



Inside this issue

<i>JNC-UNESCO celebrates its 50th anniversary</i>	2
<i>38th session UNESCO General Conference</i>	3
<i>Secretariat activities</i>	3
<i>Staff News</i>	3
<i>9th Youth Forum</i>	4
<i>Addressing the gap of gender based violence: a Participation Programme project</i>	5
<i>Creative Cities/IFCD</i>	5
<i>Publication(s)</i>	6
<i>Regional news</i>	6
<i>Vacancies</i>	7
<i>Competitions and prizes</i>	7
<i>Photos</i>	8

JNC-UNESCO CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO celebrates 50 years this year. According to UNESCO's Director General, Irena Bokova, it was "50 years of leadership and action".

The JNC-UNESCO have also been congratulated by Ministers associated with the organization and by its counterparts for being active, effective and highly respect-

ed.

To date we have had the issuance of a 50th Anniversary supplement and a Church Service.

At the Church service Dr. Donald Rhodd, Vice Chair of JNC-UNESCO, delivered the anniversary message at the Shiloh Apostolic Church in Port Antonio, Portland.

The choice of worshipping in Portland for the 50th Anniversary was made because this parish, along with St Thomas and St Andrew, now boasts the distinction of being the home to Ja-

maica's first UNESCO World Heritage site – the Blue and John Crown Mountains.

This prestigious recognition has come after many years of advocacy on the part of the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO and other stakeholders.

With this inscription as a World Heritage Site, the Blue and John Crow Mountains join other such sites as the Great Wall of China, the Pyramids of Egypt and Old Havana in Cuba.



Dr Rhodd delivering the anniversary message at the Shiloh Apostolic Church



JNC-UNESCO CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

CONT'D

Jamaica's association with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO, was cemented three months after our Independence, when in November 1962, we took up our seat as a Member State.

Three years later in 1965, and guided at that time by a youthful Edward Seaga as Minister responsible for culture, the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO was established.

The areas of focus of UNESCO, which are education, science, culture, information and communication, are central to national development. Through the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO, our voice at UNESCO is strong, active and respected and our country has been able to benefit in these areas from UNESCO resources.

Over its 50 years, the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO has devoted itself to people development, the building of capacity, and the promotion of participation, cooperation and respect. Through its efforts, significant assistance has been provided in areas of education planning, literacy, the teaching in science and mathematics, development of our library service and mass communication.

Jamaicans have also given



exemplary service to UNESCO. The late Hon. Hector Wynter, OJ, served as Chairman of the UNESCO Executive Board from 1974-76, and the late Hon. Prof. Rex Nettleford, OM, served for many years on the Executive

Board and was Advisor to the former UNESCO Director-General on cultural matters. Our own Veronica Campbell Brown is a UNESCO Sports Ambassador.

In 50 years, the Jamaica

National Commission for UNESCO, through its committed leadership and dynamic involvement in advancing the work and mission of UNESCO, has proved itself a highly effective and worthy institution.



38TH SESSION UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE

Jamaica's Delegation comprised of H.E Vilma McNeish, Permanent Delegate; Everton Hannam, Secretary-General and Rohan Clarke First Secretary

The activities during the period comprised of

- Welcome Dinner hosted by the Korean National Commission for UNESCO - 1st November 2015
- 2nd interregional meeting of National Commission - 2nd November 2015
- 38th General Conference UNESCO - 3-18 November 2015
- 20th Session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural Heritage - 18-20 November 2015

An Interface session between National Commissions and Field Offices was organized, for the first time, within the framework of Interregional meetings of National Commissions.

The General Conference also

- Adopted a strategy for reinforcing UNESCO'S Action for the protection of cultural and the promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the event of armed conflict.

- Endorsed, by more than 180 states including Jamaica, the core role of Education in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Education 2030 Framework for action.
- Awarded for the first time the UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD.
- Ahead of COP21 the General Conference tasked the Organization to prepare a Declaration on Ethical principles for Climate Change: Adaptation and Mitigation.
- Welcomed Montserrat as the 10th Associate Member.

CARICOM Delegates/ Ministers and other Delegates organized and held a number of Caucus Meetings geared towards a meeting with the Director-General which was held on 6th November 2015.

The CARICOM Caucus was chaired by St. Lucia and discussed:

- **CARICOM'S participation** in the 38th Session
- Submission of Ministers/ Heads of Delegation Statements to the General Policy Debate
- CARICOM Reception date/

format. Not many Member States contributed to this effort. Jamaica however supported the activity as it was used to celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

Meeting with the Dir. Gen

The UNESCO team was led by DG and included the Deputy DG and other senior officials inclusive of the recently appointed Director of the Kingston Cluster, Mrs. Catherine Grigsby. Chaired by the Hon. Ministers of Bahamas & Grenada the main items discussed:

- **Support for SIDS** —The Caribbean Delegation expressed deep concern that not much was being done for SIDS countries including those from CARICOM Member States. The Director-General however sought to reassure CARICOM indicating that her office will provide in a detailed manner the support through the various programmes across sectors and would work with SIDS Caribbean to work out a joint strategy.
- Other matters were: new posts to be engaged in the Kingston Cluster Office and Caribbean Youth Initiative

STAFF NEWS

Welcome

Ms. Katherine Grigsby, New Director for the UNESCO Caribbean Office

Condolences

Ms. Patricia Patterson, a former Committee member

Recovery Wishes

Yvette Francis, Office Attendant

Interns

Michael Steffen (Germany): 14 September 2015 - 31 August 2016
Sarah Ahlrichs (Germany): 1 4 September 2015 - 29 February 2016

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT

- NBCJ mtg, 24 September
- Exec. Committee Meeting 21 Sept
- Science Advisory, 25 Sept
- MAB mtg, 25 Sept
- C&I Advisory, 10 Nov
- Education Advisory, 16 Dec
- External Meetings:
- MYC retreat, 2 -3 Sept
- CELAC mtg, Cuba, 17-21 Sept (Secretary General)
- Creative Cities Mtg 29 Sept, 13 Oct, 7 July, 17 Nov (Librarian/ Documentalist)
- Book Launch, NLJ, 30 Sept (Secretary General)
- Cluster mtg of Secretaries General, 26-27 Oct
- Musgrave Medal Awards, 28 Oct (Programme Manager)
- 150th Anniv Morant Bay Uprising, 29 Oct (Librarian/Documentalist)
- BJCM Commemorastive Plaque launch, 30 Oct (Librarian/Documentalist & team)

UNESCO 9TH YOUTH FORUM

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The 9th UNESCO Youth Forum provided a unique opportunity for young people to make recommendations on issues of climate change and the new sustainable development goals which would be put before 38 session UNESCO General Conference

The Forum saw more than 500 young people from 193 countries participating in plenaries and sub-plenary sessions on the topics of:

1. Rights, freedoms, responsibilities
2. Diversity, identity
3. Learning, personal development and sustainability
4. Knowledge, awareness and media
5. Local practices, biodiversity and prevention of natural disasters
6. Capture the energy of youth

As the Jamaican representative at the Forum, I was among the participants in the **“Learning, Personal Development and Sustainability” working group**. Within this group, we came up with a diverse set of recommendations and actions using the method of FORESIGHT (Future Knowledge Labs) developed by the UNESCO planning team. This methodology encouraged participants to use predicted and preferred futures to inform the actions and recommendations to be implemented today. The process was an unusual and tedious one but nothing that couldn't be conquered giving the en-

dearing spirit and vigour of the young people assembled.

We came up with 20 recommendations compressed into 3-5 sound actions. The actions of the working groups are contained in our Final Recommendations. In addition to our final recommendations, individual commitments were also formulated and are recorded at www.timescape.io - another innovative platform which encourages global collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Overall, the Forum was a remarkable experience through which I was able to meet other young people doing ground-breaking work in their communities and countries as well as the organizations and arms which support youth activities from nascence through to maturity.

On behalf of the Jamaica's young people, I am commending UNESCO on their commitment to young people and for keeping youth voices at the fore of its agenda as it implements policies and programmes on climate change and the post-2015 development agenda.

Personally, I'd like to thank the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO for this opportunity to not

only interact with peers but also learn and build on local knowledge in a global world so that young people in Jamaica can be informed and be empowered to create their preferred future.

As was said by UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, we are the largest group of young people humanity has ever known. We are the most educated, the most connected, the most widely travelled the world has ever known. As such we, young people, are not the future but the present - happening now - and we have reasons to be concerned about issues on a local, regional and international level. We, young people are the present, so it is vital for us to continue to act and engage stakeholders as we work towards a better future.

As I return home to initiate my community project based on the developed recommendations, I encourage other young people to do the same and create the change they want to see in their communities and by extension the world.

Godiva Golding
Jamaica's youth representative
26 to 28 October 2015, Paris



The Participation Programme project **“Addressing the Gap of Gender-based Violence between the State and vulnerable women and girls”** was awarded US \$26,000 to the Bureau.

This project through consultations and a series of sensitization sessions sought to draw a closer awareness to the issue of gender-based violence with special emphases on Trafficking in Person and Sexual Harassment. This project optimizes the synergy of existing expertise and resources in Bureau of Gender Affairs and other key stakeholder such as the Centre for the Investigation of Sexual Assault and Child Abuse (CISOCA), Ministry of Justice and Ministry of National Security.

The project objectives are:

- To understand the level of awareness among public sector workers in the context of sexual harassment in the workplace
- Strengthen the capacity of the Justice System to provide gender sensitive services through targeted sensitization
- Strengthen the capacity of community leaders to recognize and respond adequately to issues of gender-based violence through targeted sensitization.

The activities were:

1. Two (2) Consultations
2. Twelve (12) Community sensitization sessions -
3. Three (5) Ministry Departments and Agencies (MDAs) Sessions
4. Three (3) Justice Workshops

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Phase 3 of the JNC - UNESCO Heritage Preservation and Protection Project was initiated October 5 to October 9, 2015. This Phase took place in Havana, Cuba, with myself and Keitho Nembhard, the Chairman of the JNC-UNESCO Youth Advisory Committee.

The Havana leg was in tangent with the two previous phases as it raised awareness of the importance of the sustainability of Heritage, especially since Cuba

has the most World Heritage Sites (all of 9) in the Caribbean.

During the visit, we got a chance to visit the Revolution Square, Old Havana and the Fortifications as well as meet with Alicia Gonzalez Gutierrez, Permanent Secretary for the Cuban National Commission and Sandra Varela Labarrere, Assistant to the Director of the Regional Office of Culture for Latin America and the Caribbean (Mr Herman van Hoof).

From this visit to Cuba, I, in the capacity as the Humanities and Education Rep, have decided to do a similar programme in my faculty as well as partner with JNC-UNESCO on this task for Youth Month in November. Students, especially at the tertiary level (since heritage and history at this level is a choice), should and have chosen to know about heritage protection and preservation as it important in developing and **maintaining the country's** pride, culture and entre-

preneurship. If they can gain this knowledge, which is strength, for them to demonstrate it, means to inspire.

The visit to Cuba was truly an eye opener and I am grateful to have been selected to go on this experience as it sparked a new purpose in me, which is to share and inspire those around me about the importance of history and heritage.

Jamila Pinto

CREATIVE CITIES/IFCD

The nation brand has another win. On 11 December Kingston was designated a Music City in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the international community in September 2015 highlights culture and creativity as key levers for sustainable urban development.

Being the economic, social and cultural center of creation, Kingston has given the world 6

distinct musical genres: mento, ska, reggae, rocksteady, dub and dancehall. With music and cultural activities at its core, Kingston boasts numerous theatres, a National Dance Theatre Company, a National Gallery, a craft market, **the region's only Visual and Performing Arts College, the island's most important TV and radio stations, numerous sound systems, recording studios and music venues.**

Towards the revision of the National Cultural Policy in Jamaica is one of six creative projects that will benefit from UNESCO's Cultural Diversity Fund in 2016. It was one of Five projects that were submitted by Jamaica to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity. The IFCD is a multi-donor fund established to promote sustainable development and poverty reduction in developing countries through support to projects that aim to foster the emergence of a dynamic cultural sector.

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www.unesco.org/kingston

For more information on the global UNESCO please visit:
www.unesco.org

PUBLICATIONS



There are fewer grounds today than in the past to deplore a North-South divide in research and innovation. This is one of the key findings of the *UNESCO Science Report: towards 2030*. A large number of countries are now incorporating science, technology and innovation in their national development agenda, in order to make their economies less reliant on raw materials and more rooted in knowledge. Most research and development (R&D) is taking place in high-income countries, but innovation of some kind is now occurring across the full spectrum of income levels according to the first survey of manufacturing companies in 65 countries conducted by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics and summarized in this report.

For many lower-income countries, sustainable development has become an integral part of their national development plans for the next 10–20 years. Among higher-income countries, a firm commitment to sustainable development is often coupled with the desire to maintain competitiveness in global markets that are increasingly leaning towards 'green' technologies. The quest for clean energy and greater energy efficiency now figures among the research priorities of numerous countries.

NEWS FROM THE REGION

UNESCO Sub-Regional Seminar Beyond Reparations: Strengthening the Slave Route Project in the Caribbean Region was held from 7 - 8 July, 2015, at the St. Kitts Marriott Hotel.

It will bring together experts and representatives from across the Caribbean to discuss ways and means of strengthening the Slave

Route Project in the Region and fostering collaboration between and among Caribbean countries.

The Conference was organised within the framework of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the UNESCO International Scientific Committee of the Slave Route Project as well as the Interna-

tional Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024) declared by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

One of the main highlights of the conference will be the Symposium that will be held on the theme *'The Fight for Reparations in the Caribbean Sub-region: Pipe Dream or Reality?'* during which the general public will

have the opportunity to engage the panel of experts, which will include Sir Hilary, on a topic that has generated almost equal portions of interest, enthusiasm and skepticism among the people of our Region.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- *Launch of Radio Abeng 88.7, 6 January, Accompong, St Elizabeth*
- *4th World Congress on Biosphere Reserves, 14-17 March, Lima, Peru*
- *50th Anniversary Lecture and exhibition (2), Montego Bay*



• *International Days:*

- 13 February World Radio Day*
- 21 Feb - Int'l Mother language Day*
- 8 March - Int'l Women's Day*
- 21 March - World Poetry Day*
- 22 March - World Water Day*



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The Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO is now on Twitter.

@ <https://twitter.com/>

UNESCO VACANCIES

DEADLINE (MIDNIGHT PARIS TIME) : JANUARY 25, 2016

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST
- CI 32 (P3) FR-PARIS

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST,
CULTURE
- 5EGCLT
0001RP (P4) EG-Cairo

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST,
EDUCATION3CLED
0023RP (P-4)CL-SANTIAGO

ASSOCIATE PROGRAMME SPECIALIST

(NATURAL SCIENCE)
- SC 440 (P1/P2) FR-Paris

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST,
Education ED 625 (P-4) FR-Paris

ASSOCIATE PROGRAMME SPECIALIST - CLT
006 (P1/P2) FR-PARIS

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST (NATURAL SCIENCES) - SC
263 (P-3) FR-PARIS

Submit applications at:

www.unesco.org/employment

Or mail to:

Chief Recruitment and Staffing Section, Bureau of Human Resources Management, UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

Send full CV in English or French, on the Official UNESCO curriculum vitae



COMPETITIONS, PRIZES, SCHOLARSHIPS,



International Fund for Cultural Diversity – 7th call

Submit applications and all supporting documents on the on-line application platform by 15 April 2016, midnight CET.

1. Create your account for the On-line Application Platform at:

<https://en.unesco.org/creativity/ifcd/apply>(for English)

* Only one application can be submitted per account.

2. Once you receive your login and password by email, log in to the on-line application platform and start developing your application. You may log in and log out from the On-line Application Platform several times. Please save your application

each time, before logging out.

The IFCD, which is the fund of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, invests in projects that lead to structural change through the introduction and/or elaboration of policies and strategies that have a direct effect on the creation, production, distribution of and access to a diversity of cultural expressions, including cultural goods, services and activities, as well as through the reinforcement of institutional infrastructures, including professional capacities and organizational structures, deemed necessary to support viable local and regional cultural industries and markets. According to the Guidelines on the Use of the Resources of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity, project proposals must deal with cultural policies and/or cultural industries.

PHOTOS



Hon Minister reading the plaque to launch the Heritage List designation from the floor as the renowned Blue and John Crow Mountains was inscribed to UNESCO's Prestigious World Heritage List.

Looking on is Mr. Caesar Toro, Science specialist, UNESCO Caribbean



Some of the guests at the 50th Anniversary Church service Dr D. Rhodd, Mr Lincoln Robinson (top left), Mr & Mrs, Delroy Gordon, JCDC (below left), Mrs Carol Albert-Blakes and students, YWCA UNESCO Club



SG. E. Hannam giving vote of thanks at dinner hosted by Korean National Commission in Paris



Courtesy call by UNESCO Caribbean new Director, Ms Katherine Grigsby