KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON SAUDI ARABIA / UNESCO COOPERATION

- 1. Membership in UNESCO: since 1946
- 2. Membership on the Executive Board: not currently (Saudi Arabia was elected to the Executive Board (2011-2013) and conceded the seat for Oman (2013-2015), which was not elected)

3. Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:

- Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (President: Mr Abdulaziz Al Swailem)
- Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Country of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation – Member (Term expires in 2019)
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Member
- Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (former UNESCO Institute for Education, UIE) Member: H.E. Faisal BIN ABDULRAHMAN BIN MUAAMMAR

4. Your visits to Saudi Arabia: 4

- 20-23 April 2012
- 11-12 December 2011
- 16-17 March 2010
- 16-19 March 2009

5. The former Director-General visits to Saudi Arabia: 1

- 28-30 April 2006
- 6. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO
- His Excellency Mr Ziad Aldrees is Ambassador, Permanent Delegate (since 21 April 2006)
- Staff: Mr Mansour Ghazali, Deputy Permanent Delegate

7. UNESCO Office in Doha

- Date of establishment: 1976, Doha (Qatar)
- Member States serviced: Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and Yemen
- Name of Head: Ms. Anna Paolini

8. National Commission for UNESCO:

- Date of establishment: since 1964
- Chairman: Dr. Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Issa (since January 2016)
- Secretary-General: Mr Ghormallah Al Ghamdi (Since December 2012)

9. Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities: 4

- UNESCO special envoy for water: His Royal Highness Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz, President of the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND).
- Goodwill Ambassador: H.E. Sheikh Ghassan Ibrahim Shaker, Diplomat and Businessman.
- H.E. Sheikh Mohamed Bin Issa Al-Jaber, Founder of the MBI Foundation, UNESCO Special Envoy for Education, Tolerance, and Cultures to build peace and democracy in the Middle East and UN Spokesperson for Global Forums on Reinventing Government.
- Dr Hayat Sindi: Goodwill Ambassador since 1st October 2012.

10. UNESCO Chairs: 1

• The UNESCO - His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz AL-SAOUD Chair in Health Education and Teacher Education

- 11. Associated schools: none
- 12. Category II Centres: none
- 13. Biosphere Reserves : none

14. World Heritage Sites: 4

- Al-Hijr Archeological Site (Mada'in Saleh) (2008)
- At-Turaif District in ad-Dir'ivah (2010)
- The Historic City of Jeddah, the Gate to Makkah (2014)
- Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia (2015)

15. Tentative list: 10

- Darb Zubayda (Pilgrim Road from Kufa to Makkah) (2015)
- Hejaz Railway (2015)
- Syrian Hajj Road (2015)
- Egyptian Hajj Road (2015)
- Al-Faw Pre-Islamic City in Central Arabia (Qariah) (2015)
- Rijal Almaa Heritage Village in Assir Region (2015)
- Zee Ain Heritage Village in Al-Baha Region (2015)
- Al-Ahsa Oasis Cultural Heritage Landscape (2015)
- Hima a rock art site in Najran (2015)
- Dûmat Al-Jandal Historical Oasis in Al-Jawf Region (2015)

16. Intangible Heritage lists: 4

- Falconry, a living human heritage (2012), jointly with United Arab Emirates, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Morocco, Qatar, Austria, Spain, and Syrian Arab Republic
- Arabic coffe, a symbol of generosity (2015)
- Majilis, a cultural and social space (2015)
- Alardah Alnajdiyah, dance, drumming and poetry in Saudi Arabia (2015)

17. Memory of the World Register: 1 inscription

- Earliest Islamic (Kufic) Inscription (2003)
- 18. Creative cities: none
- 19. Legal instruments: 14 ratified, 25 non-ratified
- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <u>ratified</u> on 10 January 2008
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: non-ratified
- International Convention against Doping in Sport: ratified 22 May 2008
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non-ratified

20. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2016-2017: none

21. Participation Programme:

- 2016-2017: Submission in August 2016.
- 2010-2011: 7 projects were submitted and none were approved.