

## COOPERATION BETWEEN OMAN AND UNESCO: SNAPSHOT

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** 10 February 1972
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** yes (term expires in 2019)
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees or Commissions, etc...:**
  - Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (Term expires in 2017).
  - Intergovernmental Council for the International Hydrological Programme (Term expires in 2017).
  - Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport - Vice-Chairperson (Term expires in 2019).
  - Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (Term expires in 2019).
  - Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (Term expires in 2019).
  - Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics - Members elected by the UNESCO General Conference: Mr Khalifa Al-Barwani (Term expires by 31 December 2017).
  - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.
4. **Your visits to Oman:** 3
  - 13 – 14 May 2014: Global Education for All
  - 22 – 25 January 2011: Official visit
  - 15 – 16 December 2012: Official visit
5. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO**
  - H. E. Dr Samira Mohamed Moosa Al Moosa, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Sultanate of Oman to UNESCO (29 September 2011)
  - Staff: Mr Nasser Hamed Salim Al Rawahi, Deputy Permanent Delegate and H. E. Ambassador Musa Bin Jaafar Bin Hassan (Adviser).
6. **UNESCO Office in Doha**
  - Date of establishment: 1976, Doha (Qatar).
  - Member States serviced: Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Yemen.
  - Name of Head: Ms. Anna Paolini (Italy), Director of the Doha Office.
7. **National Commission for UNESCO**
  - Established in September 1974
  - Chairperson: Dr. Madiha bint Ahmed bin Nasser Al Shaibaniya; Minister of Education
  - Secretary General: Mr Mohammed Saleem Al Yaqoubi since September 2012.
8. **Personalities having a relationship with UNESCO:** none
9. **UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs:** 1
  - UNESCO Chair in Seafood Biotechnology, established in 2001 at Sultan Qaboos University, Al-Khod.
10. **Associated Schools:** 26
  - The country presently has 26 ASPnet member institutions and the ASPnet National Coordinator is currently Ms. Amna AL BALUSHI, from the Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Science.
11. **Category 2 institutes and Centres:** none
12. **Biosphere Reserves:** none

**13. World Heritage Sites: 4**

- Aflaj Irrigation Systems of Oman (2006)
- Land of Frankincense (2000)
- Archaeological Sites of Bat, Al-Khutm and Al-Ayn (1988)
- Bahla Fort (1987)

**14. Tentative list: 8 properties**

- The forts of Rostaq and al-Hazm (1988)
- Ancient City of Qalhat (2013)
- Al Hallaniyyat Islands Proposed Nature Reserve (2013)
- Bar al Hakman Proposed Nature Reserve (2013)
- Smahan's Mountain Nature Reserve (2013)
- al Dimaniyyat Islands Nature Reserve (2013)
- Ras al Had Turtle Reserve and the Heritage Site of Ras al Jinz (2013)
- Cultural Landscape of Bisya & Salut and its Archaeological Remains (2014)

**15. Intangible Heritage Lists: 7 elements**

- Arabic coffee, a symbol of generosity – 2015
- Majlis, a cultural and social space - 2015
- Al-Razfa, a traditional performing art - 2015
- Al-Ayyala, a traditional performing art of the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates-2014
- Al 'azi, elegy, processional march and poetry-2012
- Al-Taghrooda, traditional Bedouin chanted poetry in the United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman-2012
- Al-Bar'ah, music and dance of Oman Dhofari valleys – 2010

On-going nomination: Horse and camel Ardhah (2018)

**16. Memory of the World Register: none**

**17. Creative Cities Network: no appointments**

**18. Legal instruments: 12 ratified and 28 not ratified**

- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: Ratified on 16 March 2007
- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: Ratified on 4 August 2005.
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: Not ratified.
- Convention against Discrimination in Education: Not ratified.
- International Convention against doping in sport: Ratified on 9 July 2007.

**19. Anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated in 2016 - 2017: 2**

- 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Abdullah bin Humaid Al Salmi, social reformer and encyclopedic scientist (1867-1914) (with the support of Lebanon and Egypt).
- 1000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Abu Mohammed Abdullah bin Mohammed al-Azdi (Ibn al-Thahabi), scientist (with the support of Egypt and Lebanon).

**20. Participation Programme:**

- 2016 2017: no request submitted
- 2014-2015: no request submitted

- 2012-2013: 10 requests were submitted, 9 national requests and one regional request for an amount of US\$ 217 284. The DG has only approved one regional project for a total amount of US\$ 24 000.
- 2010-2011: 10 requests were submitted; 4 requests were approved for an amount of US\$ 85 245

**21. Fellowships:**

- Since 2010: 1 fellowship awarded for a total amount of 8 832 US\$.

**22. Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) maintaining relations with UNESCO:** none

**23. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) maintaining relations with UNESCO:** none