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## 2024 International Conference of NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO

UNESCO Headquarters, 17-19 December 2024

“Building Capacity for Action”

### Day 1: Tuesday 17 December 2024

09h15-09h50 Reception and registration

10h00-10h30 **Opening of the Conference**

*(plenary, room II)*

- Xing Qu, UNESCO Deputy Director-General
- H.E. Ambassador Simona-Mirela Miculescu, President of the General Conference of UNESCO
- Nick Newland, Chairperson of the International Conference of NGOs

10h30-11h00 **Presentation of the Programme of the Conference**

*(plenary, room II)*

by the Chairperson and Jullien Pellaux, Director of the Division of Partnerships, UNESCO

**Adoption of the Agenda**

- Bureau of the Conference and Commission of Elections
- Election Procedures
- Drafting Groups

11h00-12h00

*(plenary, room II)*

**UNESCO Programme and Budget for 2026-2029 (43 C/5) - Interactive Presentation of the Preliminary Proposals of the Director-General**

With Zazie Schafer, Director of the Bureau of Strategic Planning, UNESCO

12h00-13h00

*(plenary, room II)*

**Priority Africa: Considering Capacity for Action**

- Mohamed Elfarnawany, Director, Division of Priority Africa Coordination, UNESCO
- Rosie Agoi, Secretary-General, Uganda National Commission for UNESCO
- Peggy Oti-Boateng, Executive Director, African Academy of Science
- Judith Awuor Juma, Vice-Chairperson, Social Justice League, Kenya
- Kitojo Wetengere, Vice-Chancellor, University of Arusha, Tanzania; ATD Fourth World

Moderated by the Chairperson of the International Conference

13h00-14h30

**Lunch Break**

14h30-15h45

*(plenary, room II)*

**Successes, Challenges, and Lessons Learned**

A dialogue between NGOs, UNESCO Programme Sectors, National Commissions, and the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee on collective action for UNESCO's priorities

- Teresa Kennedy, Vice-President, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee
- Goran Zelic, AI & Youth NGO Forum Steering Committee
- Alexandre Navarro, Secretary-General, French National Commission for UNESCO
- Davide Grosso, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee
- Dorine Dubois, Chief of the Executive Office, Culture Sector, UNESCO
- Abdel Basset Ben Hassen, Vice-President, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee
- Abou Amani, Director, Division of Water Sciences, UNESCO

Moderated by Jullien Pellaux, Director, Division of Partnerships, UNESCO

# Day 1: Tuesday 17 December 2024 - continued

15h45 Moving into parallel sessions

## Parallel Sessions: Dialogue with UNESCO Programme Sectors

16h00-17h15

### Education Sector - Room II

- Global overview by **Stefania Giannini**, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
- A focus on *Education for Peace, Human Rights, and Sustainable Development* with **Cecilia Barbieri**, Chief of Section of Global Citizenship and Peace Education, and **Julia Heiss**, Section of Education for Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO
- Dialogue with NGOs

Introduction by **Cyril Noirtin**, Treasurer, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

### Communication and Information Sector - Room XI

- Global overview by **Adina Trunk**, Chief of the Executive Office, Communications and Information Sector, UNESCO
- *The burden of T.R.U.T.H. – Transparency, Responsiveness, Understanding, Trust, and Human Rights.* Workshop with the CI sector on how UNESCO is addressing contemporary challenges such as mis/disinformation with **Guilherme Canela De Souza Godoi**, Chief of Section of Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists, Communications and Information Sector, UNESCO
- Dialogue with NGOs

Introduction by **Claire Boursier**, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

17h15-18h30

### Youth Working Group Strategic Dialogue - Room IX

*Please note that the maximum age for participation is 35 years, in line with the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee Youth Working Group terms of reference.*

- Introduction from UNESCO Youth Section on Programme Priorities, by **Maria Kypriotpou**, Associate Programme Specialist, UNESCO Youth Section, Social and Human Sciences Sector
- Strategic dialogue on Recommendations for Youth Engagement, chaired by **Jovana Kocevka**, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee Youth Liaison

Facilitated by **Anna Rojan**, Innovation Lead, The Do, and **Hannah Grover**, Senior Programme Manager, The Do.

# Day 2: Wednesday 18 December 2024

09h30-10h00 Reception and registration

10h00-11h00

(plenary, room II)

## Gender Equality: 30 Years after Beijing - Considering Emerging Issues and Technology Facilitated Gender-Based Violence

- **Delphine O**, Ambassador, Secretary-General for the Generation Equality Forum (Beijing+25)
- **Begoña Lasagabaster**, Director of the Gender Equality Division, UNESCO
- **Bhavani Rao R.**, Dean, School of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Director at AMMACHI Labs, UNESCO Chair on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham
- **Odipo Sharola**, Founder and President, Women in Artificial Intelligence Africa
- **Keithlin Caroo**, Founder, Helen's Daughters, St Lucia

Moderated by **H.E. Christina Kokkinakis**, Permanent Representative of the European Union to the OECD and UNESCO

11h00-11h20

(plenary, room II)

## Launch of the Manual for Participation of NGOs in the Ocean Decade

Presentation of the new guide for civil society participation in the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, prepared by the joint NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission NGO Task Group.

- **Alison Clausen**, Deputy Global Coordinator of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO
- **Teresa Kennedy**, Vice-President, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

## Day 2: Wednesday 18 December 2024 - continued

- 11h20-11h30 **Report of the Commission of Elections**  
(plenary, room II)
- 11h30 Moving into parallel sessions
- 11h45-13h00 **Parallel Sessions: Dialogue with UNESCO Programme Sectors**
- Culture Sector - Room XI**
- *Towards MONDIACULT 2025: Culture for Human Rights, Economic Development, Education, Climate Action, Digital Transformation and Crisis Preparedness and Response* with Ernesto Ottone, Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO
  - Dialogue with NGOs
- Introduction by Davide Grosso, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee
- Social and Human Sciences Sector - Room II**
- Global overview by Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO
  - A focus on *Today's Consequences of the Transatlantic Slave Trade* with Nonso Obikili, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO
  - Dialogue with NGOs
- Introduction by Abdel Basset Ben Hassen, Vice-President, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee
- 13h00-14h30 **Lunch Break**
- 14h30-15h30 **Collective contribution of NGOs to the preparation of the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget for 2026-2029 (43 C/5)**  
(plenary, room II)
- Building on input received from NGOs through surveys, online consultations, and written contributions to the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, this session will seek to refine concrete proposals.
- 15h30-17h30 **Workshop: A Multistakeholder Approach to Change**  
(plenary, room II)
- Guided by the experience of the KNIT Programme launched by the H&M Foundation and The Do, this session explores opportunities for NGOs to build progressive, positive change within their institutions with inclusive and innovative approaches.
- Bushra Ahmed, Stephanie Daley, Suwayda Abdi, William Rook, KNIT Programme Participants
  - Hannah Grover, Senior Programme Manager and Anna Rojan, Innovation Lead, The Do.
- Introduction by Olga Legacka, Executive Secretary, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

## Day 3: Thursday 19 December 2024

- 10h30-11h30 **Sharing Good Practices on Building Partnerships**  
(plenary, room II)
- Dumitru Drumea, Deputy Secretary-General, National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO
  - Antoine Bernard, Director, Advocacy & Assistance, Reporters Without Borders (RSF)
  - Christopher Castle, Director of the Division for Peace and Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO
  - Josephine Rodgers, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Access Agriculture
- 11h30-12h30 **Presentation of the Activity Report and the Financial Report of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee 2022-2024**  
(plenary, room II)
- Olga Legacka, Executive Secretary, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee
  - Cyril Noirtin, Treasurer, NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

# Day 3: Thursday 19 December 2024 - continued

## 13h00-14h30 **Lunch Break**

### **NGO Hub: Sharing Experiences from around the World - Room IX**

Open space for civil society to present their experiences, exchange ideas, and network for future collaboration. Please note that this will be a multi-lingual space, without simultaneous interpretation. Those wishing to make presentations, must register in advance.

## 14h30-15h00 **Report of the Commission of Elections and proclamation of results**

*(plenary, room II)*

## 15h00-16h00 **Approval of the Collective contribution of NGOs to the preparation of the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget for 2026-2029 (43 C/5) and Approval of the Recommendations of the 2024 International Conference**

*(plenary, room II)*

Consideration and approval of the drafts prepared based on collective inputs, consultations, and discussions during the 2024 International Conference of NGOs.

## 16h00-16h30 **Closing Session**

*(plenary, room II)*

- Jullien Pellaux, Director, Division of Partnerships, UNESCO
- Nick Newland Outgoing Chairperson of the International Conference of NGOs
- The newly-elected Chairperson

## Timetable - Online Elections

### Election of the Chairperson

Ballot	Date	Time
Ballot	17 December 2024	14h00-19h00 Paris time
Second Round Ballot (if necessary)	17-18 December 2024	22h00-10h00 (+1) Paris time

### Election of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

1 <sup>st</sup> Ballot (Geographic Distribution)	Date	Time
First Ballot	17 December 2024	14h00-19h00 Paris time
Second Round First Ballot (if necessary)	17-18 December 2024	22h00-10h00 (+1) Paris time
<b>Report of the Commission of Elections on the first Ballot</b> <i>(in the plenary)</i>	18 December 2024	11h00-13h00 Paris time (TBC)

### Election of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

2 <sup>nd</sup> Ballot (Partnership Status)	Date	Time
Second Ballot	17 December 2024	14h00-19h00 Paris time
Second Round 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ballot (if necessary)	17-18 December 2024	22h00-10h00 (+1) Paris time
<b>Proclamation of Results</b> <i>(in the plenary)</i>	19 December 2024	14h30 Paris time