



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



## International symposium

### Ensuring the right to quality inclusive education for persons with disabilities:

#### From commitment to action

25-27 November 2020

#### Draft Programme (as of 24 November 2020)

25 November 2020

12:00 – 13:30  
(GMT+1)

#### **Opening session: Accelerating efforts towards inclusive education for learners with disabilities**

**Moderator:** Ms Maki Hayashikawa, Director, Division for Education 2030, Education Sector, UNESCO

#### **Welcoming remarks**

- Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
- H.E. Mr Tiago Brandão Rodrigues, Minister of Education of Portugal

#### **Introduction: The 2020 UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report**

Mr Manos Antoninis, Director, Global Education Monitoring Report

#### **Setting the Scene – A Rights holder’s perspective**

Mr Eddie Ndopu, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Advocate

#### **High level panel discussion**

**Moderator:** Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, Education Sector, UNESCO

- Mr Tibebe Bogale Derseh, Chief Adviser on inclusive education to the Minister of Education, Ethiopia
- Ms Koumbou Boly Barry, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education
- Mr Joao Costa, State Secretary of Education, Portugal
- Mr Jaya Prasad Acharya, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Training, Nepal

**15:00 – 17:00  
(GMT+1)**

**SESSION 1: From legislation to inclusive practices: Re-designing policy frameworks, funding and monitoring arrangements across sectors for inclusive education for learners with disabilities**

**Moderator:** Ms Jennifer Pye, Programme Specialist, UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning

*Equitable access to inclusive education for children with disabilities require more than an add-on to existing systems. It requires re-designing existing education laws, policy frameworks, organizational design and financing systems across sectors impacting on education provisioning. How do we build back better post Covid-19?*

**Snapshot from the previous session**

Ms Julia Hayes, Illustrator

**Introduction: main messages from the 2020 UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report**

Ms Anna D'Addio, Senior Policy Analyst, Global Education Monitoring Report

**Panel discussion**

- Ms Hanna Alasuutari, Global Thematic Lead for Inclusive Education, World Bank
- Mr David Rodrigues, National Counselor of Education and President of Pro- Inclusion, Portugal
- Mr Mahamadou Manou Oumarou, Advisor to the President of the West African Federation of Associations of People with Disabilities and focal point for inclusive education
- Ms Leopoldine Nakashole, Deputy Director, Special programs and schools, Ministry of Education, Namibia

**Q & A session**

**Concluding remarks**

Ms Paula Hunt, Senior Technical Consultant, Catalyst for Inclusive Education, Inclusion International

11:30 – 13:30  
(GMT+1)

**SESSION 2: Revisiting the teaching and learning process to ensure access and participation of learners with disabilities**

**Moderator:** Ms Marie Schoeman, Global Programmes Technical Lead Inclusive Education, Leonard Cheshire

*How to ensure curriculum access and participation for learners with disabilities in inclusive education settings by changing school cultures, policies and practices and teaching methodologies?*

**Snapshot from the previous session**

Ms Julia Hayes, Illustrator

**Introduction**

Ms Nidhi Singal, Professor of Disability and Inclusive Education, University of Cambridge

**Panel discussion**

- Ms Leila P. Areola, Director, Bureau of Learning Delivery, Department of Education, Republic of the Philippines
- Ms Elena P. Soukakou, Honorary Research Fellow, Special and Inclusive Education, School of Education, London
- Ms Judith McKenzie, Including Disability in Education in Africa Research Centre, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Mr Leon Juma, Leonard Cheshire Youth Advocate, Kenya
- Ms Augustine Saga, itinerant teacher, Ministry of education, Togo
- Ms Praveena Sukraj-Ely, International Disability Alliance, International Council on Education for Visually Impaired, World Blind Union

**Q & A session**

**Concluding remarks**

Ms Sai Väyrynen, University of Helsinki

15:00 – 17:00  
(GMT+1)

**SESSION 3: Moving towards inclusive and safe learning environments, including by addressing violence and bullying against learners with disabilities**

**Moderator:** Mr Christophe Cornu, Team Leader, Section of health and education, UNESCO

*What measures are required to create safe inclusive education environments, free from bullying and violence, for learners with disabilities? How do we foster cooperation, civil society engagement, community and parent consultation and inter-sectoral collaboration to ensure full inclusion of learners with disabilities in education?*

**Snapshot from the previous session**

Ms Julia Hayes, Illustrator

**Introduction**

Ms María Soledad Cisternas Reyes, United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility

**Testimonial video**

Ms Maria Njeri, Goodwill Ambassador for the Cerebral Palsy Society of Kenya

**Presentation: available evidence on school violence and bullying and children and young people with disabilities**

Ms Megan McCloskey, Senior Fellow, Disability Inclusive Development Initiative, International Policy Institute, University of Washington

**Testimonial video**

Ms Rao Lijun, Graduate of Harbin Normal University, China

**Q & A session**

**Animation video:** *Together against school bullying*, UNESCO

**Panel discussion on effective measures to prevent and address school violence and bullying involving children and young people with disabilities**

- Mr Mpho Tjope, Founder of the #ICanBe campaign
- Mr James O'Higgins Norman, UNESCO Chair on Tackling Bullying in Schools and Cyberspace and Director of Irish National Anti-Bullying Research and Resource Centre of Dublin City University, Ireland
- Ms Jackline Olanya Amaguru, Safeguarding Manager for Christian Blind Mission
- Ms Katherine Chamblin, Fourth-year undergraduate student in Speech and Hearing Sciences and in Disability Studies, Undergraduate Research Fellow in the Disability Inclusive Development Initiative at the University of Washington's International Policy Institute
- Ms Susana Fonseca, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, ISCTE-Lisbon University Institute

**Concluding remarks**

Ms Ola Abu Alghaib, Manager of the Technical Secretariat of the UN Partnership of Persons with Disabilities at the UNDP

14:00 – 15:30  
(GMT+1)

**Concluding session: Rebuilding a Stronger Global Disability Inclusive Education System post COVID-19**

**Moderator:** Ms Diane Richler, Co-Chair, Global Action on Disability Network working group on inclusive education and former Chair of the International Disability Alliance

*What lessons can we learn from Covid-19 in terms of ensuring equitable access and support for children with disabilities?*

**Snapshot from symposium**

Ms Julia Hayes, Illustrator

**Introduction**

Mr Mel Ainscow, Emeritus Professor of Education, University of Manchester

**Panel discussion**

- Mr Joseph Murray, President of the World Federation of the Deaf and former President of International Disability Alliance (IDA)
- Ms Julia McGeown, Co-Coordinator of the Inclusive Education Task group in the International Disability and Development Consortium
- Ms Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Global Disability Advisor, World Bank
- Mr Robert Prouty, former Head of the Global Partnership for Education, former World Bank Lead Education specialist, former school teacher and principal

**Concluding remarks**

- H.E. Mr Antonio Novoa, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of Portugal to UNESCO
- Ms Tiziana Oliva, Managing Director, Global Influencing and Programmes, Leonard Cheshire
- Ms Maki Hayashikawa, Director, Division for Education 2030, Education Sector, UNESCO
- Last words by Ms Thitiphorn 'Mind' Prawatsrichai, Network of Music and Arts for persons with disabilities, Kingdom of Thailand