

NGO-UNESCO LIAISON COMMITTEE – 15th LC MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, 6 December 2022 – 4:00 – 6:00 pm CET

NGO Members	Representative(s)
	Davide Grosso (DG) – President/Chairperson
ACWW	Nick Newland (NN) – Communications Officer
IFBPW	Marie-Claude Machon-Honoré (MCMH) – CCNGO Liaison
CCIVS	Victoria Lovelock (VL) – Vice President
CLADE	Nelsy Lizarado (NL) Giovanna Moda (GM)
CIOFF	Jean Pascal Mariot (JPM)
CMA	Pat McCann (PM)
ICASE	Teresa Kennedy (TK) – Executive Secretary
Sozopol Foundation	Petya Zelenski (PZ)
WOSM	Célie Denez (CD)
UNESCO	Sabina Colombo (SC) Armin Ibrisimovic (AI)
Absent/Excused	FAPE, Christian Grégoire Epouma (CGE) CMA, Alexandre Ginoyer (AG)
LC Dropbox – All committee documents are stored in this shared area. Documents will be identified with reference to their respective Folder during each meeting. For this meeting, access the folder entitled Documents for Meetings; December 2022 .	
Decisions taken - Actions for Committee Members - Actions for Paris Office	

1. Opening – 4pm CET

DG thanked everyone for connecting, noted that the agenda was sent in advance, and that all corresponding documents for the meeting are in the dropbox.

2. Adoption of the agenda

December 2022 Agenda unanimously approved.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting

No corrections or additions were received.

Minutes of the November 2022 meeting unanimously approved.

4. Work Program – Follow Up on Recommendations

4.1. Programme of the ICNGO

DG provided an overview of the programme (located on the Dropbox). Assignments were reviewed as outlined on the programme. TK will take notes during the NGO brainstorming session during the ICNGO. DG will meet with the UNESCO Director General on Monday to provide a conference overview and informed on his last letter where he also invited her to attend the ICNGO.

SC shared the following:

- 180 registrants to date (80 NGOs). All NGOs wishing to participate in the voting process must be registered by 12/11/22 to allow time for organizing the voting system.
- Her team will be present during the event to assist and will manage online the coordination, which will be either webcast through YouTube or Zoom. A message will be sent to all registered NGOs with instructions for voting by the end of the week.
- The working languages of the ICNGO are English and French. Spanish translation will not be provided due to financial restrictions. The Chinese delegation is providing interpretation for the first day of the conference.

- The Unit for Civil Society Partnerships is hosting a welcome breakfast and networking session, and has also organized tours of UNESCO and the Open Space for NGOs.

LC Action 1: Remind NGOs to register to attend and vote by 12/11/22.

LC Action 2: Information regarding the programme speakers (in person and online) and their associated details must be finalized by 6pm CET on Thursday, 8 December (this week). Send all information, including speaker contact information to DG and VL by Thursday morning (in 2 days).

DG Action: Provide the final details to SC on or before the end of the day on Friday, 7 December, to provide her team with the time needed to organize online connections and other logistics.

4.2 Activity Report

DG thanked contributors for sending their information and noted that NN was the first to respond with his contributions. Reminders were given regarding sections still in need of information. A shared online document has been created for collective editing and LC confirmed they have received the link invitation.

LC Action: Please send assigned sections or revise them on the shared online document to DG, VL and TK by the end of the day on Thursday, 8 December. This is urgent so that we can provide NGOs with the opportunity to view the document prior to the ICNGO.

Translation Action: Ensure that the working documents that received revision are translated into French prior to the ICNGO.

4.3 Financial Report

JPM reviewed the financial report (document in the Dropbox). As a reminder, Philippe Beaussant has taken a new position and JPM has resumed responsibility as the alternate for CIOFF.

It was noted that we need to encourage all NGOs, especially those representing the LC, to make voluntary contributions as/if possible according to their financial situations.

A question arose from NN: Why is there €2000+ Euros when ACWW has been hosting and paying for the website since April 2021? Discussion addressed the question as other costs are covered under that point (Zoom, Gather, etc.).

SC informed that the cost of the ICNGO is estimated to be between 20/30,000€.

Action: An addition to the financial report will be made to summarize the total cost of each event to include aggregated contributions from sponsors and NGOs to ensure that future planning has a clear understanding of the total cost of past events.

4.4 Elections

The list of candidates has been published in English and French on the website, along with their videos and associated statements. All candidates have been asked to check their information and updates are occurring as needed.

DG shared that CGE sent registration confirmation to the ICNGO along with a message regarding his interest in participating in elections on 22 November 2022. His message was sent to the Unit. The email message was viewed and discussed since unfortunately it was received after the deadline date for candidature (received on 14 November), without the relevant form and therefore could not be taken into account.

5. Updates

5.1 Working group on strengthening partnership with National Commissions

PM and NN have collaboratively created the final draft of the documentation and it will be circulated by the end of the week. The document describes the bridge that the LC can provide to strengthen collaborations. The next LC will have a completed document that can be expanded on if desired.

Action: PM and NN will complete and circulate draft prior to the end of the week.

5.2 Survey on the implementation of the Directives

VL: 40+ replies have been submitted to the online form. Information has been included in the activity report and graphics are in process to more clearly depict the results. This work can be carried on by the next LC if decided upon as one of their priorities.

5.3 13th Forum on the Decade of Indigenous language & Oceans

NN and TK: The 13th International Forum of NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO entitled "*Mobilizing NGOs for the International Decade of Indigenous Language and Ocean Decade*" occurred in Ottawa, Canada, on 21-22 November 2022, sponsored by Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), the Foundation for Children in Need (FCN), the Universal Esperanto Association (USA), Air Canada, and Ottawa Tourism. The Forum took place at the Canadian Museum of Nature, where all participants had the opportunity to experience an amazing, curated visit through the Museum's Arctic Gallery. The Forum included 40 speakers and welcomed over 200 attendees in person and online from more than 40 countries – including participants from the four corners of Africa, the Pacific Islands, across central and south Asia, as well as from Europe, South America, and North America. At the end of the event pledges of action were received from NGOs from five countries during the closing sessions, as well as follow-up from several National Commissions and other NGOs. NN and TK thanked all who helped with the event (DG, PM, plus SC, AI and Iona Genevois from the Unit for Civil Society Partnerships). Formal thank you letters were sent to the 40 speakers thanking them for their contributions, including UNESCO representatives that served as presenters. It was noted that the UNESCO units responsible for both Decades made significant contributions to the planning, assisted with speaker selection, and actively took part in the event.

5.4 CCNGO

MCHM, NL and GM explained the consultation collective process carried out ahead of the December SCHL SDG4 with NGO partners and pointed to the inclusion of the advocacy of the group ID of girls for Girl's voices and right to education, in line with the follow-up and outcomes of the TES on gender equality global initiatives. Their document, including background and their guidance note, is located in the Dropbox.

5.5 International Days

The group of the International Day of Peace has created a 3-minute extract of their video that we will show at the end of the activity report during the ICNGO. A document on the future plans on the International Day of Girl Child has been posted on the LC website.

Action: PM will work with AG to complete the summary as an addition to the Activity Report, to be submitted by the end of the day on Thursday, 8 December, to DG, VL and TK.

6. AOB – Questions/Comments

DG thanked the LC for their work over the past two years. **The Activity Report documenting accomplishments/recommendations for the next LC must be reviewed urgently so that final revisions can be made.** It is imperative that we are able to transfer all documentation to the new Committee rapidly, the same day they are elected. **DG will ensure that the new Chair/President will be provided with access to the Dropbox, offices and any other related documents/tools shortly after election day.**

TK will assist DG and VL to prepare the Report of the ICNGO 2022.

7. Next Meeting: ICNGO, 14-16 December 2022.

End of meeting: 5:50 pm CET - Paris

Minutes respectfully submitted by Teresa Kennedy, LC Executive Secretary, 12/6/2022.