



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Congress of the UNESCO Clubs Movement of the Latin American and Caribbean Region

(Panamá City, Panamá, 22 – 23 June 2008)

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Beyond government boundaries, key actors of civil society, the Associations, Centres and Clubs for UNESCO attest to the necessity, beyond the governments, to associate all citizens in a concrete manner with the construction of a durable peace.

The Movement of Clubs for UNESCO developed spontaneously in Sendai (Japan) in 1947, immediately after the creation of the Organization. Today, some 3700 Clubs **for UNESCO in more than 100 countries** privilege the action in the field to contribute to the dissemination of UNESCO's principles and objectives, giving visibility to the values defended by the Organization in local communities.

Witness of the enthusiasm and idealism of UNESCO's founders, these groups of volunteers serving UNESCO's ideals have remained the "original allies" and have proved in the course of time to be very valuable partners. They constitute for UNESCO a gateway towards the population in all the regions worldwide; they act on global problems at the local level, hence contributing to the rise of global citizenship for a choice of society model.

Within the framework of the UNESCO 2008-2013 Medium Term Strategy underlining the necessity to forge a stronger partnership with all constituents of the civil society, ERC/PTS wishes to organize, in cooperation with the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO, a Congress of the UNESCO Clubs Movement of the Latin American and Caribbean Region, in Panamá, on 22 and 23 June 2008. This Congress is a follow-up to the outcomes of the 1st and 2nd Ad hoc meetings of the Movement in this region and is a response to the will expressed by the UNESCO Clubs members to establish a regional federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

The participants will be the representatives of Clubs for UNESCO of the region. They will meet for two days to analyse the ways and means of enhancing cooperation between UNESCO and the Clubs in order to create the Federation of Associations, Centres and Clubs of the Latin American and Caribbean Region.

The Congress will address in particular the possible actions of Clubs for UNESCO in the following fields:

1. Strengthen the partnership between UNESCO and Clubs for UNESCO in the Latin America and Caribbean region
2. Support Education for All
3. Promote culture of peace and cultural diversity
4. Sensitize youth to the promotion of human rights and democracy
5. To act for environmental protection

Representatives of Field Offices of the Latin America and Caribbean region will be invited to chair the working sessions.

Sunday 22 June 2008

- 09.00 – 10.00 am **Opening ceremony**
- Mr Ahmed Sayyad, Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Cooperation of UNESCO and Representative of the Director-General of UNESCO
 - Mr Belgis Castro-Jaén, President of the Panama Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO
 - Mr George Christophides, President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
- 10.00 – 10.15 am **Election of the Board : President, two Vice-Presidents, Rapporteur**
- 10.15 - 10.45 am **Break**
- 10.45 – 11.45 am **First working session: *The ways and means of partnerships with Clubs for UNESCO***
- UNESCO (Sector for External Relations and Cooperation)
Debate
- Today, UNESCO wishes to strengthen its partnership with Clubs for UNESCO of the Latin America and Caribbean region, by associating them more closely to the Organization's action. This first working session will be dedicated to the methods of cooperation between UNESCO and the Clubs.
- 11.45 – 1pm **Second working session: *The challenges of Education for all***
- UNESCO (Education Sector)
Debate
- This second working session will be devoted to a short presentation of the **six EFA goals** adopted by the Dakar Forum (2000) and re-affirmed by world leaders at the United Nations Summit in New York in September 2005. As EFA is addressed basically at national level, the meeting provides the occasion to sensitize civil society to the EFA challenges on the basis of best practices in different countries. UNESCO will present an overview of achievements and challenges of mobilizing resources and aid efficiency, strengthening partnership on the national level and UNESCO's role and future strategy related to EFA.
- 1 pm – 3 pm **Lunch**
- 3 pm – 4.30 pm **Third working session : *Youth, human rights and democracy advocates***
- UNESCO (Social and Human Sciences Sectors)
Debate
- UNESCO's youth policy is based on the firm conviction that young people play a key role in shaping the present and future of our societies. UNESCO endeavours to mobilize the potential of young people as equal and valuable partners for the implementation of its programmes and policies, notably by their participation in its action for the promotion of human rights and democracy.
- In this regard, UNESCO has adopted two strategies, one on human rights and the other entitled "**Integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**". This working session will be an occasion to sensitize young representatives of Clubs to the objectives of both above-mentioned strategies and their possible action on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights and the International Year for Human Rights.

4 pm – 5 pm

Fourth working session: *Culture of peace and cultural diversity*

- UNESCO (Bureau of Strategic Planning and Culture Sector)

Debate

Cultural diversity and the culture of peace have been at the core of UNESCO's preoccupations since its creation more than sixty years ago. The adoption of UNESCO's Universal Declaration on cultural diversity (2001) and the Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions (2005) confirmed the Organization's commitment with the "fruitful cultural diversity" in the spirit of open dialogue taking into account the risks of homogenization and retreat of identity as a consequence of globalization.

Furthermore, by proclaiming the year 2000 "International Year of the Culture of Peace" the United Nations defined the culture of peace as a set of values, attitudes, behaviours and lifestyles rejecting violence and preventing conflicts by dialogue and negotiation among individuals, groups and States worldwide. The contribution of civil society actors such as Clubs for UNESCO, based on the Declaration and UN Action Programme, should be strengthened with a view of setting a World Movement for a Culture of Peace.

5 pm- 5.30 pm

Break

5.30 pm-6.30 pm

Fifth Working Session: Environmental Protection

- UNESCO (Natural Sciences Sector)

Debate

Within the framework of the International Year celebrated in 2008 by the whole of the international community, UNESCO seeks to give more visibility and clarity to the ethic, human and social dimensions of sustainable development, environment and education. This working session will be an occasion to show UNESCO's multidisciplinary approach and long standing know-how in a large scope of fields ranging from ecology to Earth sciences, renewable energy, protection of biodiversity and cultural diversity, from ethics to education for sustainable development.

UNESCO has continuously refined its expertise by various rapports and papers of worldwide impact and has become a renowned international organization. Thanks to this process of maturing, its essential function has become most pertinent on a long-term basis, in particular in the context of climate change where education for sustainable development plays a crucial role.

Monday 23 June 2008

9.00 – 10.30 am

Sixth Working Session: Elaboration of the strategy and action plan of the Federation of Clubs for UNESCO of the Latin American and Caribbean region

(based on the results of the working sessions)

Debate

10.30 – 11.00 am

Break

11.00 – 1 pm

Seventh Working Session :

- Reading and approval of the strategy and action plan of the Federation of Clubs for UNESCO of the Latin American and Caribbean region
- Reading and approval of the statutes of the Federation of Clubs for UNESCO of the Latin American and Caribbean region

1 pm – 3 pm

Lunch

3.30 pm – 4.30 pm

Eighth Working Session: Election of the Executive Board of the Federation of Clubs for UNESCO of the Latin American and Caribbean region

4.30 pm- 5 pm

Reading and Approval of the Report of the Congress

Closure Ceremony

- Mr Ahmed Sayyad, Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Cooperation of UNESCO and Representative of the Director-General of UNESCO
- Mr Belgis Castro-Jaén, President of the Panama Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO
- Mr George Christophides, President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
- The President of the Federation of Clubs for UNESCO of the Latin American and Caribbean region

5 pm

Press conference

6 pm

Cocktail offered by Mr Ahmed Sayyad, Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Cooperation and the Representative of the Director-General of UNESCO