



UNESCO Publications Board

Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 14 March 2013

Meeting time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Room 4.021, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

Call to order

The Chair, ADG/ERI, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.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 Indrajit Banerjee, Director, CI/KSD

Ms Anne Candau, Publications Officer, SC [*rep. Mr Qunli Han, Director, SC/EO*]

Ms Lynne Patchett, Chief, CLT/EO

Ms Jennifer Pearson, Director, MSS/CLD

Mr Axel Plathe, Head of Kathmandu Office & UNESCO Rep. to Nepal, Member for Field Offices [*attending via teleconference*]

Ms Patricia Toigo, Publications Officer, ED [*rep. Mr D. Atchoarena, Director ED/PDE*]

Ex officio Members

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

Ms Ranwa Safadi, BSP/PB

Secretary

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

Observers

Mr Christopher Castle, Chief, ED/PSD/HIV

Ms Jinchai Clarke, ERI/DPI/PBM

Ms Catherine Domain, ED/ERF/KMS

Mr Neil Ford, Director, ERI/DPI

Mr Alton Grizzle, CI/FEM/MAS

Ms Cristina Puerta, ERI/DPI/PBM

Ms Natalia Tolochko, Assistant Publications Officer, SC

Minutes Secretary

Ms Isabelle Nonain-Semelin, ERI/DPI/PBM

I. Item 1. Approval of minutes

The Chair, ADG/ERI approved the minutes of the 13 February meeting.

II. Item 2. Show and tell – Success stories

1. As agreed during the Publications Board meeting of 28 November 2012, a “Show and tell” presentation took place at the end of the meeting. Only one publication from ED was presented. However, the Member for CI circulated copies of *UNESCO Global Report – Opening New Avenues for Empowerment*.
2. The publication presented by ED was entitled *Education Sector responses to Homophobic Bullying*. The presentation was introduced by ED’s Publications Officer who explained the reason behind this choice.
 - The sector did not choose to present the flagship publication *Education for All Global Monitoring Report*, but rather this publication which falls within the category of “guidelines on policies and practices”. Indeed, this type of publications is often submitted by ED to the Board for approval.
 - In addition, this publication was produced by the HIV, AIDS & Health Education Unit, which is very dynamic in terms of publications and who submitted or will submit quite a number of proposals for approval.
 - The follow-up on this publication is interesting as it got an estimated media impact of 9 when it was approved by the Board on 4 April 2012.
3. The publication, its development process and impact were presented by the Chief of the HIV and Health Education Section:
 - This publication is the eighth booklet of an existing series entitled *Good Policy and Practice in HIV and Health Education*.
 - The topic of homophobic bullying in educational institutions was addressed because it affects learners regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, thus infringing upon their right to a high-quality education.
 - The choice was also justified by the fact that UNESCO has extensive expertise in education and is the leading UN agency in charge of Education for All (EFA).
 - Moreover, this issue had been mentioned by the UN Secretary-General on 8 December 2011 when he stated that homophobic bullying of young people “constitutes a moral outrage, a grave violation of human rights and a public health crisis”, and it has also been addressed by US Secretary of State, Ms Hillary Clinton.
 - The findings of the first UN’s international consultation on this issue organized by UNESCO in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 5-9 December 2011 were used to produce this publication. It was elaborated through a consultative process, involving stakeholders. It was internally and externally peer-reviewed by experts and end-users.
 - The publication targets policy-makers, planners, managers working in the education sector, and also school governing bodies, administrators, teachers, educators, advocates etc.
 - This booklet presents evidence on the nature and extent of homophobic bullying in educational institutions, examples of global best practice with regard to policy frameworks or interventions, and it provides practical tools which aim at preventing homophobic bullying in educational institutions.
 - As for what contributed to the success of this publication, aside from the context presented above:
 - A communication plan was developed with media partners; networks and social media were used.

- The launch date had been chosen carefully and set on the eve of the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHO Day) in May 2012.
 - IDAHO Committee and UNESCO developed an online companion lesson plan to deal with homophobia in the classroom.
 - Over 200 documents and videos were placed on UNESCO's HIV and AIDS Clearinghouse.
 - The publication generated a lot of interest and support from Delegations: the US Delegation strongly supported the launch to which the US government participated; the Delegations of Norway and Sweden sent letters of appreciation after the launch; the Dutch Delegation – supported by Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Norway and the USA - suggested that a funding proposal for the follow-up be submitted.
 - As a result of all this, UNESCO is seen as the leader in the field and is invited to participate in international conferences, and is quoted in policy briefs, which further increases the visibility of the publication.
- In terms of impact:
 - There are numerous requests for other language versions (Russian, Italian; also a Korean version, for which the preface should be signed by the DG etc.) and not just in developing countries.
 - 1,000 print copies were distributed from UNESCO.
 - It was distributed electronically to 2,300 persons on the UNESCO newsletter list;
 - There were more than 1,500 page views (each visitor spending 2.5 more times than what is usually spent on other UNESCO pages).
 - The publication has been forwarded by partners to their networks and has been presented at several international conferences (Slovenia, South Africa, and Ireland).
 - Chief of HIV and Health Education Section commented that support in communication was not received as much as expected despite the fact that a media impact of nine was awarded to the proposal by the Publications Board.
4. The Chair commended the sector on this presentation and told the Secretary that it should be showcased, for example to National Commissions, as appropriate. In particular, this presentation could be featured in a meeting with National Commissions during the next session of the Executive Board. The Chair had specifically requested a focus on youth during the forthcoming session of the Executive Board and this presentation could be integrated in this module.
 5. The Chair underlined that the title may lead to confusion when read by someone from UNESCO. Indeed, one might think that "Education Sector" in the title refers to the programme sector. Of course, readers or users from outside of UNESCO would not have the same interpretation.
 6. It was also noted that the foreword could have been signed by the DG, which would have given it a stronger impact.

As it is, the foreword has been signed by ADG/ED. The Chair highlighted that academic titles should not be used next to names (e.g., Dr, PhD etc.), as was the case in this foreword. The Secretary of the Board commented that there are no guidelines on this subject currently.

- In the same spirit, ED's Publications Officer pointed out that it had been decided by ADG/ED that staff names will no longer be mentioned in forewords until a clear policy is established in this regard.
 - The Chair expressed the view that UNESCO staff members' names can be mentioned in the acknowledgements of publications.
 - The representative for ODG/GE noted that the HR Manual includes a staff rule regulating property rights in work performed (i.e., Staff rule 101.9) and offered to draft a document regarding authorship by UNESCO staff members.
7. The Chair underlined that, in the future, such publications could benefit from more money being assigned for the layout and enquired as to other forthcoming titles in the series.
- The sector confirmed that a proposal would be submitted and will involve a partnership with Procter and Gamble (in particular, it will cover the topic of menstruation as many girls are not even prepared for/made aware of this).
8. The Chief of the HIV and Health Education Section stated that the Section would discontinue inserting return questionnaires in its publications due to lack of response.
- The Member for BSP wanted to know how their impact would be evaluated and the sector replied that it could be done, for example, during workshops. The Member for BSP underlined that feedback from other UN agencies could be useful.
9. The Secretary pointed out that the different language versions are currently not "tracked down", i.e. they have not been published after publishing agreements have been established.
10. In response to the question of the representative for SC, the sector explained that this publication had been financed by extra-budgetary funds.

III. Item 3. Review of publications proposals

Five proposals were presented to the Board, three of which had been revised and resubmitted following decisions from the meeting of the Publications Board on 23 January and 13 February. The Board approved four proposals, including the three resubmissions, with one proposal returned for reconsideration, review and resubmission.

Over the course of the discussions, the following general points were made:

1. With the forthcoming sessions of the Executive Board and of the General Conference, the Chair asked whether the sectors were anticipating any "last minute publications". He expressly requested that proposals expected to be published for the General Conference be submitted during the next meeting of the Publications Board in April.
 - The Member for CI mentioned a report on knowledge society, the last one dating back to 2005. A proposal will be submitted before the General Conference.
 - The Member for CLT said that no such publication was foreseen.
 - The representative for ED stated that there might be the fifth issue of the Education Research and Foresight Occasional Paper Series.

In response to the question of the Chair who asked why this publication had not been submitted during the present meeting of the Board, the Sector replied that this proposal would have to be first presented to ED's Publications Committee.

- The representative for SC said that she did not think that any last-minute proposal would be submitted.
- The Member for Field Offices asked how he should proceed with regard to any potential last-minute projects from Field Offices. The Chair stated that projects from Field Offices should go through sectors, but pointed out that colleagues in Field Offices should be alerted about this requirement. In addition, the Member for Field Offices should work with the Director of the Bureau of Field Coordination.

IV. Item 4. Any other business and adjournment

- i. The next meeting of the Publications Board will be held in April (date to be confirmed).
- ii. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Isabelle Nonain-Semelin, ERI/DPI/PUB

Annex 1 – Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes of the 13 February 2013 meeting
2. Show and tell - Success stories
3. Review of publication proposals
4. Any other business and adjournment

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.	0313_ED01		(RESUBMISSION 0213_ED04) Learning for Safety and Resilience - How to integrate disaster risk reduction in school curricula	Approved	6
2.	0313_SC01	SUMAMAD Publications	(RESUBMISSION 0213_SC01) Innovative ways for a sustainable use of drylands. Final Report of the SUMAMAD Project	Approved	3
3.	0313_ED02		(Resubmission 0113_ED01, Resubmission 1212_ED02) Re- Viewing learning, work and livelihood in Australia (Tentative title)	Approved	4

4.	0313_CI01	Media and Information Literacy Policy and Strategy Guidelines: Enabling Intellectual Dialogue, Equality, Peace and Sustainable Development	Revise and resubmit	
5	0313_ERI01	UNESCO Annual Report 2012	Approved	2
