



**The Assistant Director-General
for External Relations and Public Information**

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

**To Non-Governmental Organizations,
Official partners of UNESCO**

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30 May 2017

Dear Partners,

First of all, I wish to highlight the successful organization of the 7th International Forum of NGOs organized in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) on 3 and 4 May last, in partnership with the MiSK Foundation.

The two-day discussions successfully tackled the theme “Youth and their Social Impact” and called for a further engagement and integration of young people to strengthen their social impact and active citizenship. Those who were present at the Forum, the first to take place in the Arab region, could witness a true spirit of dialogue, discovery and exchange among the 2,000 participants. I am particularly pleased that so many young men and women joined and took part in the debate, together with inspiring personalities.

I am convinced that the discussions have inspired many of you and created new opportunities for networking and synergies. I now look forward to continuing working with the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, and all NGO partners, towards the next NGO Forums.

Release of UNESCO's 2016 Annual Report and the 2016 Annual Report of the National Commissions for UNESCO

I am pleased to announce the release of the *UNESCO's 2016 Annual Report* covering UNESCO's actions throughout last year. As you will see, cooperation with NGOs is repeatedly mentioned throughout the report. In addition, for the first time, the Report lists the NGOs that have been admitted to official partnership during the year. This publication is available [under this link](#) and exists also in French.

I also wish to share with you the *2016 Annual Report of the National Commissions for UNESCO*. Available online only, it provides an overview of the main achievements of 123 National Commissions last year, and highlights success stories. You can download the report on [this link](#), in both English and French.

I am sure that these two reports will allow you to appreciate the extent of UNESCO's action in its areas of competence and some NGOs will find references to their cooperation with the Secretariat and National Commissions.

Important reminder concerning the use of the name, acronym, logo and Internet domain names of UNESCO and the patronage

As you know, the use of the name and logo of UNESCO are strictly regulated by the *Directives concerning the use of the name, acronym, logo and Internet domain names of UNESCO*.

I wish to emphasize that their use is not automatically authorized for NGOs. Please find attached, guidelines applicable to NGOs in this field. I urge you to refer to the relevant useful clarifications contained in this document.

As distinct and autonomous entities, NGOs in official partnerships with UNESCO are **not** authorized to use the UNESCO name, acronym, or logo on a permanent basis on their branding and communication materials or on their websites.

Instead, depending on the nature of its partnership with UNESCO, an NGO may use one of the following standard sentences, next to its own logo, for purpose of information:

- [NGO] in official partnership with UNESCO
- [NGO], official partner of UNESCO (associate status) or (consultative status)

NGOs, however, may request UNESCO's authorization to use the name, acronym and logo of UNESCO **on a temporary** basis in connection with:

- patronage from UNESCO for events that NGOs organize;
- implementation of projects in cooperation with or with the support of UNESCO.

In this regard, I also wish to recall that patronage is a form of UNESCO's support for those activities which are entirely organized by other entities. UNESCO is not involved in any way in their organization, and is not responsible for them.

NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO can send their requests, which should be composed of the completed Patronage Request Form available on the dedicated website, and a brief covering letter addressed to the Director-General of UNESCO, directly to the Office of the Director-General. The evaluation process at UNESCO Secretariat takes between six and eight weeks.

If patronage is granted by the Director-General, the activity organisers will be given the permission to use the UNESCO logo accompanied by the mention "Under the patronage of UNESCO" on their communication materials for the activities.

For further information, please consult UNESCO's [website on the subject](#).

Contact: Ms Jinchai Clarke (j.clarke@unesco.org)

29 June 2017 – Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on Strengthening the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, Geneva, Switzerland

Organized by UNESCO and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, this meeting will bring together key stakeholders to take stock of developments in the area of safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, within the context of the first five years of implementation of the [UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity](#).

Member States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, members of academia and media and professional associations will gather to assess their achievements, consider the future and share best practices.

The issue of safety of journalists and ending impunity for human rights violations committed against them, in both conflict and non-conflict situations, is gaining momentum within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) that make up the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In particular, Goal 16 highlights the protection of fundamental freedoms and public access to information. Journalist safety and ending impunity for human rights violations are critical components of achieving this goal.

Member States, media, academics and civil society are invited to [send their contributions](#) ahead of the meeting on protecting journalists. Their contributions will be an essential resource in preparing the draft outcome document for the Multi-Stakeholder Consultation.

For more information on the Multi-Stakeholder Consultation, [please find here its concept note](#).

Contact: Ms Sylvie Coudray (s.coudray@unesco.org)

2-12 July 2017 – 41st session of the World Heritage Committee, Kraków, Poland

Organized by UNESCO with the Republic of Poland, the 41st session of the Committee will meet in Kraków (Poland), whose old town was among the first 12 sites inscribed on the World Heritage List.

This session will notably consider requests for the inscription of new sites on UNESCO's World Heritage List, and examine the state of conservation of sites already inscribed on the List as well as many other issues concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

As part of the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee and in the framework of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the International Cultural Centre in Krakow are holding Heritage Youth Forum 2017 "Memory: Lost and Recovered Heritage" from 25 June to 4 July 2017. Young representatives, aged from 22 to 32, from 35 countries, will have the opportunity to exchange ideas, contribute to the discussions and immerse themselves in topics within the scope of lost and recovered heritage.

NGOs interested in assisting as an observer should send a formal request to the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention in advance.

You will find all necessary documents on the devoted homepage. I invite you to find out more via [this link](#).

Contact: Ms Mechtild Rossler (m.rossler@unesco.org)

6 July 2017 - Internet Governance Forum Conference 2017, Nairobi, Kenya

Organized together with the Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANET), themed on “Shape your Digital Future!”, this Conference aims to serve as a platform for policy dialogue on issues of Internet governance in Kenya.

During the conference, the following topics will be discussed: Internet and elections; surveillance and human rights online; policies enabling access and digital literacy in the age of e-government; cyber-security; review of Kenya’s ICT policy; universal service fund; IFMIS and its challenges among others. These topics are important in light of the August general election, and the fact that technology will be deployed at a level that has not happened in the previous general elections.

The Forum is a unique platform for all national stakeholders to openly exchange perspectives and concerns on key issues that may affect the future of the Internet for millions of Kenyans. This year’s forum will attract participation of stakeholders from government, private sector, technical community, academia and civil society to discuss Internet governance issues on an equal footing through an open and inclusive process.

I encourage you to mobilize your national branches in Kenya for this important issue.

Contact: Mr Jaco Dutoit (j.dutoit@unesco.org)

UNESCO Publications

- The *UNESCO Courier* is back after five years of absence. This first issue of 2017, themed “Agenda 2030: Challenges for us all”, features experts, public figures, artists and journalists from around the world who have come together to discuss topical issues for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The *Courier* is published quarterly in seven languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish) and can be found via [this link](#).
- With tourism growing worldwide each year, the 83rd issue of *World Heritage* looks at the increasing role of *Museums and visitor centres* to help visitors understand the cultural and historical significance of World Heritage sites. This also includes zoos and aquariums, which increasingly play an important role in species conservation. It is available in English, French and Spanish under [this link](#).
- Today’s societies are searching for models and practices that will permit them to live together in harmony. The newly launched book *Diversity, dialogue and sharing: online resources for a more resourceful world* examines efforts made in this direction and shared by a diversity of organizations from all spheres of society working to develop rapprochement, dialogue and social justice within a context of affirmed pluralism. The book is available in English only under [this link](#).

Yours sincerely,



Eric Falt