

e-journal

Today, 11 November 2021

No.3

Highlights

- During the high-level segment of the **2021 Global Education Meeting: Invest now for the recovery and the futures of education**, Heads of State and Government and Ministers of Education from more than 40 countries adopted the Paris Declaration. This global appeal was initiated by UNESCO and the Government of France to increase investment in education in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis and accelerate progress for fulfilment of the Education 2030 agenda and the futures of education. More info can be found [here](#).

Yesterday, Wednesday 10 November 2021

- At the launch event for UNESCO's new report *Reimagining our futures together: a new social contract for education* key ideas and recommendations were presented by the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Chair of the International Commission on the Futures of Education, Her Excellency Madam Sahle-Work Zewde. Ministers of Education from Bangladesh, Cuba and Slovenia offered their congratulation and commitment to help mobilize the global education community and UNESCO *strategic partners in taking* forward the debate, research, and action needed to forge a new social contract for education that repairs past injustices while transforming the future. More info can be found [here](#).
- The high-level session '**Investing in partnership for education: Lebanon 5 Year Education Plan**' aimed to mobilize international partnerships and resources, as well as technical and institutional support towards the achievement of the Five-Year General Education Plan for Lebanon (5YP) as an integral part of UNESCO's flagship initiative Li Beirut. During the event, discussions highlighted the strategic and upstream institutional role of UNESCO as the trusted partner of choice in ensuring implementation of the 5YP.
- The online event **Indigenous knowledge in the Pacific Islands and the Decade of the Oceans**, focused on indigenous knowledge of the marine environment in the Pacific Region, with special attention to Small Island Developing States (SIDS). ADG for the Natural Sciences Sector opened

the event emphasizing the critical connection between the UN Ocean Decade and the mobilization of indigenous knowledge, including the specialized knowledge of women. Among the active participants were H.E. Nathalie Rosette-Cazel of the Cook Islands who highlighted the significance of the ocean and the heritage of navigation and voyaging for the Pacific. H.E. Peter Thomson of Fiji shared a video highlighting the extraordinary heritage of Pacific voyaging and welcomed the cooperation of UNESCO'S Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems Programme (LINKS) and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) for the Ocean Decade. Also adding their voice to the discussions were Dr Marianne George, from Hawaii, USA who shared two reports on ancestral voyaging knowledge and Dr Dan Hikuroa from New Zealand National Commission who shared good practices from New Zealand's national plan and spoke about the need to use the widest possible knowledge of the ocean to confront current challenges. Ms Myjolyne Kim from the State of Chuuk, FSM displayed the importance of women's traditional knowledge, myths and technical expertise. Dr Katy Soapi of Fiji, an ocean scientist at the SPC affirmed the importance of mobilizing both science and indigenous knowledge in the regional programming for the Ocean Decade. The event was closed by ADG IOC, who thanked participants for their valuable contributions and guidance on multistakeholder and multiple evidence based approaches to the Decade.

- In a ceremony hosted by UNESCO, the one million dollar **2021 Global Teacher Prize** was awarded by the Varkey Foundation to Ms Keishia Thorpe from the United States who was selected from over 8,000 nominations and applications from 121 countries. Ms Thorpe grew up in a deprived background in Jamaica and teaches English to 12th-grade students at the International High School Langley Park, Bladensburg, Maryland, a school where 85% are Hispanic students and 95% identified as low-income. She has opened up college education for low-income, first-generation American, immigrant and refugee students. The ceremony was presented by French actress Isabelle Huppert, who welcomed the other nine finalists via Zoom before announcing the Prize winner, affirming that "hope always begins with education". Ms Stefania Giannini, UNESCO ADG for Education, interviewed the winner, recalling that "teachers are in the eye of the storm. They are preparing our children for a world defined by powerful and unpredictable forces - from Covid to climate change. We all know that supporting teachers - even as the world shifts under their feet - isn't just the right thing to do, it's the key to our future."

Today, Thursday 11 November 2021

- The **CapED ministerial meeting** (by invitation only) will take place from 8:00 to 9:30, at the restaurant on the 7th floor, bringing together Education Ministers and representatives from 26 CapED beneficiary countries and donors supporting UNESCO's CapED programme. This ministerial meeting will focus on lessons learned from the COVID-19 education response in areas supported by the Programme and serve as a platform for participants to share good practices and common challenges.
- Co-hosted by UNESCO and Sweden, **Healthy & educated: the double dividend of investing in health and well-being through education** will take place from 14:00 to 15:00 in Room X and online, highlighting education's positive and transformative effects for health and well-being. This event will explore the main health and well-being challenges children and young people face,

the recommended approach to school health, and UNESCO's role in driving forward comprehensive sexuality education and safe school environments.

- The Bureau of Human Resources Management (HRM) will offer an opportunity for delegates participating in the General Conference to interact with HR officers to get a better understanding of the profile of candidates UNESCO is looking for, how to submit an application and prepare for a competencies-based interview. During this briefing, taking place from 14:00 to 15:00 in Hall Saxe (in front of the bank), HRM will offer a presentation on the different types of talent programmes (Loans and Secondments, Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, sponsored trainees, etc..) that are implemented in partnership with Member States, academic, civil society and private sector entities. This information session will take place in English. Another information session in French will take place on Friday 19 November 2021.
 - Two years after the adoption of the **Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education**, this event co-organized by the Governments of Norway, Tunisia and the United Kingdom in cooperation with UNESCO from 18:00 to 19:00 in Room X will renew momentum around this global treaty and support Member States' efforts to both ratify and implement it. The event will highlight the key benefits of joining the Global Convention, including facilitating the recognition of qualifications and the mobility and circulation of knowledge and research between countries.
 - **The Award Ceremony of the UNESCO-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman International Prize for the Creative Economy** will take place from 18:30 to 19:00 in Room I. This Prize recognises and rewards exceptional initiatives of an entity that supports business skills development for young people in the field of the creative economy. More information on the Prize can be found [here](#). You may follow this event via [webcast](#).
- The election of Members of the Council of IESALC will take place at 4:30 p.m. in Room X.

Tomorrow, Friday 12 November 2021

- The **High-Level Segment: UNESCO 75th Anniversary Celebration** will take place from 16:00 to 20:00 in Room I, with a simulcast in Room II and online. This event comes at a historic moment as UNESCO looks back upon seventy-five years of building peace in the minds of women and men around the world, and onwards to the future, as it adapts and responds to the existential global challenges of our age. Heads of State and Government will be front and centre with the Director-General during this unforgettable celebration, as they explore the role of UNESCO in advancing mutual understanding and international cooperation through education, science, culture and communication over the decades. World-renowned musicians and artists from every continent will take the stage to provide inspirational cultural interludes, culminating in a very special group photo.
Note: Due to the firm security and health requirements, access to this event will require a specific badge.

- The high-level policy dialogue event ‘**SDG 4 benchmarks, visualizations and data gaps linking global, regional and national levels**’ will take place from 08:30 to 09:30 in Room X and online. This event will look at key developments on monitoring progress towards SDG 4, the global education goal, from a quantitative and qualitative perspective. Co-hosted by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and the Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, the event will offer an opportunity to build momentum around the development of national benchmarks for measuring progress towards SDG 4.
- As the annual meeting of UNESCO’s Global Education Coalition, the event ‘**Global Education Coalition: Acting for recovery, resilience and reimagining education**’ will take place from 13:15 to 14:45 in Room X and online and will bring together partners to share their projects, successes, and lessons learned since the launch of the Coalition in March 2020. This event will also be an opportunity to discuss the future of the Coalition and its next steps in supporting learning recovery, digital transformation and continuing to work towards SDG 4.

Schedule of meetings

Today - Thursday, 11 November 2021

Time	Organ	Room
10:00 a.m.		
	Plenary Meeting	I
	General Policy Debate	
	ED Commissions	II
	First Meeting	
	Item 5.3: Implementation of 40 C/Resolution 67 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories	
	Item 5.20: SDG4 –Education 2030: Global/regional Coordination and support	
	Item 5.15: Launch of UNESCO’s Education for Sustainable Development for 2030 framework	
	APX Commission	XI
	Second Meeting	

Item 6.3 Revised format and timeline for reporting on Programme Execution

Item 5.1 Proposals by Member States concerning the celebration of anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated in 2022-2023

Item 5.12 Revision of the Terms of Reference of the Oversight Advisory Committee (OAC)

Item 5.17 World Kiswahili Language Day

Item 12.1 Report by the Director-General, in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee, on managing the UNESCO complex

Item 5.23 International day of women in multilateralism

NOM Committee

IV

Third Meeting

Item 1.4 Election of the President and the Vice-Presidents of the General Conference and of the Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteurs of the commissions and committees

Item 14.1 Election of Members of the Executive Board

Item 14.2 to 14.15 Elections of members of Headquarters Committee, Legal Committee and other subsidiary organs of the General Conference

3:00 p.m.

Plenary Meeting

I

General Policy Debate continued

ED Commission

II

Second Meeting

Item 4.1 Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2022-2025

Part. II.A: Major Programme I – Education

Item 5.22 Draft Operational Strategy for Priority Africa (2022-2029)

APX Commission

XI

Third meeting

Item 10.1 Financial report and audited consolidated financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO for the financial period ended 31 December 2020, and report by the External Auditor

Item 6.1 Governance procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO

Tomorrow - Friday, 12 November 2021

Time	Organ	Room
09:00 a.m.		
	BUR	
	Second meeting	
10:00 a.m.		
	Plenary Meeting	
	General Policy Debate	
	ED Commission	
	Third Meeting	
	APX Commission	
	Fourth Meeting	
3:00 p.m.		
	Plenary Meeting	
	High Level Segment	
