



4th session of the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians for Education

FARPED IV

7 and 8 June 2010 – Beirut

DRAFT

*This Regional
Parliamentary Conference
aims to strengthen the
operational capacities of
the Forum of Arab
Parliamentarians for
Education and to establish
a Parliamentary Country
Profile on Education.*

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Within the framework of the implementation of a world partnership for development (Millennium Development Goal no. 8) and UNESCO's Medium- Term Strategy 2008-2013, stressing the need to reinforce the Organization's partnership with parliaments by associating them more closely with the implementation of its programmes; UNESCO's Sector for External Relations and Cooperation in cooperation with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (ABEGS) and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), is organizing the 4th Forum of Arab Parliamentarians for Education (FARPED IV) on 7 – 8 June 2010 in Beirut, Lebanon.

Objectives of FARPED IV

This regional meeting aims to further enhance the role of Parliamentarians in the field of education and to establish a Parliamentary Country Profile on Education for each Arab State. The FARPED IV will provide an occasion to analyze the ways and means of reinforcing UNESCO's cooperation with Parliamentarians, particularly to promote the Education for All (EFA) Goals via legislations and national budgets adopted.

The **participants** will be the Parliamentary Focal Points for UNESCO and the representatives of Parliamentary organizations from the Arab States.

Previous Sessions of the FARPED

*The **first Inter-parliamentary Conference of Arab States** was held in Cairo in November 2005: In conclusion of this conference, the participants adopted a Declaration, recommending the creation of the FARPED.*

***FARPED I** was successfully established in a Constitutive Assembly in Rabat, Morocco, in June 2007. This event is part of the international strategy of the implementation of the framework for Action in Dakar within the framework of the Education for All movement of which UNESCO is the lead agency.*

***FARPED II** was held in July 2008 in Beirut, aimed at forging a stronger partnership with parliamentarians of the Arab States in associating them more closely with the implementation of the Education for All's objectives.*

***FARPED III** took place on 12 – 13 April 2009 in Cairo (Egypt) at the convocation of the FARPED Bureau; 50 participants took part in this Forum aiming to reinforce Parliamentary action towards education.*

The working sessions of the Conference will be mostly dedicated to the following **topics**:

- 1) Partnership between UNESCO and Parliamentarians;
- 2) Education for All (EFA) and presentation of the Global Monitoring Report 2010;
- 3) EFA overview in Arab States;
- 4) Partnerships perspectives for EFA in Arab States;
- 5) Role of Parliamentarians for EFA and success stories of Parliamentary Forums for education in the regions of Africa (FAPED), Asia and the Pacific (FASPPED) and Latin America and the Caribbean (FLACPED);
- 6) Parliamentary Country Profile on Education and parliamentary success stories in Arab States.
- 7) 2010 International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures;
- 8) FARPED action plan for 2010-2011 and the election of the FARPED Bureau;

During the working sessions of the fourth forum, the participants will present and discuss their proposals and suggestions for promoting education as a fundamental human right and for pursuing the attainment of all six EFA goals.

Background

During the past several years, parliaments have taken on a more prominent role in the management of public affairs as a result of the drive towards democratisation.

The partnership with parliamentarians has accordingly strengthened by the signature of cooperation agreements with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 1997, and with regional parliamentary associations by the establishment and strengthening of parliamentary forums for education in the regions of Arab States (FARPED), Africa (FAPED), Asia & the Pacific (FASPPED) and finally the new creation of the Forum of Latin America and the Caribbean Parliamentarians for Education (FLACPED).

FASPPED (Asia & the Pacific): FASPPED II will be held on 5-6 July 2010 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

FAPED (Africa): FAPED III will be held on July 2011 in Mauritius.

FLACPED (Latin America and the Caribbean): FLACPED was established on 4-5 May 2010 in Santiago de Chile.

World Forum of Parliamentarians for UNESCO: As an outcome of the Conference of Parliamentarians for UNESCO (UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on Saturday 3 October 2009), the participants adopted a Declaration recommending the establishment of the World Forum of Parliamentarians. The first edition of this World Forum will be held in UNESCO's Headquarters (Paris) in October 2011.

The Romanian Parliamentary Group of Friends of UNESCO has constituted within the Romanian Parliament a Standing Parliamentary Commission for cooperation with UNESCO. The establishment of this Parliamentary Commission tasked with improving support for our programmes is a first for UNESCO and even for the United Nations system.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Monday, 7 June 2010

MORNING SESSION

09:30 – 10:15 **Opening ceremony**

Speakers:

- **Mr Ahmed Sayyad**, Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Cooperation, Representative of Director-General of UNESCO
- **Mrs Bahia Hariri**, President of the National Education, High Education and Culture Committee of Majlis an-Nuwwab of Lebanon, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador
- **Mr Foued Gargouri**, Former President of the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians for Education (FARPED)
- **Mr Noureddine Bouchkouj**, Secretary-General of Arab Inter-parliamentary Union (AIPU)
- **Mr Hammi Laroussi**, Vice-President of the Pan-African Parliament
- **Mr Mohamed Abdulbari Al Qadasi**, Deputy Director-General of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)
- **Mr Mohamed Ghemari**, Director for External Relations and Cooperation, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
- **Mr Ali Abdulkhaliq Al Qarni**, Director-General of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (ABEGS)
- **Mr Salim Wardi**, Minister of Culture of Lebanon, President of the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO.

10:15 – 10:30 **Election of the Bureau of the 4th FARPED**

- President
- Vice-President
- Rapporteur

10:30 – 12:00 **First working session: Partnerships between UNESCO and Parliamentarians**

Presentation by **Ms Sonia Zerroualy**, Chief, Section for UNESCO Clubs and New Partnerships (UNESCO's Sector for External Relations and Cooperation)

- ❖ Objectives of partnership with Parliamentarians
- ❖ Policy and strategy of partnership with Parliamentarians
- ❖ Expected results

An example of successful Partnership with Parliamentarians

Presentation by **Mr Mircia Giungiu**, Deputy, Representative of the Permanent Committee for Cooperation with UNESCO, Romanian Parliament

Debate

12:00 – 13:00 Second working session (1st part):
Presentation of Education for All (EFA)

Introduction on EFA and EFA Overview in Arab States

Presentation by **Mr Abdel Moneim Osman**, Director, UNESCO Regional Office for Education in Arab States – Beirut

- ❖ The Dakar 2000 Framework for Action and results achieved since
- ❖ Global challenges of the day for EFA
- ❖ Achieving EFA goals by 2015: Issues and Challenges for lawmakers
- ❖ UNESCO's regional and country level strategies
- ❖ EFA status report and trends

Debate

13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch**

AFTERNOON SESSION

14:30 – 16:00 Second working session (2nd part):
Presentation of Education for All (EFA)

EFA Global Monitoring Report 2010

Presentation by **Mr Said Belkachla**, Senior Programme Specialist for Education Planning and Education for All

Debate

16:00 – 18:00 Third working session:
EFA partnerships in Arab States

❖ **The League of Arab States and Education**

Presentation by **Ms Faeqa Saeed Al Saleh**, Advisor to the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, Director of Education and Scientific Research Department

❖ **UNDP and EFA : Integrating basic education in national developing strategies and poverty reduction strategy**

Presentation by **Mr Nick Rene Hartmann**, UNDP Deputy Country Director, Lebanon.

❖ **UNICEF and EPT : Access to quality basic education**

Presentation by **Mr Ray Virgilio Torres Flores**, UNICEF Representative, Beirut.

❖ **World Bank and Education reform in MENA**

Presentation by **Mrs Haneen Sayed**, Human Development Coordinator for Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, Youth Coordinator for the MENA at the World Bank

Debate

19:00 – Reception given in honor of the FARPED's Members

MORNING SESSION

- 09:00 – 12:30 Fourth working session:
Parliamentary Success Stories on Education in Arab States
Presentation by **FARPED Members**
Debate
- 12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 14:00 – 15:30 Fifth working session
2010 International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures
Presentation by :
 - **Mr Joseph Kreidi**, Programme Officer, UNESCO Regional Office for Education in Arab States – Beirut
 - **Mr Mohamed Ghemari**, Director for External Relations and Cooperation, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
 - ❖ Action Plan of the Year: International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures and the results
 - ❖ Challenges of Intercultural Dialogue for a Culture of Peace
 - ❖ Practical actions of Parliamentarians in favour of the rapprochement of cultures.*Debate*
- 15:30 – 16:30 Sixth working session:
FARPED Action Plan
Presentation by **Mr Foued Gargouri**, Former President of the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians for Education (FARPED)
 - ❖ Discussion on the FARPED Action Plan
- 16:30 – 17:30 **FARPED IV Report**
Presentation and adoption of the FARPED IV Report
- 17:30 – 18:00 **Election of the FARPED Bureau**
 - President
 - 3 Vice-Presidents
- 18:00 **Closure**
 - **Mr Ahmed Sayyad**, Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Cooperation, Representative of UNESCO's Director-General
 - President of the FARPED, elected