

NGO-UNESCO LIAISON COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, 26 October 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)
CIOFF	Jean Pascal Mariot (JPM)
CMA	Alexandre Ginoyer (AG) – International Days Alternate: Pat McCann (PM)
ICASE	Teresa Kennedy (TK) – Executive Secretary
UNESCO	Sabina Colombo (SC) Armin Ibrisimovic (AI)
Absent/Excused	CIOFF, Philippe Beaussant (PB) – Treasurer FAPE, Christian Grégoire Epouma (CGE) Sozopol Foundation, Petya Zelenski (PZ) WOSM, Nadine Shili (NS)) – Youth Liaison
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; September 2022 .	
Decisions taken - Actions for Committee Members - Actions for Paris Office	

1. Opening – 4pm CET – 11th Meeting of the NGO Liaison Committee

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 - Dropbox - Documents for Meetings; October 2022.
Agenda unanimously approved.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting - Dropbox Folder 3.

Additions sent via email by MCHM were added.

Minutes of the September 2022 meeting unanimously approved.

4. Work Program – Follow Up on Recommendations

4.1. ICNGO 2022

The preliminary invitation with save the date has been sent to all NGOs (14-16 December 2022). All technical documents that are customarily sent each year are located in the Dropbox for review. Travel support was requested by CLADE.

Title: Breaking barriers—What role for civil society organizations towards a sustainable future.

Details: The event will consist of three thematic sessions/pillars: (1) Breaking Barriers – a roundtable with stakeholders to explore ideas about moving beyond the role of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO (to be led by DG & VL); (2) Strengthening Partnerships – internally with regional webinars and externally with the working group on national commissions (to be led by NN, AG, & PM); and (3) Education and CCNGO (to be led by MCHM, & NL). All sessions will have a clear focus on opening up each topic to all NGOs (presenting each topic in a broad manner). Youth will be included in each pillar. The themes of Culture and Peace will also be integrated into the agenda (e.g. the book published for the International Day of Peace will be highlighted).

Action: Those assigned to each session will create draft plans to share prior to the next LC meeting to facilitate quick approval of sessions at the next meeting.

The Draft Activity Report: All members of the LC are expected to contribute to the final report, which will be presented by the Secretary (TK) at the ICNGO. DG shared the outline (summary below) and discussed section assignments. The expected length of each section will be noted on each section. Draft document located in the DropBox.

- **INTRO and RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED IN 2020:** DG
- **INTRO + MAIN POINTS + LINK + STRATEGY:** TK
- **INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION WITH UNESCO:** DG & TK (General intro + Recc 1974 + Webinar Ocean + Forum Korea):
- **REGIONAL WEBINARS:** VL & NL (Report + numbers + future)
- **COMMUNICATION:** NN (New website + ngo space + social media)
- **FORUMS:** NN (Global Citizenship); TK (Indigenous Languages and Oceans); MCHM (Webinar on STIE)
- **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT:** TT & NS (Group UNESCO 75th + plans for the future)
- **STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP:** DG (Consultative group of Chairs); NN & NS (Working group NAT COMM); VL (Survey on impl directives); AG & PM (Revision of work procedures, code of conduct)
- **CCNGO:** MCHM
- **INTERNATIONAL DAYS:** AG
- **LC Space at General Conference:** DG
- **PNG COMMITTEE:** DG
- **MEETINGS OF THE LC:** TK
- **FINANCES:** PB & JPB. [Note: JPM may need to represent PB who has been given new assignments at his organization.]
- **CONCLUSION:** DG, VL, & TK

Action: Those assigned to each session of the Report are asked to insert their draft sections prior to the next LC meeting.

SC: The Director General signed the invitation and it was sent to all NGOs. SC provided a short summary of the procedures to be followed during the ICNGO and explained the Call for Candidature for Elections (deadline for candidature submission: 14 November 2022, midnight CET-Paris Time). A second call for candidature will be distributed if seats are available after compilation of all received candidates.

Trying to ensure online participation can be accommodated from the meeting room for the ICNGO (important to take into consideration the timing of events—time zones—to ensure online participation). No side events are allowed to be organized during the conference.

4.2 Forum on the Decade of Indigenous language & Oceans

DG thanked NN and TK for their work to organize the Forum. An NGO brainstorming meeting occurred, during which a Steering Committee was created. Two meetings of the Steering Committee have occurred resulting in a draft Program that was developed collaboratively. All LC members are invited to attend the Forum and assist with the Program (support for one person/organization). Inform DG as quickly as possible if planning to attend. DG, NN, TK and PM confirmed attendance.

Budget of the Forum is ~ €35,000. Support has been provided by three NGOs: ACWW (€11,000), YOU Foundation (€3,500), Universal Esperanto Association (€1,000). Additional NGOs have been asked to contribute. Treasurer PB confirmed €45,000 in our account. Goal is to not spend more than €10,000 on this Forum. Air Canada 18% offers a 18% discount (code: GPWPUJ21).

4.3 Survey on the implementation of the directives

DG thanked VL for her work. VL shared that the draft survey has been completed. The document is located in the DropBox and will be sent to the LC via email. French translation was completed through Google Translate. The data gathered will be shared at the international conference.

Action: Provide feedback on survey questions and French translation by 2 November.

4.4 Revision of Code of Conduct, Working Procedures, Guide of the Forum

DG thanked MCHM, AG, PM, and NN who worked on the revision of the Working Procedures. The “almost” final version is in the DropBox. Additional French translation will occur after finalized. Additional comments were requested.

Discussion occurred regarding two contradictory points on the current procedures:

- Quorum for meeting=1/3 of members. LC consists of 11 members, what is 1/3? 3 or 4?
- In both cases, the current procedures state that for taking a decision the “majority vote of those in attendance.” is needed. What would this number be? Is that morally acceptable that 2 or 3 people can take decision for the entire Committee?

Decision: Change the quorum needed to take decision to “half of the members of the committee plus the Chair” (5 NGOs + the Chair).

PM: Proposed that in order to avoid hasty decisions on topics, items requiring a decision should be motioned in one meeting, with the vote occurring at the next meeting.

Decision: PM’s language will be added to the document and it will be circulated one final time by email for a final approval. If no further comment is made it will be deemed approved.

5. Updates

5.1 National Commissions

DG thanked NN and PM for their work.

PM: Two major consultations with NGOs have occurred to obtain feedback. Three committees have been formed and are advancing in their work. The questionnaire (discussed earlier) will be sent to the national committees to solicit feedback on how to better work with them. Final version of working text will be completed by the end of November.

5.2 CCNGO and participation in NYC Summit

MCMH: First day focused on youth; second day on mobilization with side events on global initiatives decided upon to leverage greater financial, technical and political support (greening education, getting every learner climate ready, digital transformation—connecting all learners to digital solutions, advancing gender equality—girls and women’s empowerment (a gender transformative summit), addressing education in crisis situations, foundational learning, financing education, youth empowerment—translating the youth declaration fed into the UN Secretary General vision statement. Final day focused on leadership. CCNGO will reconvene to engage in follow up activities. Documents shared in Dropbox and posted on the Summit Website. Additional documents will be shared when available.

5.3 International Day of Peace

AG: The event, celebrated in many different locations in the past, demonstrated the great potential of UNESCO’s involvement with NGOs in Official Partnership. The group produced an impressive video and their video editor is working on a 3-minute extract to be shown at the ICNGO. DG attended the celebration in Tolosa and reported back as a great event and a good practice to be followed in the future for other International Days. The Liaison Committee congratulates with Michel Thouzeau who coordinates the group since 2014 and with the entire group for their remarkable work.

6. AOB – Questions none

7. Next Meeting: TBD

A Doodle poll will be sent out to determine the date of the next meeting.

*DG hoping to meet on the 15, 16, or 17 of November 2022 to review candidate documents.

End of meeting: 6:06 pm CET - Paris

Minutes respectfully submitted by Teresa Kennedy, LC Executive Secretary, 11/7/2022.