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**Patrick McCANN**

Administrateur du CMAtlv, Délégué à l’UNESCO

 **M. le Président**

**Comité de Liaison des ONG UNESCO**

 Paris, le 16 novembre 2024

**OBJET :** Candidature pour l’élection de membre du COMITE DE LIAISON des ONG UNESCO

Mr. President of the LIAiSON COMMITTE, Representatives of UNESCO's NGO Partners,

Thank you for considering my application to work on the next UNESCO NGO LIAISON COMMITTE.

Our NGO’s French name is the CMAtlv, Comité mondial pour les apprentissages tout au longue de la vie. In English: Lifelong Learning World Committee. We have been campaigning for 20 years for all people, regardless of age and condition, to be able to acquire learning that ensures their social and professional inclusion, their fulfilment and their dignity. We have organized seven world forums on this theme on different continents and are currently preparing our 8th forum to be held on the South American continent on the theme of Peace Education. We are primarily interested in disadvantaged groups. For example, we have carried out several projects in Europe, in particular to support people in refugee camps. At the moment, we are preparing a book on the learning to be brought to prisoners to facilitate their reintegration into society after their release from prison.

To introduce myself: I'm originally from Manhattan, New York. Growing up in East Harlem helped me learn Spanish, my initial second language. I moved to Paris 35 years ago, where I have been active in education as well as diplomacy, having been a special assistant to an African prime minister. In addition to speaking English, French and Spanish, I have notions of Korean and Chinese.

The CMA previously worked on the LIAISON COMMITTE from 2018 to 2022, and I was its representative in 2021 and 2022. I aim to put my experience and skills at your service to help NGOs represent civil society to Member States, in order to better serve the work of the United Nations in general and on the important Sustainable Development Goals in particular. I undertake to carry out this mission in compliance with all the required conditions

I, and the members of the CMA, believe that being elected to the Liaison Committee we can help the committee benefit from that the work we have been doing over the last two decades. Finally, as I live in Paris near UNESCO and being multilingual, I will be able to be present for the many activities at UNESCO’s headquarters which will facilitate the meeting of Member States’ representatives and the spreading of the message of the important work contributed by the Liaison Committee.

Today, more than ever, all over the world, Lifelong Learning plays a central role, transversal to all other subjects, and will be a major key to the future of humanity.

Thank you.

**Patrick McCANN**