



## UNESCO Publications Board

### Meeting Minutes

**Meeting date:** 7 May 2014

**Meeting time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** 5.021, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

#### Call to order

The Secretary, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and welcomed those Members and observers present.

#### Attendees

An attendance sheet was circulated for signatures. The following people were present:

##### Chair

Mr Eric Falt, Assistant Director-General, ERI

##### Members

Mr Svein Osttveit, Director, ED/EO [*representing Mr David Atchoarena, Director, ED/TH*]

Mr Han Qunli, Director, SC/EES

Ms Mechtild Rossler, Deputy Director, CLT/WHC

Ms Katerina Stenou, SHS/Coordinator/Intersectoral Platform [*representing Ms Angela Melo, Director, SHS/HPD*]

Mr Libing Wang, Chief, APEID Unit/FU/BKK [*representing Mr Gwang-Jo Kim, Director, FU/BGK, Member for Field Offices, attending via teleconference*]

##### Ex Officio Members

Mr Cvetan Cvetkovski, ODG/GE [*representing Ms S. G. Corat, Dir. ODG/GE*]

Ms Vida Habash, AFR/EO

Ms Ranwa Safadi, BSP/PB [*was not present during the meeting, but had sent her comments via email*]

Mr Rudi Swinnen, Chief, ADM/CLD/D

##### Secretary

Mr Ian Denison, Chief, Publications Unit, ERI/DPI

##### Observers

Ms Mimouna Abderrahmane, Publications Officer, SHS

Ms Jinchai Clarke, ERI/DPI/PBM

Ms Natalia Denissova, Publications Officer, CI

Ms Catherine Domain, Assistant Publications Officer, ED

Ms Amina Hamshari, SHS

Mr Bhanu Neupane, CI/KSD/ICT

Ms Akané Nozaki, Public Information Officer, FU/BGK [*attending via teleconference*]

Ms Cristina Puerta, ERI/DPI/PBM

Ms Lydia Ruprecht, Chief a.i. ED/ERF/KMS

Mr Konstantinos Tararas, SHS/SIY/SIN

Ms Natalia Tolochko, Assistant Publications Officer, SC

Ms Vesna Vujicic-Lugassy, Publications Officer, CLT

##### Guests

Ms Dawn Clemitson, Auditor, IOS/AUD

Mr Sameer Pise, Principal Auditor, IOS/AUD

**Minutes Secretary**

Ms Isabelle Nonain-Semelin, ERI/DPI/PBM

**I. Item 1. Approval of minutes**

The Board approved the minutes of the 1 April 2014 meeting. *[It is to be noted that the Member for Field Offices had not been able to make his comments during the meeting due to connection problems. The comments were therefore sent afterwards and have been incorporated where appropriate in the minutes]*

**II. Item 2. Policy discussion**

- For the benefit of the two colleagues from IOS attending the meeting as observers, the Chair reminded that since the creation of the Publications Board, the processes have been and were still constantly updated. When needed, some policy discussions have been and are still taking place, which was precisely the case during this meeting of the Board.
- The Secretary then reminded the background for the policy discussion: during the 5 March meeting of the Publications Board, it was made obvious that CLD worked on publications despite the fact that the latter were not approved yet.

As a result, DPI/PUB discussed issues relating to the (1) publications workflows and to the (2) cover designs with MSS/CLD.

The outcome of such discussions was presented during the meeting:

**1. Publications workflows**

The discussions aimed at encouraging early submissions to the Board, improving collaboration with MSS/CLD and reinforcing the quality assurance framework. The following conclusions were reached:

- i. CLD will make efforts to ensure that no publication is processed in production without the approval of the Publications Board. This is to be effective from June 2014.
  - ii. The publication proposal submission form will be amended so that publications can only be submitted at the concept or manuscript development stage (the editorial or layout stage will be deleted from the form). The new form will be issued in May.
  - iii. ERI/DPI/PBM will supply to CLD a list of all publications in the Publications Plan with unique identifiers so that each publication can be identified independently of the provisional title, and before the assignment of an ISBN or other code. Identifiers will be shared with CLD and Sectors in early May.
  - iv. The Publications Guidelines will have to be updated to reflect all recent changes in the workflow decided by the Publications Board (e.g. regarding prefaces, forewords, gender issues, etc.). In addition, they will also have to refer to the recent updates of the Administrative Manual, of the Author's Contracts and the creation of the Grant of Rights form, which have now been made available by BFM. The Publications Guidelines will be updated in June.
- The Member for MSS/CLD agreed that all those decisions will make things easier for everyone, especially the creation of one unique identifier.
  - The Member for CLT inquired about what will be done about last-minute publications (i.e. publications not included in the Publications Plan).

The Secretary reminded that the Publications Board had been working for three years and had been lenient so far. However he insisted that everyone would need to try to respect the leading time indicated with regard to each category of publications.

- The representative for ODG/GE stressed that it was very important that each Sector's Gender Focal Point is involved in the process from the beginning.
- The Chair asked whether everyone agreed on the outcome of the above discussions and the ensuing decisions. Since all Members agreed, the decisions were all approved.

## 2. Cover designs

The Chair introduced this second item in the policy discussions by highlighting that, despite all the work done by the Publications Board, there has been no significant improvement with regard to cover designs yet, with the effect that potentially good products were sometimes spoiled by covers of poor quality.

The Secretary said that the discussions with MSS/CLD also focused on the need to improve the quality and consistency of UNESCO publications, which requires changes in the conception, choice and approval processes. The following propositions have been made as a result of the discussions:

- i. CLD will make efforts to involve ERI/DPI/PBM in all cover design projects for publications. This will be effective immediately.
- ii. ERI/DPI/PUB will develop guidelines for Programme Specialists and Publications Officers on creating "eye-catching" covers, and approval processes as part of its procedures for promotion and marketing. The guidelines will include "Dos and don'ts" and examples. With the help of the new guidelines, each Programme Specialist should be able to provide a clear briefing for a graphic designer to work from. However, some training may be required.

Approval processes should be clearly defined to avoid long and wasteful design processes. The Secretary mentioned the example of a Shanghai report on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for which 60 covers were produced, none of which ended up being satisfactory. Such situations should not be repeated.

A first draft of the guidelines will be ready at the end of May and implementation should begin in June or in July this year.

The Chair made it clear that this item was not a proposition to be approved yet. It was only the initial discussion on the topic.

## III. Item 3. Review of publications proposals

8 proposals were presented to the Board. The Board approved 4 proposals, including one resubmission and 2 Category 4 proposals. 4 proposals were returned for reconsideration, review and resubmission.

1. Two proposals were put into Category 4 :

	<i>Proposal No.</i>	<i>Series</i>	<i>Title</i>	
1.	0514_ED01		Orientações técnicas de educação em sexualidade para o cenário brasileiro	4
2.	0514_CLT02		Revisiting Kathmandu: Document on safeguarding living urban heritage	4

#### IV. Item 4. A.O.B

The next meeting of the Publications Board will be held on Wednesday 4 June 2014.

The following general points were made during the discussions:

1. The Chair explained that two colleagues from IOS had been invited to the meeting of the Publications Board, as observers, in the context of an audit on Public Information currently in progress.
2. The Member for CLT wished to provide an update relating to the *Publication proposal 0710\_CLT01: Volume I, The Foundations of Islam* (Volume I of the *Different Aspects of Islamic Culture*), which had been reviewed by the Publications Board during its 30 October meeting, but for which no decision had been taken then.

During the present meeting, the Member for CLT made the followings statement [*a copy of which was later provided by the Member and is reproduced below*]:

“(…) At its nineteenth session, the General Conference authorized the Director-General to prepare and publish a work on the Different aspects of Islamic culture (19 C/5 Approved, Para. 4016). An international Scientific Committee (ISC) composed of ten members was appointed by the Director-General in 1979. According to the statutes of the Scientific Committee, approved by the Executive Board at its 127<sup>th</sup> session (127 EX/14), the ISC is entrusted with the intellectual and scientific responsibility of the work. The Committee decided at its first meeting to present the work in six thematic Volumes as follows:

- Volume I, the Foundations of Islam, (This is the one which was discussed at the October Board)
- Volume II, the status of the Individual and Society in Islam (published)
- Volume III, the Spread of Islam throughout the World (published)
- Volume IV, (Parts 1 & 2) Science and technology in Islam (published)
- Volume V, Culture and learning in Islam (published)
- Volume VI, Islam in the World today (forthcoming by the end of 2014 – the manuscript has been submitted in early March 2014 to the International Scientific Committee (ISC) members for approval.)

From 1976 up to 1993, the General Conference has regularly taken note of work plans that provide for the implementation of the work on the Different Aspects of Islamic Culture. In 1995, UNESCO signed an agreement with the World Islamic Call Society (WICS) to ensure the funding of the General and Regional Histories, including the *History of Humanity*, *History of Civilizations of Central Asia* and the *Different Aspects of Islamic Culture*.

The manuscript of Volume I has been sent to the Publications Section BPI/PUB in August 2013. It had been submitted to the Publications Board in October 2013, but the Board did not approve the publication, and ADG/ERI discussed the matter with ADG/CLT and the Director-General. The Director-General requested further external advice, which was provided by Mounir Bouchenaki, former Director General of the ICCROM, and former ADG/CLT, who read the Manuscript and recommended the publication of the Volume. The Director-General decided then to proceed with the publication of the Volume and asked to organize on 10 June 2014 an official launching ceremony of Volume I.

She invited the Members of the Board to attend the ceremony on 10 June”.

3. The representative for ED expressed a few concerns regarding Open Access for Category 4 publications:
  - Would it be possible to have some online training regarding Open Access, especially for colleagues in the Field?
  - Would it be possible to have some feedback concerning the online repository for Open Access publications and documents?

The Chair underlined the fact that UNESCO is a leading agency within the UN system with regard to Open Access. The Chair added that there is currently a separate audit of Public Information activities within the UN system, the result of which will be published in early 2015 and where UNESCO will certainly be mentioned.

Regarding the first question, the Secretary said that there are already guidelines concerning the applicability of Open Access to all publications. However, what is lacking is online training. The Secretary reminded that a 'face-to-face' training took place in September 2013, because training modules were still being developed by CI at the time. The Secretary also did a short training session in Beijing the week before. The Secretary was of the opinion that Publications Officers should see the modules before they are disseminated, in order to review them.

As for the second question, CI was developing a platform which was for Open Educational Resources and which could be used for all Open Access publications as well. The Secretary requested an update from one Observer for CI in charge of this specific question. The Secretary also pointed out that there would be a point on Open Access implementation during the autumn session of the Executive Board and stressed that in this regard, a tracking system would be very important to be able to track use of UNESCO Open Access publications (which was something the Organization insisted on before adopting this policy).

The Secretary further explained that WIPO and the OECD had been heavily involved in developing the Creative Commons licences applicable to intergovernmental organizations and which we started to use in September 2013. However, UNESCO is still a pioneer in that field. A consultant has been hired to help other agencies with regard to the implementation of Open Access, and UNESCO and WIPO have been requested to help.

The Observer for CI then explained that the training modules were now ready (they were received the day before the meeting). It takes 2 hours and 10 minutes to go through the whole training module, which ends with the UNESCO Publications Guidelines. The Observer for CI suggested that one representative from each Sector should copy the tool and test it within 10 days following the meeting of the Board, so as to provide feedback.

The Secretary encouraged Publications Officers to do as suggested.

With regard to the platform allowing information to be tracked, the Observer for CI said that the Sector was starting to see how documents were being used. However, more information from colleagues will still have to be obtained and shared.

In response to a question from one Observer for ED who asked whether the platform could already be used, the Observer for CI explained that, indeed, as soon as a document can be made available in Open Access each Sector will have to deposit it on the Open Repository Platform.

4. For the benefit of the IOS observers, the Chair said that there is no backlog of proposals submitted but not reviewed.
5. The Chair also informed the IOS Observers of the existence of the "Strategizing publications for impact" document adopted during the 29 November 2013 meeting of the Publications Board and establishing the 4 Categories of publications.

It was highlighted that, as a result for example, proceedings are now online only whereas, when the Publications Board was created and started to work, they were often produced in print.

6. The Member for MSS/CLD asked whether it would be possible to reinstate the “Show and tell” practice, that is to say to look at previously approved publications and see what their impact was.

The Secretary said that the “Show and tell” practice will be introduced as part of the Promotion Guidelines, a second draft of which will be sent the week after the meeting for comments. A meeting may perhaps be organized after that.

## V. Item 5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Minutes submitted by Isabelle Nonain-Semelin, ERI/DPI/PBM**

### Annex 1 – Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes of the 1 April 2014 Publications Board meeting
2. Policy discussion
3. Review of publication proposals
4. A.O.B.
5. Adjournment

### Annex 2 – Overview of proposals reviewed

The proposals are listed below in the order in which they were actually reviewed.

	<i>Proposal No.</i>	<i>Series</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Estimated media impact</i>
1.	0514_ED01		Orientações técnicas de educação em sexualidade para o cenário brasileiro	4	Approved	-
2.	0514_CLT02		Revisiting Kathmandu: Document on safeguarding living urban heritage	4	Approved	-
3.	0514_CLT01		<b>(Resubmission 0314_CLT01)</b> Najaf: The History and Development of a Sacred City	2	Approved	8
4.	0514_ED02		Learning knowledge and skills for agriculture and improving rural livelihoods	3	Revise and resubmit	-

5.	0514_SC01		SPARCK - Sharing Perceptions of Adaptation, Resilience and Climate Knowledge: Final Report	3	Revise and resubmit	-
6.	0514_ED03	Handbook - Supporting country-level data collection for core indicators	Measuring the education sector response to HIV and AIDS	3	Revise and resubmit	-
7.	0514_SHS01		Strengthening Intercultural Competences Based on Human Rights. A portfolio	3	Revise and resubmit	-
8.	0514_ED04		In or Out? Asia-Pacific Regional Review of the Inclusion of Young Key Populations in National AIDS Strategic Plans	3	Approved	5

1. Publication Proposal 0514\_ED01                      **Orientações técnicas de educação em sexualidade para o cenário brasileiro**
  
2. Publication Proposal 0514\_CLT02                      **Revisiting Kathmandu: Document on safeguarding living urban heritage**

The Secretary explained that these first two proposals were submitted as Category 4 proposals. The Secretary agreed with this categorization and therefore recommended the approval of the 2 proposals, if there were no objections from the Board.

**Proposal 0514 ED01 approved for web**

**Proposal 0514 CLT02 approved for print and web**



### 3. Publication Proposal 0514\_CLT01

### Najaf: The History and Development of a Sacred City (Resubmission 0314\_CLT01)

The Member for CLT presented the proposal:

- The proposal is a resubmission.
- The Member explained that the Iraq Office had sent the revised submission form, and that she was in Iraq the week before.
- With regard to the comments made by the Board during its 5 March meeting the following items were discussed or modified:
  - The title has been revised from *Najaf: History and Contemporary Developments* to *Najaf: The History and Development of a Sacred City*.
  - As for the comments regarding the fact that the publication will be in print only, this point will be specified once the co-publishing agreement is in place.
  - The publication was moved up from Category 3 to Category 2, as recommended by the Board, and will therefore be in colour.
  - The launch plan will be discussed with DPI.
  - The negotiations of the co-publishing agreement with Saqi Books (based in London) are in progress. This publisher has a strong emphasis on Iraq and an extensive network and has a branch in Lebanon, which will help with the dissemination of the work in its Arabic version to academics in the field of Middle Eastern studies.
  - 1,500 copies per language will be distributed, of which 1,300 will be for sale. 200 copies will be free.
  - Both the English and the French versions will be ready by 15 May.
  - Publishing is planned for October 2014.

#### Comments from the Board:

1. The Chair noted that the proposal has been improved and has a lot of potential. The Chair explained to the IOS Observers that an Estimated Media Impact (EMI) is given to each publication, which helps – among other things - in terms of planning the promotion efforts to be made in cooperation with DPI. In the present case, the EMI could be at least 8, as the publication can be promoted heavily in Iraq (and beyond).
2. The Chair asked why there was not already a firm launch plan.
  - The Member for CLT said that she would get back to the Board with information regarding the launch date.
3. Since there were no other comments, the Board moved to approve the proposal.

**Estimated Media Impact: 8**

Proposal approved for print

## 4. Publication Proposal 0514\_ED02

Learning knowledge and skills for agriculture  
and improving rural livelihoods

The representative for ED presented the proposal:

- The title is not the shortest.
- The publication will be the main written output from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)-UNESCO research project (2012-2014).
- It is based on research carried out in Cambodia, Egypt and Ethiopia.
- The publication focuses on literacy, with links to work with skills in rural areas.
- It will propose a set of policy actions for key decision-makers.
- There has been an extensive internal and external peer review.
- The project is funded by extra-budgetary funds from IFAD.
- It will be in English, and possibly in French eventually.

**Comments from the Board:**

1. The Chair said that the proposal belongs to Category 3.
2. The Chair stressed the fact that this was a very late submission (if it is to be released in June). The Chair asked why the publication would be released on 30 June with a launch date foreseen some weeks after. The Chair also pointed out that this will not be a very strategic period.
  - The representative for ED agreed that the timing was not the best.
3. The title is too technical. It should be improved.
4. The external peer review was considered not to be very convincing (one reviewer is from the same university as the author, “seminar participants” is very vague).
  - The representative for ED said that he would convey the comments and see what the response is.
5. Regarding the budget, no money has been assigned for evaluation and monitoring. Moreover, funds have been allocated for the French translation, but item 20 of the form indicated that it would depend on the availability of funds. A French version would be important if the publication is to be used in Africa though.

The Ex officio Member for BSP also thought that it was unclear whether there would indeed be a French version. However, she was of the opinion that if no funds were available, the French version should perhaps be postponed and an Arabic version should be published first.

- The representative for ED stated that this issue may have to be renegotiated with IFAD.

- The same would apply to the question of funds being assigned for monitoring and evaluation.
6. The Member for CLT welcomed the topic and emphasized that 2014 is the “International Year of Family Farming”. Next year, there will be the World Expo 2015 in Milano, where UNESCO should definitely be well-represented since the topics of water, food, etc. will be covered.

The Member for SC said that UNESCO is officially committed to this event, but it would be good to inform the organizers that something is being prepared.

- The representative for ED agreed that this event would indeed be important.
7. The representative for ODG/GE explained that this proposal was an excellent example of cooperation between the Programme Specialist, the Gender Focal Point and ODG/GE, and expressed strong support for the way colleagues had been working.
- The representative for ED thanked the representative for ODG/GE for his support.
8. Similarly, the Ex Officio Member for AFR expressed support for the proposal, especially since the Addis Ababa Office had been involved.
- The representative for ED thanked the Ex Officio Member for AFR for her support.
9. In view of the comments above, the proposal was not approved.

**Proposal to be revised and resubmitted**

## 5. Publication Proposal 0514\_SC01

**SPARCK - Sharing Perceptions of Adaptation, Resilience and Climate Knowledge: Final Report**

The representative for SC presented the proposal:

- This is a proposal from the Apia Office.
- The proposal involves SC and SHS, as well as ED (with regard to ICTs).
- This publication is the final report of the SPARCK project carried out in Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu.
- It will be very relevant to all SIDS countries.
- There is a good diversity among the authors.
- The proposal was reviewed internally by the Apia Office, SC, SHS, Susan Vize from the Bangkok Office, and externally by UNU.
- The launch will be in August, that is to say one month before the major SIDS conference to be held in September 2014 in Apia, Samoa.
- ODG/GE had made some comments (regarding the gender analysis, gender-disaggregated statistics, etc.) which received detailed replies from, and have been taken into account by, the Apia Office.

**Comments from the Board:**

1. As a general comment, the Chair noted that there are more and more publications from the Field Offices. In particular, he thanked the Bangkok Office for working so closely with the Publications Board.
2. The Chair said that targeting the SIDS conference is very useful. The Chair stressed that the Director-General will be attending.

The Chair also requested that the Secretary send an invitation to all Sectors to submit publications proposals targeting this conference – which is one of the most important this year – no later than next month.

- The Member for SC stressed the fact that the relevance of the publication is indeed very high.
3. The Chair underlined that the title mentions the project rather than the subject. It should reflect the fact that the publication is about small islands.
    - The Member for SC agreed that the title should be revised to reflect the fact that the proposal focuses on SIDS.
  4. The authorship seems to be problematic: it is not certain that diversity is well-ensured.

- The Member for SC said that it is too late to change the authorship, but this comment could be addressed through the peer review.
5. The same comment applies to the peer review: someone endorsed by the SIDS should be involved.
    - The Member for SC said that he would request that someone from the SIDS be involved.
  6. The budget does not seem entirely right. Moreover, no funds have been assigned for communication and monitoring. Regarding the photographs, the budget is not sufficient for such an important event.
    - The Member for SC will get back to the Apia Office and see how the budget can be revised.
  7. The publication will be in English only.
  8. The representative for ODG/GE said that replies from Apia were indeed received and were satisfactory. The representative for ODG/GE stressed the importance of involving the Gender Focal Point from the very beginning of the projects. It is also very important to document the discussions in detail and to avoid “yes or no” answers in the gender checklist.
  9. The representative for Field Offices, highlighting the fact that the form indicates that the publication will be available in Open Access under the CC BY NC SA licence, said that such choice should be justified by the Sector.
    - The Member for SC said that he would get back to the Board with a reply.
  10. The Member for CLT stated that the topic is very important, not only for SIDS, and that the Sector should also keep in mind that there will be the UN Conference on Climate Change in December 2015, where UNESCO should be well-represented.
  11. The Observer for CI said that CI would be happy to provide comments since the form indicates that ICTs have been used.
    - The Member for SC thanked the Observer for CI for this suggestion, which he accepted.
  12. The Ex Officio Member for AFR said that the form indicates that it would be shared with certain African countries. In addition the table of contents mentions capacity building activities. Therefore, the proposal should be shared with IICBA (the International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa).
  13. The representative for ED expressed support for the proposal.
  14. In view of the comments above, the proposal was not approved.
  15. The Chair made two additional comments:
    - i. The proposal is funded by the Apia Office. UNESCO HQ could perhaps add some funding, given the importance of the event and the relevance of the publication.
    - ii. The Chair reminded the Sector that the word “resilience” (present in the title) is to be used with caution as it sometimes provokes very strong reactions.

Proposal to be revised and resubmitted

## 6. Publication Proposal 0514\_ED03      **Measuring the education sector response to HIV and AIDS**

The representative for ED presented the proposal:

- There seems to be ongoing discussions as to the Category to which this proposal belongs. The Secretary thinks it could be a Category 4 publication, but the representative for ED feels that the proposal should be in Category 3, in continuation of other publications.
- The handbook was pilot-tested by 8 countries in March 2014 during a regional workshop.
- The publication targets primarily Ministries of Education.
- It will be in English and French, and online only.

### **Comments from the Board:**

1. The Chair stressed that this is a very late submission and there does not seem to be a specific reason for the release to be in June (no launch planned for example).
  - The representative for ED assured that efforts would be made in terms of improving the timing.
2. The publication is very technical.
3. The title is really long. Moreover, the use of the terms “education sector” in titles always creates confusion.
  - The representative for ED said that the Sector could try to improve the title.
4. Regarding the peer review, the fact that the publication was presented during a workshop is not sufficient. Names should be provided, diversity should be ensured, etc.

The Ex Officio Member for BSP suggested that UIS and IIEP be involved in the peer review, and perhaps the Dakar Office as well.

The Ex Officio Member for AFR agreed on the fact that the peer review should be more precise and also thought that the Dakar Office should be consulted.

- The representative for ED said he thought that the workshop had a substantive session on peer review. The representative for ED added that he would check regarding the involvement of UIS and IIEP, but thought that the two institutes had been consulted.
5. The budget is not very high and no funds have been allocated in many categories, which is no longer acceptable.
    - The representative for ED said that the budget will be looked at again, in particular with regard to monitoring and layout.
  6. There is no indication regarding the launch.
  7. The representative for ODG/GE said that the proposal did not raise particular problems. It is a technical tool. There are not many details about the gender perspective. The representative for ODG/GE insisted that the best approach in this publication would be to ensure that HIV indicators are disaggregated by sex.



8. The Member for CLT asked clarification as to Appendix E about “Random number tables for the selection of 30 students”.
  - The representative for ED was not in a position to provide more information.
9. In view of the comments above, the proposal is to be revised and resubmitted.

**Proposal to be revised and resubmitted**

## 7. Publication Proposal 0514\_SHS01

**Strengthening Intercultural Competences  
Based on Human Rights. A portfolio**

The representative for SHS (and officer in charge of the project) presented the proposal:

- The publication is original with regard to its form and to its content.
- The representative for SHS said that she was certain that CLD could help for the publication's format.
- The purpose of the project is to create a kind of support tool including resources which would be useful to reconcile human rights and intercultural dialogue and diversity.
- There will be a multi-perspective approach to make sure that the debate will be peaceful.
- The Arab World Institute on Human Rights will take part in the project.
- The authors are eminent personalities in their field.
- The project will be financed by the Government of Denmark (which defends Human rights).
- The proposal will include the brochure entitled *"Intercultural Competences Conceptual and Operational Framework"*.
- The initial languages will be French and Arabic. But all the policy briefing documents will be in the original language (i.e English, French, Spanish, Arabic).
- The contents of the publication should be validated in June in Tunis, but the launch could be foreseen in September for the International Day of Peace or December 2014 for the Human Rights Day.

**Comments from the Board:**

1. The Chair said that this proposal is a strange, hybrid project, thus it is difficult to review it.
2. Some of the publications included in the project, and which would be reissued, are not recent and, therefore have never been submitted to the Publications Board.
3. The peer review seems convincing.
4. There is a good approach regarding languages.
5. The Chair was in favour of a launch in December, because it would give enough time to work on the project.
  - The representative for SHS agreed that the Sector should aim for a launch in December.
6. It seems that work will be necessary regarding the gender perspective.

The representative for ODG/GE said it was a pity there had been no opportunity to discuss this proposal earlier. It would be an excellent opportunity to promote the gender equality priority (in connection with human rights, which is one of the pillars of Priority Gender Equality). Moreover, this priority could be incorporated throughout the publication. In Part I of the publication, it could be included in two chapters:

- i. Within the chapter on the Human rights principle, i.e. non-discrimination on the basis of sex;
- ii. The Sector should also recommend that the authors develop a chapter on women's rights within the human rights framework (convention ...).

Lastly, gender should probably be included in a specific chapter on gender equality and cultural diversity in the central part of the publication.

- The representative for SHS assured that gender was taken into account in the project (with a study on Mauritania in particular).
7. Since quite a lot of money will be spent for this project, it is normal to look at it carefully: the budget breakdown is not good and should be improved and more detailed. It is not acceptable not to have any funds assigned for the photographs and illustrations, communication, evaluation and monitoring.
    - The Sector that the budget seems to be very comfortable, but this is due to the fact that it covers everything from training to hiring consultants, etc. The representative for SHS agreed with the comment regarding the photographs.
  8. The Member for CLT mentioned the fact that there has been a new evolution of thinking.

Since the 2011 General Assembly of ICOMOS, a Resolution on Heritage and Human Rights has been adopted. 2 workshops were held, and work has been done with the rapporteur on Human rights in terms of Heritage and Cultural Diversity. The last workshop took place in Oslo two weeks before the meeting of the Board and was about Heritage and Human Rights.

The Member for CLT and the Member for SC both suggested that Douglas Nakashima be contacted in order to make comments on the UNESCO policy on Indigenous People, because there is a close link.

- The Sector said that Indigenous People were taken into account.
9. Even if it is a sensitive subject, the representative for ED said that what is missing from the project is the question of religion.
  10. The Ex Officio Member for BSP said that UNESCO should be part of the evaluation and monitoring process, which should not be conducted by the Arab World Institute on Human Rights alone.

An assessment must be carried out to check that the objectives, as indicated in item 26 of the submission form, have been met.

- The representative for SHS said that she would get back to the Ex Officio member for BSP.
11. From a publishing point of view, the Secretary stated that the proposal is a potentially good product, but it should be an online toolkit.

However, the publication will raise issues with regard to Open Access: it will be very difficult to make it available in Open Access since it will include older publications with many authors for some of them, and many photographs for others.

- The representative for SHS highlighted the fact that there will be also new parts in the publication.
12. In view of the comments above, the proposal is to be revised and resubmitted.

**Proposal to be revised and resubmitted**

## 8. Publication Proposal 0514\_ED04

**In or Out? Asia-Pacific Regional Review of the Inclusion of Young Key Populations in National AIDS Strategic Plans**

The representative for ED presented the proposal:

- The submission is from the Bangkok Office.
- The publication covers 19 countries.
- It is a good example of close inter-agencies cooperation.
- It is planned to be launched in July 2014 (20-25), during the International AIDS Conference in Australia.

**Comments from the Board:**

1. The Chair stressed that this is a late submission.
2. The title is too long, although it is difficult to see whether it is good or bad.

The Ex Officio Member for BSP said that the title should be revised. In particular, she suggested that the word “key” be deleted.

- The representative for ED was of the opinion that “In or out” was a good beginning for the title, if what follows explains the topic.

The representative for Field Offices further explained that the terms “young people...” were often used among UN agencies working on AIDS.

3. The partnership arrangements are not clear.
4. The launch date needs to be clarified.
  - The representative for Field Offices said that the plan is to launch the publication in July during the International AIDS Conference in Australia.
5. The budget is not a big one, but there are lots of budget items with no funds allocated.
6. The representative for ODG/GE stated that the proposal is an excellent example of a good approach, with the involvement of the Gender Focal Point from Bangkok early in the discussions. The gender perspective is taken into account throughout the whole publication. Therefore ODG/GE supports the proposal.

**Estimated Media Impact: 5**

**Approved for web and print**