NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee – April 30, 2021

1. Opening

Davide Grosso, president of the Liaison Committee, thanked all in attendance.

2-3. Adoption of the agenda/ Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting

Agenda unanimously approved, as well as minutes of the last meeting.

4. Presentation of the LC Strategy

Presentation of the technical details concerning the presentation of the LC Strategy. After discussions, it was decided to let participants ask questions through the chat only.

5. Work Program

5.1 Strengthening partnership between NGOs and UNESCO

The former working group on strengthening partnership between NGOs and UNESCO sent a letter to the Liaison Committee and to Jean-Yves Le Saux, asking for news regarding the continuation of their work. Mr. Grosso shared his surprise to receive such a letter, as a meeting of this working group was called by Marie-Claude Machon-Honoré, who is also member of the Liaison Committee.

Mr. Grosso proposed to invite all former presidents of the Liaison Committee to meet in order to discuss the documents elaborated by this group and to propose a framework which should define how to move forwards and include all NGOs interested. A vote was called, all members of the Liaison Committee agreed on that proposition except for Ms. Machon-Honoré and Christian Breuil.

5.2 Forum on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in support of SDGs

Ms. Machon-Honoré proposed to organize a webinar on that topic. The forum was already postponed for various reasons, and was present in the recommendations. The plan is to organize a webinar, with a focus on women, Africa and youth. Ms. Machon-Honoré will present a more detailed project during the next meeting.

6. Updates

The new website will be presented at the Presentation of the LC Strategy on Tuesday.

Will to organize an event for the 75th Anniversary of UNESCO, focusing on youth and including as many NGOs as possible. Thaís Queiroz is working on it.

Concerning regional webinars, Victoria Lovelock prepared a concept. The idea is to have first an informal meeting with the NGO's, followed by a more formal meeting.

Sabina Colombo (UNESCO) informed the Committee that the UNESCO website on partnership is also being renewed, with a more visible link to the Liaison Committee website.

7. AOB

Proposition of Ms Machon-Honoré to have a common e-mail address for all members of the Committee. Problem of data protection, this idea was therefore abandoned.

8. Next meeting

A Doodle will be sent in the following weeks.