



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# **Dialogue with Permanent Delegations to UNESCO on the future Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4)**

**- Pillar 3 of UNESCO's Strategic Transformation -**

**July 2019**

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# BACKGROUND

- ❑ Executive Board Decision on UNESCO's strategic transformation (206EX/Dec. 5.II.F) :

*“ ... encourages the Director-General to ensure that future discussions on Pillar 3 take a transparent, dialogue-based approach, which includes continuous and regular communication between the Assistant Directors-General and Member States as well as structured intergovernmental consultations”*

- ❑ Series of dialogues with the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO from 12 to 24 July 2019 by invitation:

- CI Sector - 12 July 2019 - 2:30pm to 5:30pm
- CLT Sector: 15 July 2019 - 10am to 1pm
- SC Sector: 16 July 2019 - 10 am to 12:30 pm
- IOC Sector: 19 July 2019 - 11am to 1pm
- ED Sector: 23 July 2019 - 2:30pm to 5:30pm
- SHS Sector: 24 July 2019 - 2:30pm to 5:30pm

# Timeline for the preparation of the future Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41 C/4) and the Programme and budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5)

2019		2020			2021
July	November	March-May	April	October	
<p>Series of <b>Dialogues</b> between ADGs and Member States (<b>we are in this step today</b>) + Future Dialogues on transversal issues (Fall 2019)</p>	<p><b>40th session General Conference</b></p> <p>Debates and Decision on general strategic directions and roadmap for the preparation of 41 C/4 and 41 C/5</p>	<p><b>DG Consultations</b> with Member States, Associate Members, UN agencies, IGOs and NGOs via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Online survey;</li> <li>- Regional and global meetings of the National Commissions</li> </ul>	<p><b>209th session Executive Board</b></p> <p><b>Strategic Results Report (SRR)</b> (retrospective and future-oriented)</p> <p>To enable the Executive Board Recommendations – indications of possible reorientation of programmes</p>	<p><b>210th session Executive Board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Director General’s Preliminary Proposals on 41 C/4 and 41 C/5</b></li> <li>- <b>Executive Board’s Decision</b> regarding the framework and strategic policy directions for the elaboration of the Draft 41 C/4 and 41 C/5.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Executive Board</b> examination of Full-fledged draft 41 C/4 and 41 C/5 and <b>Recommendations</b> to the General Conference (Spring and Autumn sessions)</p> <p><b>41<sup>st</sup> session General Conference</b> Adoption of the 41 C/4 and the 41 C/5</p>

*Continued regular communication with Member States*



# JULY DIALOGUES: OBJECTIVES

- ❑ **Informal exchange** with Member States to identify key current and future trends, challenges and opportunities as relevant to UNESCO's mandate
- ❑ **An opportunity** to start the reflection together on the future Medium-Term Strategy (41 C/4), and define the foundations for UNESCO's action
- ❑ **A first step towards the discussions at the governing bodies:** the Dialogue will feed into further reflection and discussions by Member States at the forthcoming 40th session of the General Conference, leading to a Resolution of the General Conference on the overall strategic direction for the next Medium-Term Strategy (41 C/4), and the next Programme and Budget (41 C/5)

# METHODOLOGY

- Basis for the Dialogues: Introductory Notes on Global environment, trends and challenges; progress on the SDGs; International Commitments; and Findings of audits and evaluations**
- ADGs will open the meeting with presentations recalling the overall context and presenting some facts and figures as relevant to the Programme**
- Representatives from Africa Department, the Gender Equality Division and other Sectors are present in the room**
- The presentations will be followed by Q&A exchange**
- Equally central to the Dialogues is to identify opportunities for a transversal and interdisciplinary approach by UNESCO**
- Duration of each dialogue: about 3 hours, with interpretation in English and French, and live transmission/webcast**

# A contribution to a global conversation (1)

- ❑ Continued discussions about the Global Development Frameworks:
  - 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals;
  - Agenda 2063 of the African Union;
  - Addis Ababa Action Agenda; and
  - Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- ❑ High-Level Political Forum (July) and United Nations SDG Summit (September)
- ❑ Publication of key reference reports by UNESCO: Global Education Monitoring Report; the UNESCO Science Report; the World Water Development Report; the Global Ocean Science Report; + key contribution of UNESCO to SDG 16 report; among others
- ❑ Significant megatrends that will have in the future an impact on the realization of the SDGs (UNSG Report to the HLPF on *“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”*):
  - **Demographic changes**
  - **Urbanization**
  - **Climate change**
  - **Conflicts and protracted crises**
  - **Frontier technologies**

# A contribution to a global conversation (2)

## *Consistent findings:*

**“No country is on track to meeting all the goals”** (Sustainable Development Report 2019),

- Slow progress on many goals
- The most vulnerable people and countries continue to suffer the most
- *Highlights of the Final draft of the Political Declaration of the UN SDG Summit (24 - 25 Sept. 2019)*

### **Necessity for a collective action and an accelerated response**

- Leaving no one behind
- Enhancing national implementation
- Strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions
- Harnessing STI, with focus on digital transformation
- Reducing disaster and building resilience
- Investing in data and statistics for the SDGs

# Some lead questions for the discussion

1. What are/will be the key global trends, opportunities and challenges of relevance to UNESCO's mandate over the next ten years?
2. How can we better reposition UNESCO in the 2030 Agenda?
3. Where can you see opportunities for a transversal and interdisciplinary approach by UNESCO?
4. How can Global Priority Africa be better reflected in UNESCO's programme and organizational culture?
5. How can we better contribute to the strengthening and institutionalization of the promotion of gender equality through UNESCO's programmes?



A photograph of two young women with traditional Burmese face paint (thanaka) looking at a tablet. The woman on the left is wearing a white shirt and has a yellow hair clip. The woman on the right is wearing a pink shirt and has a purple hair clip. They are both smiling and looking at the tablet. The background is a textured, brown wall.

**Thank you for your  
attention!**