

NGO-UNESCO LIAISON COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 13 June 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
CIOFF	Jean-pascal Mariot (JM)
CMA	Alexandre Ginoyer (AG) Alternate: Pat McCann (PM)
Sozopol Foundation	Petya Zelenski (PZ)
UNESCO	Sabina Colombo (SC) Armin Ibrisimovic (AI)
Absent/Excused	CLADE, Nelsy Lizarado (NL) FAPE, Christian Grégoire Epouma (CGE) ICASE, Teresa Kennedy (TK) – Executive Secretary WOSM, Nadine Shili (NS) IFBPW Leshia Witmer (Alternate)
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 - June 2022 .	

Decisions taken

Actions for Committee Members

Actions for Paris Office

1. Opening – 4pm CET

DG thanked everyone for connecting and noted that TK sent a letter excusing herself for the absence. She will make sure to be fully available again in the coming months. She will also update on her presence on the Expert Group for the Revision of the UNESCO 1974 Recommendation. NL also sent a message explaining her absence. LW sent a message to MCM informing she was not sure to be available.

2. Adoption of the agenda

SC proposed that since the topic is quite internal, the Secretariat prefers not to assist to the discussion. Item 4.1 (Follow up recommendation n°2) was moved at the end of the agenda and amended agenda unanimously approved.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of last meeting (April 2022) were sent by Philippe Beussant. No comments or request for amendment were received. The recording seems to be missing.

DG to check if TK still has the recording.

Minutes of the last meeting unanimously approved unless major editing are necessary once the recording is available.

4. Work Program

4.2 Follow Up Document from Consultative Group of LC Presidents

The consultative group of Presidents have finally concluded the analysis and presented the conclusion and the proposal to the LC.

DG proposed that the LC approve the document as it is including the proposals. MCMH expressed her reservations on the point regarding the dialogue with Member States as the weak formulation might induce a bias against considering and advocating for the opportunity to reinstate thematic debates in the framework of the NGP Committee as recommended by the 207th EX Board. MCMH asked for the point she made to be included in the minutes.

AG pointed out that there are a lot of differences instances at UNESCO and reminded that the former group on strengthening the partnership did a good job.

NN and VL congratulated the Consultative group for the hard work and expressed their satisfaction for the document.

SC reminded that thematic debates are not in the hand of the LC but of the NGP Committee. As written in the document, the LC should be ready to accompany and participate in case these debates will be organised but as of today, there is no decision regarding that.

DG reminded that the point of the consultative group is to provide the LC with an analysis of what has been done and the best way to implement what is asked on the Recommendations 1 and 2 of the last ICNGO.

The document and the proposals were unanimously approved.

Concerning the proposals made by the consultative group:

1. Create a working group on strengthening the partnership with UNESCO National Commissions: it will be important to detect challenges and good practices **NN and NS (pending) will organise and coordinate two parallel groups (English and French). They will elaborate a precise framework and a timeline to submit to the committee.** Once this is done MCMH could help as well. Results should be presented at the next ICNGO as well as to the UNESCO Director General.
2. Feedback on the implementation of the directives 10 years after their adoption: DG thinks that the best way to have a large consultation on this is to conduct a survey (on two languages at least). It should be precise in order to have a consistent result. MCMH also cautioned against any bias in the formulation of questions for the survey. NN offered to help with setting up the survey. SC and AG offered help for the elements of language and for French translation. **DG and VL will prepare a draft to submit to the committee.**

4.3 International Conference of NGOs

DG introduced the item proposing that for this meeting the LC should mainly agree on the dates and from the next meeting it can be taken more on an organisational and content side. SC explained the context and the fact that the aim is to have a hybrid conference. The Secretariat has already booked some rooms. If agreed the Secretariat will prepare and send a save the date. NN suggested to be very clear on the format (if hybrid) the save the dates. DG reminded also that the point on online elections is part of the

Recommendations and the LC should do everything to make the ICNGO as open as possible.

The LC agreed on the dates 14 – 16 December 2022.

5. Updates

- International Days

International Day of Peace: AG updated on the book for which the LC has given a contribution is almost finalized. The big question is how to promote it. NN will make sure that the news is shared on the LC website and shared on social medias. Concerning the organization of the celebration in Toloso, hosted by the city, there have been some issues between the group based in Paris and the representative of UNIMA. DG explained that UNIMA is acting only as an intermediary. DG had a meeting with the mayor of Tolosa and other institutions involved and acted as a mediator between them and the group. It looks like the issues have been solved and the preparation of the celebration (17 September 2022) is continuing.

International day of girl child: AG updated on the progress of the group. DG went to Rabat with two members of the group and a collaboration with ICESCO was envisaged. ICESCO could offer a space in the framework of another event to showcase the work around this celebration. Unfortunately since then there are no news.

In parallel, the group is trying to mobilize local NGOs to organize a one-day event for which they are also looking for (video) contributions from NGOs, especially from young women having experiences to share from the field.

DG will include this call for contribution in his next letter to NGO and encouraged members of the LC to look for contributions. DG will have a meeting with one of person of the group to see how to speed up the process with ICESCO.

- Regional Webinars

DG updated on the work done. The next one is going to target Asia-Pacific Region and the plan is to cover the entire world by the end of the mandate.

- Webinar on the Decade of Oceans

SC updated on the context: the Unit is going to launch a series of webinars on major UNESCO flagship programmes to inform NGOs in official partnership and foster their involvement. The first one will be on the Decade of Oceans and will be organised in cooperation with the concerned UNESCO sector and the LC. This is meant to be the first of a series which could cover other major programmes such as Open Science. SC will share a concept note and will ask the LC to propose an NGO to make a presentation on the theme.

- Webinar on STI

MCMH reported on the webinar which was successful and involved UNESCO sectors as well as very good speakers. The conclusions are currently been elaborated and will shared with participants. All the content is also currently being uploaded on the LC website. MCMH informed on the plan to organise another webinar as a follow up on a complementary theme.

6. AOB

Given the time, the remaining items will be taken at the next meeting. Concerning item 4.1, AG will convey a separate meeting with MCMH, NN and DG to discuss the feedbacks

sent by LC members. For the Item concerning CCNGO, MCMH will prepare a written report for the next meeting.

7. Next Meeting: TBD

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