

**Hundred and sixty-third Session**

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**INVITATIONS TO THE EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS  
OF EDUCATION OF AFRICAN MEMBER STATES (MINEDAF VIII)**

**SUMMARY**

In application of the Regulations of the general classification of the various categories of meetings convened by UNESCO and in accordance with the draft resolution contained in paragraph 16(iii) of the draft report of Commission II (31 C/62), the Director-General submits to the Board proposals concerning invitations to the eighth Conference of Ministers of Education of African Member States to be held from 2 to 6 December 2002 in Mauritius and suggests that the Board takes, with respect to these proposals, a decision authorizing the convening of this Conference.

**Decision required:** paragraph 12.

## Introduction

1. Subject to the adoption by the General Conference at its 31st session of a resolution authorizing the convening of the eighth Conference of Ministers of Education of African Member States, the Director-General submits to the Executive Board proposals concerning invitations to the Conference.

## Purpose of the Conference

2. In accordance with the main line of action of paragraph 01112 of the Organization's Draft Programme and Budget for 2002-2003 (31 C/5), the Conference will, among other things, contribute to the achievement of the objective of mobilization of world opinion, decision-makers and the international community in favour of the promotion of education for all. MINEDAF VIII will of course also discuss the priorities and modalities of regional and international cooperation in the field of education.

3. The Conference will be organized in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in December 2002 in Mauritius.

## Category of the Conference

4. Under the Regulations for the general classification of various categories of meetings convened by UNESCO, this Conference will fall within the category of "Intergovernmental meetings other than international conferences of States" (category II) and consequently the chief participants at the Conference will be representing their governments.

## Participants

5. In conformity with the provisions of the above-mentioned Regulations applicable to meetings of category II, it is for the Executive Board, on the Director-General's proposal, to decide on the invitations to the Conference.

### (a) Member States (Articles 21.1 and 21.2 of the Regulations)

6. In conformity with the decision of the General Conference concerning the definition of regions with a view to the execution by the Organization of regional activities, the Director-General proposes that the following Member States be invited to participate in the Conference, with the right to vote:

Algeria	Djibouti
Angola	Egypt
Benin	Equatorial Guinea
Botswana	Eritrea
Burkina Faso	Ethiopia
Burundi	Gabon
Cameroon	Gambia
Cape Verde	Ghana
Central African Republic	Guinea
Chad	Guinea-Bissau
Comoros	Kenya
Congo	Lesotho
Côte d'Ivoire	Liberia
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Madagascar	Seychelles
Malawi	Sierra Leone
Mali	Somalia
Mauritania	South Africa
Mauritius	Sudan
Morocco	Swaziland
Mozambique	Togo
Namibia	Tunisia
Niger	Uganda
Nigeria	United Republic of Tanzania
Rwanda	Zambia
Sao Tome and Principe	Zimbabwe
Senegal	

Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO not invited as participants with the right to vote may, under Article 21.2 of the Regulations, send observers to the Conference.

**(b) Non-Member States (Article 21.3 of the Regulations)**

7. Furthermore, the Director-General proposes that the Holy See be invited to send observers to the Conference.

**(c) International organizations (Articles 21.4 and 21.5 of the Regulations)**

8. The Director-General recalls that, under Article 21.4 of the Regulations, the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements may send representatives to the Conference. These are:

United Nations:

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations University (UNU)
- United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

9. Pursuant to Article 21.5 of the Regulations, the Director-General proposes that the following organizations be invited to send observers to the Conference:

**(i) Organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded mutual representation agreements**

International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)  
World Bank

**(ii) Other intergovernmental organizations**

African Bureau of Educational Sciences (BASE)  
African Development Bank  
Intergovernmental Agency of the Francophonie  
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa  
Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)  
Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND)  
Central African Customs and Economic Union  
Commonwealth Secretariat  
Conference of Ministers of Education of French-Speaking Countries (CONFEMEN)  
Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries  
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)  
Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)  
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)  
Organization of African Unity (OAU)  
Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)  
Regional Council for Adult Education and Literacy in Africa  
Supreme Council for Sports in Africa  
West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

**(iii) Non-governmental organizations maintaining formal or operational relations with the Organization in accordance with the Directives adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 28th session in 1995 (28 C/Resolution 13.42), and having expertise relevant to the theme of the Conference**

Associated Country Women of the World  
Association of African Universities  
Association of Arab Universities  
Association of Commonwealth Universities  
Catholic International Education Office  
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches  
Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa  
Forum for African Women Educationalists  
International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement  
International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience  
International Association of Educators for World Peace  
International Association of University Professors and Lecturers  
International Catholic Child Bureau  
International Catholic Girls' Society  
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions  
International Congress of University Adult Education  
International Council for Adult Education  
International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication  
International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies  
International Council for Science  
International Council of Associations for Science Education

International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education  
International Council of Women  
International Council on Education for Teaching  
International Economic Association  
International Federation for Parent Education  
International Federation of Journalists  
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions  
International Federation of the Periodical Press  
International Federation of Training Centres for the Promotion of Progressive Education  
International Institute for Peace  
International Institute of Communications  
International League for Child and Adult Education  
International Music Council  
International Peace Research Association  
International Planned Parenthood Federation  
International Publishers Association  
International Radio and Television University  
International Social Science Council  
International Statistical Institute  
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources – The World  
Conservation Union  
International Union for Health Promotion and Education  
International Union of Architects  
Mediacult - International Research Institute for Media, Communication and Cultural  
Development  
Pan African Association for Literacy and Adult Education  
Union of National Radio and Television Organizations of Africa  
United Schools International  
World Association for Educational Research  
World Association of Newspapers  
World Confederation of Labour  
World Confederation of Teachers  
World Council of Associations for Technology Education  
World Council of Comparative Education Societies  
World Education Fellowship  
World Family Organization  
World Federation of Teachers' Unions  
World Federation of Trade Unions  
World Futures Studies Federation  
World Leisure and Recreation Association  
World Organization for Early Childhood Education  
World Peace Council  
World Union of Catholic Teachers  
World University Service

**(iv) Non-governmental organizations having no official relations with UNESCO**

African Social and Environmental Studies Programme  
Association for Teacher Education in Africa  
International Co-operative Alliance  
Pan-African Youth Movement  
Pan-African Union for Science and Technology

International Association for Educational and Vocational Information  
 International Co-ordinating Committee for the Presentation of Science and  
 the Development of Out-of-School Scientific Activities  
 International Progress Organization  
 International Writers Guild  
 Socialist International Women  
 Women's International Democratic Federation  
 International Society for Educational Planning  
 International Union of Socialist Democratic Teachers

### **Institutions and foundations**

10. The Director-General further proposes that the following institutions and foundations be invited to designate observers:

Carnegie Corporation of New York  
 Commonwealth Foundation  
 Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation  
 Fondation de France  
 Fondation Léopold Sédar Senghor  
 Ford Foundation  
 Foundation for International Training (Canada)  
 Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
 Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian  
 Nuffield Foundation  
 Rockefeller Foundation

### **Other international organizations**

11. Inter-Parliamentary Union and International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC).

12. If the Executive Board approves the proposals contained in paragraphs 5 to 11, it may wish to consider a draft decision on the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling that the General Conference at its 31st session authorized the Director-General to convene the eighth Conference of Ministers of Education of African Member States,
2. Having examined the Director-General's proposals concerning invitations to this Conference,
3. Decides:
  - (a) that invitations to participate in the Conference with the right to vote shall be extended to the Member States of UNESCO listed in paragraph 6 of document 163 EX/2;
  - (b) that an invitation to send observers to the Conference shall be extended to the Holy See;

- (c) that invitations to be represented at the Conference or to send observers shall be extended to the organizations and foundations listed in paragraphs 8 to 11 of document 163 EX/2;
- (d) that the Director-General is authorized to issue any additional invitation that he may consider worth while to advance the work of the Conference and is invited to keep the Executive Board informed.