

First meeting of the new NGOs Liaison Committee at UNESCO Headquarters (Paris) Friday February 13th 2015.

The new President of the UNESCO NGOs Liaison Committee, Ms Martine Lévy (World Organization of Girl Scouts and Guides), who was elected by the International Conference of NGOs (December 2014), opened the meeting by reading a recent speech about the New Humanism by Ms Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO.

The President then reminded us of the role and the functions of the NGOs Liaison Committee as defined by the Directives ruling the relationship between the UNESCO Secretariat and the NGOs.

Seven functions are assigned to the Liaison Committee:

1. To represent NGOs at UNESCO,
2. To watch over an appropriate application of partnership between UNESCO and NGOs,
3. To facilitate exchange of information between UNESCO and NGOs and between NGOs,
4. To implement decisions adopted by the International Conference of NGOs,
5. To reflect the opinion of NGOs as a whole,
6. To prepare the meeting of Non-Governmental partnership,
7. To organize each year two meetings (forum) in link with a UNESCO priority program.

Program for 2015:

A forum ***“Women and Poverty”*** is in progress and could be held in June 2015 either in Paris or in China.

An **International Day** on migrant people is also in progress. The working group in charge of this event proposes to have it organized by December 2015 (possibly December 14th or 18th).

Education: The World Forum on Education, which will be held in South Korea (19-23 May 2015), will present the objectives for 2030. The CCNGO on EFA has sent a questionnaire to collect NGOs proposals on the new targets which should be agreed by state members, UNESCO, and the civil society.

UNESCO 70th anniversary: The Liaison Committee proposes to organize a working group to study how NGOs could contribute to this event.

Evaluation and revision of directives ruling the partnership UNESCO/NGOs. After two years, the Liaison committee proposes to organize a working group to evaluate the impact of the directives adopted in 2013 and to propose modifications which could improve the partnership with UNESCO. A recommendation could be presented at the next General Conference of UNESCO after a debate at the next session of the Executive Council of state members (April 2015).

The Liaison Committee proposes to organize a working group to improve the communication with and between NGOs.

Projects for 2016: a forum on science, a forum in Latin-America.

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