

June 2016

<b>FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE URUGUAY / UNESCO COOPERATION</b>
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1. **Membership in UNESCO:** since 8 November 1947
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** not currently (last term: 2003-2007)
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:** 2
  - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
  - Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Term expires: December 2015), Member (Term expires: 2017)
4. **DG's visit to Uruguay: 2**
  - 13-16 September 2012
  - 25-27 June 2016
5. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO :**

**Ambassador and permanent Delegate:** Ms Alejandra De Bellis presented her credentials on 14 June 2016 as new Ambassador and Permanent Delegate after the departure of Ambassador Dighiero on 25 May 2016. Ambassador Dighiero was a hemato-oncologist and immunologist, a teacher and a Uruguayan researcher, whose scientific level is exemplary.

**Born:** in 1973 in Montevideo, Uruguay, Alejandra de Bellis Bonilla is a high profile public servant specialized in International Relations and negotiations within international institutions.

**Studies:** In 1996 she obtained a Licence in Diplomatic Studies at the University ORT of Uruguay and entered the Uruguayan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2000 she obtained a Post-Graduate diploma in Diplomatic Studies from the *Foreign Service Programme* of the University of Oxford, United Kingdom.

**Professional career:** Between 2001 and 2006 she was a member of the Permanente Delegation of Uruguay for the United Nations and for the World Trade Organization in Geneva. In 2006 she became Director of the Human Rights and Humanitarian International Law department in the Uruguayan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Promoted chief of the consular section of the embassy of Uruguay in France and Consul of Uruguay in France in 2008 she remained so until 2010 and her nomination as second of Mission for the Uruguayan embassy in Paris. Director of the American Sector of the Uruguayan Ministry of Foreign Affairs she was designed as Permanent Delegate to UNESCO in April 2016.

  - Staff: Mrs Mariella Crosta Rodriguez, Deputy Permanent Delegate; Mr Pedro Keuroglian Gomez, Counsellor
  - Previous Permanent Delegates: Dr. Guillermo Dighiero Arrarte (from October 2015 to 25 May 2016). H.E. Mr Omar Mesa Gonzáles, Ambassador to France and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO (2010-2015)
6. **UNESCO Cluster Office in Montevideo:**
  - Ms Lidia Brito (Mozambique, D-1) took up her duties as Director of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Montevideo and UNESCO Representative to Uruguay in May 2014.
  - Uruguay is one of the "Delivering as One UN Pilot countries".
7. **Uruguayan National Commission for UNESCO:**
  - Date of establishment: the Commission was created on 11 March 1975 as a Governmental body attached to the Ministry of Education and Culture
  - Chairperson: Mrs Edith Moraes, Vice-Minister of Education and Culture (since November 2015)
  - Secretary-General: Mr Nicolas Pons (since March 2015)

- Members/Composition: the Commission is composed of the General Assembly, the Secretariat (composed of 4 part-time staff members and 2 administrative support staff), and programme sub-committees (3 for Education, 2 for Culture, 3 for Science, 3 for Information and Communication).

#### 8. Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities: 2

- **Mr Óscar Wáshington Tabárez** was designated as a UNESCO Champion for Sport in January 2012 in recognition of his commitment to promoting education and sport programmes in favour of vulnerable children in Uruguay. In his capacity as a UNESCO Champion for Sport, Mr Tabárez brings his support, through UNESCO Montevideo Office, to strengthen the social and ethic value of sports in the national agenda and to promote this important issue at national, regional and international levels.
- **Mr Milton Masciadri** was designated as a UNESCO Artist for Peace in October 1998 in recognition of his dedication to the ideals and aims of the Organization and his contribution to the culture of peace through the world of music. In his capacity as a UNESCO Artist for Peace, Mr Masciadri raises public awareness on Organization's priority areas notably in the fields of education and culture. He also supports the musical education of young students through the trainings and performances throughout the world.

#### 9. UNESCO Chairs: 5

- UNESCO Chair in Human Rights (2002) at the Universidad de la República (UDELAR).
- UNESCO Chair on Neuroactive Natural Products (2011) at the Clemente Estable Institute of Biological Research.
- UNESCO Chair in Carnival and Heritage (2012) at the Universidad de la República (UDELAR)
- UNESCO Chair on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Southern Cone (2013), at the Universidad de la República (UDELAR)
- UNESCO Chair on Water and Culture (2015), at the at the Universidad de la República (UDELAR)

#### 10. Associated Schools: 130

With 130 Associated Schools (4 pre-primary, 95 primary, 5 primary/secondary, 18 secondary, 3 teacher training institution and 5 vocational and technical institution), Uruguay proportionally own the greatest network of Latin-America. Dynamically managed with a strong support from the National Commission and Uruguayan Ministry of Education, a monthly bulletin and yearly meetings insure the communication and the coordination of activities.

Uruguay is involved in the linkage of this network at an international level and contribute to promote a better cooperation between schools and networks of different countries.

The National Coordinator offered to support Colombia in order to renew Colombia's own network. Uruguay also actively participated in the World Conference on Education of Nagoya and inscribe the Associated Schools' activities in the priorities of Education 2030: Education for a sustainable development, education for peace and education for culture.

#### 11. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: 1

- Regional Centre for Groundwater Management for Latin America and the Caribbean (CeReGAS), in Montevideo. The agreement for the establishment of this category 2 centre was signed in Paris on 20 March 2014.

#### 12. Global geoparks: 1

- **Grutas del Palacio**

The first Geopark of Uruguay is located in the northern part of the Department of Flores. The crystalline basement rocks of the Rio de la Plata Craton, which underlie most of Uruguay, are only exposed in the south and east of the country where they make up a characteristic hilly landscape. Elsewhere, they are covered by younger volcanic or sedimentary rocks, which form wide and naturally fertile prairies. The rocks exposed in the Geopark are geologically

very old (Precambrian) but every other geological age is represented in the Geopark by different kinds of rocks and sediments. At its northern sector, several Permian sedimentary rocks (sandstone, siltstones and rhythmites) are exposed. Younger lateritic soil features with typically reddish colour are exposed in the 'Grutas del Palacio Geosite', which presents a picturesque cave system. The singular geological formation of the caves is characterized by almost 100 columns that are up to two meters height.

### 13. Biosphere Reserves: 2

- **Bañados del Este (1976).** The Reserve includes protected areas such as monuments, natural parks, fauna and flora. This 'Eastern Wetlands' region comprises a remarkable complex of ecosystems of high biological diversity and very rich wild life. 235,687 inhabitants (1997) live in the biosphere reserve that develop pasturing, planting of rice, cattle raising and commercial collection of fur and aquatic mammals (otter and sea lion). The ecosystem is threatened with serious changes as stock raising gradually gives way to rice fields. Sites of prehistoric archeological interest also exist that would have to be incorporated for their study and preservation defining their patrimonial value. The biosphere reserve develops planning and territorial management activities, incorporating the environmental dimension in local economic and social systems, local participation and knowledge generation.
- **Bioma Pampa-Quebradas del Norte (2014):** The Biosphere Reserve covers an area of 110,882 ha in a biogeographic region characterized by a rolling topography reaching a maximum of 369 metres in height, a humid-subtropical climate with over 1,000 mm annual rainfall, and a predominance of subtropical grasslands. The biosphere reserve is found on the east side of the Cuchilla de Haedo among the headwaters of rivers that flow into the River Tacuarembó. This biosphere reserve comprises a mosaic of different ecosystems, including a primary forest with subtropical jungle, the quebradas, which represents the southernmost vestige of the 'Atlantic Forest' environment. The biosphere reserve is also inhabited by a small number of people (around 2,000) living in towns of 10 to 50 houses amid a rural environment. The villagers are predominantly smallholder farmers who engage in agricultural activities. The present inhabitants, who are representatives of the gaucho culture, originate from the hybridization of a triple matrix: native Guarani people, Europeans and afro-descendants. The main economic activities of the local population are extensive livestock farming, family-agriculture, including food crops and animal husbandry, and afforestation.

### 14. World Heritage Sites: 2 cultural sites

- **Historic Quarter of the City of Colonia del Sacramento (1995):** Founded by the Portuguese in 1680 on the Río de la Plata, the city was of strategic importance in resisting the Spanish. After being disputed for a century, it was finally lost by its founders. The well-preserved urban landscape illustrates the successful fusion of the Portuguese, Spanish and post-colonial styles.
- **Fray Bentos Industrial Landscape (2015):** Located on land projecting into the Uruguay River west of the town of Fray Bentos, the industrial complex was built following the development of a factory founded in 1859 to process meat produced on the vast prairies nearby. The site illustrates the whole process of meat sourcing, processing, packing and dispatching. It includes buildings and equipment of the Liebig Extract of Meat Company, which exported meat extract and corned-beef to the European market from 1865 and the Anglo Meat Packing Plant, which exported frozen meat from 1924. Through its physical location, industrial and residential buildings as well as social institutions, the site presents an illustration of the entire process of meat production on a global scale.

### 15. Tentative List : 8

- Palacio Legislativo (1995)
- Chamangá: A Rock Paintings Area (2005)
- Insular area and bay of Colonia del Sacramento (2005)
- La Rambla (promenade maritime) de la Cité de Montevideo (2010)
- Architecture Moderne du XX siècle de la Ville de Montevideo (2010)

- L'œuvre de l'ingénieur Eladio Dieste (2010)
  - Quartier de Peñarol: la Vieille Ville historique et le paysage industriel ferroviaire (2014)
  - Isla de Flores Cultural Landscape and its fluvio-marine context (2015)
- 16. Intangible Heritage Lists: 2 inscriptions on the Representative List**
- The Candombe and its socio-cultural space: a community practice (2009)
  - El Tango (2009), countries: Argentina, Uruguay
- 17. Memory of the World Register: 3 inscriptions**
- The Original Collection of Records of celebrated singers/composers Carlos Gardel-Horacio Lorient (2003)
  - The War of the Triple Alliance Iconographic and cartographic presentations (Brazil and Uruguay), 2015.
  - Fundo Comitê de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos para os Países do Cone Sul –CLAMOR- (Brazil and Uruguay), 2015
- 18. Creative Cities Network: 1**
- Montevideo: literature
- 19. Legal instruments: 19 ratified and 17 non-ratified**
- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: ratification (18 January 2007)
  - Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: ratification (18 January 2007)
  - International Convention against Doping in Sport: ratification (28 Avril 2008)
  - Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non ratified
- 20. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2014-2015 and in 2016-2017: none**
- 21. Participation Programme:**
- 2014-2015: 4 projects approved for the total amount of USD91,600
  - 2012-2013: 5 requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 85,980
  - 2010-2011: 5 requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 104,800
- 22. Fellowships: no fellowship awarded to Uruguay since 2010**
- 23. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2016:**
- Assessment rate: 0.079%
  - Last payment: 23 November 2015
- 24. Representation within the Secretariat: 15 in total; under-represented (min. 2, max. 4)**
- 1 International Professional Staff in the Field (Geographical Posts): P-3
  - 1 International Professional Staff at Headquarters (Non-Geographical Posts): P-3
  - 1 International Professional Staff in the Field (Non-Geographical Posts): P-5
  - 2 National Professional Officer in the Field: 1 NO-B and 1 NO-A
  - 1 General Service Staff at Headquarters: G-6
  - 9 General Service Staff in the Field: 1 G-6; 5 G-5; 2 G-4 and 1 G-2
- 25. Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme: Uruguay does not participate in the Junior Professional Officer Programme.**
- 26. Young Professional Programme: The YPP 2015 was launched in April 2015. Uruguay was normally represented and therefore not eligible to the Programme. Since October 2015, Uruguay is under-represented and therefore eligible for the Young Professional Programme.**

30. **Use of UNESCO Coupons:** Uruguay does not participate in the Programme.
31. **Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) maintaining relations with UNESCO, with headquarters in Uruguay:**
- The Inter-American Children's Institute is based in Uruguay.
32. **Non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO, with headquarters in Uruguay:**
- Among the 395 NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO according to the *Directives concerning UNESCO's partnerships with non-governmental organizations*, two NGOs in associate status are based in Uruguay: the International Association of Broadcasting and the International Council for Adult Education. Moreover, among the 30 Foundations maintaining official relations with UNESCO according to the *Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions*, one is based in Uruguay: Fundación Celeste.

#### **Additional information**

**International Association of Broadcasting** aims to promote and defend the existence of free private broadcasting based on the principle of free enterprise and the effective enforcement of freedom of expression.

**International Council for Adult Education** aims to promote learning and education for adults and young people in pursuit of social justice within the framework of human right in all its dimensions, to secure the healthy, sustainable and democratic development of individuals, communities and societies.

**Fundación Celeste** is a cultural institution that promotes sports, supports sports programmes and uses sports as a tool for social development.