

Last update: 15 May 2013

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON JAMAICA / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** 7 November 1962.
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** No.
 - Previous terms: 2007-2009; 2001-2005; 1991-1995; 1981-1985; 1980-1981; 1974-1976; 1970-1976.
3. **Current Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions or Boards: 6**
 - Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (Term expires : 37th General Conference);
 - International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (Term expires : 37th General Conference);
 - Intergovernmental Council of the "Management of Social Transformations" Programme (Term expires : 37th General Conference);
 - Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (Term expires : 37th General Conference);
 - Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee, Vice-President : Ms Cheryl Brown;
 - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.
4. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - **Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Belgium and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO:** H.E. Ms Vilma Kathleen McNish presented her credentials on 9 July 2012. The Permanent Delegation of Jamaica to UNESCO is located in Brussels, Belgium.
 - **Previous Permanent Delegate:** Mrs. Marcia Gilbert-Roberts (2007-2011); Ms Ruby Evadne Coye (June to December 2006); Mr Edmond Reid: Minister Counsellor (based in Brussels).
5. **UNESCO Cluster Office in Kingston:**
 - Established in October 1989, following the request made by the Government of Jamaica and became Cluster by the DG/Note/01/08 of 27 April 2001.
 - **Cluster Office for:** Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.
6. **Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO:**
 - **Establishment:** February 1965 (semi governmental).
 - **Chairperson:** Hon. Lisa R. Hanna, Minister of Youth & Culture (since January 2012).
 - **Secretary-General:** Mr Everton Hannam, since October 2004.

- **Structure of the Commission:** the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, the Secretariat, 6 Advisory Committees and 5 Adhoc Committees. Full-time staff: 4 and 1 part-time.
- **UNESCO's contribution to the capacity building of the National Commission:**
 - Everton Hannam, Secretario General attended the Training Seminar for new officials of national commissions for UNESCO of Latin America, 05/2011, Quito Ecuador.
 - Dr. Maria Aileen Smith, Programme Manager, attended the Training Seminar for Caribbean National Commissions for UNESCO and cluster Meeting in Preparation for the 36th General Conference, 07/2011, Georgetown Guyana.
- **Participation in the DG's Consultations on C/4 and C/5:**
 - Mr Hannam, Everton, Secretary General attended the Director-General's Consultation with National Commissions for UNESCO of Latin America and Caribbean Region on the Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36/C5), 07/2010, Port of Spain Trinidad and Tobago.
 - Mr. Everton Hannam, Secretary-General - Ms Florette Blackwood, Director Ministry of Information and Culture attended the 14th Quadrennial Conference and Director-General's Consultation with National Commissions for UNESCO of Latin America and the Caribbean on the Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5), 06/2008, Panama City Panama.
 - Mr. Hannam Everton, Secretary-General attended the 15th Quadrennial Conference of National Commissions for UNESCO of Europe and North America and DG's Consultation with National Commissions of Europe and North America on the Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 (35 C/5), 05/2008, The Hague, Rotterdam and Antwerp, BENELUX.
 - Mr Everton Hannam, Secretary-General - Selected UNDAF country in 2008-2010 attended the Meeting of National Commissions for UNESCO from selected UNDAF and One UN pilot countries, 11/2008, Hanoi Viet Nam.
- **Activities:**
 - International Biodiversity Day Launch (12/05/2010)
 - World book and Copyright Day 2010 (23/04/2010)
 - Video Conference for International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Trade (26/03/2010).

7. UNESCO Clubs: 8

Mr Everton Hannam is the President of the Latin America and the Caribbean Federation (FLACACU), and the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO is the national coordinating body of the clubs.

The Jamaica National Federation's activities are related to the following areas: Communication, Information, Science, HIV/AIDS' prevention and its impact on youth, and Development of UNESCO Clubs in the Country.

8. Fellowships awarded to Jamaican nationals from 2000 to 2013: 16 for a total amount of US\$ 126,366.

9. Jamaican personalities in relation with UNESCO:

- Ms Veronica Campbell Brown, track and field sprint athlete, is UNESCO Champion for Sport.
- 10. UNESCO Chairs: 2**
- UNESCO-Commonwealth Regional Chair in Education and HIV/AIDS, established in 2004 at the University of the West Indies.
 - The Small Island States Universities Consortium on Capacity-Building to implement the Barbados Program of Action, established in 2006 at the University of the West Indies, Secretariat to the Consortium.
- 11. Associated Schools: 4** (1 nursery, 1 primary and 2 secondary schools).
- 12. Biosphere Reserves: none.**
- 13. World Heritage Sites: none.**
- 14. Tentative Sites: 3**
- Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (2006)
 - The Underwater City of Port Royal (2009)
 - Seville Heritage Park (2009)
- 15. Proclamation of the Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity: 1 proclamation in 2008:**
- **“The Maroon Heritage of Moore Town”.** Situated in the highlands of eastern Jamaica, Moore Town is home to the descendants of independent communities of former runaway slaves known as Maroons. The African ancestors of the Moore Town Maroons were forcibly removed from their native lands to the Caribbean by Spanish slave traders in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The term Maroon, derived from the Spanish word cimarrón (wild), refers to those slaves who fled the plantations in the early 1600s and established their own settlements in the Blue and Johncrow Mountains of eastern Jamaica. By the early eighteenth century, the Maroon communities controlled much of the eastern part of the island. In opposition to the expanding plantation system of the British, they formed well-organized and efficient underground military units. After decades of warfare, the British finally yielded to the communities’ demands for recognition of their autonomy by signing a treaty with the Maroons in 1739.
- 16. UNESCO's standard-setting instruments: 9 ratified and 26 not ratified.**
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (Paris, 2 November 2001): ratified on 09/08/2011.
 - Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Paris, 17 October 2003): ratified on 27/09/2010.
 - Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions: ratified on 04/05/2007.
 - International Convention against Doping in Sport: ratified on 02/08/2006.

- 17. Memory of the World Register: 2 inscriptions.**
- Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834.
 - Silver Men: West Indian Labourers at the Panama Canal.
- 18. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2012-2013:** none (no candidature submitted for 2014-2015).
- 19. Participation Program:**
- **2008-2009: 6** requests were approved for a total amount of **US\$ 118,000.**
 - **2010-2011: 5** requests were approved for a total amount of **US\$ 104,000.**
 - **2012-2013: 3** requests were approved for a total amount of **US\$ 65.0250**
- 20. UNESCO Coupons:** no participation.
- 21. Payment of assessed membership fees:**
- Assessment rate: 0.011 %.
 - Last payment: May 2013.
- 22. Representation within the Secretariat: 11,** Jamaica is in balance.
- Professional Staff in Geographical Posts: **3**
 - National Professional Officer in the Field: **1**
 - Local field staff: **7**
 - Minimum: 2, maximum: 4.