



UNESCO Publications Board

Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 24 October 2012

Meeting time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Room 5.021, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

Call to order

The Chair, ADG/ERI, called the meeting to order at 10:05 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 David Atchoarena, Director, ED/THE

Mr Qunli Han, Director, SC/EO

Ms Angela Melo, Director, SHS/HPD

Ms Jennifer Pearson, Director, ADM/CLD/DIR

Ms Lynne Patchett, Chief, CLT/EO

Mr Cvetan Cvetkovski, Senior Planning and Programme Officer, ODG/GE [rep. Ms Saniye Gülser Corat, Director, ODG/GE]

Ms Krishanthi Rondon Fuentes, Chief, CI/EO [rep. Mr Indrajit Banerjee, Director, CI/KSD]

Ms Estelle Zadra, Chief, Communication & Publications Unit, IIEP [rep. Mr Khalil Mahshi, Director, IIEP]

Ex officio Members

Ms Ranwa Safadi, BSP/PB

Secretary

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

Observers

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

Ms Patricia Toigo, ED/ERF/KMS

Ms Anne Candau, SC/EO/IKM

Ms Natalia Tolochko, SC/EO/IKM

Mr Rudi Swinnen, Chief/ADM/CLD/D

Ms Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg, CI/KSD

Ms Natalia Denissova, CI/EO/IKM

Ms Mimouna Abderrahmane, SHS/EO

Ms Cristina Puerta, ERI/DPI/PUB

Mr Eric Froge, ERI/DPI/PUB

Minutes Secretary

Ms Jinchai Clarke, ERI/DPI/PUB

I. Item 1. Approval of minutes

1. The Board approved the minutes of the 25 September meeting.

II. Item 2. Policy issues – “Paper Smart” policy

The representative for ADM, Director, ADM/CLD/DIR, explained to the Board members the “Paper Smart” policy that was included in the recommendations made by the working group of the Administrative Reform Initiative for “Transforming Administration and Strengthening Client Orientation” (TASCO) and that has been approved by the Director-General.

- The working group TASCO was set up in early summer this year. Its task was to look at how to improve service delivery at a reduced cost within MSS in the areas of: information materials (translation, production and printing), travel management, procurement of common goods and services, organization of meetings and conferences including interpretation, and management of premises and overheads.
- The “Paper Smart” policy, which is related to information materials, aims to stop both internal paper distribution and external paper distribution.
- The Director-General has signed off all the recommendations made by TASCO, including the end of paper distribution both internally and externally.
- The recommendations were discussed at the PMC meeting. A number of colleagues expressed concern and disagreement, especially regarding the stopping of external paper distribution. It was suggested at the PMC meeting that the Publications Board should be consulted for comments and opinion.

Comments from the Board:

1. The ex-officio member for BSP expressed surprise that the recommendations went through without much consultation and explanation:

- “Paper Smart” needs to be backed up by good and reliable IT infrastructure and support system which are lacking currently. For example, not everybody at UNESCO has a laptop; even those who have one sometimes have problems in accessing documents when needed, such as the problems experienced during the 190th session of the Executive Board recently.
- Also, not everybody in the world has access to a PC.

2. The representative for IIEP expressed concern that although IIEP was mentioned in TASCO’s recommendations, IIEP had not been consulted:

- IIEP has taken various measures to reduce printing and distribution in paper.
- IIEP would like to share its experience with the rest of the Organization and to know more about the policy of “Paper Smart”.

3. An observer from the ED Sector asked if “No Paper Distribution” would mean that there will be no printing of publications.

4. The member for ADM replied that in principle “No Paper Distribution” would mean “No Printing”.

5. The member for ED Sector commented that since the establishment of the Publications Board, colleagues have been constantly advised and encouraged to reduce printing. But, “No Printing” is a too extreme position.

6. The member for SHS Sector concurred with the comments made by the member for ED Sector.

7. The representative for CI Sector commented that during the PMC meeting people already said that compliance to no printing at one hundred per cent was not possible, and that it would be necessary to set up a committee to provide colleagues with concrete guidelines. Colleagues cannot be expected to implement the policy on their own without any help.

8. The Secretary to the Board expressed full agreement with the comments made by members and representatives to the Board:

- The position of “No Paper means No Printing” is an extreme position that we cannot support. Representatives to the Board will see later from one of the submissions that sometimes print versions are absolutely necessary.
- So far, the general idea has been that printed publications are good for publicity. For the future, what we need is to know where printed publications are necessary and where E-versions are sufficient. Clear guidelines should be elaborated.

9. The member for SC Sector echoed the concern that many people in emerging countries still do not have access to a PC, mentioning that there should be a clear definition for “Paper Smart”.

10. The representative for ODG/GE suggested that “Paper Smart” should be a selected process according to the audience and that the measure should not jeopardize UNESCO publications.

11. At the invitation of the Chair, the member for ADM responded:

- It is true that we cannot envisage “Paper Smart” without an E-distribution strategy so that we know how to reach our target audience.
- It is certain that for certain part of the world or for certain reasons, printing will still be necessary.
- Regarding the comments from IIEP, what happened was that MSS was asked to carry out an inventory which included IIEP as part of the work of TASCOS, because there were a lot of printed resources at IIEP that could be centralized. IIEP’s printing activities are based on a print-on-demand process that could also be shared with the others in the Organization.
- A year ago, the Director-General asked us all to take measures to reduce publications by 50% and to stop “wasteful printing”, and MSS is finalizing a modification in DMS whereby all printing jobs will have to be validated by the Executive Office.
- The Director-General has signed off the TASCOS recommendations. But this does not prevent the Publications Board from making comments and further recommendations.

12. The Chair summarized the discussions:

- The Chair agrees with the comments made by members and representatives, i.e. “Paper Smart” should not mean “No Printing”. Instead, “Paper Smart” should mean “Paper Less”.
- It looks like there has been a disconnection between TASCOS and this Board as well as those who are directly concerned, which is unfortunately often the situation when a new initiative is being introduced.

- On the other hand, although it is true that many people in the world still do not have access to technology, the majority of those who need to access UNESCO publications do have access to technology.
- We cannot and should not stop printing. But, we should try to print even less. Many people already begin to work in this way.
- Since PMC asked that this Board be consulted, MSS should circulate the full TASCOC recommendations as well as the conditions for the recommendations to the Board members so that more feedback could be given back to MSS.

13. Summary of Publications Board comments on the “Paper Smart” Policy:

- The TASCOC team should have undertaken wider consultations with colleagues before making its recommendations to the Director-General.
- The implementation of the “Paper Smart” policy needs to be backed up by reliable IT infrastructure and support system as well as an E-distribution strategy.
- The position of “no paper means no printing” is an extreme position that the Board does not support.
- Instead of “no printing”, “Paper Smart” should mean “print less” because sometimes print versions are still very necessary.
- MSS should circulate the full TASCOC recommendations as well as the conditions for the recommendations to Board members so that further feedback could be given back to MSS.

III. Item 3. Review of publication proposals

Seventeen proposals were presented to the Board, three of which had been revised and resubmitted following decisions from the meeting of the Publications Board on 25 September. One proposal (*No 13. 1012_SC05 Simposio Científico Académico Delta del Paraná. HISTORIA, PRESENTE Y FUTURO*) was withdrawn because gender equality review had not been completed on time; another proposal (*No 5. 1012_SC03 International Glossary of Hydrology, 3rd Edition*) was considered not relevant for the Board because it was an update of an on-line glossary with the WMO. The Board approved ten proposals, including the resubmissions, with five returned for reconsideration, review and resubmission.

IV. Item 3. A.O.B.

The next meeting of the Publications Board will be held on Wednesday 28 November 2012.

V. Adjournment

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

Annex 1 – Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes of the 25 September 2012 meeting
2. Policy issues
3. Review of publication proposals
4. A.O.B.

Annex 2 – Overview of proposals reviewed

	<i>Proposal No.</i>	<i>Series</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Estimated media impact</i>
1.	1012_ED09		(Resubmission 0912_ED01) The Implications of the Global Financial Crisis on Primary Schools, Teachers and Households in 12 Countries	Approved	9
2.	1012_SC02		(Resubmission 0912_SC01) Education for Sustainable Development in MAB Biosphere Reserves and other Designated Areas - A Resource Book for Educators in South-Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean	Approved	2
3.	1012_ED08	EFA Global Monitoring Report	(Resubmission 0912_ED02) (tentative - will be revised) Youth, Skills and Work, putting education to work. Youth version of the EFA Global Monitoring Report 2012	Approved	10
4.	1012_CI01		Worldwide multilingual information literacy resources	Revise and resubmit	
5.	1012_SC03		International Glossary of Hydrology, 3rd Edition	Not relevant for Board	
6.	1012_ED03		Desafios e perspectivas da educação superior brasileira para a próxima década 2011-2020	Approved	3
7.	1012_ED04		Educação e desenvolvimento humano (provisional title)	Revise and resubmit	
8.	1012_ED05		Currículo integrado para o Ensino Médio: das diretrizes às transformações das práticas	Revise and resubmit	
9.	1012_SC01		Integrated Environmental Assessment of Agricultural and Farming Production Systems in the Toledo River Basin (Brazil)	Revise and resubmit	
10.	1012_SC04		Climate Change and Human Impacts on the Sustainability of Groundwater Resources: Two Case Studies in Brazil.	Revise and resubmit	

11.	1012_CI02	It is a second report, the first report was published by UNESCO and EURid in 2011	World Report on International Domain Names (IDNs) deployment, 2012	Approved	8
12.	1012_ED06		Global Perspectives on Holocaust Education	Approved	9
13.	1012_SC05		Simposio Científico Académico Delta del Paraná. HISTORIA, PRESENTE Y FUTURO	Withdrawn	
14.	1012_ED01		Sexuality Education Curricula in East and Southern Africa: Results of a Ten-Country Review	Approved	7
15.	1012_ED02		Caja de Herramientas en Educación para la Paz (Toolkit on Peace Education)	Approved	8
16.	1012_CI03		Model Curriculum for Journalism Education: A Compendium of New Syllabi	Approved	5
17.	1012_ED07		The International Mobility of Students in Asia and the Pacific	Approved	7