



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Asia-Pacific Group  
of Permanent Delegations  
to UNESCO

On the occasion of the 2600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Buddha's enlightenment

## **The Contribution of the Buddha's Teachings to Universality, Humanism and Peace**

Friday, 20 May 2011 from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

UNESCO, Paris, Room XI

### **Preliminary agenda**

#### *Registration of participants*

**Welcome Address** by H. E. Mr Viraphand Vacharathit  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to France,  
Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Thailand to UNESCO  
Chair, Asia-Pacific Group of Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

**Special Address** by Ms Irina Bokova  
Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
Organization (UNESCO)

**Message** by Mr Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General of the United Nations

**Opening Remarks** by Co-Chair, H. E. Dr Karan Singh  
Member of Parliament, Representative of India on the UNESCO Executive Board  
**'Buddhism and the interfaith movement'**



**Moderator – H. E. Dr Davidson Hepburn**

President of the UNESCO General Conference, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to UNESCO

**Presentations**



**'The Humanistic Spirit in the Four Noble Truths'**

by **Professor Yang Jian**

Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Beijing, People's Republic of China



**'Message of Peace in Buddha's Teachings'**

by **Professor Phra Dhammakosajarn (Prayoon Dhammacitto)**

Rector, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University (MCU), Bangkok, Thailand



**'Buddhism as revealed by figurative art in Gandhara (North-West Pakistan) reflecting regional cross-cultural elements'**

by **Professor Osmund Boppearachchi**

Director of Research, French National Centre for Scientific Research (C.N.R.S.), Paris, France



**'A great figure of Khmer Buddhism'**

by **H.E. Mr Narang Nouth**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Cambodia to UNESCO



**Statement**

by **H. E. Mr Mohan Krishna Shrestha**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal to France, Permanent Delegate of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal to UNESCO



**'Adaptability of Buddha's teachings in the ever changing face of Buddhism'**

by **Mr Orya Maqbool Jan**

Secretary, Government of Punjab, Pakistan

**Discussion**

**Concluding remarks and vote of thanks** by H. E. Dr Dayan Jayatilleka

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to France, Permanent Delegate of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to UNESCO