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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Address by Irina Bokova

Director-General of UNESCO

on the occasion of the Information Meeting “*Follow up of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine)*”

UNESCO, 2 June 2015

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for attending this Information Meeting.

This is part of the implementation of the Decision adopted by Member States at the 196th session of the UNESCO Executive Board on “Follow up of the Situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine).”

As you know, this is the third Decision taken by the UNESCO Executive Board on “Follow up of the Situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine),” starting in 2014 -- this highlights, I believe, the continuing engagement of the Organisation on this important question.

In all of this, UNESCO has been and remains guided by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution of 27 March, 2014, on “Territorial Integrity of Ukraine,” which “*affirms its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.*”

The most recent Decision of the UNESCO Executive Board requests me, as Director-General, to “*organise, prior to the Executive Board's 197th session, an information meeting to provide Member States with updates on the situation in Crimea in the fields of UNESCO's competences.*”

In this respect, the Decision called on me to invite to this information meeting representatives of international organisations and non-governmental organisations.

Guided by these lines, I consulted with the Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Ukraine to UNESCO, to exchange views on taking the Decision forward.

On this basis, I invited the following organisations to inform on developments in Crimea (Ukraine) -- given their relevance to UNESCO's fields of competence and drawing on existing partnership relations with UNESCO:

- The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights;
- The Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe;
- The Representative on Freedom of the Media of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe;
- The International Council on Monuments and Sites;
- Amnesty International (Official Partner of UNESCO, Associate Status).

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Je suis honorée d'accueillir aujourd'hui les personnalités venues partager sur le développement de situation en Crimée (Ukraine) dans les domaines des compétences de l'UNESCO:

- Mme Dunja Mijatović, Représentante pour la Liberté des Médias au sein de l'Organisation pour la Sécurité et la Coopération en Europe;
- Mme Ruth Marshall, du Bureau du Haut-Commissariat des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme ;
- M. Stephan Oberreit, Directeur d'Amnesty International France;
- Mme Marie-Laure Lavenir, Directrice générale de l'ICOMOS.

Le Commissaire aux Droits de l'homme du Conseil de l'Europe, tenait à s'excuser de ne pas pouvoir être présent à cette réunion, mais le Commissaire Nils Muiznieks m'a demandé de souligner que vous pouvez lire le dernier rapport sur ce sujet, qui rend compte de sa mission du 7 au 12 septembre dernier, qui est consultable en ligne sur le site du Conseil de l'Europe : www.coe.int

J'aimerais remercier chacun de nos partenaires pour leur coopération et leur partage d'informations sur le développement de la situation en Crimée (Ukraine) dans les domaines de compétences de l'UNESCO.

Je vous remercie.