



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Executive Board

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# 178 EX/2

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## INVITATIONS TO THE 48th SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (ICE)

### SUMMARY

Pursuant to the “Regulations for the general classification of the various categories of meetings convened by UNESCO” and in accordance with the draft resolution contained in paragraph 14 of the draft report of the ED Commission (34 C/79 Prov.), the Director-General submits to the Board proposals concerning invitations to the 48th session of the International Conference on Education organized by the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE), to be held in Geneva from 25 to 28 November 2008 on the theme “Inclusive education: The way of the future.”

Decision proposed: paragraph 11.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Subject to the adoption by the General Conference at its 34th session of a resolution authorizing the convening of the 48th session of the International Conference on Education (ICE), the Director-General submits to the Executive Board proposals concerning invitations to the Conference, whose theme will be: "Inclusive education: The way of the future". The International Conference will be held in Geneva from 25 to 28 November 2008.

## **CATEGORY OF THE CONFERENCE**

2. Pursuant to the Regulations for the general classification of the various categories of meetings convened by UNESCO, this Conference falls within the category of "intergovernmental meetings other than international conferences of states" (category II) and the heads of delegation will therefore represent their governments.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

3. In accordance with the Regulations as they relate to category II meetings, invitations to the Conference are decided on by the Executive Board.

### **Member States and Associate Members (Art. 21.1 of the Regulations)**

4. Under Article 21, paragraph 1, the Executive Board, on the Director-General's proposal and subject to the regulations applicable, shall decide on the Member States and Associate Members whose governments are to be invited.

5. In accordance with the above-mentioned article, the Director-General proposes that all Member States and Associate Members be invited to participate, with the right to vote.

### **Non-Member States (Art. 21.3 of the Regulations)**

6. Under Article 21, paragraph 3, the Executive Board may designate non-Member States to be invited to send observers to the Conference. The Director-General proposes that States that are not members of UNESCO but are members of at least one of the organizations of the United Nations system be invited to send observers. At the time of preparation of this document those States were the following: Liechtenstein, Holy See and Singapore. In addition, the Director-General proposes that the Executive Board invite to the Conference, as observers, any States that become members of any of the organizations of the United Nations system before the opening of the Conference.

### **Palestine (Art. 7B of the Regulations)**

7. Under Article 7B, the Executive Board shall invite Palestine to send observers to the Conference.

### **International organizations (Arts. 21.4 and 21.5)**

(a) Organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements (Art. 21.4)

8. The Director-General reminds the Board that under Article 21, paragraph 4, the following organizations of the United Nations system, with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements, may send representatives to the Conference. Those organizations are the following:

*United Nations (UN)*

- Economic Commission for Africa (CEA)
- Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)
- United Nations University (UNU)
- United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)

*Specialized agencies*

- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

(b) Other international organizations (Art. 21.5)

9. Under Article 21, paragraph 5, the Board may decide that the following shall be invited to send observers to the meeting: (a) organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded mutual representation agreements; (b) other intergovernmental organizations; and (c) international non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the directives concerning UNESCO's relations with those organizations. The Executive Board has also decided on several occasions to invite to category II meetings institutions and foundations that may have an interest in sending observers to these meetings.

10. The Director-General proposes that the Executive Board invite the following organizations, foundations and institutions to send observers to the Conference:

- (i) Organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded an agreement providing for reciprocal representation
  - World Bank
  - International Monetary Fund (IMF)
  - World Trade Organization (WTO)
- (ii) Other intergovernmental organizations
  - Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie
  - Association of South-East Asian Nations

- Intergovernmental Authority on Development
  - African Development Bank
  - Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
  - Asian Development Bank
  - Central American Bank for Economic Integration
  - European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
  - Islamic Development Bank
  - Inter-American Development Bank
  - African Bureau of Educational Sciences
  - Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States
  - African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development
  - Arab Gulf States Information Documentation Centre
  - Eastern African Centre for Research on Oral Traditions and African National Languages
  - International Committee of the Red Cross
  - European Commission
  - Inter-American Commission of Women
  - Commonwealth of Learning
  - Commonwealth Secretariat
  - Commonwealth of Independent States
  - Conference of Ministers of Education of French-Speaking Countries
  - Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sport of French-Speaking Countries
  - Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf
  - Council of Europe
  - Council of the Baltic Sea States
  - Nordic Council
  - Regional Council for Adult Education and Literacy in Africa
  - Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination
  - Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences
  - Arab Federation for Technical Education
  - OPEC Fund for International Development
  - African Institute of Informatics
  - Latin American Institute for Educational Communication
  - League of Arab States
  - African Intellectual Property Organization
  - Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization
  - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
  - Organization of the Islamic Conference
  - Organization of American States
  - Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture
  - South-East Asian Ministers of Education Organization
  - International Organization for Migration
  - Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
  - African Union
  - Inter-Parliamentary Union
  - Latin Union
  - University for Peace
- (iii) International non-governmental organizations maintaining formal associate relations with UNESCO
- International Association of Universities
  - Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service
  - International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies

- International Council of Museums
  - World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
  - Education International
- (iv) International non-governmental organizations and networks having formal consultative relations with UNESCO
- Agency of Francophonie Universities
  - Amnesty International
  - Association of African Universities
  - Association of Arab Universities
  - European University Association
  - International Association for Educational Assessment
  - International Association of University Presidents
  - Association of Commonwealth Universities
  - Community of Mediterranean Universities
  - World Confederation of Teachers (has merged with Education International)
  - World Conference of Religions for Peace
  - African Council for Communication Education
  - International Council for Adult Education
  - International Council for Open and Distance Education
  - International Federation of University Women
  - International Federation of Human Rights
  - World Federation of Teachers' Unions
  - International Coordination Council of Educational Institutions Alumni
  - Catholic International Education Office
  - International Baccalaureate Organization
  - World Organization of the Scout Movement
  - Inter-American Organization for Higher Education
  - Union of Latin American Universities
  - International Publishers Association
  - European Academy of Arts, Sciences and Humanities
  - Club of Rome
  - Development Innovations and Networks (NGO maintaining operational relations)
  - Summer Institute of Linguistics (this NGO is now called "SIL International")
- (v) International non-governmental organizations and bodies maintaining operational relations with UNESCO
- Academia Europaea (in formal consultative relations since 2006)
  - International Alliance of Women
  - World Assembly of Youth
  - International Schools Association (in informal relations since 2007)
  - Association of South-East Asian Institutions of Higher Learning
  - Association of European Journalists
  - Association of Portuguese-Language Universities (in informal relations since 2007)
  - European Association for Education of Adults
  - Association francophone internationale des directeurs d'établissements scolaires
  - International Community Education Association (in informal relations since 2007)
  - International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance
  - International Association of Applied Linguistics
  - International School Psychology Association
  - International Association of Educators for World Peace (in informal relations since 2007)

- International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Association of University Professors and Lecturers
- International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement
- International Association for the Development of Cross-Cultural Communication (in informal relations since 2007)
- World Association for Educational Research
- World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace
- International Montessori Association
- Association for World Education (in informal relations since 2007)
- Ibero-American University Association for Postgraduate Studies (in informal relations since 2007)
- Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education
- European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages
- Caritas Internationalis
- European University Centre for Peace Studies
- United World Colleges (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (has merged and is now called “International Trade Union Confederation”)
- International Congress of University Adult Education (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Council on Education for Teaching
- International Council of Women
- International Council for Educational Media (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Council for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance
- World Council for Curriculum and Instruction (in informal relations since 2007)
- Council on International Educational Exchange
- African Federation of Associations of Parents of Pupils and Students
- Federation of Private Educative Associations of Latin America and the Caribbean (in informal relations since 2007)
- European Federation for Intercultural Learning (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Council of Associations for Science Education
- International Federation of Workers' Educational Associations
- United Schools International (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Federation of Training Centres for the Promotion of Progressive Education
- International Federation of Educative Communities (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Federation of East Central European Institutes
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- International Federation for Parent Education
- World Federation of Democratic Youth
- World Federation of United Nations Associations
- Forum for African Women Educationalists
- European Youth Forum
- International Institute for Peace
- International Association for Counselling
- International Federation of Non-Government Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Literacy Institute
- World Education Fellowship (in informal relations since 2007)
- International Movement ATD Fourth World
- International Organization for the Development of Freedom of Education
- World Family Organization

- Disabled People's International
  - World Organization for Early Childhood Education
  - African Social and Environmental Studies Programme (in informal relations since 2007)
  - South-North Network Cultures and Development (in informal relations since 2007)
  - WORLDDIDAC – World Association of Publishers, Manufacturers and Distributors of Educational Materials
  - Society for International Development
  - International Society for Education through Art
  - International Union for Health Promotion and Education
  - International Union of Students
  - World ORT Union
  - All-Africa Students Union
- (vi) International non-governmental organization whose status is currently under revision
- International Institute for Human Rights Studies (in informal relations since 2007)
- (vii) Foundations and other similar institutions
- World Association of Children's Friends (Monaco)
  - UNESCO Centre of Catalonia (Spain)
  - UNESCO Centre of the Basque Country (Spain) “UNESCO Centre Etxea Euskal Herria”
  - World Education (United States of America)
  - European Foundation Centre (Belgium) (this foundation is not in official relations with UNESCO)
  - European Cultural Foundation (Netherlands)
  - Léopold Sédar Senghor Foundation (Senegal)
  - Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights (Greece)
  - World Foundation for AIDS Research and Prevention (France)
  - Peace and Development Foundation (Senegal) (in informal relations since 2004)
  - Paul Gérin-Lajoie Foundation
  - Fondation pour l'enfance (France)
  - Foundation for UNESCO – Education for Children in Need
  - King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium)

11. In the light of the foregoing, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following draft decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 5 (II) and that the General Conference at its 34th session authorized the Director-General to convene the 48th session of the International Conference on Education,
2. Having examined document 178 EX/2,
3. Decides:
  - (a) that invitations to participate in the 48th session of the International Conference on Education with the right to vote will be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO;

- (b) that invitations to send observers to the Conference will be sent to the States mentioned in paragraph 6 of document 178 EX/2, which are not members of UNESCO but are members of another organization of the United Nations system, and to any other State that becomes a member of one of the organizations of the United Nations system before the opening date of the Conference;
  - (c) that an invitation to send observers to the Conference will be sent to Palestine, as mentioned in paragraph 7 of document 178 EX/2;
  - (d) that invitations to send representatives to the Conference will be sent to the organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements and which are listed in paragraph 8 of document 178 EX/2;
  - (e) that invitations to send observers to the Conference will be sent to the organizations, foundations and institutions listed in paragraph 10 of document 178 EX/2;
4. Authorizes the Director-General to send out any other invitations he may deem useful for advancing the work of the Conference, notifying the Executive Board thereof.