



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information

To the Secretaries-General
of the National Commissions for UNESCO

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Sir/Madam,

The summer is well over and all of us are focusing on important meetings in the life of institution, in particular the General Conference.

The project: "L'UNESCO ouverte/Open UNESCO"

I am happy to announce that from 25 October 2011 and throughout the 36th session of the General Conference, a general exhibition entitled "Open UNESCO/L'UNESCO ouverte" will be held in the Ségur Hall. This exhibition is a central element of our efforts to enhance the Organization's visibility. It will aim to attract new audiences to Headquarters, especially those who are not familiar with UNESCO in order to showcase our work across our action's areas.

State-of-the-art technical equipment will be used to communicate the Organization's present activities, mission and vision, while targeting future generations.

Furthermore "Open UNESCO/L'UNESCO ouverte" will be a permanent exhibition and will continue throughout the year to provide living accounts of UNESCO's activities across the world.

The seven cross-cutting themes of this public exhibition will be: UNESCO, an idea in action; crisis preparedness and response; sharing of knowledge; cultural diversity; one planet, one ocean; human rights, and peace and dialogue.

Review of UNESCO's cooperation with National Commissions

Regarding the review of UNESCO's cooperation with National Commissions, the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) has now analysed the data collected and begun to draw up its report.

A summary of the main preliminary findings will be submitted at the next session of the General Conference in an information document which will be accessible online at the beginning of October. According to IOS, the key elements of this document, with a view to improving cooperation, will be: a better definition of the role of the Commissions; a convergence of priorities and improved information sharing; and strengthening of the capacities and resources of the National Commissions.

World Teachers' Day 2011

As you may already know, on 5 October 2011, we will be celebrating World Teachers' Day, under the theme "Teachers for gender equality".

Prior to this event, several activities related to this theme will be held in Paris: an online forum from 12 to 23 September 2011 (in English, French and Spanish) and a forum on education policy at the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)

on 3 and 4 October 2011. This event will bring together teachers, representatives of governments, the private sector and partners such as the ILO, UNICEF, UNPD and Education International. Stands presenting publications and exhibitions will also be open to participants and the public.

Any activity aimed at paying tribute to teachers around the world during the Day is encouraged and I know that I can count on your participation in celebrating this important anniversary in your respective countries. For more information, please access the website dedicated to this important day at the following link: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/education-building-blocks/teacher-education/world-teachers-day>.

UNESCO Clubs Movement

As you may have noticed, interactions with the UNESCO Clubs Network have increased recently. The eighth World Congress of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA), took place in Hanoi, Viet Nam, from 18 to 23 August 2011. The event coincided with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the creation of WFUCA, and was attended by Mr Genc Seiti.

On that occasion, the Director-General addressed a message highlighting the role of young people within the Clubs Movement, particularly in the promotion of education and cultural heritage. These celebrations also provided the opportunity to organize a series of large-scale activities, attesting to the dynamism and vitality of the Movement for the promotion of UNESCO's action.

In the same vein, regional activities aiming to strengthen the network of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations are planned, with a meeting for the Arab States to be held in Mauritania (October 2011) and another for Africa in Cameroon (November 2011).

Forthcoming UNESCO publications

- *The publication of a multilingual edition (in English, French and German) of LHC (Large Hadron Collider) by the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO, the European Organization for Nuclear Research – European Laboratory for Particle Physics (CERN) and Lammerhuber publications.*

This book provides a lively account, based on high-quality photographs, of LHC, the largest and most powerful particle accelerator in the world. The interactive launch of this publication on particle physics will take place on the occasion of the Frankfurt Book Fair, to be held from 12 to 16 October 2011. An additional launch event is scheduled to take place during the 36th session of the General Conference.

- *The publication of the UNESCO ICT Competency Framework for Teachers in all the official languages of UNESCO and in Portuguese by the Communication and Information Sector, in October 2011.*

The purpose of the publication is to establish a global mechanism identifying the skills required for effective teaching with ICTs by focusing on all the aspects of the work of a teacher. It is intended for those responsible for formulating educational policies and teachers and will be launched at the 36th session of the General Conference.

- *The publication of Global Education Digest 2011: Comparing Education Statistics Across the World” in English, French, Spanish and Arabic by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS).*

The *Digest*, a flagship publication of UIS, is divided into two sections including the latest annual education statistics and an analytical chapter concerning some of the data, on the theme of the 2011 edition: "secondary education – the next major challenge". It is scheduled to be launched at the United Nations Headquarters (New York) in October 2011.

Appointment of Chairpersons and Secretaries-General of National Commissions for UNESCO (mid-August/mid-September 2011)

In Thailand, Mr Woravat Auapinyakul was appointed Chairperson, succeeding Mr Chinnaworn Boonyakiat.

In Mongolia, Mr Gundegmaa Jargalsaikhan was appointed Secretary-General, succeeding Mr Dorjbal Dalaijargal.

In Egypt, Dr Moataz Khorsheid was appointed Chairperson, succeeding Amr Ezzat Salama.

In Trinidad and Tobago, Dr Krishendaye Rampersad was appointed Chairperson, succeeding Mr Hart Edwards.

In Singapore, Mr Lawrence Wong was appointed Chairperson, succeeding Dr Ng Eng Hen.

In Algeria, Mr Noureddine Toualbi-Thaalibi was appointed Secretary-General, succeeding Mr Sidi-Mohamed Brahim Otsmane.

In the Netherlands, Mr Robert J. Quarles van Ufford was appointed Secretary-General, succeeding Ms Els M. Jacobs.

In the Cook Islands, Mr Teina Bishop was appointed Chairperson, succeeding Mr Jim Marurai, and Ms Sharyn Paio was appointed Secretary-General, succeeding Mr Sonny Williams.

I look forward to fruitful discussions between us at the General Conference.



Eric Falt