

### The Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

> Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencla y la Cultura

Организация Объединенных Наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры

> منظمة الأمم المتحدة التربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、 科学及文化组织 To Non-Governmental Organizations, Official partners of UNESCO

Ref.: ERI/NCS/NGO/2013/101

9 August 2013

Dear Partners,

Whilst some of you may be on vacation, I suggest that we take a look together at some activities to be held in September-October:

Moreover, you have probably noticed that we launched a major census of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO which will allow us, first, to update the information at our disposal about your organization, but also to assess the status of cooperation with each NGO in official partnership. I invite you to carefully fill out the questionnaire sent to you and return it to us in due time.

# 26 September 2013 – Committee on Non-Governmental Partners of the Executive Board (192<sup>nd</sup> session), UNESCO Headquarters, France

The Committee on Non-Governmental Partners (NGP) will review the implementation of the 2011 Directives and initiate discussion on the evaluation and future work of the Committee. The thematic discussion of this session will take place under the transverse theme of youth, and the topic will be: "The action of UNESCO in the field of youth: what role for NGOs." The major role that NGOs can play within the framework of activities that UNESCO intends to develop in the implementation of its Youth Strategy 2014-2021 will be discussed. I'm sure this topic will be of interest for many of you.

I invite you to refer to document 192 EX/31 which will be available online soon at this address:

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/executive-board/documentation/basic-search/.

Contact: Ms Sabina Colombo (ngo@unesco.org)

## 29-31 October 2013 - 8<sup>th</sup> Youth Forum, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

The 8<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Youth Forum, an integral part of UNESCO's General Conference, will be one of change and innovation and will take place under the overall theme "Youth and Social Inclusion: Civic Engagement, Dialogue and Skills Development".

For the first time in the Forum's history, its young participants will be invited to select 15 action projects (three by region) among proposals received through a call for projects, for which, you will recall, you were approached last July, and which is open to young people and youth organizations around the world.

The 15 selected action projects will receive the label "8th UNESCO Youth Forum": a guarantee of quality and excellence, which should provide their initiators with opportunities to mobilize funds, partnerships and international visibility. The 15 selected action projects will be announced during the closing session of the Youth Forum on 31 October 2013, and, later, presented to Member States of UNESCO during the 37<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference of UNESCO.

The second important innovation of this edition will be its tighter and more interactive format compared to previous editions which will provide more time and space for break-out sessions and direct exchanges.

I urge you to mobilize young people of your NGOs for this Forum. As I already have had the occasion to point out: if we are not able to communicate with young people today, UNESCO will no longer exist tomorrow.

The Forum's format, process and preliminary agenda, as well as all related information are available on the dedicated website launched on 23 July: http://www.unesco.org/new/en/youth-forum-2013/

Contact: Mrs Moufida Goucha (youth@unesco.org)

## 5 October 2013 - World Teachers' Day - "A Call for Teachers", UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

Celebrations will focus on UNESCO's work in particular the implementation of its Strategy on Teachers (2012-2015), which aim to improve the training of teachers in order to achieve a quality education.

Teachers develop learners' abilities to build a sustainable future with citizens who are able to take action in their own communities and contribute to global challenges.

For more information, I invite you to familiarize yourselves with the UNESCO Strategy on Teachers (2012-2015):

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002177/217775E.pdf

#### UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize to Promote Quality Education for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities

You will recall having received in July the call for nominations for this award that, every two years, rewards the work of individuals, groups, organizations and centers in recognition of their efforts to enable learning for persons with intellectual disabilities.

The Prize consists of a certificate and a monetary stipend of US\$ 20,000 to each awarded recipient.

The winners are selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of recommendations made by an international jury of five independent members, who are appointed on a four year term by UNESCO.

I want to remind you that applications can be submitted until 13 September 2013 and should be sent to the following address: inclusion@unesco.org.

More information is available under this link.

Contact: Ms Florence Migeon (f.migeon@unesco.org)

#### 27 October 2013 – 7<sup>th</sup> World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

This Day is a celebration commemorating the adoption, in 1980, of the Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images. It provides an occasion to raise general awareness on the need to take urgent measures and acknowledge the importance of audiovisual documents.

By celebrating this Day, UNESCO seeks to draw the international community's attention to the challenges in this field and notably to the role of audiovisual documents as an integral part of national identity.

I invite NGOs organizing activities and events involving national heritage institutions and schools to inform us on their activities, which we shall publish on our site www.unesco.int.

For more information, please click on this link. Contact: Ms Joie Springer (j.springer@unesco.org)

#### **UNESCO Publications**

- ➤ The publication Asia-Pacific End of Decade notes on Education for All EFA Goal 2: Universal primary education examines what the region has attained between 2000-2010. You can access this publication at the following address: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002212/221200e.pdf.
- ➤ The publication *Pressing for Freedom: 20 years of World Press Freedom Day* is now available and can be downloaded under this link.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Falt