'UNESCO Ministère des Affaires étrangères 15, rue des Petits Carmes BE - 1000 Bruxelles, Belgique

				Téléphone (32.2) 501 84 57 Fax (32 .2) 513 91 48 Ms Karen Groffils Commission Flamande pour l'UNESCO karen.groffils@coo.vlaanderen.be
Bosnia Herze- Govina* (MOST IGC member 1999- 2003)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reports of activities and no reply to the Questionnaire have been sent).	NA	NA	National Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina for Cooperation with UNESCO Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Musala 2 BA - 71000 Sarajevo Bosnia and Herzerzegovina Téléphone (387) 33.281.159 Fax (387) 33.472.188 mimilen@yahoo.com; milenko.misic@mvp.gov.ba; sead.avdic@psbih.org
Bulgaria (MOST IGC member 1993- 1997) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The NLC functions as an autonomous body within the framework of the sub-commission for Social Sciences of the National Commission for UNESCO. It is active in research (several publications) training (several editions of the MOST summer school). It initiates and takes part in regional cooperation projects. Prof. N. Genov, former President of the National Commission, is a member (representing Eastern and Central Europe) of the Scientific Advisory Committee of MOST.	Includes representatives of a) research institutes and universities, b) ministries and other governmental bodies and c) other institutions/associations	Discharges all functions. Has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies, with universities and research institutions and with NGOs and civil society groups. Helps build up links with research policy networks, the other scientific programmes of UNESCO, with UN ventures in the country. Reaches out to Parliament, the media, trade unions and NGOs.	Mr Nikolai GENOV Institute of Eastern European Studies Freie Universität Berlin 55 Garystr. D 14195 Berlin, Germany tel +49 30 8385-2039 Commission nationale de la République de Bulgarie pour l'UNESCO Ministère des Affaires étrangères Rue Alexander Jendov, 2 B. P. 386 BG – 1040 Sofia, Bulgarie Téléphone (359-2) 948 22 23 Fax (359-2) 973.31.89 <a href="mailto:vgivanova@mfa.government.bg">vgivanova@mfa.government.bg</a>
Canada (MOST IGC member 1995- 1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	A Sectoral Commission dealing with natural, social and human sciences has been set up by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. It meets regularly twice a year and focuses on coordinating action by Canada in support of the Scientific programmes of UNESCO. An Ad-Hoc MOST Sub Committee functions within its framework and meets whenever necessary. The MOST coordinator is Ms Elizabeth Barot, Programme Officer, Social Sciences and Humanities. Canada has shown keen interest in MOST in the past. However, the MOST label is little used (except by a network working on a project selected by the MOST Scientific Committee (Urban Sustainable Development) but	The Ad-Hoc MOST Sub Committee assembles representatives of bodies such as IDRC, the Social and Human Sciences Research Council, the Metropolis programme (representing several ministries which fund social science research) etc. It includes therefore representatives of main research institutes, universities, ministries, of other governmental bodies	Its main functions are: (d) to serve as a platform for intellectual debate, (e) to facilitate communication and networking and (k) to collect, process and disseminate information. It has links with governmental bodies and decision makers with universities and research centers as well as with NGOs and civil society organizations.	Coordinator: Ms Elisabeth Barot Programme Officer, Social Sciences and Humanities, National Commission for UNESCO 350 rue Albert, C.P. 1047 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5V8 Tel : 613 566 4414 / 1.800.263.5588/ poste 5567 Fax: 613 566 4405 elisabeth.barot@unesco.ca

	<p>funded exclusively by Canada. There is interest in the Buenos Aires Forum, but in its preparation, it is necessary to better define what exactly is expected from the national networks.</p> <p>The meeting of the Ad-Hoc Committee held in June 2005 reiterated the support to the objectives of MOST2. Several Round Tables on the social science research/policy interlink are foreseen.</p> <p>Canada supports the setting up of “networks of networks” under MOST, which would facilitate the exchange of information and experience, while allowing also for undertaking joint research projects..</p>	as well as of other institutions and associations.		
Croatia* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).	NA	NA	<p>National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Culture Department for UNESCO Runjaninova 2 CRO - 10000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: 385 1) 48 66 304 Fax: (385 1) 48 66 526 unesco@min-kulture.hr; rut.carek@min-kulture.hr Earlier MOST contacts : Dr. Mislav kukoc Institute for Applied Social Research “Ivo Pilar” Dr. Vedrana Spajic-Verkas Faculty of Philosophy University of Zagreb</p>
Czech Republic (MOST IGC member 1995-1999 and 2001-2003) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The Czech NLC ceased activities 3 years ago, after its president, Dr. Michal Ilhner, resigned. Dr. Zdenek Uherek, Director of the Institute of Ethnology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic is the new MOST focal point. He attended the 7 <sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC (July, 25-27 July 2005) and informed that his Institute continues to be in charge of MOST on behalf of the National Commission. The activity of the MOST NLC is to be resumed soon.			<p>Dr. Zdenek Uherek Institute of Ethnology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic Na Florenci 3 110 00 Praha 1 Tel. + 420234612606 <a href="mailto:Uherek@eu.cas.cz">Uherek@eu.cas.cz</a></p>
Cyprus	According to the reply received from the National Commission (June 2005), there is no NLC and no action relating to MOST has been thus far. Cyprus will consider setting up an NLC in the future.			<p>Georgia Hoplarou, Officer Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Higher Education and culture Tel + 357 22800993 Fax + 357 22800995 .ghoplarou@moec.gov.cy</p>
Finland (MOST IGC)	A MOST Ad Hoc Council has been established under the auspices of the National Commission for UNESCO. In addition to supporting concrete	Includes representatives of research institutes, universities and	Primary functions: b), f) and k). However, it has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies and with universities	<p>Dr. Tuomo Melasuo Tampere Peace Research Institute Yliopistonkatu 58-60 A</p>

member 1999-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	activities, one of its tasks is to look into how best to locate the handling of MOST in the future. The Chairman of the Council, Professor Tuomo Melasuo, is Senior Research Fellow and Professor at Tampere Peace Research Institute, University of Tampere. Activities are, accordingly, coordinated and carried out with their support. Professor Melasuo is also Vice President (Western Europe) of the MOST IGC	ministries.	band research institutions. Helps build up links with research policy networks, UNESCO Chairs, the other scientific programmes of UNESCO and with projects supported by IGOs and donor agencies.	FIN-33014 University of Tampere Finland Tel. + 35835517692 Fax +35832336620 <a href="mailto:Tuomo.melasuo@uta.fi">Tuomo.melasuo@uta.fi</a>
France (MOST IGC member 1993-1997) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The Sub-commission for Social Sciences of the National UNESCO Commission serves as MOST NLC. The National Commission is highly supportive of MOST. Professor Anne Marie Laulan, President of the Sub Commission for Social Sciences is the coordinator of MOST activities. The NLC pays particular attention to projects for international cooperation for the benefit of the developing countries. An example is the CODENOBA project, supported by the French government, which responds to the new emphasis laid by MOST on the research/policy interlink).	Includes representatives of research centers, universities and other institutions/ associations. (Not of the ministries\ and of governmental bodies).	Performs functions a), d) and k). It has links with governmental authorities, with universities and research institutions and with NGOs and civil society groups. Helps build up links with research policy networks, with the other activities coordinated by the National Commission and with IGO supported projects in the fields of MOST	M. Christophe Valia-Koller Commission Nationale française pour l'UNESCO ; christophe.valia-kollery@diplomatie.gouv.fr Professeur Anne-Marie Laulan Présidente Comité des sciences sociales Commission de la République française pour l'éducation, la science et la culture 6, rue de l'Épée de Bois 75005 Paris <a href="mailto:laulanna@wanadoo.fr">laulanna@wanadoo.fr</a>
Germany (MOST IGC member 1993-2001)	The German Commission for UNESCO (DUK) receives and distributes information about MOST to German civil society and to German authorities. MOST related issues are mentioned at DUK's expert Committee for UNESCO's Science Programmes. There are no plans to found a MOST NLC.		The German National Commission fulfils functions e) and k).	Dr. Lutz Moeller. Head of Section for Science, German Commission for UNESCO Clomanstrasse 15, 53115 Bonn e-mail: <a href="mailto:moeller@unesco.de">moeller@unesco.de</a> Professor Dr. Lenelis Kruse Graumann, member of the Executive Board of DUK, former member of the Scientific Steering Committee of MOST (1998-2003) e-mail: <a href="mailto:lenelis.kruse@psychologie.uni-heidelberg.de">lenelis.kruse@psychologie.uni-heidelberg.de</a>
Greece* (MOST IGC member 2003-2005)	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to the Questionnaire has been sent). Discussions have been held with the Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair of Human rights, democracy and peace education, University of Thessaloniki, to assist in setting up a MOST NLC in Greece.	NA	NA	National Commission for UNESCO Adresse 3, Acadimias GR - 10027 ATHENS GREECE Tel (30.210) 368 23 85 Fax (30.210) 368 23 84 grnatcom@hol.gr
Holy See	The Holy See representative at the 7 <sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC informed that the Holy See is interested to cooperate with MOST. It can thus help involve religious organizations in			Mme Florence Motte Mission permanente d'observation du Saint-Siège auprès de l'UNESCO Bureau M5.20

	appropriate MOST activities.			1, rue Miollis 75732 Paris Cedex 15 Tél.: +33 (0) 1.45.68.33.13 Fax: +33 (0) 1.43.06.28.91 Email: <a href="mailto:op.saint-siege@unesco.org">op.saint-siege@unesco.org</a>
Hungary (MOST IGC member 1995-1999 and 2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The NLC function is fulfilled by the Centre for Regional Studies, of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, in close cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO.	Includes representatives of research institutes and universities and of other institutions/ associations. Not of ministries and governmental bodies.	Performs functions a), b), d), e), h), i) and k). It has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies, with universities and research institutions and with NGOs and civil society groups. Helps build up links with research policy networks, with the other activities coordinated by the National Commission and with IGO supported projects in the fields of MOST.	Professor György Enyedi Centre for Regional Studies Hungarian Academy of Sciences Roosevelt Ter 9 - 1051 Budapest, Hungary e-mail: <a href="mailto:enyedi@rrk.mta.hu">enyedi@rrk.mta.hu</a> Dr. Krisztina Keresztély Secretary, Hungarian MOST National Liaison Committee Centre for Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences H-1014 Budapest Uri u. 49. T/F : +36-1- 212-9526 <a href="mailto:keresztely@rrk.mta.hu">keresztely@rrk.mta.hu</a>
Iceland	According to information received from the Permanent Delegation of Iceland to UNESCO, there is no NLC for MOST in Iceland. The National Commission deals with MOST as with all other tasks and responsibilities related to UNESCO.	NA	NA	Ms Gudny Helgadóttir Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Menntamálaráðgjafaráttuneytinu Stvholsgata 4 IS - 150 Reykjavik, Iceland Tel: (354) 545-9500 Fax: (354) 562-3068 <a href="mailto:gudny.helgadottir@mrn.stjr.is">gudny.helgadottir@mrn.stjr.is</a>
Israel **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The NLC function is performed by the SHS Committee of the National Commission for UNESCO. Interest expressed for official representation in any of the MOST bodies	Includes representatives of research institutes, universities, other institutions/associations and, partly, of ministries.	Primary functions: a), b) (in cooperation with think tanks), e), f), k). It has links with universities, research centers and NGOs and civil society groups. It helps establish links with existing research networks, the other Scientific programmes of UNESCO, other activities coordinated by the NatCom.	Mr. Daniel Bar Elli, Secretary General, Israel National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education IL - 91911 Jerusalem, Israel Tel: (972 2) 560 37 46 Fax (972 2) 560 37 45 <a href="mailto:barelid@int.gov.il">barelid@int.gov.il</a> <a href="mailto:unescoil@int.gov.il">unescoil@int.gov.il</a> Prof. Abraham (Rami) Friedman Chairperson, Israel Human and Social Science Committee Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies 20 Radak Street Jerusalem 62186, Israel Tel: 972 2 563 0175/ext 20 Fax: 972 2 563 9814 Home: 972 2 651 2627 Email: <a href="mailto:rami@iis.org.il">rami@iis.org.il</a>
Italy * (MOST IGC)	MOST issues are handled by the Social Science Committee of the National Commission for	NA	NA	Contact person : Professo Francesco Margiotta Broglio



member 1993-1995; 1997-2001 and 2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	UNESCO. Its President, Professor Francesco Margiotta Broglio, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Florence, attended the 7 <sup>th</sup> Session of the MOST IGC (July 2005). He indicated that action will be taken to set up a proper MOST NLC and to resume MOST activities in Italy. Action has been taken to also involve the Center of International Cooperation and Development, University of Pavia, where the setting up of a UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development is envisaged.			Via delle Pandette 21 50127 Firenze, Italy Tel: 0039 055 4374497 fax: 0039 055 4374919 Professor M. Giovanni Puglisi President Commission nationale italienne pour l'UNESCO Piazza Firenze 27 (3 <sup>e</sup> étage) IT – 00186 Rome, Italie Tel: 39-06) 687-3712, 13, 17, 23 Fax: (39-06) 687-3684 <a href="mailto:puglisig@libero.it">puglisig@libero.it</a> <a href="mailto:comm.unesco@esteri.it">comm.unesco@esteri.it</a> <a href="mailto:vincenzo.pellegrini@esteri.it">vincenzo.pellegrini@esteri.it</a>
Latvia **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The Latvian National Commission for UNESCO had set up a “MOST Group” headed by Prof. Aivars Tabuns, Vice Chairman of the Latvian Council of Sciences to deal with activities related to the programme. According to information received from the National Commission (31 August 2005) the MOST Group “has ceased its activities temporarily”. The Commission is looking for a new focal point for MOST in Latvia.	NA	NA	National Commission for UNESCO Secretary-General: Mr Roland Ozols Pils Laukums 4-206, Riga LV-1050 Riga, Latvia Tel (371) 732.5109 Fax (371) 722.2762 dace@unesco.lv; office@unesco.lv; rolands@unesco.lv Earlier contact: Mr. Aivars Tabuns Vice-Chairman, Latvian Council of Sciences
Lithuania* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST issues. No reply to the Questionnaire, no further information available.	NA	NA	Ms Asta Dirmaite Secretary General Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO Svento Jono Str. 11 LT – 01123 Vilnius, Lithuania Tel: (370-5) 210-7341 Fax: (370-5) 210-7343 <a href="mailto:adirmaite@unesco.lt">adirmaite@unesco.lt</a> <a href="mailto:lietuva@unesco.lt">lietuva@unesco.lt</a>
Malta* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST issues. Professor C. Farrugia is the appointed contact person for MOST. No reply to the Questionnaire; no reported activities.	NA	NA	Professor C. Farrugia Maltese National Commission for UNESCO C/o Administration Building University of Malta Tal-Qroqq, Msida, Malta Tel (356) 23-40-23-48 Fax (356) 21-34.60.17 charles.farrugia@um.edu.mt
Moldova (Republic of)	There is no proper NLC, but the National Commission for UNESCO has set up a flexible	It includes representatives of research institutes and	It performs functions (a) promoter and facilitator of research, (d) consultancies, (e)	Focal point and contact person: Dr. Luminita Drumea, Science expert,

	structure to follow up and promote MOST activities in the country. The contact person is Dr. Luminita Drumea, coordinator of UNESCO Chairs in the Republic of Moldova	of ministries and other governmental bodies.	platform for debate, (h) monitoring/evaluating indicators of social transformation, (i) capacity building and training, and (k) collection, processing and dissemination of information. It has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies, with universities and research institutes and with civil society and NGOs. It also helps build up links with research policy networks, with UNESCO Chairs, other Scientific Programmes of UNESCO, with the UN Joint ventures, especially with projects supported by UNDP and UNICEF, etc.	Coordinator of UNESCO Chairs National Commission for UNESCO Tel: 00 (3732 2) 235205 Tel/Fax: 00 93732 2) 235355 <a href="mailto:drumeaunesco@moldova.md">drumeaunesco@moldova.md</a> 24 A. Corobceanu st. 2004 Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
The Netherlands (MOST IGC member 1993-1999 and 2001-2005). **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I Currently holds the Presidency of the IGC (Prof. Arie de Ruijter).	The Social Sciences Sub Commission of the National Commission for UNESCO performs the function of MOST NLC.	It includes mainly representatives of universities and research institutes. However, it has links with governmental authorities, decision making bodies and with universities and research institutions.	Performs functions b), e) and k). It helps build up links with research policy networks. It facilitates links with other activities coordinated by the National Commission, with UN ventures in the country and with IGOs supported projects in the field of MOST. Reaches out to NGOs and civil society actors	Professor Arie de Ruijter Dean, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences University of Tilburg Warandelaan 2, P.O.Box 90153, 5000 Le Tilburg, The Netherlands <a href="mailto:AriedeRUIJTER@uvt.nl">AriedeRUIJTER@uvt.nl</a> Professor B.E. van Vucht Tijssen Chairperson Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO Kortenaerkade, 11 NL – 2502 LT The Hague, Netherlands
Norway (MOST IGC member 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The MOST NLC function is discharged by a Sub-Committee of the National Commission for UNESCO	Includes representatives of research institutes, universities and ministries and other governmental bodies.	Performs function a), b), c) and d). It has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies, with universities and research institutions and with NGOs and civil society groups. Helps build up links with research policy networks, with other activities coordinated by the National Commission and with IGO supported projects in the fields of MOST	Ms Mari Hareide Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education and Research Postboks 8119 Dep N-0032 Oslo, Norway Tel: (47) 22 24 70 55 Fax (47) 22 24 79 20 <a href="mailto:Mari.hareide@unesco.no">Mari.hareide@unesco.no</a> <a href="mailto:natcom@unesco.no">natcom@unesco.no</a> MOST Focal point: Professor Jon Naustdalslid, Director of NIBR (Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research <a href="mailto:jon.naustdalslid@nibr.no">jon.naustdalslid@nibr.no</a>
Poland (MOST IGC member 1993-	Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences, designated by the National Commission to serve as NLC for MOST	Includes representatives of research institutes and universities.	Performs functions d) and k). It has links with governmental authorities, with universities and research institutions. Helps build up links with other activities	Prof. Jozef Niznik Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences ul.Nowy Swiat 72

<p>2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>			<p>coordinated by the National Commission. Reaches out to the media</p>	<p>00-330 Warsaw, PL tel. +48 (22) 8271437 home : +48 (22) 7512866 <a href="mailto:Jniznik@ifispan.waw.pl">Jniznik@ifispan.waw.pl</a> Commission nationale polonaise pour l'UNESCO Adresse Palac Kultury i Nauki, 7 P PL – 00-901 Varsovie, Pologne Tel : (48-22) 620.33.55 Fax (48.22) 620.33.62 <a href="mailto:komitet@unesco.pl">komitet@unesco.pl</a> <a href="mailto:t.milka@unesco.pl">t.milka@unesco.pl</a> Tomasz Komorowski, Polish Nat Com <a href="mailto:t.komorowski@unesco.pl">t.komorowski@unesco.pl</a></p>
<p>Portugal* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST. The focal point is Ms. Elizabeth Silva, programme specialist in charge of science programmes. No reply to the Questionnaire, no further available information.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Ms Elizabeth Silva Programme Specialist – Science <a href="mailto:elisabete.silva@unesco.pt">elisabete.silva@unesco.pt</a> Commission nationale portugaise pour l'UNESCO Ministère des Affaires étrangères Rua Latino Coelho, 1 Edifício Aviz, Bloco A1 – 10º 1050-132 Lisboa, Portugal Tel : (+351.21) 356 63 10 Fax (+351.21) 356 63 19 <a href="mailto:cnu@unesco.pt">cnu@unesco.pt</a></p>
<p>Romania (MOST IGC member 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>The MOST NLC has been established by the National Commission for UNESCO. (cf. separate evaluation document elaborated after visit to the country). Special note: The NLC wishes to establish close links with the UNESCO Office in Bucharest (CEPES). This would help considerably the development of regional cooperation. Romania holds the Vice Presidency (Eastern and Central Europe) of the MOST IGC.</p>	<p>It includes 14 members, representing ministries, universities, research institutes and professional associations.</p>	<p>Mandated to covers all functions, but not all of them are implemented. Has links with all actors, with particular emphasis on links to government and to the scientific community</p>	<p>NLC President: Dr. Elena Zamfir Vice-President, IGC for Central and Eastern European Region Tel : (0040) 21 –314 03 26/315 31 22 (University) (0040) 745 122 238 (cell) Fax : (00 40) 21 – 312 47 19 <a href="mailto:ezamfir@sas.unibuc.ro">ezamfir@sas.unibuc.ro</a> Executive Secretary: Mr. Andrei Serban Commission nationale de Roumanie pour l'UNESCO 8, Anton Cehov, Sector 1 RO – 71291 Bucarest, Roumanie Téléphone (40-1) 222 30 48 Fax (40-21) 230-7636 <a href="mailto:cnr@cnr-unesco.ro">cnr@cnr-unesco.ro</a></p>
<p>Russian Federation * (MOST IGC member 1993-</p>	<p>National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There have been valuable MOST activities in the past, including the Volga-Caspian Project, which offered a good example of</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Contact person: Dr. Valeri Tishkov Director, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology Russian Academy of Sciences</p>

1995 and 1999-2003) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	coordination of action among the five Science Programmes of UNESCO. No reply to the Questionnaire.			32-a Leninskii prospect, B-34 117334 Moscow Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO Ministry of Foreign Affairs 32/ 34 Smolenskaya-Sennaya Sq. RU - 121200 Moscow, G-200 Russian Federation Tel: (7-095) 244 24 56 ; Fax (7-095) 244 24 75 rusnatcom@mid.ru
Slovakia* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The Institute of Sociology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences functions as MOST NLC. The focal point is Mr. Ľubomír Falt'an. He attended the 7th Session of the IGC and informed about intentions to revive MOST activities in the future.			Contact person: Mr. Ľubomír Falt'an Sociologický ústav SAV Klemensova 19 813 64 Bratislava I Slovaquie Tel/fax: 00 42 12 5296 2315 <a href="mailto:lubomir.faltan@savba.sk">lubomir.faltan@savba.sk</a> Ms. Bozena Krizikova, Sec. Gen. Slovak Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hlboká cesta 2 SK – 833 36 Bratislava, Slovakia Tel : (421.2) 59 78 35 14 Fax (421.2) 59.78.35.16 <a href="mailto:bozena_krizikova@foreign.gov.sk">bozena_krizikova@foreign.gov.sk</a>
Spain* (MOST IGC member 1997-2001)	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).	NA	NA	Comisión Nacional Española de Cooperación con la UNESCO Escuela Diplomática Paseo de Juan XXIII, 5 28040 Madrid, Espana Tel: (34-91) 533-9639 Fax (34-91) 535-1433 <a href="mailto:hispaunesco@aeci.es">hispaunesco@aeci.es</a>
Sweden (MOST IGC member 1993-1995) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	In November 2003, the Swedish Research Council has been mandated to initiate, coordinate and follow up Swedish research activities in all UNESCO Science Programmes, in close cooperation with the National UNESCO Commission . National Committees for all UNESCO Science Programmes have been set up, including one for MOST. The MOST NLC functions therefore as a special Committee within the framework of the Swedish Research Council.	Includes representatives of a), b), c) and d).	Performs functions a), b), c), d), e), f) and k). It has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies, with universities and research institutions and with NGOs and civil society groups. Helps build up links with the other activities coordinated by the National Commission and with IGO supported projects in the fields of MOST	Birgitta Löwander PhD Research Officer The Swedish Research Council Vetenskapsrådet Internationella enheten/Forskningspolitiska frågor SE – 103 78 Stockholm Tel: + 46 8 546 44 204 Fax: + 46 8 546 44 180 <a href="mailto:Birgitta.Lowander@vr.se">Birgitta.Lowander@vr.se</a> Professor Martin Peterson Swedish MOST Goteborgs Universitet Renstromsgatan 6 SE-43050 Goteborg

				<p>Tel.: + 46 31 7734983  Email: <a href="mailto:hismp@hum.gu.se">hismp@hum.gu.se</a>  Swedish National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry for Education, Research and Culture  SE – 103 33 Stockholm, Sweden  Tel: (46.8) 405 19 51;  Fax (46-8) 411 04 70  <a href="mailto:swe-nat-com.unesco@educult.ministry.se">swe-nat-com.unesco@educult.ministry.se</a></p>
<p>Switzerland  (MOST IGC member 1993-1997 and 2001-2005)  **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>The National Commission for UNESCO handles MOST through its Social Sciences section. (Cf. Questionnaire filled in by Professor Francois Hainard, responsible for the international MOST Project supported by Switzerland : <i>Ville, environnement et rapports sociaux entre hommes et femmes</i>).</p>	<p>Includes representatives of research institutes and universities.</p>	<p>Performs functions a), e) and k). It has links with universities and research institutions.</p>	<p>Prof. François Hainard :  Institut de Sociologie, Université de Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel, Suisse  Fax : 41-32- 718 12 31  Tel : 41-32- 718 14 20/14 25  <a href="mailto:francois.hainard@unine.ch">francois.hainard@unine.ch</a>  Commission suisse pour l'UNESCO  Département fédéral des affaires étrangères  Bundesgasse, 32  CH – 3003 Berne, Suisse  Tel (41-31) 324.10.67  Fax (41-31) 324.10.70  <a href="mailto:madeleine.viviani-schaerer@eda.admin.ch">madeleine.viviani-schaerer@eda.admin.ch</a>;  <a href="mailto:danielle.kloetzi@eda.admin.ch">danielle.kloetzi@eda.admin.ch</a></p>
<p>Turkey  (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)</p>	<p>NLC established by the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO</p>	<p>Includes representatives of universities only.</p>	<p>Performs functions a) and e). It has links with universities and research institutions. Helps build up links with research policy networks. Reaches out to the parliament, the trade unions and to NGOs and civil society groups.</p>	<p>Coordinator: Prof. Ali Turel, Middle East Technical University, Dept. of Civil and Regional Planning 06531 Ankara  Tel: +90 312 210 2204  Fax: + 90 312 210 1250  E-mail <a href="mailto:turel@arch.metu.tr">turel@arch.metu.tr</a>  National Commission for UNESCO  7, Göreme Sokak  Kavaklıdere  06680 Ankara, Turkey  Tel (90-312) 426.58.94  Fax (90-312) 427.20 64  <a href="mailto:arsin@science.ankara.edu.tr">arsin@science.ankara.edu.tr</a>;  <a href="mailto:webmaster@unesco.org.tr">webmaster@unesco.org.tr</a></p>
<p>Ukraine*</p>	<p>National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>National Commission of Ukraine for UNESCO  Adresse Ministry of Foreign Affairs  1, Mykhailivska Square  UA - 01018 Kyiv, Ukraine  Tel (380.44) 238 16 71  Fax (380.44) 238 18 36</p>

				ukgs@mfa.gov.ua
United Kingdom	According to information received from the UK National Commission for UNESCO (30 August 2005) there is no MOST NLC in the UK at present. The Social and Human Sciences Committee is in the process of being set up. The MOST NLC matter will be brought to the attention of the Chair of the Committee. Will keep UNESCO informed of further action.	NA	NA	Ms Linda Leung National Commission for UNESCO London SW1A 2 EL United Kingdom Tel: (44) (0) 20 7766 3444 Fax: (44) (0) 20 7930 58 93 lleung@una-uk.org
United States of America	Ms Marguerite Sullivan, Executive Director of the US National Commission for UNESCO, informed the MOST Secretariat (July 2005) that the Commission discussed MOST at its first annual meeting (6-7 June 2005) and agreed that "it should take time to learn more about MOST and other programs within the Social and Human Sciences Sector". The Commission will be back in touch with UNESCO "after the Committee members will become more familiar with the Programme".	NA	NA	Ms Margeurite H. Sullivan, Executive Director, US National Commission for UNESCO US Department of State Washington, DC 20520e
<b>AFRICA</b>				
Angola* (MOST IGC member 1995-1999)	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	M. Manuel Teodoro Quarta Secrétaire permanent Commission nationale angolaise pour l'UNESCO C.P. 1451 Luanda, Angola Tel: (244-2) 33-70-10 Fax: (244-2) 39.21.38 cnunesco@snet.co.ao
Benin (MOST IGC member 1995-1999 and 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO has appointed Professor Albert Attolou, Ecole nationale d'Administration, Université nationale du Bénin as the MOST focal point. M. Dis Amoussou Yeye, Professeur de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Education Université d'Abomey, Calavi, headed the Benin delegation at the 7th Session of the MOST IGC.	The National Commission discusses MOST issues in its General Assembly meetings. Several ministries are involved: Primary and Secondary Education, Communication and promotion of new Technologies, Culture and Folk Arts, Higher Education.	Functions are to be defined; Benin « has been absent from MOST activities for a long time », but intends to revive activities.	Contact person: Prof. Albert Attolou Ecole nationale d'Administration de l'Université nationale du Bénin B.P. 526 Abomey-Calvi COTO Nat com: comnaben@intnet.bj; fassinoudede@yahoo.fr M. Denis Amoussou-Yeye Professeur de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Education à l'Université d'Abomey Calavi 04 BP0322 Cotonou Tel : +229 32 55 84 Portable : 229 (0) 267 37 Commission nationale béninoise pour l'UNESCO B.P. 520 Porto Novo Benin Tel: (229) 21 25 30

				Fax: (229) 21 31 64
Botswana	Mr. Barulaganye Modongo, the newly appointed Secretary General of the Botswana National Commission for UNESCO informed (June 29 2005) that there is no NLC. The Commission will solicit the assistance of the University of Botswana to set up one for MOST Phase II	NA	NA	Barulaganye Modongo Secretary General Botswana National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education Private Bag 005, Gaborone Tel: (00267)3655439 Mobile:(00267)71878473
Burkina Faso* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	M. D. Bernard Yonil Secrétaire General, Commission Nationale pour l'UNESCO Ministère des enseignements secondaires, supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique 03 BP Ouagadougou 03
Burundi* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. No information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire). According to the MOST files, Prof. Pascal Rutake, Faculté des Sciences Economiques et Administratifs, Centre de Recherches (CURDES) had served as MOST contact person in the past.	NA	NA	Prof. Pascal Rutake Faculté des Sciences Economiques et Administratifs Centre de Recherches CURDES B.P 1049 Bujumbura
Cameroon (MOST IGC member 1993-1999 and 2003-2005)	The MOST NLC function is to be performed by a Standing Committee within the National Commission of UNESCO (which is a section/department of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education). The ministerial decree of Nov. 2002 for establishment of MOST NLC has not been implemented. Professor Charley Gabriel MBock (member of MOST SAC) wrote in June 2005 to the new minister of Scientific Research, asking for support to set up NLC and to revive MOST related activities in Cameroon. This was reinforced by Mr. E. Ako, who represented Cameroon at the Seventh Session of the IGC.	When set up, it will include representatives of (a), b) and c)	NLC will help links of MOST with existing research policy networks and with other activities of the National Commission.	MOST focalpoint: M. Edward O. Ako, Conseiller technique, Présidence de la République du Cameroun, Ministère de la Recherche Scientifique Tel/Fax : +237 221 77 37 Email : <a href="mailto:tako640@yahoo.ca">tako640@yahoo.ca</a> Prof. Charly Gabriel Mbock Directeur de Recherche Député à l'Assemblée Nationale (Member, MOST SAC for Africa) BP. 4016 Yaoundé <a href="mailto:charly_mbock@hotmail.com">charly_mbock@hotmail.com</a>
Cape Verde * (MOST IGC member 1997-2001) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO has appointed Professor Claudio Alves Furtado of the department of sociology, Université Jean Piaget in Praia, as the MOST focal point. No available information on activities. No reply to the Questionnaire.	NA	NA	Contact person : Cláudio Alves Furtado, Doctorat en Sociologie et Professeur à l'Université Jean Piaget Université Jean Piaget Palmarejo Grande B.P.775, Praia - Santiago République du Cap Vert, West Africa Tél: 00 (238) 260 90 00 Commission nationale pour l'UNESCO

				51-A, Praia - Ilha de Santiago, Cap-Vert Tel : (238) 62-13-61 Fax (238) 62-45-44 <a href="mailto:caf@unipiaget.cv">caf@unipiaget.cv</a> Ivette Morais, Secrétaire permanente <a href="mailto:cnunesco-cv@cvtelecom.cv">cnunesco-cv@cvtelecom.cv</a> ; <a href="mailto:ivettem@cnu.gov.cv">ivettem@cnu.gov.cv</a>
Congo Democratic Republic * **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO handles MOST issues. Contact person: M. Joseph Nsambi. No reported activity.	NA	NA	Contact person: M. Joseph Nsambi Bolaluete, c/o Commission nationale de la République démocratique du Congo pour l'UNESCO 2, avenue des Ambassadeurs B.P. 14 Kinshasa - Gombe G.C. République démocratique du Congo Tel : (243-12) 896-6366 Fax :(243-88) 02651 <a href="mailto:nsambi@nomade.fr">nsambi@nomade.fr</a> <a href="mailto:nsambijoseph@yahoo.fr">nsambijoseph@yahoo.fr</a>
Cote d'Ivoire* (MOST IGC member 1995-1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities through CIRES (Centre ivoirien des recherches économiques et sociales). Contact person : M. Edi Joseph Akomian. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	M. Edi Joseph Akomian Centre ivoirien de recherche économiques et sociales (CIRES) BP 151, Abidjan Mme Akissi K. Odette Yao Yao Sec. Gen. Commission nationale pour l'UNESCO Ministère de l'Education nationale B.P. V 297 Abidjan, Coet d'Ivoire Tel. : (225) 20.21.78.35; Fax (225) 20-21-81-23 <a href="mailto:cni-unesco@globeaccess.net">cni-unesco@globeaccess.net</a>
Gabon* (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	M. Jean Marie Vianney Bouyou Sec. Gen. Commission nationale gabonaise pour l'UNESCO Ministère de l'Education nationale B.P. 264 Libreville, Gabon Tel: (241) 72.20.49 Fax (241) 76.37.59 <a href="mailto:jmvbouyou@yahoo.fr">jmvbouyou@yahoo.fr</a> ; <a href="mailto:igohoraymonde@yahoo.fr">igohoraymonde@yahoo.fr</a>
Gambia	Reply sent by the National Commission for UNESCO (June 2005), informing that it "hopes the MOST Programme will stretch its activities to Gambia in the near future".	NA	NA	Mrs Sukai Bojang Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO 14/15 Marina Parade Banjul, Gambia P.O. Box 1133, Banjul, Gambia Tel: (220) 422 52 14



				Fax (220) 422 52 97 <a href="mailto:unescoqam@qanet.gm">unescoqam@qanet.gm</a> ; <a href="mailto:smbojang@hotmail.com">smbojang@hotmail.com</a>
Ghana (MOST IGC member 1993-1995 and 1999-2003)	A MOST NLC was created in 1994, as sub Committee of the Commission for Social Sciences within the framework of the National Commission for UNESCO. It functions therefore as a specialized Committee of the Commission. Originally the Committee had 17 members. Their number was reduced to 12 when the NLC was reorganized in August 2005.	The 12 current members of the Committee are drawn from research institutions, ministries and other governmental bodies and agencies and NGOs. The Chairman and secretary of the Specialized Committee on Social and Human Sciences and the Secretary-General of the UNESCO NatCom are ex-officio members.	Performs all functions retained for this Table.	Contact person: Prof. L.A. Boadi, Ghana Academy of Arts and Science, Accra Tel: 00 233 21 50705 Fax: 00 233 21 662718 Ms Dorcas Koomson Ghana National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education P.O. Box 2739, Accra, Ghana Tel: (233.21) 666 042 Fax (233.21) 662 718 e-mail: makoomson@yahoo.com natcom.unescogh@edughana.org
Guinea* (MOST IGC member 1993-1995)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Contact person: M. Ibrahima Magassouba Sec. Gen. Commission nationale guinéenne pour l'UNESCO Ministère de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche scientifique B.P. 964 Conakry, Guinee Tel: (224) 41 48 94 Fax (224) 41-34-41 unesco@biasy.net
Kenya **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no NLC at present, the National Commission wishes information on how to set it up.	NA	NA	Kenya National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education, Science and Technology National Bank Building (14th floor) Harambee Avenue P.O. Box 72107 – 00200 Nairobi, Kenya Dr Esther W. Kakonge Secretary General kncunesco@todays.co.ke Prof. Judith Mbula Bahemuka UNESCO Chair University of Nairobi PO Box 30197, Nairobi
Madagascar (MOST IGC member 1993-1997)	There is no NLC at the moment. By letter of 8 June 2005 the Secretary General of the National Commission for UNESCO indicates that link between the Social Science sector of UNESCO and relevant national bodies and institutions is assured by the National Commission. There are	NA	NA	Commission Nationale Malgache pour l'UNESCO BP 331 Antananarivo 101, Madagascar Tél. : +(261) 20 22 365 93 Fax : +(261) 20 22 284 96

	difficulties to set up a national body responsible for MOST, particularly in view of “the geographical distance between the concerned entities which would necessitate setting up a functioning network”. However, the National Commission will consider setting up of a MOST NLC to allow closer participation of Madagascar to MOST during the next biennium.			cnmu@wanadoo.mg; unes.meltine@wanadoo.mg; unes.zoanabl@wanadoo.mg; unes.nivo@wanadoo.mg
Malawi * **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	Mrs. Naomi Ngwira of the Institute for Policy Research and Dialogue is the contact person for MOST. Opportunities to set up an efficient structure to handle MOST at the national level and take part in regional activities.	NA	NA	Contact person :Mrs. Naomi Ngwira C/O Institute for Policy Research and Dialogue P O Box 2090 Blantyre, Malawi Tel: 00 265 1 621 871 Cell: 00265 9 510 362 <a href="mailto:naomingwira@yahoo.com">naomingwira@yahoo.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:iprad@malawi.net">iprad@malawi.net</a> Malawi National Commission for UNESCO Mr Francis R. Mkandawire, Sec. Gen. Adresse P.O. Box 30278 Capital City Lilongwe 3, Malawi Tel/fax: (265 1 ) 755 134 C.J. Magomelo <a href="mailto:mnatcom@malawi.net">mnatcom@malawi.net</a> ; <a href="mailto:fmkandawire@yahoo.co.uk">fmkandawire@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Mali (MOST IGC member 2003- 2005)	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities through the Sub Commission for Social and Human Sciences. The NLC function has been entrusted to the <u>Institute of Human Sciences</u> (Institut des Sciences Humaines), a public institution under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education. Dr. Klena Sanogo, Director of the institute and Vice President of the Sub commission for social and human sciences is the MOST contact person for Mali. According to the reply to the Questionnaire, the official creation of an NLC is envisaged.	The Institute of Human Sciences has associated representatives of other institutions, especially members of the Sub Commission for Social and Human Sciences of the National UNESCO Commission to assist in handling MOST issues.	The main functions are (a) to promote and facilitate research on trends and social transformations and (b) to collect, process and disseminate information.	Contact person: M. Klena Sanogo, Directeur, Institut des Sciences Humaines, Vice president de la Sous-Commission Sciences Sociales et Humaines de la Commission nationale malienne pour l'UNESCO Institut des Sciences Humaines Hamdallaye A.C.I. 2000 BP E916 Bamko, Mali Tel. : + 223 229 58 00 Fax : + 223 229 58 07 Email : <a href="mailto:lshumaines@msn.com">lshumaines@msn.com</a> Mme Aminata Sall Sec. Gen. Commission nationale malienne pour l'UNESCO Ministère de l'Education nationale B. P. 119, Bamako, Mali Tel : (223) 223 37 67 Fax (223) 223 37 67 <a href="mailto:unesco@spider.toolnet.org">unesco@spider.toolnet.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:unesco@experco.net">unesco@experco.net</a>
Mauritania* **Had set up	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities through the Institut Mauritanien	NA	NA	Contact person: Prof. Abdelwadoud Oued El Cheikh, Institut Mauritanien

NLC for MOST Phase I	de recherches scientifiques (RMS). There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire)			des recherches scientifiques (RMS) M. Dieh Ould Cheikh Saad Bouh Sec. Gen. Commission nationale pour l'UNESCO B.P. 5115, Nouakchott cnmesc@mail.mauritania.mr
Mozambique*	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	National Commission for UNESCO 45, rua Dr Egas Moniz C.P. 3674 MZ – Maputoi, Mozambique Tel : (258-1) 49.33.85 Fax (258-1) 49.17.66 cnunesco@zebra.uem.mz; cdocnum@zebra.uem.mz; moznatcomunesco@teledata.mz
Namibia* (MOST IGC member 1997-2001)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Ms Trudie Amulungu Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Employment Creation Private Bag 13 391 Widhoek, Namibia Tel: (264.61) 270 61 11 Fax (264.61) 270 63 22; <a href="mailto:tamulungu@mhevtst.gov.na">tamulungu@mhevtst.gov.na</a> ; <a href="mailto:mkudumo@mhevtst.gov.na">mkudumo@mhevtst.gov.na</a>
Nigeria (MOST IGC member 2001-2005)	The NLC role is played by the National Commission for UNESCO through the Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Sciences (NISER). Professor Dr. Olu Ajakaiye , Director General of the Institute holds the Vice Presidency for the African region in the MOST IGC.	The NLC includes representatives of research institutes, universities, ministries and governmental bodies and of other institutions/associations (e.g. the Labour Congress, the organized private sector).	It performs functions (a) promoter and facilitator of research, (d) consultancies, (e) platform for debate, (h) monitoring/ evaluation of indicators of social transformation, and (k) collection, processing and dissemination of information. The NLC has links with governmental authorities and decision making bodies. It also helps build up links with existing research policy networks and with projects supported by IGOs in MOST- related fields.	Prof. Dr. Olu Ajakaiye Director-General, NISER Nigerian Inst. of Social and Economic Research P.M.B.5, U.I. Post Office Oyo Road,Ojoo, Oyo State, Nigeria Tel: +234 -2- 810 39 35 Cell: +234 80 421 09 726 Fax: 234- 2 -810 1194 olu.Ajakaiye@skammet.com.ng; oajakaiye@Niser.org.ng Nigerian National Commission for UNESCO Federal Ministry of Education P.M.B. 476, Garki, Abuja (FCT) Nigeria Tel: (234 9) 413 9138 Fax (234 9) 413 9137 <a href="mailto:natcomunesco@nigeriafirst.org">natcomunesco@nigeriafirst.org</a> <a href="mailto:mykalagum@yahoo.co.uk">mykalagum@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Rwanda	By fax dated 30 June 2005, the National Commission informed the MOST secretariat that	NA	NA	M. Eliphaz Bahizi, Secrétaire permanent, Commission nationale

	there is no MOST NLC in Rwanda and asked for an expert to be sent to Rwanda to animate a two-day seminar/workshop for members of the Commission, social science researchers and representatives of NGOs on the MOST Programme. Lack of funds did not allow the mission to take place.			rwandaise pour l'UNESCO (CNRU) Ministère de l'Education (MINEDUC) B.P. 2502 Kigali, Rwanda  Tel : (250) 58 51 38 Fax: (250) 58 51 69 E-mail: ebahizi@mineduc.gov.rw
Senegal* (MOST IGC member 1999-2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Commission nationale pour l'UNESCO 34, avenue du Président Lamine B.P. 11522 - Dakar/Peytavin Dakar, Senegal Tel: (221) 822-5730 Fax (221) 821-1770 comnat@sentoo.sn Professeur Boubacar Barry Consultant UNESCO BP 5736 Dakar Fann, Sénégal Département Histoire, Faculté des lettres et Sciences Humaines Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal Tel:+ 221 824 93 01 Cel:+ 221 605 34 86 Email: <a href="mailto:bbarry@sentoo.sn">bbarry@sentoo.sn</a> ; <a href="mailto:bbarry@ucad.sn">bbarry@ucad.sn</a>
South Africa*	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. No reply to the Questionnaire, no available information. Setting up a proper NLC is necessary particularly with the view to promoting regional cooperation and to support the sub regional forum of Ministers for Social Development.	NA	NA	Mr Stranger Kgamphe Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO 123 Schoeman Street 0001 Pretoria, South Africa Private Bag X895 Tel : (27 12) 312 51 87 Fax (27 12) 325 7284 Kgamphe.S@doe.gov.za; nkwenkwezi.n@doe.gov.za; MAKHAMS@unisa.ac.za.
Sudan* (MOST IGC member 2001-2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Mr Adil Ahmed M. Karadawi Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO P.O. Box 2324 Khartoum, Sudan Tel : (249-11) 77-98-88 Fax (249-11) 77-60-30 sudannatcom@hotmail.com
Tanzania (MOST IGC)	Standing committee of the NATCOM, itself department of the Minister of Science,	Includes representatives of (a), (b), (c)	Has links with decision making bodies, university and research centers and NGOs	MOST Liaison Officer: Dr. Felician S.K.Tungaraza

member 2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	Technology and Higher Education		and civil society groups. .Helps build up links with existing research policy networks and other activities coordinated by the National Commissions.	Department of Sociology University of Dar es Salaam P.O.Box 35043 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: 0744-279118 ftunga@yahoo.com/or <a href="mailto:ftunga@udsm.ac.tz">ftunga@udsm.ac.tz</a>
Togo* (MOST IGC member 1993-1999 and 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO Contact person Sadissou Miziyawa. No reply to the Questionnaire, no further information available.	NA	NA	MOST Liaison Officer: M. Sadissou Miziyawa M. Sambiani Sankardja Lare Sec. Gen. Commission nationale togolaise pour l'UNESCO Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la recherche 198, avenue des Nations Unies B.P. 12175, Lome. Togo Tel : (228) 221 61 54 Fax (228) 222 57 87 <a href="mailto:unesco.tg@tg.refer.org">unesco.tg@tg.refer.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:akougble@tg.refer.org">akougble@tg.refer.org</a>
Uganda (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)	The NLC function is discharged by a Sub-committee of the National Commission for UNESCO	It includes representatives of universities only	Performs functions (a), (e), (g), (i), (k) Helps build up links with UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs, the other scientific programmes of UNESCO (MAB, IHP, IOC, IGCP) and with other activities coordinated by the National Commission	Nsubuga Martin National UNESCO Commission (for Secretary General) <a href="mailto:nsubuga@unesco-uganda.org">nsubuga@unesco-uganda.org</a>
Zambia (MOST IGC member 1993-1999)	According to information received from the National Commission for UNESCO (Ms Monica Mbewe, Senior Programme Officer HSS) MOST-related activities are handled by the Institute of Social and Economic Research, Dept. of Social Development, University of Zambia, in coordination with the Commission. Efforts are made to put in place a Committee to be responsible for MOST activities. The support of the MOST Secretariat is requested for that purpose.	NA	NA	Contact person: Ms Monica Mbewe Senior Programme Officer Human and Social Sciences National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education CDC Building, Longacres P.O. Box 50619 Lusaka, Zambia Tel/fax: (260.1) 25 43 40 ncunesco@zamnet.zm  Mrs Felicitas M. Chinanda Secretary General (same coordinates)
Zimbabwe (MOST IGC member 1993-1997 and 2001-2005)	The function of the NLC is discharged by the Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies, based at the University of Harare, in close cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO.	It includes mainly representatives of the universities.	Main functions: (a) promoter and facilitator of research, (b) mediator of the research/policy interlink, (e) platform for dialogue and (k) collection and dissemination of information. It helps build up links with existing research networks, with other activities coordinated by the NatCom, and with projects run by UN	MOST Liaison Officer: Mr. Donald Chimankire, Director, Institute of Development Studies, P.O. Box MP 167 Mount Pleasant . Harare, Zimbabwe Tel: + 263 4 333344 Fax: + 233 4 333345 Email:

			agencies and other IGOs. It reaches out to the parliament, the media and NA	pchimanikire@science.uz.ac.zw National UNESCO Commission Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education P.O. Box UA 275 Union Avenue Harare, Zimbabwe Tel: + 263 4 734 407 Fax: + (263 4) 732 752 unesco@mhet.ac.zw machawirams@mhet.ac.zw
<b>ARAB STATES</b>				
Algeria (MOST IGC member 1993-1995) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	CRASC (Centre de Recherche en Anthropologie sociale et culturelle ( <a href="http://www.crasc.org">www.crasc.org</a> ) a research institute designated by the National Commission as the MOST NLC	Includes representatives of universities (for its scientific council and as researchers) and of ministries and other governmental bodies (for its Conseil d'Administration)	Performs functions (a), (b), (c), (d), (f), (h), (i), (k) It has links with the governmental authorities and decision making bodies, universities and research institutions, NGOs and civil society groups	Mme Nouria Bengharbit Remaoun, Director, Centre de recherche en anthropologie sociale et culturelle (CRASC) BP 1955 Oran El M'Naouer, Algérie Tel : 213.41.41.97.85 Fax : 213.41.41.97.82 <a href="mailto:omarderras@voila.fr">omarderras@voila.fr</a> <a href="mailto:crasc@crasc.org">crasc@crasc.org</a> Commission nationale pour algerienne l'UNESCO 14, rue Mahmoud Boudjatit Kouba, Alger, Algerie BP 65K, El Mouradia, Alger, Algerie Tel : + (213-21) 23.28.62 Fax : + (213-21) 23.28.62 <a href="mailto:alqunesco@yahoo.fr">alqunesco@yahoo.fr</a>
Egypt (MOST IGC member 1993-1995) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	A new NLC has been set up recently. Its new president, Prof. Dr. Mohammed Fatthala El Khatib, sent reply to the Questionnaire immediately after having been designated Professor Nazli Choucri, Director of Programme, Political Sciences, MIT, Cambridge, Boston is the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee of MOST.	Composed of 8 members (% women), including representatives of a), (b) and (c).	Performs functions (a), (e), (f), and (k) It has links with the governmental authorities and decision making bodies, universities and research institutions, NGOs and Civil society groups	Prof. Dr. Mohammed Fatthala El Khatib , President., MOST Committee 24 Emad El-Din ibn Zenki -Zamalek -Cairo, Egypt Tel: 002027357240- 002027351375 Dr. Safwat Salem , Secretary General Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO 17 Kuwait Street (ex Shareh Ismail Abu El Fotooh Street) Dokki, Guizeh, Cairo, Egypt P. O. Box 12311, Cairo, Egypt Tel : (202) 79 53 437 Fax (202) 79 24 113 <a href="mailto:fdc@egnatcom.org.eg">fdc@egnatcom.org.eg</a> <a href="mailto:safwat-salem@hotmail.com">safwat-salem@hotmail.com</a> Professor Nazli Choucri Chairman of MOST Scientific Advisory Committee nchoucri@MIT.EDU

				<a href="mailto:egnatcom@egnatcom.org.eg">egnatcom@egnatcom.org.eg</a>
Iraq (MOST IGC member 1997-2001)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. The UNESCO Office informed that it is discussing with NATCOM to set an NLC in the future.	NA	NA	
Jordan (MOST IGC member 2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The University of Jordan (the Social Work Programme) is the headquarters of the MOST NLC. It is coordinated by the National Commission for UNESCO, which has appointed Dr Abdel Kareem Al Fayeze, supervisor of the Social Work Programme, University of Jordan, as its chairman. He attended the 7 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IGC (25-27 July 2005) and immediately after the meeting took steps to revive the work of the NLC in light of its decisions and recommendations. A meeting of the NLC was held in Amman, attended by representatives of the ministries represented in the NLC and of NGOs (e.g. the president of the General Federation of Jordanian Women). The meeting outlined priorities for promoting social research in Jordan in keeping with the requirements of MOST Phase II. It also asked for specific support from UNESCO and the MOST IGC to carry on its tasks.	It includes representatives of ministries and other governmental bodies, of universities and research institutes and of NGOs.	The roles and functions of the NLC are being revised in order to better meet the needs of MOST 2. Emphasis is laid on enhancing the link between social science research and policy making.	Focal point and Chairman of MOST NLC: Dr. Abdel-Kareem Alfayez, Director, Social Work Programme, Univ. of Jordan, Amman Tel: + 962 6 5355000 Fax: + 962 6 5355511 <a href="mailto:Fayez@ju.edu.jo">Fayez@ju.edu.jo</a> Jordan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science Adresse Ministry of Education P.O. Box 1646 11118 Amman, Jordan Tel: (962-6) 568.80.61 Fax (962-6) 568.80.61 <a href="mailto:jounesco@wandoo.jo">jounesco@wandoo.jo</a>
Kuwait (MOST IGC member 2001-2005)	National Commission for UNESCO, through a MOST focal point at the University of Kuwait	It associates university professors to MOST – related work.	Performs functions a), b), d), k). It has links with a) and b) and helps establish links with existing research/policy networks, other Scientific programmes of UNESCO and other activities coordinated by the Nat. Com.	MOST focal point/contact person: Dr. Fahad Al Naser, Dept. of Sociology and Social Work, College of Social Sciences, Kuwait University P.O. Box 68168 Zip Code 79162 - Kaifan State of Kuwait Tel: 00965-4840649 Fax: 00965-4840634 [alnaser1956@hotmail.com] Mr Al-Fadala Fahad Y. Doctor Education P.O.Box 3266 13033 Safat, Kuwait Tel: + 965 240 53 31 Fax: +965 24 44 403 Email: <a href="mailto:knc@kutnatcom.org">knc@kutnatcom.org</a> Abdelaziz Al-Jarallah Secretary General, National Commission for UNESCO P.O. Box 3266, 13033 Safat, Kuwait Tel: (965) 240.5331 <a href="mailto:knc@kwtatcom.org">knc@kwtatcom.org</a>
Lebanon	No NLC. The National Commission for	NA	NA	Ramza Jaber Saad

(MOST IGC member 1997-2001)	UNESCO intends to set up one in the future.			Secetaire generale adjointe Commission nationale pour l'UNESCO
Libya (MOST IGC member 1995-1999)	NLC set up by the National Commission for UNESCO	It includes representatives of a) and b)	Primary functions: a), d), e), h), i), k). It has links with the governmental authorities, universities and research institutions, NGOs and civil society groups	Ali Elhawati [elhawatali@yahoo.com] National Commission for UNESCO P.O. Box 1091 Tripoli, Libian Arab Jamahiria Tel: + (218 21) 340 67 81/82/83 Fax (+218 21) 340 67 80 libunesco@ltnet.net; libunesco@netscape.net
Morocco* (MOST IGC member 1995-1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National UNESCO Commission follows up MOST activities. Mrs. Naima Tabet of Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science is the focal point.	NA	NA	Mrs. Naima Tabet Sec. Gen. Commission nationale marocaine pour l'éducation, la culture et les sciences 3 bis rue Innanouen, Agdal B.P. 420, Rabat, Maroc tel : + (212-37) 68.24.81 fax: +(212-37) 68.24.81 <a href="mailto:tabetnaima@enssup.gov.ma">tabetnaima@enssup.gov.ma</a>
Palestinian National Authority	There is no NLC at present. A proposal has been submitted to launch a MOST Project for Palestine, in conjunction with the Human Development Report issued regularly by the Center for Social and Human Development, Birzeit University, with the financial support of the UNDP Office in Ramallah. The PEACE Network of Universities to be associated to the Project (cf. discussions held by ADG/SHS with Prof. Gianni Vaggi, Vice President of PEACE in September 2005). The Women Centre in Ramallah, set up with support of SHS, will also be associated.	NA	NA	Prof. N. Kassis, President Birzeit University
Oman* (MOST IGC member 2003-2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Dr. Musa Bin Jaafar Bin Hassan National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Education PO Box 3 - Code 112 Musact, Oman
Saudi Arabia * (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Dr Ibrahim Abdul Aziz Al Sheddi National Commission for Education, Culture and Science Ministry of Education 11148 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Tel :(966-1) 404 66 66 Fax (966-1) 405 09 71 <a href="mailto:sncecs@moe.gov.sa">sncecs@moe.gov.sa</a>
Syrian Arab Republic* (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Commission nationale syrienne pour l'UNESCO, Ministère de l'Éducation Place Al-Shahbander



member 1999-2003)				Damas, Republique Arabe Syrienne Tel : + (963-11) 331-3206 Fax + (963-11) 446 78 251 zujalol@unesco.tj.tajik.net; munzifa@unesco.tj.tajik.net
Tunisia (MOST IGC member 1993-1997) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	MOST NLC function is coordinated by CERES (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (under the Ministry for Scientific Research, Technology and Development)	Composed of 10 members, representing ministries, universities and researchers	Primary function: a) and d). It has links with c) and helps establish links with c) and d). Reaches out to parliament, the media and to NGOs and civil society groups.	Hassen El Annabi, Director general Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (CERES) Coordinator of the MOST Committee webmaster@ceres.rnrt.tn Commission nationale tunisienne pour l'éducation, la science et la culture, Ministère de l'Éducation et de la formation 130, boulevard du 9 avril 1938 1006 Tunis, Tunisie B.P. 1280, 1006 Tunis, Tunisie Tel :+ (216.71) 26.08.63; comnatu@edunet.tn
United Arab Emirates *	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Mr Awad Ali Saleh Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education P.O. Box 295 Abu Dhabi UAE Tel: (971-2) 634 39 33; Fax: (971-2) 631 39 91 uaeadcun@hotmail.com
Yemen* (MOST IGC member 1993-1997)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Mr Mohamed A. Al Kadasi Sec. Gen. Yemeni National Commission for UNESCO P.O. Box 12642 Sana'a, Yemen Tel : + (967-1) 214-612 Fax + (967-1) 214-613 malkadasi@hotmail.com
<b>ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b>				
Australia (MOST IGC member 1995-1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	NLC set up by the National Commission for UNESCO.  In addition, MOST related activities are promoted in Australia through the Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN) which had been set up during Phase I of MOST.	It includes representatives of social science research institutes and universities	Serves mainly as a facilitator of research networking and for intellectual debate. It has links with the governmental authorities and the research community.	Prof. Kenneth Wiltshire University of Queensland Brisbane QLD 4072 <a href="mailto:k.wiltshire@business.uq.edu.au">k.wiltshire@business.uq.edu.au</a> ; <a href="mailto:andrea.regan@dfat.gov.au">andrea.regan@dfat.gov.au</a> Robyn Iredale (Asia Pacific Migration Research Network) <a href="mailto:robyn.iredale@anu.edu.au">robyn.iredale@anu.edu.au</a> Ms Jill Collins, Secretary-General, Australian National Commission for UNESCO

				Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade John McEwen Cres, Barton Act 0221, Australia <a href="mailto:jill.collins@dfat.gov.au">jill.collins@dfat.gov.au</a> Tel: (61.2) 62.61.20.37 Fax: +(612) 6261 2272/ (61.7) 33.65.69. 88
Bangladesh (MOST IGC member 1993 1995 and 2001-2995)	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. A Social Research Council has been set up within the Ministry of Planning (Planning Commission) "to promote sustainable development and appropriate use of social science knowledge". A MOST NLC is to be set up "very soon".	According to the reply to the Questionnaire, the NLC will include representatives of ministries and governmental bodies, of research institutes and universities and of other institutions/associations. The envisaged structure of the NLC is very much in keeping with the requirements of MOST Phase II.	Emphasis is to be laid on the research/policy interlink through raising the quality of social science research and orienting it towards application in social practice. The Social Science Research Council, Bangladesh has conducted 6 research projects in 2003 and 27 research projects in 2004 on various social issues. Moreover 136 research projects are under way. They are very much along the lines of UNESCO's activities on social issues. The co-operation between the NLC and the Social Science Research Council, Bangladesh will expand and	MOST focal point/contact person: Mr Qazi Monowarul Hoq, Secretary in Charge, Minsitry of Social Welfare Bangladesh Secretariat Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh Tel: (880-2) 7160452 Fax: (880-2) 7168960 National UNESCO Commission Ministry of Education 1, Asian Highway, Palassy - Nilkhet 1205 Dhaka, Bangladesh Tel: + (880-2) 862.7968 Fax + (880-2) 861-3420 <a href="mailto:bncu@bdcom.com">bncu@bdcom.com</a>
China* (MOST IGC member 1993-2001 and 2003-2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	MOST National Liaison Officer: Dr. Huang Ping Director General, Bureau of International Cooperation Chinese Academy of Sciences 5, Jianguomennei Dajie Beijing, 100732, China Tel: +86 10 8519 5133 Fax: + 86 10 8519 6320 Email: <a href="mailto:huangping@cass.org.cn">huangping@cass.org.cn</a> National Commission for UNESCO 37, Damucang Hutong Xidan CN - 100816 Beijing, China Tel: (86-10) 6609.6844 Fax (86-10) 6601.79.12 <a href="mailto:natcomcn@public3.bta.net.cn">natcomcn@public3.bta.net.cn</a>
Fiji (MOST IGC member 2003-2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. According to information provided by the UNESCO Pacific Office, the Fiji MOST coordinator presented relevant to the meeting of the Pacific National Commissions for UNESCO (August 2005). There are good possibilities to set up national MOST structures in at least five countries in the region and regional MOST network with the assistance of the UNESCO Pacific Office. The Sustainable Development Strategy for SIDS (the Caribbean	Links with the University of the South Pacific (within the Sustainable Development Strategy for SIDS) is envisaged.	The roles and functions of the MOST NLC in Fiji and in other countries in the region will be redefined with the assistance of the UNESCO Pacific Office.	Coordinator: Mr. Aleksio Sela Director of Curriculum Development, Ministry of Education  Mr Isireli Senibulu Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education Marela House Suva, Republic of the Fiji Islands Tel: + (679) 331 44 77 (Ext. 415) Fax + (679) 330 3511

	and the Pacific) emphasizes working within, using and contributing to the MOST on-line research and training and services.			isenibulu@govnet.gov.fj; kraturoba@govnet.gov.fj
India * (MOST IGC member 1993-1997) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO handles MOST issues. The fact that the Commission is placed in the Ministry of Human Resources Development opens up real possibilities to set up a national unit for MOST that is fully compatible with the requirements of its Phase II	NA	NA	MOST Focal point/contact person: Dr. Vinod Mehta, Director, Indian Council for Social Science Research. vkmehta@icssr.org Indian National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of Secondary and Higher Education Shastri Bhavan New Dehli, 110 001 India Tel: + (91-11) 2338-4715 Fax (91-11) 2338 5807 <a href="mailto:cbalakrishnan.edu@sb.nic.in">cbalakrishnan.edu@sb.nic.in</a> <a href="mailto:shalendra@hub.nic.in">shalendra@hub.nic.in</a>
Indonesia (MOST IGC member 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) discharges the function of MOST NLC. As a state funded multidisciplinary national research body, it is also the focal point of the other UNESCO scientific programmes (MAB, IOC and IHP). Dr. Dewi Fortuna Anwar, the Deputy Chair for Social Sciences and Humanities of LIPI is the national coordinator of MOST. She coordinates five research centers, mainly the Research Center for Politics; Economics; Social and Cultural Studies; Population and Regional studies with nearly 200 fulltime researchers. The heads of these research centers are members of the MOST NLC. Dr. Dewi Fortuna Anwar is the Vice President (Asian and the Pacific region) of the MOST IGC).	The MOST NLC includes representatives of (a) and (b)	It performs functions (b) (c) (e) (f) (j) (k) and helps build up links with existing research policy networks, with the other UNESCO Scientific Programmes, with other activities coordinated by the National UNESCO Commission, with various UN Joint Ventures in the country, with programmes supported by the World Bank, IMF or by IGOs and donor agencies.	Dr. Dewi Fortuna Anwar Deputy Chairperson, Social Sciences and Humanities, Indonesian Institute for Science (LIPI) Jl. Jend. Gatot Subroto N° 10 Jakarta 12710, Indonesia Tel (62) (021) 5252085 Fax : (62) (021) 5252085 e-mail: fortuna@lipi.go.id Indonesian Nat. Com. for UNESCO Ministry of Education and Culture Gedung C. , Lt 17 Jalan Jenderal Sudiram – Senayan 10270 Jakarta, Indonesia Tel/ fax: (62-21) 573-3127 <a href="mailto:aspnetind@cbn.net.id">aspnetind@cbn.net.id</a>
Islamic Republic of Iran (MOST IGC member 1997-2001 and 2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	Committee affiliated to the Iranian National Commission for UNESCO	It includes representatives of (a), (b), (c)	Performs functions (a), (d), (e), (h), (i), (k). It has links with decision making bodies, universities, research centers, NGOs and civil Society groups. Helps build up links with UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs, other UNESCO Scientific programmes, other activities coordinated by the National commission and with UN joint ventures in the country.	Dr. (Ms.) Kh. Arefnia NLC and SHS Department N. C. for UNESCO <a href="mailto:arefnia@irunesco.org">arefnia@irunesco.org</a>
Japan	Issues related to MOST are handled by the National Commission for UNESCO. Professor	NA	NA	Professor Masanori Naito Graduate School of Social Sciences,

<p>(MOST IGC member 1993-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>Masanori Naito, University of Tokyo is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of MOST.</p>			<p>Hitotsubashi University 2-1 Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo186-8601 Japan Tel: + 81 45 580 89 40 Fax: +81 45 580 89 65 <a href="mailto:cs00115@srv.cc.hit-u.ac.jp">cs00115@srv.cc.hit-u.ac.jp</a> Mr Kazuo Akiyama Japanese National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Tel: +81 (0) 3 5253 4111 ext.2595 Fax: +81 (0) 3 6734 3679 Email: <a href="mailto:akiyamak@mext.go.jp">akiyamak@mext.go.jp</a> Aya Yokoi (Ms.) Japanese National Commission for UNESCO Office of Director-General for International Affairs Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Tel: 03-5253-4111 (ext.2557) fax: 03-6734-3679 e-mail: <a href="mailto:yokoi@mext.go.jp">yokoi@mext.go.jp</a></p>
<p>Kazakhstan</p>	<p>A Sub Committee of the National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities.</p>	<p>It includes representatives of research institutes.</p>	<p>It focuses on communication and networking facilitation. It has links with universities and research centres and helps build up links with UNESCO's other scientific programmes and with NGOs and civil society actors.</p>	<p>Mr Imangali Tasmagambetov Chairperson National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Foreign Affairs 10 Beybitshilik Street 473000 Astana, Kazakhstan Tel: (7 31 72) 32 13 70 Fax: (7 3172) 32 75 48 <a href="mailto:dmc@mid.kz">dmc@mid.kz</a></p>
<p>Kyrgyzstan*</p>	<p>National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Ms Adash Toktosunova Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO 54 Erkindik Str 720040 Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan Tel/ fax: (996-312) 624-681, <a href="mailto:natcomunesco@intranet.kg">natcomunesco@intranet.kg</a>; <a href="mailto:adaiskender@hotmail.com">adaiskender@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p>Malaysia* (MOST IGC member 1995-1999 and 2001-2005)</p>	<p>The National Commission for UNESCO (Ministry of Education) follows MOST activities. Dr. P. Manogran of the Ministry of National Unity and Social Development is the current rapporteur of the MOST IGC. The setting up of a proper NLC with active role for regional cooperation is being considered.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Contact person: Mr. Harjeet Singh, Under Secretary of Community Development Policy Division, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development Block E, Jalan Dato Onn, 50515 Kuala Lumpur Tel: +60 3 2690 4024 Fax: +60 3 2693 8509</p>

				Email: <a href="mailto:harjeet@kpwkm.gov.my">harjeet@kpwkm.gov.my</a> Mr Kenneth J. Luis Sec. Gen. Malaysian National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education International Relations Division Level 7, Block E 8, Parcel E Federal Government Administrative Centre <u>Rapporteur of MOST IGC (newly appointed (June 2005)):</u> 62502 Putrajaya, Malaysia Tel: (60.3) 88 89 54 73 Fax (60.3) 88 89 39 50 <a href="mailto:ambrin@moe.gov.my">ambrin@moe.gov.my</a> <a href="mailto:rk@bha.moe.gov.my">rk@bha.moe.gov.my</a> <a href="mailto:kenneth@bha.moe.gov.my">kenneth@bha.moe.gov.my</a>
Mongolia* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Baldandamba Namkhajianstan Programme Director Public Administration Reform Programme Government of Mongolia Mr Norov Urtnasan Commission nationale pour l'UNESCO Gouvernement Bâtiment XI Boîte postale 38, Avenue de la Révolution, Ulanbaatar, Mongolie Tel: + (976-11) 32.26.12 Fax (976-11) 32.26.12 <a href="mailto:mon.unesco@mongol.net">mon.unesco@mongol.net</a>
Myanmar**	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No reply to Questionnaire).	NA	NA	Dr. Khin Zaw Sec. Gen. National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education Office of the Ministers Theinbyu Street Yangon (Rangoon), Myanmar Tel: (95-1) 51-47-71 Fax: (Min. of Edu.): (95.1) 25-44-66 <a href="mailto:unigcom@mptmail.net.mm">unigcom@mptmail.net.mm</a>
New Zealand (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)	Social and Human Sciences sub commission of the National Commission for UNESCO. Chaired by a SHS member of the National Commission.	It includes representatives of (a), (b) and (c) and from the 'third community sector' sensitive to ethnic and gender balance	Performs all functions. for (b) it mediates research policy interlink through co-sponsoring workshops with the government and the Royal Society of New Zealand. Monitoring and capacity building and training activities are carried out through the Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN).	Andrea Stewart UNESCO Officer (Natural, Social & Human Sciences) New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO c/- Ministry of Education Ground Floor, Molesworth House 101 Molesworth St, PO Box 1666 Wellington, New Zealand

				Tel. 64 4 473 5527 / 473 5536 Fax. 64 4 473 5518 andrea.stewart@minedu.govt.nz
Pakistan * (MOST IGC member 1993-1995 and 1999-2003) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The National Commission for UNESCO (Ministry of Education) follows MOST activities. No reply to Questionnaire and no other information available. However, Pakistan has expressed interest to promote the idea of a Regional Forum of Ministers for Social Development. This would require a strong national structure to handle MOST and to help promote regional cooperation.	NA	NA	Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO Ministry of Education 30 UNESCO House, Sector H-8/1 Islamabad – 44000, Pakistan Tel : (92.51) 925 72 25 Fax (92.51) 925 75 19 <a href="mailto:pncuibd@comsats.net.pk">pncuibd@comsats.net.pk</a> The Director (no name) of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute Islamabad.
Papua New Guinea **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The information provided by the UNESCO Pacific Office for Fiji applies also to Papua New Guinea.	NA	NA	National Commission for UNESCO PSA Haus, P.O. Box 446 Waigani, Port Moresby Papua New Guinea Tel (675) 301 35 37 <a href="mailto:ReginaKati@education.gov.pg">ReginaKati@education.gov.pg</a>
Philippines (MOST IGC member 1993-1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The Philippines social science council (PSSC) with support and cooperation from the Social and Human Sciences Committee of the UNESCO National Commission. PSSC is a private non-profit organization of professional social science associations in the Philippines	It includes representatives of research institutes and universities, of other institutions and associations but not ministers or governmental bodies	Performs functions (a), (e), (f), (i), (k) It has links with government authorities, decision making bodies and NGOs but especially with universities and research centers.	Virginia A. Miralao Executive Director Philippine Social Science Council Commonwealth Avenue P.O. Box 205, UP Post Office Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines Tel: (6 32) 929 2671 Fax: (6 32) 929 2602 <a href="mailto:tsis@pssc.org.ph">tsis@pssc.org.ph</a> ; <a href="mailto:projects@pssc.org.ph">projects@pssc.org.ph</a> UNESCO National Commission G/F Department of Foreign Affairs Bldg.2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City/ Metro Manila Philippines Tel: (63-2) 834 48 18 Fax:(63-2) 831 88 73 <a href="mailto:unesco-ph@mozcom.com">unesco-ph@mozcom.com</a>
Sri Lanka (MOST IGC member 1997-2001) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	Research Committee on social science of the National Science Foundation (NSF). NSF is constituted under the Ministry of Science and Technology. Expressed interest in improving work on the basis of exchange of experience with NLCs in neighboring countries and in other countries of the region.	Includes representatives of universities but intends to extend it to other bodies in the future.	Main function covered at present: (a), (d), (e), (f) (j); other functions will be covered in the future by the research committee on social sciences. It has links with governmental authorities , decision making bodies, universities, research centers, NGOs and civil society groups	Anusha Amarasinghe <a href="mailto:anuama@nsf.ac.lk">anuama@nsf.ac.lk</a>
Thailand* (MOST IGC member 1993-1997 and	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST issues, no focal point or contact person indicated. No reply to the Questionnaire.	NA	NA	Dr T. Dhammaratana Tampalawela Consultant COFB Headquarters Sri-16-18 Sukhamvit Road

1999-2003) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I				Bangkok 110, Thailand Tel: +33 6 03158288 Fax: +33 (0) 1 48 83 77 59 National Commission for UNESCO Bureau of International Cooperation Office of the Permanent Secretary for Education Ministry of Education Ratchadamnoen – Nok Avenue 10300 Bangkok, Thailand Tel: (66-2) 628.5646-9 Fax (66.2) 281 09 53 <a href="mailto:thainat@emisc.moe.go.th">thainat@emisc.moe.go.th</a>
Uzbekistan **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	NLC established within the framework of the National Public Opinion Center “Ijtimoiy Fikr”, an autonomous NGO ( <a href="http://www.Ijtimoiy-Fikr.org">www. Ijtimoiy-Fikr.org</a> )	Includes representatives of (a), (b), (c)	(a) (b) (c) (e) (f) (I) (k) It has links with governmental authorities and decision making, universities and research centers, NGOs and civil society groups. helps establish links with existing research policy networks, UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs, other scientific programmes of UNESCO , UN Joint Ventures.	Alisher Ikramov Secretary-General National Commission of Uzbekistan for UNESCO 54, Buyuk Ipak Yuli st., 700077, Tashkent, Uzbekistan tel: (998 712) 67 05 42/67 05 61 fax: (998 712) 67 05 38 e-mail: <a href="mailto:unesco@natcom.org.uz">unesco@natcom.org.uz</a> Mrs. Rano Ubaydullaeva Director NGO Social Center ‘Ijtimoiy Fikr’
Vietnam* **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	Focal point appointed by the National Commission of UNESCO: Ms. Tran Thi Lan Anh, Department of International Cooperation, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences.	NA	NA	Ms. Tran Thi Lan Anh Department of International Cooperation VASS, 36 Hang Chuoi Str, Hanoi, Vietnam (C/o Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, VASS), 36 Hang Chuoi Str, Hanoi, Vietnam; <a href="mailto:lananh@netnam.vn">lananh@netnam.vn</a> <a href="mailto:vass@hn.vnn.vn">vass@hn.vnn.vn</a> Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO 8, Khuc Hao Str., Hanoi, Vietnam Tel: (84-4) 199-3510 Fax (84-4) 823-0702 <a href="mailto:unescovn@netnam.vn">unescovn@netnam.vn</a> <a href="mailto:unesco.tuanhm@mofa.gov.vn">unesco.tuanhm@mofa.gov.vn</a>
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN</b>				
Argentina* (MOST IGC member 1993- 1995)	There is no NLC at the moment. The National Commission maintains close links with UNESCO (SHS and MOST Secretariat) for the preparation of the Buenos Aires International Forum on the			Comisión Nacional Argentina de Cooperación con la UNESCO Adresse Pizzurno 935, P.B. Of. 20

<p>**Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>Social Science M. Kleea Sanogo, Policy NEXUS. It is proposed to pursue discussions at the appropriate level – prior to and during the Forum – on the setting up of the NLC in keeping with requirements of MOST Phase II. Emphasis to be placed on promoting Regional cooperation through support to the Regional Forum of ministers for Social Development. FLACSO is a potential partner in this endeavor.</p>			<p>1020 Buenos Aires (Ciudad de) Argentina Tel/fax : (54-11) 4129.1156 <a href="mailto:conaplu@me.gov.ar">conaplu@me.gov.ar</a>; <a href="mailto:mvallone@me.gov.ar">mvallone@me.gov.ar</a></p>
<p>Barbados (MOST IGC member 2001-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>The reply to the Questionnaire indicates that an NLC has been established recently by the National Commission for UNESCO.</p>	<p>It includes representatives of (a), (b), (c) and (d).</p>	<p>Performs functions (a), (c), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (k).</p>	<p>Mr. Andrew Downes National Commission for UNESCO <a href="mailto:andrew_sylvester@hotmail.com">andrew_sylvester@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p>Bolivia* (MOST IGC member 1999-2003)</p>	<p>National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Comisión Nacional Boliviana para la UNESCO Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deportes Avenida Arce No 2147 La Paz, Bolivia Tel (591-2) 244-1200 Fax (591-2) 244-0864 <a href="mailto:pacesito@hotmail.com">pacesito@hotmail.com</a>; <a href="mailto:ulatbol@ceibo.entelnet.bo">ulatbol@ceibo.entelnet.bo</a></p>
<p>Brazil * (MOST IGC member 1993-1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I</p>	<p>The MOST NLC role is fulfilled by the Brazilian Institute for Education Science and Culture (IBECC). Information on composition, roles and functions is missing</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Institut brésilien pour l'éducation, la science et la culture (IBECC) 196, avenida Marechal Floriano Palacio Itamaraty CEP 20080-002 Rio de Janeiro R.J. Brazil Tel/ fax : (55.21) 2516.2458 Contact : Mr Joaquim C. Gentil Netto Executive Secretary <a href="mailto:ibecc@unisys.com.br">ibecc@unisys.com.br</a></p>
<p>Chile (MOST IGC member 1993-2001)</p>	<p>There is no proper NLC at present. MOST issued are handled by employees of the Ministry of Education, which is in charge of the National Commission for UNESCO. Special support to MOST is provided by Professor Raul Urzua, University of Chile, member of the Chilean UNESCO Commission and Chair person UNESCO Chair on public policies and sustainable development. It might be envisaged to involve the Chair more strongly in MOST activities and even foresee the possibility of assuming the role of MOST "Unit", with</p>	<p>Composed of academics and of experts participating in intergovernmental and international programmes.</p>	<p>Because of the lack of staff, functions are limited to providing information and networking facilities, advocacy, collection and processing of information</p>	<p>Raúl Urzúa Frademann, Director Departamento de Políticas Públicas Instituto de Asuntos Públicos Universidad de Chile Diagonal Paraguay 265, Torre 15, Oficina 1303 Santiago Tel: 56-2-678 2291 56-2-678 2077 <a href="mailto:rurzua@uchile.cl">rurzua@uchile.cl</a> Ms Mariana Aylwin, Former Minister of Education <a href="mailto:maylwin@vtr.net">maylwin@vtr.net</a> Comisión Nacional Chilena de</p>



	responsibilities for initiating and coordinating MOST activities at the national and (sub) regional level.			Cooperación con la UNESCO Oficina de Relaciones Internacionales Ministerio de Educación Avenida Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 1371 6 piso, (of. 610) Santiago de Chile Tel (56-2) 390.4622 Fax (56-2) 380-0342 <a href="mailto:ori@mineduc.cl">ori@mineduc.cl</a> ; <a href="mailto:max.colodro@mineduc.cl">max.colodro@mineduc.cl</a> ; <a href="mailto:carolina.rossetti@mineduc.cl">carolina.rossetti@mineduc.cl</a> ; <a href="mailto:virginia.brinkmann@mineduc.cl">virginia.brinkmann@mineduc.cl</a>
Colombia (MOST IGC member 1993-1999) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The NLC function is discharged by the Council of the National programme for social and human sciences (COLCENCIAS). Established for the development of science and technology in Colombia ( <a href="http://www.colcencias.gov.co">www.colcencias.gov.co</a> ).	It has representatives of research centers and universities, ministries and other governmental bodies, other institutions	Mainly (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (i) Has links with the governmental authorities and decision making bodies, universities and research institutions, NGOs and Civil society groups	Juan José Plata Jefe Programa Nacional Ciencias Sociales y Humanas. Colcencias, Tv. 9a bis 132- 28.Bogotá, Colombia. Tel (571) 6258480 Extensión 2239. <a href="mailto:jjplata@colcencias.gov.co">jjplata@colcencias.gov.co</a>
Costa Rica* (MOST IGC member 1993-1997 and 1999-2003)	The National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities as part of its overall functions. Discussion held on 13 October 2005 with M. Jorge Arce Montial, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Costa Rica and Dr. Mercedes Munoz Guillen, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences , University of Costa Rica, about the steps to take in order to set (Information is expected soon, with the support of the UNESCO Office in San Jose)	The MOST NLC to be established will include representatives of: (a) ministries and other governmental bodies' (b) research centers and universities, © of other institutions representatives of civil society and NGOs	It will perform a large part of the functions set for NLCs	Coordinator: Dr. Mercedes Munoz Guillen, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences , University of Costa Rica, Ciudad Universitaria "Rodrigo Facio", San Jose, Costa Rica Tel: (506) 207 4292 Fax: (506) 207 4695 e-mail <a href="mailto:mercedes@cariari.ucr.ac.cr">mercedes@cariari.ucr.ac.cr</a>  Mrs. Sra. Nelly Maria Romin Jara Secretary General, National UNESCO Commission Apartado Postal 393 - 2050 San Pedro, Montes de Oca (B° Escalante, de la Pulperia La Luz 150 metros norte y 50 metros este Casa #3345 San Pedro de Montes de Oca) San Jose – Costa Rica Tel/fax: (506) 224.43.20 <a href="mailto:cococou@ice.co.cr">cococou@ice.co.cr</a> ; <a href="mailto:comision@unesco.or.cr">comision@unesco.or.cr</a>
Cuba* (MOST IGC member 1997-2001 and	NLC established by the National Commission for UNESCO	Includes representatives of a), b), c) and d).	Performs all functions, with special emphasis on capabilities to take part in policy and decision making.	Mayra Espina MOST Nacional Liaison Comité Cuba <a href="mailto:cauto@ceniai.inf.cu">cauto@ceniai.inf.cu</a> Comisión Nacional Cubana de la UNESCO

2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I				Ave. Kohly n° 151, esq. 32 Nuevo Vedado, La Habana, Cuba Tel: (53-7) 53 21 03; Fax (53-7) 53 21 04 ** <a href="mailto:cncu@cncu.minrex.gov.cu">cncu@cncu.minrex.gov.cu</a> ; <a href="mailto:charo@cncu.minrex.gov.cu">charo@cncu.minrex.gov.cu</a>
Ecuador* (MOST IGC member 1999- 2003)	There is no information about existing NLC. No reply to the Questionnaire. (Mr. Montalvo S. Mauricio, Director General for International Organizations, Ministry for Foreign Affairs is the current Vice President of the MOST IGC (Latin American and the Caribbean Region). National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities.	NA	NA	Mr. Montalvo S. Mauricio, Director General for International Organizations, Ministry for Foreign Affairs is the current Vice President of the MOST IGC (Latin American and the Caribbean Region)
Haiti* (MOST IGC member 2001- 2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).	NA	NA	M Jean Coulanges, Secrétaire Permanent Coommission nationale haïtienne de coopération avec l'UNESCO Rue 4 - Pacot, # 4 B.P. 1347 Port au Prince, Haiti Tel: (509) 245 0370 Fax (509) 244 8080 <a href="mailto:jeancoulanges@hotmail.com">jeancoulanges@hotmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:jdeslorges@yahoo.fr">jdeslorges@yahoo.fr</a> ; <a href="mailto:natcomunescohaiti@yahoo.fr">natcomunescohaiti@yahoo.fr</a>
Jamaica* (MOST IGC member 1995- 1999)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).	NA	NA	National Commission for UNESCO 25, Dominica Drive Kingston 5, Jamaica P.O. Box 202 Kingston 5, Jamaica Tel/ fax: (1.876) 929 40 22 <a href="mailto:jamaica.natcom@unesco.org">jamaica.natcom@unesco.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:ehannam@hotmail.com">ehannam@hotmail.com</a>
Mexico (MOST IGC member 1993- 1997 and 2003-2005)	The National Commission for UNESCO (CONALMEX) follows MOST activities through the following arrangement: A Committee for Basic, Natural and Social Sciences has been set up to handle all Scientific Programmes of UNESCO. It has 14 members, of which 4 represent social sciences. It is through them that MOST related activities are pursued. Dr. David Torres Mejia, Director General for Social Communication of the Secretaría de Educación Pública de México. has been designated as representative of Mexico in the MOST IGC and performs the function of coordinator of MOST activities in the country. In addition, the UNESCO Chair on Economic and Social Transformation related to drug issues, chaired by	The arrangement described in the previous column allows the National Commission to perform most of the various functions assigned to MOST NLCs.	Representatives of ministries and governmental bodies are associated to MOST activities. Relevant research activities are carried out with the help of the UNESCO Chair and with the support of universities and research institutes.	Dr. David Torres Mejía Director General de Comunicación Social de la Secretaría de Educación Pública de México Brasil 31, of. 115 Col. Centro, México, D.F. Tel: +52 55 53 29 68 27 <a href="mailto:david_torres@sep.gob.mx">david_torres@sep.gob.mx</a> Madrigal Monarrez, Ismael <a href="mailto:i.madrigal@unesco.org">i.madrigal@unesco.org</a> Comisión Mexicana de Cooperación con la UNESCO Donceles No. 100, 2° piso  06020 Centro Histórico Mexico, D.F. Mexico

	Dr. Luis Astruga of the Institute of Social research, the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) plays a special role in initiating and coordinating activities.			Tel: (52) 55-53-29-69-40 Fax (52) 55-53-29-69-43 dgri@sep.gob.mx ifarha@sep.gob.mx ricardogm@sep.gob.mx
Nicaragua*	According to information provided by the UNESCO cluster office in Costa Rica, there is no MOST NLC at present in Nicaragua. The National Commission has expressed interest in participating in MOST Phase 2 and wishes further information and support as to how to join.	NA	NA	Dr. Juan Bautista Arrusen Garcia, Permanent Secretary Sra. Claudia Valle Nunez, Deputy Secretary Comision Nacional Nicaraguense de Cooperacion con la UNESCO Ministerio de Educacion Complejo Civico, Modulo "K" Apartado postal 108 Managua, Nicaragua  Tel: (505) 265.03.42 Fax: (505) 265.03.42 E-mail: arrienj@mecc.d.gob.ni; vallec@mecc.d.gob.ni
Paraguay* (MOST IGC member 2001- 2005)	National Commission for UNESCO follows MOST activities. There is no information about existing NLC. (No report has been sent).	NA	NA	M. Ramayana Comisión Nacional Paraguaya de Cooperación con la UNESCO Ministerio de Educación y Cultura Calle Ayolas 129, Centro Histórico Cultural (Manzana de la Rivera) Casa Ballario C. Postal 1390 Asuncion, Paraguay Tel: (595-21) 493-863; Fax (595-21) 450-811 Ramayana2@wanadoo.fr dci@mec.gov.py comnacpyunesco@highway.com.py
Peru (MOST IGC member 1997- 2001 and 2003-2005) **Had set up NLC for MOST Phase I	The NLC function is discharged by CONSORCIO (Research Council in Social Sciences) networking 34 institutions (For further information consult: www.consorcio.org)	Includes representatives of major research institutes, universities, ministries and other governmental bodies	(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (h), (i) It has links with governmental authorities, decision making bodies, universities and research institutions, NGOs and Civil society groups	Miguel Angel Lorzundi <i>Analista</i> CIES Calle Antero Aspíllaga 584 - El Olivar San Isidro tel: 421-7968, 421-8082 [mlorzundi@consorcio.org] Comisión Nacional Peruana de Cooperación con la UNESCO Ministerio de Educación Calle Van de Velde, 160 Pabellón B, Oficina 306 San Borja -Lima, Peru

				<p>Tel: (511) 215 58 00  Fax: (511) 436 36 24  <a href="mailto:cvasquez@minedu.gob.pe">cvasquez@minedu.gob.pe</a>;  <a href="mailto:comiunesco@minedu.gob.pe">comiunesco@minedu.gob.pe</a>;  <a href="mailto:jsota@minedu.gob.pe">jsota@minedu.gob.pe</a></p>
<p>Uruguay  **Had set up  NLC for  MOST Phase I</p>	<p>The National Liaison Committee was established in 1999. It functioned actively as a network of institutions associated to UNESCO, including representatives of faculties of sciences of 3 universities in the country, of the UNESCO center in Montevideo, CEFIR (Training Center for Regional Integration), CLAEH (Latin American Center for Human Economics) CALEN (Center for Advanced Studies of the Defense Ministry), University for Peace Costa Rica, and RED MERCOSUR (Economics Research Center for the MERCOSUR countries). However, activity has tended to decrease during the last three years. nevertheless, the initial structure seems to be appropriate and efforts should be made to revive it. UNESCO Office in Montevideo should support it, particularly to promote sub regional cooperation .</p>	<p>Does not include representatives of ministries and governmental bodies</p>	<p>(a), (e), (f), (i), (k)  It has links with governmental authorities, decision making bodies, universities and research institutions, NGOs and Civil society groups</p>	<p>Luis Carrizo  Local Development Programme  Latin American Centre of Human Economics (CLAEH), Uruguay  lcarr@adinet.com.uy  <a href="mailto:lcarrizo@claeht.org.uy">lcarrizo@claeht.org.uy</a>  Comisión Nacional del Uruguay para la UNESCO  Ministerio de Educación y Cultura  Reconquista 535 - piso 5°  Montevideo, Uruguay  Tel/ fax: (598-2) 915-6352  <a href="mailto:coopext@mec.gub.uy">coopext@mec.gub.uy</a>;  <a href="mailto:lema@mec.gub.uy">lema@mec.gub.uy</a></p>

## **ANNEX 6**

### **Table 2: Activities of MOST NLCs based on the replies to the Questionnaire**

**Table 2: Activities of MOST NLCs, based on the replies to the Questionnaire**

(In keeping with the main goals set for MOST Phase II, the Table focuses on the research/policy interlink. It also provides information on capacity building and training activities, whenever such activities were reported.)

Country and region	Research/ Policy/Inter-link				Capacity building and training activities
	Identification of priority research themes	Help establish links between the research community and policy makers	Research Projects on the identified priority theme for the region	Interest in MOST of Policy makers, Media and the Public (a) High or very high; (b) Moderate; (c) Rather low.	
<b>AFRICA</b>					
Botswana	There is no MOST NLC in Botswana. Activities are planned for MOST Phase II with the help of the University of Botswana.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cameroon	The NLC, established by decree of the Prime minister, has not started activities. There fore there are no activities to report on.	No	Interest in the Regional theme and readiness to take part in the activities that will be planned.	Public, interest in MOST is high; Policy and decision makers show moderate interest..	No
Gambia	There is no MOST NLC in Gambia and therefore no activities to report on. However, the Social Science Committee of the National Commission for UNESCO “does limited work on issues related to MOST” on an <i>ad hoc</i> manner.				

Kenya	There is no NLC for MOST in Kenya and therefore no activities to report on.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Madagascar	No NLC and no activities to report on.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tanzania	Yes (e.g. poverty alleviation, elimination of worst forms of child labor, research on democracy and education in Tanzania, Tanzania Essential Health Interventions Project). At present, the Tanzanian NLC does not assist in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution.	Yes, occasionally	Yes, Economic Research Bureau of the University of Dar es Salaam is involved in a research project on the East African Community.	Public interest is moderate; that of policy makers is rather low. The media takes high interest in MOST	Yes, through other forms of training and with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions. Participation Poverty Assessment – REPOA; ESRF and Vice President’s Office.
Uganda	No	No	Yes	Policy makers: rather low Media: high Public: moderate	Yes, through other forms of training and with the support of universities
<b>ARAB STATES</b>					
Algeria	Yes (Themes included in the National Research Program - PNR, cf..Website CRASC). The Algerian NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (e.g. des professionnels du développement durable).	Yes, occasionally though assistance in the preparation of « cahiers de charges pour des appels d’offres » and through public debates. The Algerian NLC provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers on their request (ex : urban planning projects) It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for: policy and decision makers, the research community, public opinion and civil society.	Yes, under preparation	Interest in MOST by all stake holders is rather low.	Yes through training courses and other forms of training such as internships and with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions.
Egypt	NLC undertakes field research for use in social policy making. Projects: The role of youth and sports institutions in preventing drug addictions, Egyptian	Yes, occasionally, through “study weeks” undertaken by MOST NLC.	Yes	(b) Moderate	No

	youth culture, its nature and characteristics; globalization.				
Iraq	There is NO NLC in Iraq at present and no activities to report on.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lebanon	There is no MOST NLC in Lebanon at present and, consequently, there are no activities to report on.	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kuwait	Yes (Impact of social transformation on different societal levels). The Kuwaiti NLC plans to assist in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution in the future.	NLC provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers occasionally on demand. It engages in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy makers, the research community and the media.	Yes	The NLC provides media with MOST information on its activities for the public at large on a regular basis. Interest in MOST by policy and decision makers, the research community and the public is moderate.	Yes, through special training courses and with the support of universities.
Lebanon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Libya	Yes (determining research priorities such as urban social problems, participation in decision making in local governance). Does not assist in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks.	Yes, occasionally (workshops in planning priorities, Exchanging data and information). NLC provides and mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers on a regular basis (e.g. providing data on the subject, providing advice, and international studies). It engages itself on advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for the research community.	Yes	Except for the public, interest in MOST is moderate or rather low.	Yes, through special training courses and with the support of universities.
Tunis	Yes, (e.g. indicators of human development and social transformation). The Tunisian NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (e.g. Project for establishing a MOST-	Yes, occasionally (CERES, which is the main NLC animator, undertakes prospective research on themes indicated by ministries and- on their basis- organizes meetings between researchers, the concerned ministries and the interested public). NLC engages in advocacy activities in order to increase awareness of MOST for the research community for the	Not at present, but it interest in comparative regional research is high.	Decision and policy makers consider the work of NLC as useful, but their interest – and that of the public – in MOST is moderate or low.	No



	Maghreb Web site and research data base, with UNESCO support).	research community and the media.			
<b>ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b>					
Australia	Since the reply to the Questionnaire was sent by the Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN), it does not contain full information on overall MOST activities in Australia.	N/A	No	Interest of decision and policy makers and of the general public in MOST is rather low.	Yes, through various forms of training with the support of universities
Iran	Yes, and it also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up networks for their execution.	Yes, occasionally (The NLC, affiliated to the Iranian National Commission for UNESCO includes 7 representatives from governmental or non-governmental organizations and, 8 SHS researchers and academics representing different professional associations. The NLC occasionally provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers. It also engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers, the research community, the public opinion and the media.	No research project on the identified regional priority theme has been planned, but there is real interest to associate to it.	Interest of decision and policy making bodies and of the general public in MOST is moderate or rather low.	Yes through special training courses and other forms of training, with the support of universities and research institutes. Training materials have been already prepared for (a), (d),(e), (f), (g) and also for mayors and city councils members.
Japan	The replies to the Questionnaire received from the National Commission for UNESCO reflect the fact that “interest in MOST is rather low in Japan”. There are, accordingly, few activities to report on.	No	No	Interest of decision and policy making bodies and of the general public in MOST is moderate.	No
New Zealand	Yes (recent involvement in a workshop bringing together policy makers and researchers to discuss ‘Towards 2020: Challenges for the Social science Community’.	Yes, on a regular basis (NLC has co-sponsored regular national forums/workshops). It also provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers particularly in relation to migration and social development.	Yes (consideration is being given to hosting of a Pacific Sub-regional meeting of Ministers of social development)	Moderate for decision makers; High for the media and the public.	Yes, through co-sponsored national workshops and forums

	<p>Focused on the research-policy linkage, it dealt with the central thrust of the current MOST programme). The NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up networks for their execution, to some extent through the Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN)</p>	<p>The NZ National Commission for UNESCO has been active in all forms of advocacy areas, including MOST related issues.</p>			
Philippines	No	<p>Yes, occasionally. It also occasionally provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers. It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for the research community and the public opinion and civil society.</p>	No	(b) except for the public interest in MOST, which is rather low.	<p>Yes, through special training courses and other forms of training and with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions. Folders/ training kits at PSSC.</p>
Sri Lanka	<p>Yes (Poverty alleviation, globalization, sustainability, women and children). It also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (<a href="http://www.nsf.ac.lk">www.nsf.ac.lk</a>)</p>	<p>Yes, on a regular basis. (Links with researchers are reinforced through recommendations of the Social Science Research Committee and with policy makers through the board members). NLC also provides expert knowledge occasionally to policy makers (through recommendations from workshops, studies and research projects). It engages itself in advocacy so as to increase awareness of MOST for the research community.</p>	<p>Not for the moment, but interest in regional cooperation, including comparative regional research, is high.</p>	<p>(a) for decision makers (c) for the media and the public</p>	<p>Yes through special training courses and other forms of training with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions. Training manuals are being envisaged</p>
Uzbekistan	<p>Yes (urbanization and rights of cities; transformation of youth values; migration; lifelong education: access, quality). Their NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (<a href="http://www.ijtimoiy-fikr.org">www.ijtimoiy-fikr.org</a>)</p>	<p>Yes on a regular basis (Periodic Open Forum). The NLC also provides expert knowledge to policy and decision makers on regular basis (e.g. public opinion survey). It also engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for the research community and the media.</p>	Yes	(b) for decision makers and the public and (a) for the media.	<p>Yes through special training courses with the support of universities and research institutes. Methodology of sociology studies, methods of sampling.</p>

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA					
Bulgaria	Yes (NLC supported the implementation of the MOST Research Project "Personal and Institutional Strategies for Coping with Transformation Risks in Central and Eastern Europe".	Yes, on a regular basis (series of conferences, providing common ground for meeting of researchers and decision makers). The Bulgarian NLC provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers on regular basis. (The Chairman of the NLC has been an advisor to the State President.) NLC engages in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for: policy and decision makers, the research community, public opinion and civil society, the media and international organizations.	Yes, a current INTAS project on the societal integration of ethnic minorities will be used to analyze The Social Science Policy Interface.	Interest in MOST is high.	Yes, through special training courses, summers schools and 'on the job training') with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions. (Publications: Central and Eastern Europe: Continuing Transformation (1998) Unemployment: Risks and Reactions (1999))
Canada	There has been no Canadian reply to the Questionnaire from Canada. This explains why no information on activities is provided in the Table. It is hoped to obtain such information to reflect better Canada's support to MOST not only for action at the national level, but also its support- through IDRC- to MOST activities in the developing countries.	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cyprus	There is no NLC and therefore no activities to report on.	NA	NA	NA	NA
Czech Republic	The Czech NLC is being reorganized. There are no activities to report on at the moment. However, given its active contribution to MOST Phase I, it is expected to see its action revived in the near future.	NA	NA	NA	NA

Finland	Only to the extent to which the members of the MOST Ad Hoc Council assist within their other professional capacities.	The Finnish NLC does not provide or mediate provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers as a group, but only as individual researchers. In terms of MOST, this function depends also on the “package” in which the message is delivered. (This is a challenge also for the UNESCO/MOST Secretariat to look into.). The Finnish NLC engages itself in advocacy and activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for the research community.	Yes, there are many research projects - both ongoing and under preparation – that have this purpose in mind. This research domain has been assumed as a new task by Finnish universities for some time and is one of the main priority areas for the University of Tampere.	Overall interest in MOST is rather low.	No, although there are many training activities organized by the universities as part of their regular role and function.
France	No	No. The French NLC engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers, the research community and the public opinion and civil society.	No	In general, public interest in MOST activities is evaluated as high. The French NLC provides the media occasionally with MOST information on its activities.	Yes, with the support of universities and other institutions (AUF, SFSIC, etc.) (particularly training aimed at developing countries, organized with support of l’ AUF)
Germany	The reply to the Questionnaire received from the German Commission for UNESCO makes reference to past activities – including a MOST research project which resulted in a publication (Sustainability and the Social Sciences, 1999) which was awarded a prize in Switzerland, but stresses that “there are no MOST activities in Germany at present.	N/A	N/A	Interest in MOST is rather low.	N/A
Hungary	Yes (public participation in socially sustainable urban development, rehabilitation of historical city center and	Yes, occasionally (NLC members use their applied research experiences for maintaining the already existing linkages). The NLC provides or mediates provisions or expert	Yes. NLC wishes to promote regional (Central European) cooperation in research. In fact, the two projects mentioned in column 1 have been based on	Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is moderate.	No

	<p>its perspectives). The NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (for example: 'Public participation in socially sustainable urban development' (Summary report published in the MOST Policy Papers series in 2004). 'Rehabilitation of historical city centre and its social perspectives' project just started, its progress is reported in the website of the National Committee for Hungary (<a href="http://www.unesco.hu">www.unesco.hu</a>).</p>	<p>knowledge to policy and decision makers occasionally (practical recommendations of our projects are transferred to decision makers). It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers and the research community.</p>	<p>international comparisons, executed by multinational team.</p>		
Israel	No	<p>Yes, occasionally (through adequate techniques to influence decision makers). The Israeli NLC engages itself in advocacy activities in order to increase awareness of MOST for the public opinion and the media</p>	No	<p>Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is rather low.</p>	No
The Netherlands	<p>Yes, through co-organizing conferences and workshops with policy and decision making bodies. The NLC rarely assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (e.g. the water and biodiversity research project)</p>	<p>Yes, occasionally (through organizing conferences and workshops with the participation of national researchers and policy makers). Example: the debate on "Social Science and Governance". It consisted of a combination of workshops and plenary sessions covering different topics for which the relation between research and policy is or has been important: Multicultural Policies and Modes of Citizenship in European Cities (MPMC). To ensure international comparative research the MPMC project has taken stock of all particularities of a city in the form of so-called city templates. In the Netherlands a city template was</p>	<p>Yes, facing social transformations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, A conference on inequality, pluralism and environment, planned for June 2006</p>	<p>Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is rather low.</p>	No

		made of Amsterdam. Other topics covered: The Information Society and Its Discontents: The Search for New 'Recipes' and Reform and Education and Social Cohesion in the Information Society (published under the title Globalization and Its New Divides: Malcontents, Recipes and Reform, 2003)). The NLC engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers and the research community.			
Norway	Yes (Migration and Norway as a multicultural society, Social Transformation and coping processes in the circumpolar periphery). The NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for the execution (e.g. under Phase I of MOST: The Circumpolar Coping Process Project and network of researchers and practitioners <a href="http://www.unesco.org/most/p91mews5.htm">http://www.unesco.org/most/p91mews5.htm</a> )	Yes, occasionally (Conference Dec. 2004 Pakistani immigration to Norway). The Norwegian NLC provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers occasionally (The above mentioned conference assembled researchers and policy makers). It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for Policy and Decision makers and the research community.	Yes	Interest of policy/decision makers is moderate; that of the general public is low.	No
Poland	Yes. It also assists in the elaboration of the research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution.	Yes, occasionally. The Polish NLC provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers occasionally. It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for the research community. Major problem: These activities are undertaken mainly within the framework of projects funded by various international organizations and foundations.	No	Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is rather low.	No

Romania	<p>Yes, -social policy for decision makers</p> <p>-poverty alleviation and social inclusion</p> <p>-gender equality; social policy for minorities</p> <p>The Romanian NLC assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks for their execution (e.g. Antipoverty strategies and social inclusion/ National Data resulting from social research; Education policy for the Roma population.</p>	<p>Yes on a regular basis</p> <p>- Consultation by the ministries for the adoption of legislation</p> <p>- Implementation of strategies for social inclusion and poverty reduction.</p> <p>NLC provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers on a regular basis (Leading social science researchers - including NLC members - serve as experts for the Ministry of Labor, Ministry for Internal Affairs, or for the Prime minister). It engages itself in advocacy activities. However, most of research is undertaken within the framework of projects funded by the European Union or by IGOs. It cannot be directly attributed to MOST.</p>	<p>Yes, reform in social work and services in Central and Eastern Europe.</p>	<p>Interest of the public in MOST activities is evaluated as high; that of policy and decision makers is moderate.</p>	<p>Yes, through training activities for the policy makers from the Ministry of Labor, Master in social policy for the decision makers from the Ministries. (special training courses and summer schools) with the support of universities , research institutions and other institutions.</p> <p>RODA (Romanian Social Data and Archive), Courses for Master Program</p>
Sweden	<p>Yes(Work, education and social inclusion; Health, poverty and social movements; Migration and social/informal economy; Segregation and social marginalisation)</p>	<p>Yes, on a regular basis (The NLC organizes regular dialogue meetings (workshops) for researchers and a reference group of government authorities and policy makers in the MOST field.). Also on regular basis, The Swedish NLC provides or mediates provision or expert knowledge to policy and decision makers. It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The interest of the decision and policy making bodies of Sweden in MOST activities are estimated as high. However, the Swedish NLC does not provide media with MOST information on its activities for the public at large and estimates the interest of the public in MOST activities rather low.</p>	<p>Yes at regular university training courses, through special training courses and with the support of universities and research institutes.</p> <p>Not exclusive for MOST, but as University courses for the IMER: (Internl Migration and Ethnic Relations).</p>
Switzerland	<p>Yes. (NLC, with the support of the Swiss National UNESCO Commission has dealt with:</p> <p>- development related issues, particularly those linked to gender</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Not for the time being</p>	<p>Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is rather low.</p>	<p>With the support of universities and research institutes. (Also through seminars, publications and research).</p>

	<p>inequalities. - environnemental issues (sustainable environnement, urbain env, etc.). The Swiss NLC also assists in the elaboration of research projects and in setting up research networks. (e.g. Project on “Villes, environment et rapports sociaux entre homme et femme”)</p>				
Turkey	<p>Yes, (Role of social research in the formulation of government policies, evaluation of performance in social sciences). It also assists in the elaboration of research projects (e.g. “Evaluation of Performance in Social Sciences”). An international seminar was held to present research results and major publication issued in 2004.</p>	<p>Yes, occasionally (e.g. national seminar organized to present and discuss research results of the Project on the role of social research in the formulation of government policies) The Turkish NLC engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers, and the research community. .</p>	Yes	<p>Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is rather low.</p>	No
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN</b>					
Barbados	<p>Yes (poverty reduction). It also assists in the elaboration or research projects and in setting up networks for their execution (assessment of research proposals submitted to the NLC from representative bodies).</p>	<p>Yes, on a regular basis (membership of committee and proposed newsletter/website). It also occasionally provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers (bibliography of research, proposed website). It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers, the research community and the public opinion and civil society.</p>	Yes, poverty reduction	<p>Interest in MOST (policy/decision makers and the general public) is rather low.</p>	<p>Yes, through adequate forms of training and with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions.</p>
Chile	The reply received from	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



	Chile does not allow for a comprehensive presentation of MOST activities in the country. It is necessary to collect information and include it in the data base.				
Honduras	There is no NLC in Honduras at present and no information on MOST related activities to be included in the data base.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Columbia	Identified themes for which research projects have been launched include: “Convivencia y Seguridad ciudadana”; “Poverty-related sigues” “Prospective studies for post-conflict societies”. A recent Project (on going) is devoted to – “Cities and Knowledge Mangement” ando n “Knowledge Dialogue”. It also assists in the elaboration or research projects and in setting up networks for their execution (Projects on Forced Migration, including support to setting up a network of research centers on this theme. For further information on activities carried out in 2004, see <a href="http://www.usbctg.edu.co/redif/presentación.htm">www.usbctg.edu.co/redif/presentación.htm</a> )	Yes, occasionally (Development of research components for the Project “Convivencia y Seguridad Ciudadana”. It also occasionally provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers (Eventos que propician la relación entre investigadores y tomadores de decisiones. It engages itself in advocacy activities so as to increase awareness of MOST for policy and decision makers, the research community, the public opinion and civil society and the media.	Yes, two of the selected them for projects to be launched this year fall within the framework of the priority research theme identified for Latin America : a.  - Education and Development,. - Economía and Polítics. (see: <a href="http://www.colciencias.gov.co/convocatorias/pdfs/convocatorias_282.pdf">www.colciencias.gov.co/convocatorias/pdfs/convocatorias_282.pdf</a> for further information)	Interest in MOST of policy/decision makers and the public is moderate.	Yes, with the support of research institutes. For Young researchers in social and human sciences. Support to Doctoral Programmes in social sciences. Mobility of researchers..
Cuba	No reply to the Questionnaire has been received from Cuba. However, the MOST NLC is one of the most active ones in the Region. Information will	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

	be collected in order to include it in the data base.				
Mexico	No reply to the Questionnaire and no available information on activities. To be obtained and included in the data base.	N/A	Not at present, but interested in developing regional cooperation.	N/A	N/A
Peru	NLC does not help identify priority research themes, but assists in the elaboration of research projects as requested.	Yes, on a regular basis ( Through round tables assembling the public sector , the research and academic community and governmental institutions. It also provides or mediates provision of expert knowledge to policy and decision makers. (e.g. to the Parliament). Engaged in advocacy to increase awareness of MOST for the research community and the media.	Yes	Moderate for decision makers; High for the media and Rather low for the public	Yes, through special training courses and summer schools and with the support of universities, research institutes and other institutions (Instituto Nacional de Estadística)
Uruguay	Emphasis has been placed on themes such as Development (Local and Urban Development in particular) Governance and Poverty.	Participation to implementation of the Project: "Factors contributing to enhancing knowledge – based public policies" (see <a href="http://www.unesco.org/most/weiss/ss.htm">http://www.unesco.org/most/weiss/ss.htm</a> ) . Also, to the UNESCO MOST International Network of Urban Professionals ( <a href="http://www.redprofesionalesdelaciudad.com">http://www.redprofesionalesdelaciudad.com</a> )	Highly supportive of comparative research on the identified regional theme for Latin America. Very siN/A	N/A	NLC has been very active in the past in organizing MOST Summer Schools. A new edition of the School is projected for 2006, with the support of CLAEH (Centro Latinoamericano de Economía Humana).

## **ANNEX 7**

**Table 3: Proposals made and positions expressed in the replies to the Questionnaire**

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<b>Country and Region</b>	<b>Factors facilitating/preventing NLC activities</b>	<b>Needed changes in the structure composition functions</b>	<b>Periodic (biannual reporting system) and setting up regional structure mechanism for cooperation among NLCs</b>	<b>Support for regional forum of Ministers for social development</b>	<b>Overall feedback remarks</b>
<b>AFRICA</b>					
Botswana	NLC to be established	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cameroon	Functioning of NLC was affected by administrative instability. The Minister for Research, who initiated it, was changed (became Member of Parliament) thus with less possibilities to actually contribute to promote MOST in the country.	Proposal for restructuring NLC and overall MOST activities in Cameroon submitted to the Minister for Scientific research and innovation (26 May 2005).	Yes	Yes	Strong support for Cameroon's involvement in MOST Phase II made by Professor Charlie Gabriel MBock, member of Parliament and member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of MOST.
Gambia	NA	New NLC to be established	NA	Yes	The National Commission hopes that "The MOST Programme will stretch its activities to Gambia in the near future to enhance active participation".
Kenya	NA	New NLC to be established	NA	Yes	Requests details regarding "the formation of MOST NLC: activities and functions."
Madagascar	NA	New NLC to be established	NA	Yes	The National Commission intends to take necessary steps to secure Madagascar active participation in MOST Phase II.
Tanzania	Members of the NLC should meet regularly (at least 4 times per year) to discuss progress of programme development	NLC should be headed by chief section staffed by a programme specialist, assistant programme specialists and a secretary.	Yes	Yes	To increase visibility of MOST and encourage action at the national level, it is necessary to keep NLCs better informed on MOST activities in various regions and to disseminate "best practices"

Uganda	NLC needs restructuring and reinforcement.	N/A	Yes	Yes	Support by the UNESCO field Office is needed.
<b>ARAB STATES</b>					
Algeria	Although there is a focal point provided by CRASC, MOST does not really have a full fledged statutory NLC in Algeria. Hence, weakness in promoting MOST, in particular in translating into life the results of research.		Yes. There is positive experience of links between Maghreb NLCs (upon the initiative of Tunisia) which should be revived.	Yes, particularly a Ministerial Forum of Maghreb countries.	For Phase II of MOST, it is proposed to reinforce institutional links between UNESCO/ NLC and CRASC.
Egypt		The NLC is new. It has started planning activities in keeping with the requirements of MOST Phase II. It emphasizes relations with other international programmes and on presenting MOST to decision makers, research institutions and civil society.	Yes	Yes	NLC wishes to extend alliances with networks in Africa and the Arab countries by organizing seminars, workshops and collaborative studies on democracy, tolerance, non-violence, poverty eradication and the status of women. Expects technical and financial assistance from UNESCO. Stresses the need to continue publishing ISSJ in Arabic. Individual Policy makers and researchers are recommended for the policy relevant MOST networks.
Iraq	There is no NLC at present	N/A	NA	NA	The UNESCO Office expressed readiness to extend support to the National Commission in order to set up a new NLC in keeping with requirements of MOST Phase II.
Libya	Bureaucracy affects NLC activities.	To develop direct links to society and development organizations.	Yes	Yes	There is a strong need to enhance visibility and awareness of MOST in the Arab countries. Therefore, undertaking activities at the regional level (setting up regional networks, appointing a UNESCO regional focal point, organizing regional conferences, etc.) are necessary.
Kuwait	NLC needs to be strengthened.	N/A	Yes	Yes	Governments should be requested to extend increased support to NLCs and to the MOST Programme in general.
Tunisia	NLC is often reduced to action taken by its	It is necessary to motivate NLC members and to	Yes	Yes (but "bilateral alliances have more	Stronger effort by UNESCO is needed to disseminate information. The choice of

	coordinator, the other members being too busy to provide support on a voluntary basis.	engage them in concrete activities (Round Table seminars, research networks, etc.) so as to enhance awareness of MOST.		chances to succeed than sub-regional ones")	research priorities for Phase II is good; it is now important to see how they are going to be executed.
<b>ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b>					
Australia	NLC is "a rather remote body in Australia"; limited funds and "what appears as ambivalence of government" towards it handicaps its action.	Needs a full time head. Cannot rely on part-time help only.	N/A	Undecided	Strongly recommended: UNESCO can help by providing concrete examples of what NLCs are doing in various countries. Current evaluation is a good opportunity for that.
Iran	Links to the research community and academia are important in order to "promote scientific capacity of NLC.	Restructuring needed and clarification of roles and functions. Exchange of information is very useful in this respect	Yes. Organizing periodic meetings of NLCs at regional level is strongly recommended.	Yes	Focusing MOST Phase II on bridging efficiently research policy and practice requires reinforcing considerably the roles, functions and activities of NLCs. The success of the programme depends on strong relations and communication between the MOST Secretariat and NLCs.
New Zealand	Major difficulty encountered: "Limitation of resources and time available by the largely voluntary nature of participation in activities".	Needs an "increased level of resourcing" and "improved flow of information and communication on MOST activities"	Yes	Yes	NLC should work with other agencies and bodies particularly with a Ministry for Social Development and the Ministry for Research, Science and technology (both are represented in the SHS sub commission of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO).
The Philippines	The research community is very supportive of MOST. For the new phase, extended support from other stakeholders is needed.	N/A	Yes	Yes	The Philippine Social Science Council has supported MOST for some time, but in order to promote and participate fully in MOST Phase II, it would need UNESCO funding to carry out projects.
Sri Lanka		To extend representativeness and attract funds from donor agencies.	Yes	Yes	The committee is yet at an initial state and is looking for ways to participate in MOST Phase II. For that purpose the results of the current evaluation are expected with interest.
Uzbekistan	Positive experience acquired through organization of conferences and round	Regular "Open Forums" on MOST issues are envisaged. (e.g. Monthly Forum on "The Rights of	Yes. A Central Asian Network on MOST Programme is highly recommended.	Yes	Developing broad partnerships within society is the main objective of MOST action at the national level. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach to research

	tables (International Conference on Challenges of Sustainable Development in Uzbekistan” – March 2005; NATIONAL Round Table on “Urbanization and Socio-Economic Development of Society” June 2005.	Cities”)			and problem solving is the underlying principle of action.
<b>EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA</b>					
Bulgaria	Networking facilitates the work of the NLCs, but technical support is needed for that purpose.		Yes	Yes	Successful MOST NLCs should include both people from the academia and decision makers. It all depends on the strength of the National Commission for UNESCO. If the National Commission functions properly, so will the committee it sets up for MOST. NLCS cannot be considered in isolation from the National Commissions.
Finland	Structure (and maybe also the functions) of the MOST <i>Ad Hoc</i> Council are satisfactory.	Needed: more concrete research input and cooperation with other MOST actors.	Yes	Yes (there are close links among Nordic countries in relation to MOST).	UNESCO’s responsibilities concerning the social sciences (including the MOST Programme) should be emphasized in UNESCO’s work in general. MOST is not known enough within the UN system, efforts should be made to clarify roles and division of labor between various actors/stake holders. Some overlapping within the UN system exists and should be avoided. MOST needs to cooperate with other UN agencies/institutions particularly with the United Nations University. Better outreach within the UN system within the framework of the Millennium goals is required. With regard to action to be taken for MOST Phase II, putting stronger emphasis on research-policy linkages is very important, but of the two pillars – policies and research, the research pillar is the essential one.
France	Ethnocentrism of French researchers may	It is necessary to review. and restructure completely	Yes	Yes	UNESCO’s work related to the MOST Programme remains extremely

	sometimes create difficulties. Also, too much work is done on a voluntary basis upon personal initiatives, it cannot last for too long.	the composition and the means of the NLC.			important, particularly for the developing countries. Some difficulties seem to be emerging concerning its action in Europe where probably new strategies are required. For MOST Phase II, it is necessary in the first place to reactivate the programme after a brief interruption over the last 2/3 years and concentrate on striking alliances and setting up research networks with various partners (e.g. La Francophonie, the Commonwealth, etc.)
Germany	N/A	N/A (there is no intention to continue or extend the activity of the NLC)	No	N/A	In the view of the German UNESCO Commission: "participation in MOST in its current form seems to have little added value for most German social scientists. The research-policy link as planned to be established by MOST is unlikely to function in the German political system".
Hungary	Structure of NLC is considered satisfactory.	N/A	Yes	Yes	Lack of funds renders it difficult for the MOST Secretariat to recruit partners to take part in international projects. For the Europe region, it might be useful to establish links that might lead to support extended by the European Union and the European Science Foundation. But this may lead to less interest for "volunteering" for UNESCO.
Israel	Lack of funds and bureaucracy may hamper NLC action.	Needed: organizational restructuring and Networking (an organizational evaluation of the NLC is envisaged).	Yes	Yes	Israel is very interested in cooperation within the framework of MOST and wishes to have a representative in one of its bodies.
The Netherlands	Budgetary constraints because of lack of governmental support render NLC action difficult.	Emphasis on links between Natural and Social Sciences is positive and should be further developed. Proposals concerning needed changes in the structure, composition and functions of NLCs have been communicated by the IGC president Prof. Arie de	Yes	Yes	Cuts in the MOST budget are regrettable. For MOST Phase II it is necessary to arrive at appropriate forms of institutionalizing research policy linkages through cooperation among partners (e.g. the Developing Policy Review Network, a cooperation between the Ministry of Development and the National Research School Ceres).



		Ruijter to the MOST Secretariat.			
Norway	The current arrangement to handle MOST at the national level is considered satisfactory.	Difficulty to overcome: financial constraints and time capacity of members to give priority to MOST tasks.	Yes	Yes	For MOST Phase II, strengthening research through cooperation on limited number of projects within identified priority areas should be the guiding principle. It is also necessary to arrive at a better understanding of the possibilities (and limitations) of the “best practice” approaches to policy formulation and implementation. MOST strategy at present may not be sufficiently based on how research can inform and influence policy and practice.
Poland	.N/A	N/A	Not in favor of introducing a periodic reporting system; in favor of setting up a structure/platform of regional cooperation among NLCs.	Yes	The general idea of MOST is very stimulating. The crucial issue is securing funds for research. Research that fits into MOST rationale and is done by Polish NLC members had been financed by other institutions and included in the work plans of research institutes or universities. It is hard to say that UNESCO contributed to them. Polish NLC submitted two projects for MOST funding (seed money); none has been accepted. Support for them has been secured within other organizational premises and currently they have no links with UNESCO. It is increasingly difficult to pinpoint what role UNESCO does (or should) play. Poland does not lack experienced and competent researchers. What is needed are funds. Since they cannot expect financial assistance from UNESCO, they are busy with applying for grants elsewhere. Suggestion: “to limit MOST activity to those countries which are lacking alternative institutions to stimulate research activity in MOST related areas. However, without clear rules of financial support, MOST would remain one more ornament to UNESCO...” The UNESCO MOST Secretariat should focus on

					attracting sponsors for the projects. Priorities for MOST Phase II are well chosen. But it is necessary to identify more clearly what would be the value added by UNESCO. How is the research/policy “interface” to be accomplished? At present, there is no lack of relevant research results and policy recommendations. It is difficult to convince politicians to use them.
Romania	N/A	Emphasis on relations with research institutions and universities.	Yes. In order to secure close (sub) regional cooperation, it is recommended to involve CEPES (the European Center for Higher Education, located in Bucharest) more closely in MOST activities in the (sub) Region.	Yes	
Sweden	N/A	N/A	Yes (regional cooperation is facilitated by existing cooperation framework in all UNESCO fields of action among the Nordic countries).	Yes	“MOST is the only social science program in UNESCO. It is important, established, known and should be financially and otherwise supported. But it is necessary to strengthen the research activities in MOST to develop the contact with the scientific society. We would recommend transparency regarding where the extra budgetary money comes from”. At the same time the “MOST on-line research facility” is found somehow problematic: it is rather costly, and appears to be a “never ending project”. The information can possibly be found in other search engines on the internet. A feasibility study might be needed to find out if the data base is efficient.
Switzerland	N/A	N/A	N/A (Regional meetings of MOST researchers are recommended in order to outline objectives of research in social sciences and to put in place research projects to be carried out in a comparative prospect. But this requires	N/A	MOST is very important for the social sciences. For the first time an International organization has found room and given visibility to these sciences enabling them to work together on a long term basis. It has also helped train an important number of researchers in the developing countries. For MOST

			organizational and financial support by UNESCO).		Phase II, the themes identified in 2003 are well chosen and should be pursued. However, (at least) seed money is needed to launch activities. This is a recurrent problem in social sciences: it takes time to elaborate a project, to establish the necessary contacts so that it can be based on networks and finally to seek funding from potential donors. If this is left entirely to individuals, or university departments, they may not succeed. Initial support to start operation becomes therefore, essential.
Turkey	Difficulty: insufficient budget to finance research.	Needed: direct links with Ministries (in addition to those mediated by representatives of some ministries in the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO) so as to make a more effective contribution to policy formulation.	Yes	Yes	MOST is a valuable initiative of UNESCO. The MOST Secretariat should be more active in drawing attention of governments to the programme and to encourage them to use research outputs in policy formulation. Technical assistance to some countries is needed, including international consultants. For MOST Phase II, concentration on research themes identified by IGC is needed. Also securing resources for its activities from UN system agencies and from donor organizations.
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN</b>					
Barbados					No NLC at present. Intends to set up one for MOST Phase II.
Chile	There is no actual independent NLC in Chile; its functions are preformed by staff members of the Ministry of Education in charge of the National Commission for UNESCO.	Support to MOST action is provided by the UNESCO Chair on public policies and sustainable development at the University of Chile, chaired by Professor Raul Urzua. That support could and should be strengthened.	Yes	Yes	The existing link with the UNESCO Chair at the University of Chile needs to be strengthened. It might serve as a good example of how national bodies in charge of MOST could be restructured so as to better serve the objectives of MOST Phase II.
Columbia	Positive factor: the link established between researchers and civil society. Links with		Yes	Yes	

	governmental bodies are reduced. A source of difficulty is the fact that the parliament and the public agencies make little use of social research. "The social science/ public policy Nexus is still in the making".				
Cuba	Information for the issues covered by this table is not available.				
Mexico	Information for areas covered by this table is not available.				
Peru	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	MOST and UNESCO's action in its fields are still little known. For MOST Phase II it is important to emphasize the setting up of research networks, the organization of Round Tables with broad participation of stake holders. Regional cooperation should be pursued through exchange of information and encouragement of best practices.
Uruguay	Organizational and financial constraints affect the activity of the NLC. There has been a net decline in its action after 2001.	The NLC had a very promising structure when initially established, involving cooperation with many institutions and organizations. It needs to be revived, particularly in close cooperation with the UNESCO office in Montevideo.	Yes	Yes	There are multiple opportunities to establish strategic alliances so as to promote action for MOST Phase II. This would require reorganization of the NLC, increased action at the regional level and increased information and guidance provided by the MOST Secretariat.