



**8th Liaison Committee Meeting
27 February 2024
2:00 - 4:00 PM (CET)**

In attendance:

Liaison Committee Members:

- 1. Mr Nicholas Newland, Chairperson of the NGO-UNESCO LC (President)**
- 2. AIHR: Mr Abdelbasset Ben Hassan (Vice Chairperson)**
- 3. ARTERIAL NETWORK: Mr Babylas Ndiaye, Mr Limam KANE**
- 4. CE AIE: Ms Jessica Bian**
- 5. CLADE: Ms Patricia Gainza**
- 6. IAESTE: Ms Olga Legacka (Executive Secretary)**
- 7. ICSSPE: Ms Claire Boursier, Ms Junko Tahara**
- 8. IMC: Mr Davide Grosso**
- 9. ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: Mr Cyril Notin, Ms Laura Regouby**

UNESCO

- 1. Ms Sabina Colombo, Head of Unit for Civil Society Partnerships (Unit)**
- 2. Mr Louis-Alberto Vargas Rojas**

1. Adoption of the Agenda / Adoption de l'ordre du jour

The agenda was adopted.

2. Report of the 14th International Forum of NGOs: Artificial Intelligence & Youth. (13-14 December 2023), <https://ngo-unesco.net/ai-%26-youth-2023>

Over the two days, 45 speakers from 25 countries examined artificial intelligence and its relationship with youth, and it was a really interesting and inspiring examination. The Committee would like to thank the forum's chairs: Dr Teresa Kennedy, Ms Patrizia Gainza, and Ms Melissa Florez. A more detailed report will be shared later.

3. Report of the 15th International Forum of NGOs: Transforming Mentalities (24-25 January 2024) (Mr Nick Newland, Ms Claire Boursier), <https://ngo-unesco.net/transforming-mentalities>

It was a tremendous in-person and online event, with three hundred participants. Very diverse ways of transforming mentalities were discussed and presented with the engagement of NGOs. Ms Claire Boursier will prepare a short report with suggestions for future forums, also focusing on encouraging more NGOs to be involved.

4. Update on the 16th International Forum of NGOs: Sustainable Cultures (15-16 April 2024)

(Mr Davide Grosso / Mr Monza Limame Kane).

Venue: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, hosted by the MASA Festival (Marché des Arts du Spectacle d'Abidjan)

Some budget is being secured. Davide and Monza continue to work on it.

The programme and speakers are being discussed. The Forum will convene experts and NGOs from different backgrounds for a two-day event highlighting relevant contributions towards a cultural goal from NGOs, UNESCO, and other stakeholders (governments, other UN agencies, etc.). During the forum, all participating NGOs will have the opportunity to present their actions and activities, which illustrate the interconnection between culture and other fields such as education, peace, science, climate change, human rights, gender equality, and reducing inequalities.

5. Youth Working Group

The youth working group started very well. Last year, around 70 youth representatives under the age of 36 engaged with it. We appointed Ms Celie Denez as the liaison and representative to the youth working group. Unfortunately, Celie is not able to continue for personal reasons.

IAESTE, the youth-focused organisation, proposed appointing a young person to facilitate and coordinate the youth group's work until the end of the year. The IAESTE proposal was accepted, and IAESTE will propose the name of the person at the next meeting.

6. Potential for Future Forums

- Venues:
 - Morocco. Eric Falt, the Regional Director at UNESCO, supports this idea. Sabina and Nick visited Morocco recently and met several NGOs and universities interested in supporting this initiative.
 - Qatar, Saudi Arabia. Similar to Morocco, they are also interested in supporting a forum.
- Topics: Green education for sustainable development; right to education and lifelong learning; connection to Science for Sustainable Development Decade (this will be launched in Colombia).

7. Update on the Legal States of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

(Ms Sabina Colombo, Chief of the Unit for Civil Society Partnership at UNESCO)

- UNESCO, Council of Europe, and Francophonie are three organisations with mechanisms for collective contribution from NGOs.
- Consultations with these organisations are in process, intending to share knowledge and identify best practices.
- The aim is to create proposals to clarify the legal status of the Liaison Committee.

8. Budget and Financial Update (Mr Cyril Noirtin)

Mr Cyril Noirtin presented an update on the 2023 budget. We have managed to balance the budget. Several in-kind contributions (rooms, interpretation, etc.) were granted by the UNESCO sectors that are not included in the budget.

Plan for the 2024 budget, general comments:

Income: 15,000 EUR are expected as voluntary contributions from NGOs.

- Costs: mainly the costs of supporting the organisation of the forums, especially translation.

Compte de Résultat 2024 / Income statement 2024

Débit	Budget	2024	Crédit	Budget	2024
Charges d'exploitation / Operating expenses			Produit d'exploitation / Operating income		
Fournitures, frais divers / Supplies and miscellaneous expenses	200 €	- €	Contribution ONG / NGO contributions	15 000 €	- €
Poste et Telecom / Post and Telecom	100 €	- €	Subvention UNESCO / UNESCO Grants	- €	- €
Photocopies (maintenance photocopies) / (photocopier maintenance)	- €	- €	Other	- €	- €
Plateforme ONG : NGO Platform	- €	- €			
Déplacement / Missions / Travel	2 500 €	- €			
Licence zoom	- €	- €			
Traductions de documents / Translation of document	250 €	- €			
Travaux d'imprimerie (Chemise, carte visite) / Printing	300 €	- €			
Site Web et communication / Website and Communication	200 €	- €	Total produit d'exploitation / Total Operating income	15 000 €	- €
Frais de réunion du comité / Committee meeting expenses	- €	- €			
Frais Bancaire / Bank charges	400 €	- €			
Divers / Miscellaneous	300 €	- €			
Autres (remaining expenses from previous mandates)	- €	- €			
Total Charges d'exploitation / Total Operating Expenses	4 250 €	- €			
Actions / Projects			Actions / Projects		
Dépenses des forums / Forum Expenses	15 250 €	997,27 €	Produits des forums / Income from Forum	15 000 €	- €
Webinaire / Webinar	4 000 €	- €			
Dépenses des journées internationales / International Days	1 500 €	- €	Produits des journées internationales / Income from International Days		- €
Conférence générale de l'UNESCO / General Conference	- €	- €			
Conférence Internationale des ONG / NGO Conference	5 000 €	- €	Conférence Internationale des ONG : Income from NGO Conference	- €	- €
Total Charges actions / Total Projects Expenses	25 750 €	997 €	Total produit actions / total Projects income	15 000 €	- €
Sous Total 1	30 000 €	997 €	Sous Total 1	30 000 €	- €
Bénéfice exercice / Profit		- €	Perte exercice / Loss	- €	997 €
Financial income (Livret A)		191,48 €	Financial cost	- €	
TOTAL	30 000 €	997 €	TOTAL	30 000 €	997 €

Decision: The budget presented for 2024 was accepted.

Decision: If no other source of funding is available, a EUR1000 budget will be allocated to cover Dr Teresa Kennedy's travel costs to the Oceans Decade event in Barcelona.

9. Communication

- Olga suggested creating a virtual working space (Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.) for the Liaison Committee. It was generally agreed that we need it, but a technical solution will be proposed.
- Nick will work on the next newsletter issue.
- 15 March: Briefing about the Civil Society Forum, which will be hosted in Nairobi, Kenya, in May for all NGOs.
- Midterm Meeting: It was discussed that we should organise a midterm meeting.

10. Any Other Business

- Patronage for the MANIFEST project, 14 artists, France, and exhibition in UNESCO HQ: Approved.
- Patronage for the Dance for Peace in Sharing 2024 (<https://danse-paix2024.org/en/>): Approved.
- CCNGO update: At the January meeting, the role and objective of the CCNGO were discussed, as well as the priorities for 2024: education financing, strengthening policy decisions based on evidence, SDG 4 influencing major global education and border multi-sectoral global agendas. The summary will be added to the following newsletter.
- Claire Boursier shared information about participating in the meeting with the NGO.
- ICNGO, dates in this week have been secured: 16-19 December 2024

11. Next Meeting / Prochaine Reunion: The decision will be made via Doodle.