

# ngo-unesco liaison committee

5th Liaison Committee Meeting  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 16.00-18.00 CET  
Online

## **In attendance:**

### **Liaison Committee Members:**

- 1. Mr Nicholas Newland, Chairperson of the NGO-UNESCO LC (President)**
- 2. AIHR: Mr Abdelbasset Ben Hassan (Vice Chairperson)**
- 3. ARTERIAL NETWORK: Mr Limame Monza Kame**
- 4. CEAIE: Ms Yibo Liu, Ms Jessica Bian**
- 5. CLADE: Ms Nelsy Lizarazo, Ms Patricia Gainza**
- 6. IAESTE: Ms Olga Legacka (Executive Secretary)**
- 7. ICASE: Ms Teresa Kennedy (Vice Chairperson)**
- 8. ICSSPE: Ms Claire Boursier, Ms Junko Tahara**
- 9. IMC: Mr Davide Grosso**
- 10. ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: Mr Cyril Notin, Ms Laura Regouby**

### **Youth Forum Coordinator**

- 1. Celie Denez, WOSM**

### **UNESCO**

- 1. Mr Julien Pellaux, Director of Partnerships**
- 2. Ms Sabina Colombo, Head of Unit for Civil Society Partnerships (Unit)**
- 3. Mr Louis-Alberto Vargas Rojas**

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Adoption of the Agenda/Adoption de l'ordre du jour**

The agenda was adopted.

### **2. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting/Approbation du procès-verbal de la réunion précédente**

Minutes will be circulated and approved via email.

### **3. Introduction of Mr Julien Pellaux, Director of Partnerships, UNESCO**

Mr. Julien Pellaux presented the Partnership department's structure, the NGOs' role in the ecosystem of partnerships, and his vision of engagement with civil society. He would like to make the Liaison Committee more impactful in the way

Thematic mapping is a very important milestone in understanding the environment of NGOs and how we can use diversity to support the UNESCO agenda better.

Mr Julien Pellaux emphasised the work programme of the Liaison Committee and strong congruence with the sectors' work.

UNESCO General Conference:

- The sector will present the quadrennial report of the Director General on the contribution made to the UNESCO activities by NGOs. The LC will be called to contribute to the report on the section of the collaboration (a formal request will be sent out shortly).
- Online meeting/webinar for NGOs will be organised
- Partners forum/partnership space for NGOs to allow engagement with different stakeholders. The concept is being developed.
- The return of the United States will positively impact the upcoming General Conference.

The capacity and resources limit the sectors' activities, but there is hope to improve this situation with the US return.

Mr Julien Pellaux invited everyone to step into the Unit office whenever possible.

#### **4. International Forums updates/Mise à jour sur les forums internationaux**

- Forum AI & Youth (Teresa Kennedy, Patricia Gainza, Celie Denez)
  - Ms. Celie Denez, Patricia Gainza and Teresa Kennedy have been working on the initial concept document, also evaluating the use of AI in this process.
  - Open meetings with NGOs will be called to develop the agenda and establish a Steering Committee (in three languages: English, French, and Spanish to ensure inclusion and diversity).

ACTION: Mr Nick Newland will share the concept note.

- Forum "Changing Mentalities" (Olga Legacka, Thomas Faltner)
  - The forum will be moved to later because of the coincidence with the other high-level meetings in Luxembourg. Mr Nick Newland will contact the SHS sector regarding this.
  - IAESTE confirmed their readiness to assist with the logistics.
- Forum Culture (Davide Grosso)
  - The brainstorming process about the Forum and Youth Group involvement will be launched soon.
  - The initial work on the logistics was also done.

ACTION: Nick and Davide to agree on the Open Meeting date.

#### **5. Working Groups updates/Groupes de travail**

- IOC Task Group (Teresa Kennedy)
  - A draft list of the NGOs was sent to the Unit, the list was presented also to the LC. Waiting for the Unit feedback.
  - NGOs have yet to be contacted.

ACTION: Nick Newland will send everyone the documents related to the IOC to look closely, and a decision will be made via email.

- Youth Task Group (Davide Grosso, Nelsy Lazaro, Nick Newland, Celie Denez)
  - Terms of reference are drafted.
  - Open Call for Youth will be launched, and the meeting will also be combined with the brainstorming about the AI&Youth Forum.
  - In the future, finding a way to interact with the Youth Section within the SHS is recommended to bring everyone together in the UNESCO ecosystem (Sabina Colombo)

ACTION:

Celie Denez will share the draft terms of reference with Nick Newland so they can be shared with everyone.

- UNESCO Youth Forum
  - UNESCO NGO LC was approached to propose three young candidates for the UNESCO Youth Forum (theme: Climate Change)

