

Preliminary Report on the first draft of the Recommendation on Open Science
- Mauritius National Commission

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to UNESCO circular letter CL/4333, please find below views/comments from the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology with regard to the preliminary report on the first draft of the Recommendation on Open Science:

- a. Mauritius supports the initiative on Open Science and fully espouses the value that knowledge is for the benefit of mankind and therefore it should be accessible to every human being in a mindset of sharing and collaborating instead of competition.
- b. Notwithstanding the above and for the effective adoption and implementation of the Open Science practice, the following could be considered:
 - i. Clear guidelines on practices and policies on Open Science should be established at national level to avoid ambiguity in policy making and implementation.
 - ii. Clear guidelines should be drafted for research, academic and other institutions to follow in order to promote Open Science.
 - iii. Awareness of existing funding that can be used to promote Open Science would help.
 - iv. Sharing of good practices of countries/institutions which have successfully implemented Open Science projects would assist others to follow.
 - v. Openness has also its limits and clear boundaries should be enunciated as to when data must be protected for individuals or whenever there is a need to protect traditional knowledge of a culture/civilization.
 - vi. A database of issues cropping up while implementing the policy should be kept. This will help in devising strategies to improve the process.

The delay in submission is regretted.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Mauritius National Commission for UNESCO
Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology
MITD House
Phoenix 73544
Republic of Mauritius