



Jamaica National Commission *for* UNESCO



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MINISTER GRANGE OPENS REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE CARIBBEAN

The workshop on UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of



Ownership of Cultural Property and the UNIDROIT Convention was

held in Kingston, Jamaica, from 2-5 March 2020. It pro-

members—Daoud Bouledroua, Specialist of the Movable Heritage & Museums, Culture Sector, UNESCO and Giuditta Giardini, Lawyer, LL.M, UNIDROIT



Participating countries included Bahamas, Suriname, St Lucia, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, St Kitts, Curacao and Jamaica.



JNC-UNESCO ASSISTED WITH TRAINING NATCOM MEMBERS IN CURACAO

JNC-UNESCO collaborated with the Curacao National Commission for the sensitization of the Curacao NATCOM members as part of the strategy to assist other NATCOMs.

SG Everton Hannam visited the Curacao National Commission to assist SG Marva Browne. It was to provide a training that will equip the NATCOM members there on the importance, roles and responsibilities of national commissions, its members and member states. It also

emphasized the importance and role of the NATCOMs in UNESCO and the responsibilities of UNESCO and Member States in ensuring an effective performance or functioning of the NATCOMs especially with the Participation Programme and other funded projects as well as the governing bodies and the preparation of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy. His powerpoint presentation was prepared by Librarian/Public Information Officer D. Hopkinson.

Picture shows members of NATCOM Curacao with Eugene Rhuggenaath, Prime Minister of Curacao and SG Everton Hannam .



NATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE OF JAMAICA: NEW COMMITTEE FOR

The new NBCJ Committee Members are:

Ms. Donna McKoy, (new Chair)
Registered Nurse and Pharmacist



Mr. Simeon Mohansingh
Bioethicist and University Lecturer, UWI, Mona

Ms. Sarah Newland-Martin
Executive Director, YMCA

Ms. Gillian Mignott
Pharmacist, Bioethicist & University Lecturer, University of the Technology (UTECH)

Mr. Charles Grant
Director General, International Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Sciences, UWI, Mona

Dr. Wayne West
Chairman, Jamaican Coalition for a Healthy Society

Mrs. June Spence-Jarrett, JP
Executive Director, JADCO

Mrs. Monica Deloris Grant-McIntyre JP
Retired Educator

Ms. Khimaja Connell
Assistant Lecturer, Department of Language, Linguistics & Philosophy, UWI, Mona

Dr. Sharmella Roopchand-Martin
Head, Mona Academy of Sport Faculty of Sport, UWI, Mona

Dr. Doreen Brady-West
Department of Pathology UWI, Mona

Ms. Iyanna Wellington Perkins
Medical Epidemiologist Ministry of Health & Wellness

Mr. Vincent Morrison
President Union of Clerical Administrative & Supervising Employees

Ms. Cheryl Marlene L. Brown
Attorney at Law

Ms. Keisha Tomlinson
President, Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres & Associations (JFUCCA)

Dr. Maria Smith,
Programme Manager, JNC -UNESCO

Mr. Everton Hannam
Secretary-General JNC - UNESCO

SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES

JNC-UNESCO hosts ZOOM meetings

As a result of the new restrictions on the number of persons being allowed to assemble due to the COVID 19 pandemic JNC-UNESCO established a Zoom account/platform.

Meetings hosted thus far include

- National Bioethics Committee of Jamaica
- National Organizing Committee of the ICH 2020

Other Meetings:

- Series of meetings in preparation of the ICH nomination including a Zoom meeting of 27 March
- C&I Advisory Committee meeting, 3 March, BCJ
- Bioethics zoom meetings, 19 & 26 March, 13 February
- MOU on Sexual Harassment Training & Research with MCGES & UWI Open Campus, 28 Feb, UWI Regional HQ (SG, Librarian)
- Jamaica on Ice Book launch, 12 February, NLJ (Librarian)
- Negril Education Environment Trust Culture Day, Negril, 11 February, Negril (SG)
- CARE mental programme, 6th anniversary, Philip Sherlock Centre, UWI, 22 January

- Cosmetology Programme Graduation, EARY participation programme, 28 January
- Jonkunu Lecture, ACIJ/ JMB, 16 January (Librarian)
- Series of planning meetings for the International Exchange Programme (IEP) of JFUCCA

First meeting of the new National Bioethics Committee of Jamaica (NBCJ)

STAFF NEWS

Welcome

Sebrina Brown, Junior Secretary/Receptionist (actg) and Stacey Jowhill, Senior Secretary back from her successful surgery



Abeng Radio Board meeting, chaired by Norma Rowe, Radio

JAMAICA MICROSCIENCE PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME PROJECT: ST CATHERINE SENSITIZATION

The Microscience sensitization for St Catherine was held at the GC Foster College, 20 February 2020. It enabled 6 schools to participate in the knowledge sharing and capacity building for the development of science education and scientific thinking and experimentation.

During the sensitization, two teachers, from the MICO University, conducted a practical demonstration of how the kits could be used to explain DNA and how to extract it from papayas.

The microscience kits build capacity for teachers and students alike, especially in areas where laboratory facilities are not available. Students learn to ask questions about their natural environment and, together with their teachers, they design specific experiments to answer their questions, observe and record results, and then draw conclusions. The kits are safe and inexpensive - students never need to use more than a few drops of chemicals for experimentation.

There was a short Opening that included Welcome by Dr Lennox Rowe and Greetings by Mr Richardson, MOEYI, Region 8; Mr Max Lombardo, Natural Science specialist,



UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean and Dr Maria Smith, Programme manager, JNC-UNESCO.

Mr Sadpha Bennett, ACEO National Science Coordinator spoke about the project whilst Prof Ronald Young, Chair, Natural Sci-

ence Advisory Committee, JNC-UNESCO, commented on the experience of the project.

The 6 schools included Charlemont HS, Eltham HS, Jonathan Grant HS, Ewarton HS, Enid Bennett HS and Innswood HS



WATT TOWN PILGRIMAGE

“According to Oral History the site at Watt Town in the Hills of St. Ann has been in operation before Emancipation. It can be described as the Mecca of Revivalism and on the first Thursday in March Revivalists from all across the island and overseas embark on a pilgrimage to Watt Town.”

Representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

A team from the Ministry of Culture Gender Entertainment and Sport and its Agencies journeyed to Watt Town to observe this year’s celebrations.

The coming together of Revivalists from all across the island to celebrate through ritual and ceremony is very important to the process of how a society through the collective memory ratifies a religion”. Dr. Maria Smith

The Honourable Olivia Grange is coordinating the process to list Jamaica’s Revivalism on UNESCO’S



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For more information on the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean please visit:
www.unesco.org/kingston

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

PUBLICATIONS



*World Water
Development Report
2020 – Water and
Climate Change*

This report aims at helping the water community to tackle the challenges of climate change and informing the climate change community about the opportunities that improved water management offers in terms of adaptation and mitigation.

The scientific evidence is clear: the climate is changing and will continue to change, affecting societies mainly through water. Climate change will affect the availability, quality and quantity of water for basic human needs, threatening the effective enjoyment of the human rights to water and sanitation for potentially billions of people. The alteration of the water cycle will also pose risks for energy production, food security, human health, economic development and poverty reduction, thus seriously jeopardizing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The UNESCO CDEMA workshop on Disaster Resilience in the Caribbean Culture Sector was held in Barbados, March 11 to 12.

The significance of culture in the lives of communities and individuals serves as an anchor for identity and belonging. In times of climate disasters and their devastating impact for Caribbean Small Island Developing States, such as Irma, Maria, and Dorian, cultural heritage is at risk, and thus the loss of identities for whole societies and nations.

The objective of the workshop was to explore how the two sectors, Caribbean culture and Disaster Risk Management can work together in a mutually beneficial context through dis-

REGIONAL NEWS

cussions on the national level, to build awareness and foster synergies between policies and practices for the protection of culture from the effects of disasters through capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy. Guidelines towards the development of a strategy and plan of action for Disaster Resilience and Recovery in the Caribbean Culture Sector were also identified.

Many participants echoed sentiments that the workshop was an excellent opportunity for national disaster management practitioners to collaborate with the culture sector in paving the way for disaster resilience in the cultural sector. Delegates were present from Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts and Ne-

vis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands and the Netherlands Public Entities of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius.

Although the Caribbean culture sector emphasizes the deep links between its people and their natural and cultural environment, the integration of the culture sector into the disaster risk preparedness, response and management strategies and plans at the national and sub-regional levels is highly recommended.

The workshop is part of the UNESCO programme of **'Culture in Emergencies'** that supports conventions, targeted actions and strategies to protect, prevent and restore cultural heritage in situations of crises such as armed conflicts and natural disasters.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Due to Coronavirus Outbreak

- *Artificial Intelligence Conference , 11-12 March 2010, Jamaica postponed to a date to be announced*
- *209th Session of the UNESCO Executive Board, Paris, 23 March—3 April 2020 postponed to a date to be announced*



International Days:

- 13 February - World Radio Day
- 8 March - Int'l Women's Day
- 22 March - World Water Day



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SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS



GET INVOLVED!
Your voice counts and your perspective matters. Become a part of this global initiative!

The Futures of Education: Learning to Become initiative is about sparking conversations on how knowledge and learning can shape the future of humanity and the planet.

Your voice counts and your perspective matters. Become a part of this global initiative! Inputs from individuals, networks, and organizations will inform the work of the International Commission and shape the global debate.

CULTURE MAKES US RESILIENT: IN MOMENTS OF CRISIS, PEOPLE NEED CULTURE

UNESCO, as the United Nations Organization for Culture, has made it its mission to promote access to culture during this time of self-isolation and confinement. **UNESCO's social media campaign #ShareCulture** encourages people around the world to share their

culture and creativity with one another online. Further efforts aim to increase access to culture and support protections for artists, in order to address the root causes of the current crisis facing culture.

Culture makes us resilient. It gives us hope. It reminds us that we are not alone. That is why UNESCO will do all it can to support culture, to safeguard our heritage and empower artists and creators, now and after this crisis has passed.

UNESCO launched the Covid-19 Global Education Coalition

to support countries in scaling up their best distance learning practices and reaching children and youth who are most at risk. <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/globaleducationcoalition>
The new Coalition rallies international, regional and civil society organizations and private sector partners to act together. It will harness the expertise of public and private partners to help countries implement innovative and context-sensitive solutions to provide education remotely, mixing hi-tech, low-tech and no-tech approaches. More than 25 multilateral

partners, private companies, philanthropic and non-profit organizations as well as media organization have already joined the Coalition, which is an open partnership. What binds the Coalition is a commitment to help countries assure the inclusive and equitable provision of distance education.

Call for applications: 2020 UNESCO cultural diversity fund

DEADLINE is 27 May 2020.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATIONS TO JNC-UNESCO

This opportunity is open to institutions from the eligible countries that are involved in the following creative sectors:

- Music
- Audiovisual/cinema
- Visual arts
- Design
- Media arts
- Performing arts
- Publishing

NGOs and public authorities and institutions can submit project proposals geared towards the development and implementation of cultural policies, provide capacity building for cultural entrepreneurs, map cultural industries and create new cultural industry business models.

PHOTOS



From left to right: Hon Minister Grange in discussion with UNESCO staffs/ A cultural item/
Below: Group photo of participants of the Illicit Trafficking workshop



The MICO lecturers demonstrating the DNA extraction



From left to right: Bishop Rupert Bourne being interviewed by a researcher/ Service inside the church