9-10 October 2018
Meeting of National Commissions for UNESCO
attending the 205th session of the Executive Board

2018 Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of National Commissions for UNESCO
19-21 September 2018, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea
Overview

**Date/Venue:** 19-21 September 2018/ Gyeongju, Republic of Korea

**Hosts:** Korean National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO Bangkok Office, City of Gyeongju

**Sponsors:** Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province

**Participants:** More than 100 delegates from 30 National Commissions, the UNESCO Secretariat, four UNESCO Regional Offices, and five Category 2 Centres in the region

**Programmes:** Sessions on strengthening the cooperation among National Commissions, between UNESCO Field Offices and National Commissions, and between National Commissions and UNESCO’s Category 2 Centres; role of National Commissions in implementing the SDGs and UNESCO’s Strategic Transformation; parallel discussions on key topics; UNESCO Family ‘Market Place’, etc.
UNESCO HQ and Bangkok Office's Presentations
"UNESCO's Place in a Changing World"

National Commissions’ Presentations
“Strengthening the Network of National Commissions for UNESCO"
UNESCO Category 2 Centres’ Presentations
“Strengthening Cooperation between National Commissions and UNESCO’s Category 2 Centres in the Region”

Parallel Discussions
“Practical Guidelines for the Functioning of National Commissions”
UNESCO Family ‘Market Place’
Indonesian National Commission for UNESCO

Presentation on Raising the Visibility of National Commissions
“European Networks of National Commissions”
Adoption of the Gyeongju Recommendation

Recognizing that:

**Strong and effective National Commissions constitute an invaluable asset** for UNESCO in fulfilling its mandate, particularly in the context of work towards the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their implementation at country level**;

**National Commissions have a critical role** to play in this regard through **mobilizing authorities, partners, experts and beneficiaries in their respective countries, and collaborating with other countries to address common challenges that go beyond national borders**;
Gyeongju Recommendation

- Organization of regional and sub-regional meetings to strengthen cooperation among National Commissions
- Representation of a wide range of Member States at the governance level of UNESCO (Pacific SIDs)
- Urging Member States’ governments to provide National Commissions with necessary financial and human resources
- Requesting the UNESCO Secretariat to update the Guidelines for the functioning of National Commissions
- Creation of further channels to enable National Commissions to contribute to the process of the UNESCO Strategic Reform
- Re-establishment of a dedicated unit to champion, amplify, and support the work of National Commissions within the UNESCO Secretariat