



**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 2016

Dear Partners,

I am pleased to announce the release of the *UNESCO's 2015 Annual Report* covering UNESCO's actions throughout last year. This publication is available [under this link](#). As you will see, cooperation with NGOs is repeatedly mentioned throughout the report and I am pleased to highlight that the International Forum of NGO in official partnership we organized in Beijing, People's Republic of China, in July 2015 on "Rapprochement of cultures: One Humanity beyond Differences" is specifically mentioned in Chapter 4 - Learning to live together.

I also wish to share with you the *2015 Annual Report of the National Commissions for UNESCO*. It provides an overview of the main achievements of 143 National Commissions last year, and highlights success stories. The report is available under [this link](#).

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 patronage and the use of the name, acronym, logo and Internet domain names of UNESCO**

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.

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.

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Activities that meet the following criteria can be considered by UNESCO for patronage:

- the content of the activity has a connection with UNESCO's missions and programmes;
- the activity organizing entity can illustrate that it has sufficient financial resources for the planned activity;
- the activity is a short-term event, such as a conference, a forum, a meeting or a festival. Activities longer than 6 months cannot be considered for UNESCO's patronage.

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)

### **15 – 17 June 2016 - Forum for Future Ocean Floor Mapping, Monaco, Principality of Monaco**

Organized by the Nippon Foundation and the General Bathymetric Chart of Oceans (GEBCO) Guiding Committee, in cooperation with UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Hydrographic Organization, the Forum will bring together scientists, ocean mappers, academia, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations to begin charting a new direction for the future of ocean floor management.

The Forum will be a three-day event: the first day will open with national representatives and senior executives of major ocean-related organizations describing critical ocean issues and their views of the future. The remaining days of the Forum will consist of invited expert speakers from the ocean community and the participants interacting on critical ocean issues via presentations and breakout and poster sessions to formulate a plan for implementation of the views and visions described during the first day sessions.

For enquiries about the participation in the Forum, please refer to the website under [this link](#).

Contact: Mr Osamu Miyaki (o.miyaki@unesco.org)

## **10 – 20 July 2016 - 40th session of the World Heritage Committee, Istanbul, Turkey**

During its 40th session in Istanbul, Turkey, the World Heritage Committee will consider applications for inclusion of new sites on the World Heritage List and examine the state of conservation of sites already on the List.

The Committee is responsible for the implementation of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972). It defines the use of the World Heritage Fund and allocates financial assistance upon requests from States Parties. It has the final say on whether a property is inscribed on the World Heritage List. It examines reports on the state of conservation of inscribed properties and asks States Parties to take action when properties are not being properly managed. It also decides on the inscription or deletion of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

As part of the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee and in the framework of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme, the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO and the Istanbul Site Management Directorate are also organizing the World Heritage Youth Forum 2016: “At the Crossroads of Multi-Layered Heritage” from 29 June to 12 July 2016. Young representatives, aged from 22 to 28, from 35 countries, will have the opportunity to exchange ideas, contribute to the discussions and immerse themselves in topics within the scope of multi-layered 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 information on the site of the 40<sup>th</sup> session: <http://40whc2016.istanbul/>.

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

### **UNESCO Publications**

- A new policy paper titled *No more excuses*, jointly released by the UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report and UN High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) ahead of the World Humanitarian Summit, reveals new data showing that only 50% of refugee children are in primary school and 25% of refugee adolescents are in secondary school. You can download the paper in English study [under this link](#).
- The new publication *Keeping History alive – Safeguarding cultural heritage in post-conflict Afghanistan* highlights the rich and varied cultural resources of Afghanistan, drawing on selected projects implemented between 2002 and 2013. Contributions from a wide range of specialists offer insights into many famous historic monuments and landscapes, while highlighting aspects of some of the country’s lesser-known heritage. Available in English only, you can download this publication following [this link](#).

Yours sincerely,



Eric Falt