

**NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee**  
**Meeting 3**  
**28 March 2025**

**Present:**

Svetlomira Stoyanova, Chairperson  
Sanjiv Layek, WASME  
Nick Newland-Ešner, ACWW  
Nisrine Ibn Abdeljalil, FMPS  
Davide Grosso, IMC  
Olga Legacka, IAESTE  
Isabela Carrozza Joia, SDSN  
Stanislav Semerdjiev, CILECT  
Nireen Naidoo, Higher Health  
Aziz Kaichouh, FMPS

**UNESCO Secretariat:**

Sabina Colombo

**Apologies:**

Ramneek Ahluwalia, Higher Health  
Cyril Noirtin, Rotary International  
Karina Batthyany, CLACSO

**MINUTES**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted unanimously, and Nisrine Ibn Abdeljalil was requested to take minutes for this meeting.

**2. Adoption of Meetings 1 & 2 minutes**

- a. The minutes of meetings 1 & 2 were unanimously approved
- b. Reminder: minutes have a general formulation about the ideas discussed and the decisions made, they don't phrase what each member says. They are published on the website to inform the NGOs about those ideas and decisions.

**3. Work Program 2025-2029**

- a. Discussion on whether to organise forums around specific topics or on a broader subject that could embrace different topics, to involve more NGOs in forums. It was reminded that the number of 4 forums should allow discussion about different topics, and that the forums should be organised with the program sectors and according to their interests. One idea is to organize a forum on a broad topic which involves two program sectors.
- b. The UNESCO executive board is meeting next week, so we will soon know about the program sectors priorities to help define the forums' topics. Sabina will also share a document with a list of all previous forums.
- c. Other points made about the forums: they should be organized around the recommendations of the ICNGO and the new 2025 decades

- d. The organisation of smaller events, 2h workshops, with NGOs on specific topics could be efficient to engage more with NGOs. For example, WASME and SDSN could organise one on capacity building for NGOs addressing the decades. CILECT could also bring support on the subjects related to sustainability, diversity and AI.
  - e. The president is currently working on a communication strategy, and a story telling, that would decline the committee vision.
  - f. Our communication strategy should allow us to engage with more NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO. The regional mapping results, due in June, will be useful in our communication strategy with NGOs
  - g. Mondiacult, organised by the UNESCO cultural sector, is also an important event to mobilise NGOs. Sabina will coordinate with the sector to see how to involve the committee and the NGOs in the event and will organise a meeting with the LC and the sector later. The President could also discuss the subject with the director general and the assistant director general
  - h. Discussion around a Funding event should be made once the work program and the communication strategy are finalised. There could be one on one meetings with targeted potential donors followed by a restricted event: lunch/roundtable
  - i. The working groups need more reflection to define their objectives. We could maintain the youth working group which is working well. An idea was also brought on an event around mobilising youth and culture, with the help of an ex-LC member.
  - j. Some Proposal were made, based on the ICNGO recommendations:
    - Education beyond learning (a broad topic on education that could address challenges facing education: AI/culture/green education...)
    - World mobilisation for Early Childhood Development to reach SDGs (what alternatives for ECD in different contexts)
    - Sustaining NGOs for the promotion of culture (NGOs play a key role in promoting culture but they need support and more engagement from governments)
  - k. For the finalisation of the work program: we will gather on the vision that we have, we will follow the ICNGOs recommendations and we will stay open to adapt to the challenges and priorities.
  - l. The president informed the LC that the bureau had a meeting on the budget. The budget needs to be discussed with the treasurer and will be finalised after the work program is finalised.
4. **Actions required**
    - a. All members agreed to mandate the LC bureau de finalise the work program based on the meeting discussions
    - b. The final version should be approved within the next 10 days
  5. **Next meeting**
    - a. 10 days or so from now