



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Education
Sector

In partnership with



International Mother Language Day celebration 21 February 2020

“Languages without borders”

UNESCO Headquarters, Fontenoy Building, Paris, France
ROOM IV, UNESCO
Draft Agenda

Morning session

9:30 – 10:00	Welcome coffee
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Official opening</p> <p>Welcoming and Introductory Speech: Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO</p> <p>Remarks: Mr Alexandre Wolff, Director a.i. French Language, Culture and Diversity, International Organization for la Francophonie (OIF)</p> <p>Key message on Mother Language Day and introduction of cultural performance:</p> <p>H. E. Mr Kazi Imtiaz Hossain Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France, Permanent Delegate of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh to UNESCO</p> <p>Performance by a cultural group from the People’s Republic of Bangladesh</p>
10:30 – 12:00	<p>Debate : <i>Regional perspectives on cross border languages’ capacity of bridging divides and promoting education and development</i></p> <p>Introduction and moderation: Mr Adama Ouane, Professor of Sociolinguistics, former UNESCO Institute for lifelong learning Director, former Minister of Education in Mali</p> <p>Discussants:</p>

12:00 – 12:30

- Ms Stéphanie-Rose Nyot Nyot, Founder of 'Je parle l'Afrique 2.0' and 'Je parle le Bassa 2.0' interactive bilingual website
- Ms Tarcila Rivera Zea, Executive Director, Center of Indigenous Cultures CHIRAPAQ, Peru ; Independent expert of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Mr Jude Joseph, Author, Storyteller and Comedian and Mr Reynold Henrys, Translator and Professor of Haitian Creole

Questions and answers

Key message on Mother Language Day and introduction of cultural performance:

H.E. Mr Samwel W. Shelukindo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France, Permanent Delegate of the United Republic of Tanzania to UNESCO

Performance by a cultural group from the United Republic of Tanzania

Closing remarks: Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO

At the end of the morning session, there will be the official opening of the exhibition on cross border languages organized by the Permanent Delegation of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to UNESCO in collaboration with other Permanent Delegations.

Afternoon Session

Round Table on Kiswahili language: "Opportunities and challenges for the recognition of Kiswahili as a continental language and for African integration"

Room IV

15:00 – 15:30

Opening remarks

H. E. Ms Phyllis Kandie, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Kenya to UNESCO, Chair of Africa Group in UNESCO

H.E. Mr Samwel W. Shelukindo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France, Permanent Delegate of the United Republic of Tanzania to UNESCO

Mr Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO

Video on the promotion of Kiswahili language

15:30 – 16:50

Round Table on Kiswahili : "Opportunities and Challenges for the recognition of Kiswahili as a continental language and for African integration"

	<p>Introduction and moderation: Mr Adama Ouane, Professor of Sociolinguistics, former UNESCO Institute for lifelong learning Director, former Minister of Education in Mali</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Aldin Mutembei, Professor of Kiswahili, University of Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania <i>'Linguistic and pedagogical approaches to Kiswahili'</i> • Ms Odile Racine, Professor of Kiswahili as a foreign language, University of Languages and Civilisations (INALCO), Paris <i>'Teaching Kiswahili online'</i> • Mr Lang Fafa Dampha, Executive Secretary, African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) <i>'ACALAN's Role in empowering vehicular cross-border languages and Kiswahili as a language of wider communication in Africa'</i> <p>Questions and Answers</p>
<p>16:50 – 17:00</p>	<p>Closing Remarks: Mr Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO</p>

Simultaneous interpretation English/French will be available for the morning and the afternoon sessions.

Side event: from 5 to 8 pm Room II and Foyer, Fontenoy

Cultural performances, exhibitions and food festival

Organized and coordinated by the Permanent Delegation of Bangladesh to UNESCO, in collaboration with other Permanent Delegations.

Entrée : 125 Avenue de Suffren 75015 Paris