



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Venue of the conference

The 48<sup>th</sup> session of the International Conference on Education (ICE) on the theme of:

#### **“Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future”**

will be held at the International Conference Centre of Geneva (CICG).

✉ 17, rue de Varembé, 1211 Geneva

☎ +41.22.791.91.11

Fax: +41.22.791.90.64

📅 From **Tuesday 25 November to Friday 28 November 2008.**

### Registration and security

All participants are requested to register on arrival at the Reception Desk in the Main Entrance Hall of the Conference Centre. A letter of accreditation accompanied by a registration form for each participant must be provided in order to obtain a badge allowing access to the venue of the Conference.

Security measures will be put in place according to established UN security standards.

Registration will take place at the CICG on:

**Sunday 23 November from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

**Monday 24 November from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.**

**Tuesday 25 November from 7.30 a.m. onwards.**

Participants will receive a badge and a Conference bag containing the Conference documents. The colour of badges will identify:

- Heads of delegations: *red*
- Delegates: *orange*
- UN Representatives: *yellow*
- IO/NGO Observers: *grey*
- Invitees: *purple*
- UNESCO Secretariat: *blue*
- Press: *white*
- Visitors: *green*

### Media accreditation

Journalists who wish to attend the Conference, including those already accredited with the United Nations Office in Geneva are requested to communicate their name and media to Mr. L. Vazquez ([media@ibe.unesco.org](mailto:media@ibe.unesco.org)). Furthermore, all journalists must complete and submit a registration form according to the procedures indicated above.

## **List of participants**

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A "Provisional List of participants" (ED/CONFINTED 48/Inf. 1) will be available at the beginning of the Conference. A revised list will be distributed before the end of the Conference.

Delegates, representatives and observers are asked to verify the information in the provisional list and to notify the Reception Desk of any corrections that need to be made.

## **Working documents**

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Upon registration, delegates will be provided with a complete set of documents contained in the Conference bag. Additional copies of the documents will be made available, although only in limited numbers, at the **Documents Distribution Counter** located on the **Level 1, close to Room 1**.

ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/1	Provisional Agenda
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/2	Proposed Organization of the Work of the Conference
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/3	Reference Document: "Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future"
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/4	General Presentation of the 48 <sup>th</sup> Session of the ICE
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/5	Conclusions and Recommendations of the 48 <sup>th</sup> Session of the ICE ( <i>available on 28 November at 9.30 a.m.</i> )

## **National reports**

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Each Member State of UNESCO has been invited to prepare a National Report on the development of its education system.

National Reports will be distributed to all delegations attending the Conference at the Documents Distribution Counter. A list of these reports will be made available at the beginning of the Conference.

Extra copies may be obtained from the **Documents Distribution Counter** (Level 1, close to room 1).

Members of delegations are strongly encouraged *to clear their boxes at least twice a day* to allow new documents to be distributed.

## **Other documents**

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- Information documents
- A delegate's guide
- Ministerial messages
- A provisional list of participants
- A list of national reports presented at the ICE
- An evaluation questionnaire on the ICE, etc.

These documents will either be distributed to participants at the beginning or during the Conference, in the meeting rooms or in the Delegation Boxes, or will be available on request.

Delegates, representatives and observers who have brought documentation that they wish to make available to other participants should contact the **Documents Distribution Counter** (Level 1, close to room 1).

### **PROSPECTS**

A special issue (number 145) of *PROSPECTS*, UNESCO's quarterly review of comparative education, has been prepared by the International Bureau of Education in Chinese, English, French and Spanish and will be distributed free of charge at the beginning of the International Conference on Education. It is devoted to the theme: "Inclusive Education".

## THE ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS

### Working methods

Detailed information on the organization of the Conference's work is provided in document **ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/2**. Other information concerning the events of each day will be displayed on the electronic announcement board located in the **Entrance Hall**.

- The work of the Conference will follow the Agenda (ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/1), the provisional version of which is included on page 17 of this guide.



### **Official opening of the Conference**

Tuesday 25 November at 9.30 a.m.

### **Closing ceremony**

Friday 28 November at 10 a.m.



- The work (plenary debates, workshops, synthesis plenary meetings) will take place in accordance with *the provisional timetable* reproduced on the outside back cover. The working hours of the Conference will be from 9.30 a.m. Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 November and from 10 a.m. Thursday 27 and Friday 28 November.
- The main document for the Conference (reference document on: "Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future", ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/3) should serve as a conceptual basis for the discussions in all sessions. Additional information documents have been prepared to provide different perspectives for discussions.

Ministers, delegates, UN Representatives and observers who wish to take the floor should register with the Secretariat located in the meeting room during the fifteen minutes before the beginning of the meeting and/or during the first half-hour of the debate.

### Introductory and final debates

Two main debates will provide the framework of the Conference:

#### → Introductory Debate

##### **"From Inclusive Education to Inclusive Society"**

Tuesday 25 November, 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Room 1 (Level +1).

With the additional session:

##### **"Research findings and policy challenges for Inclusive Education"**

Tuesday 25 November, 12:45 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Room 1 (Level +1).

#### → Final Debate

##### **"Inclusive Education: From Vision to Practice"**

Thursday 27 November, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Room 1 (Level +1).

## Workshops

The following workshops will take place during the Conference:

### → Workshop 1

#### **“Inclusive Education: Approaches, Scope and Content”**

Tuesday 25 November, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Rooms 1 (Level +1), 2, 3 and 4 (Level 0)

### → Workshop 2

#### **“Inclusive Education: Public Policies”**

Wednesday 26 November, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Rooms 1 (Level +1), 2, 3 and 4 (Level 0)

### → Workshop 3

#### **“Inclusive Education: Systems, Links and Transitions”**

Thursday 27 November, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Room 1 (Level +1) and Room 3 (Level 0)

### → Workshop 4

#### **“Inclusive Education: Learners and Teachers”**

Thursday 27 November, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Rooms 2 and 4 (Level 0)

The working languages (with simultaneous interpretation) in all workshops will be **Arabic, English, French and Spanish**.

## Synthesis plenary sessions

These will take place in Room 1 (Level 1):

- **Synthesis of Workshops 1 and 2**, followed by a short presentation by a member of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education.

Wednesday 26 November, 3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

- **Synthesis of Workshops 3 and 4**

Thursday 27 November, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## Closing session

During the closing session, the ICE Rapporteur will present an oral report summarizing all the Conference's work (debates, workshops, synthesis plenary sessions).

Delegates will be invited to adopt the final document of “Conclusions and Recommendations” deriving directly from the work of the Conference. The document will be made available in six languages from 9.30 a.m. on the morning of Friday 28 November.

### **Working languages of the Conference**

The Conference will have six working languages: **Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish** for the plenary sessions as well as the introductory and final debates.

The workshops will take place in:

- **English and French** as the UNESCO working languages;
- **Arabic**, thanks to the “Fund of the Project of Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz for the support of the Arabic language at UNESCO”;
- **Spanish**, through the financial contribution of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Social Policies and Sports.

### **EFA Global Monitoring Report 2009**

The EFA Global Monitoring Report 2009, entitled “Overcoming Inequalities: Why Governance Matters”, will be launched during the conference.

The report will be introduced during the plenary session “Research Findings and Policy Challenges for Inclusive Education” on Tuesday 25 November (12.45 p.m.- 1.30 p.m., room 1, Level +1). A separate event for journalists will take place also on Tuesday 25 November, between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. in room 5 (level 3).

### **The Comenius Medal**

The Comenius Medal, created jointly in 1992 by the Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic and UNESCO, is intended to reward and promote outstanding achievements and innovations carried out in the fields of teaching and educational research, as well as to commemorate the spiritual heritage of Jan Amos Comenius. The medals will be conferred by Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO and by Ms. Eva Bartonova, First Deputy Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic.

**The ceremony will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday 26 November in Room 1.**

The names of the laureates, in alphabetical order, are:

- Ms. Samira AL SAAD (Kuwait)
- Mr. Daniel Fernando FILMUS (Argentina)
- Prof. Phillip William HUGHES (Australia)
- Prof. Dr. Basu Dev KAFLE (Nepal)
- Prof. Laila Ahmed El-Sayed KARAM EL-DIN (Egypt)
- Ms. Onerva MÄKI (Finland)
- Mr. Mamadou NDOYE (Senegal)
- Ms. Sylvia Irene SCHMELKES DEL VALLE (Mexico)
- Prof. Tirussew TEFERRA (Ethiopia)
  
- World Literature Centre, Bishwo Shahitto Kendro (Bangladesh)

A booklet containing biographic information on all laureates will be distributed to all participants.

## **Messages from Ministers**

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By 5 November, the IBE had received 132 Messages from Ministers. These will be included in a publication to be distributed at the beginning of the ICE. They will be displayed in the entrance hall of the CICG and are also available on the ICE's website:

<http://www.ibe.unesco.org/en/ice/48th-session-2008.html>

### **VIDEOS**

Five videos have been produced for the ICE opening ceremony and to introduce workshops. They aim to clarify the concept of Inclusive Education and its different implications, using images taken from selected effective practices in various geographical regions.

The IBE expresses its gratitude to the following for their valuable collaboration and/or their financial support: the Ministries of Education as well as the National Commissions for UNESCO of Brazil, Cameroun, Cambodia, Lebanon and South Africa; the University of Manchester, the Shatila Community Youth Centre, UNRWA, UNICEF, Save the Children as well as the schools and educational staff filmed in these respective countries. In addition, we wish to thank the UNESCO Offices in Brasilia, Beirut, Phnom Penh and Yaoundé.

## **Side events**

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Side events will take place around the Conference, to add in-depth discussions on specific themes, according to the following calendar:

Tuesday 25 November, 1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

- Side event 1  
**Discussion on the UNESCO Initiative:  
Basic Education in Africa Programme (BEAP)**  
Room 2 (Level 0)
- Side event 2  
**Role of ICTs in Curricular Innovation**  
Room 3 (Level 0)

Wednesday 26 November, 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

- Side event 3  
**Disaster Risk Reduction: an Essential Contribution to Inclusive Education**  
Room 2 (Level 0)
- Side event 4  
**The World Programme for Human Rights Education (2005-ongoing):  
UN system to support national implementation of human rights  
education in the school system**  
Room 3 (Level 0)
- Side event 5  
**Quality Education, Equity and Sustainable Development: A holistic  
vision through UNESCO's four World Education Conferences 2008-  
2009**  
Room 4 (Level 0)

Thursday 27 November, 1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

- Side event 6  
**Regional Issues and Challenges of Inclusive Education: From Romania  
to Cameroon**  
Room 2 (Level 0)
- Side event 7  
**Policy Guidelines on Inclusion in Education**  
Room 3 (Level 0)
- Side event 8  
**The Right to Inclusive Education: Concerns, Issues and Challenges**  
Room 4 (Level 0)

A separate flyer has been prepared to provide detailed information on each side event.

## Other events/meetings

Other events and meetings will take place around the work of the Conference.

Tuesday 25 November 8:15 a.m. to 9 a.m. Room 3 (Level 0)	<b>57<sup>th</sup> session of the IBE Council</b>
Tuesday 25 November 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Room 14 (Level 2)	Ninth Meeting of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR)/ECOSOC (CESCR) on the Monitoring of the Right to Education, on "Inclusive Dimensions of the Right to Education".
Tuesday 25 November 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Room 5 (Level 3)	Launch of the 2009 EFA Global Monitoring Report, "Overcoming Inequality: why governance matters" <b>For journalists</b>
Thursday 27 November 8:30 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. Room 5 (Level 3)	Working breakfast for Ministers of Education who are participating in the 8 <sup>th</sup> High Level Group meeting on EFA, Oslo, 16-18 December 2008. <b>Upon invitation</b>
Friday 28 November 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Room 3 (Level 0)	<b>57<sup>th</sup> session of the IBE Council</b>

Delegations who would like to use a room for their bilateral meetings should contact the Registration Desk in the main entrance hall of the Conference centre.

## Round table

"Young People Address Ministers", a round table moderated by renowned BBC journalist Tim Sebastian, will provide young people the opportunity of asking critical questions to ministers of a different geographical area in order to compare common/different perspectives related to inclusion.

**Thursday 27 November, 6.15 p.m.–7.30 p.m.**

Room 2 (Level 0)

## Exhibitions

Three different exhibitions have been organised in order to expand on the Conference theme.

The exhibition "**Practicing Inclusion**" will bring specific added value to the Conference, by showcasing in an attractive manner concrete experiences and effective practices of inclusive education, involving UN agencies, NGOs and the private sector.

An **exhibition of UNESCO education publications** from UNESCO Headquarters in Paris and UNESCO Institutes will display books, journals, CD ROMs and information brochures, many of which will be distributed free of charge.

In coordination with the J. A. Comenius Museum of Prague, the exhibition entitled "**Education for All. The Legacy of J. A. Comenius to the World**" will be dedicated to the legacy of the "Teacher of the Nations" J. A. Comenius, his concept of education for all people regardless of their social position or gender and his timeless teaching principles. A screening of the concert "**Vivat Comenius**", organised by the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy, will be presented at the exhibition.

## **Partners and sponsors**

The organization of the Conference has been made possible thanks to the financial contributions of some major partners:

- The Governments of Ecuador, India, Kuwait and Spain.
- Swiss Confederation, Republic and Canton of Geneva; Federal Department of Foreign Affairs: Political Affairs Division, and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; Federal Department of Home Affairs: State Secretariat for Education and Research.
- The "Fund of the Project of Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz for the support of the Arabic language at UNESCO".
- UNICEF

The following sponsors have also contributed to the Conference:

- Adobe
- Avallain AG
- ePals
- European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education
- Fronter International
- Gatlin International
- MKFC Stockholm College
- NComputing
- Perkins School for the Blind
- Revolution India
- Smart Technologies
- Young Digital Planet

Finally, the Conference benefited from the intellectual and financial contributions of the UNESCO National Commissions, United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations, as well as research and academic institutions in a number of countries.

## SERVICES

### Messages and mail

Mail for participants will be centralized at the Registration Desk and placed in the boxes of the delegations concerned, located behind the Registration Desk.

Urgent messages will be announced over the loud-speaker system.

### Internet corner

The following facilities are available for the use of delegates in the **Internet Corner** (Level -1):

- 10 computers
- 4 workstations;
- 2 printers;
- Desk space for delegates who wish to use their personal laptop computers;
- A wireless connection is accessible free of charge in the entire CICG building.

The IBE's website: **<http://www.ibe.unesco.org>** will be constantly updated throughout the Conference.

### ICE photos

A collection of downloadable photos of the Conference is available from the following website:

**[www.point-of-views.ch](http://www.point-of-views.ch)**

When prompted, enter the following details:

User: **unesco**          Password: **ice**

### Press, radio and television

A **Press Space** is located close to the Internet corner (Level -1).

In addition, **two offices** (104 and 105, also located on Level -1) will be equipped with computers and printers and will be available to journalists for radio and TV interviews.

For further information, please contact Luis Vazquez at:

**079 436 95 84**

## OTHER INFORMATION

### Dispatch of documents

In order to assist Delegates who wish to carry documents back to their country of origin, eco-friendly bags are available in limited numbers from the Documents Distribution Counter.

Delegates are reminded that the IBE is not responsible for the dispatch of these documents. For this purpose, they are advised to make contact with their respective Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva.

### Medical service

A medical service is located in the infirmary, near the entrance level (Level -1) of the Conference Centre.

A nurse will be on duty every day of the Conference:

- from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday 25 November to Thursday 27 November
- from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday 28 November

If needed, first aid can also be provided by the UN security staff on duty.

### Local transport – TPG

Bus services and two trams run between Place Cornavin (the main railway station) and the International Conference Centre of Geneva.

#### **Bus services**

- Route 5 destination Palexpo  
*Vermont* bus stop
- Route 8 destination OMS  
*Nations* or *UIT* bus stop
- Route F destination Ferney
- Route V destination C.S. La Bécassière
- Route Z destination Bois-Chatton  
For bus F, V and Z, get off at the *Varembé* bus stop

#### **Two trams**

- Route 13 destination Nations
- Route 15 destination Nations

For tram 13 and tram 15, get off at the *Nations* stop

**A ticket, valid for one hour and costing CHF 3.-**, should be obtained from the ticket machine located at the bus stop *before boarding the bus or tram* (tickets are not available on the bus/tram) and you must have the exact change.

**Day tickets** can also be obtained from the ticket machine. These tickets are also available, together with weekly tickets, at the TPG counter on the ground floor of the Cornavin railway station and at some newsagents.

A **taxi stand** is located in the immediate vicinity of the Conference Centre. Taxis can also be obtained by telephoning:

- 022.331.41.33
- 022.320.20.20
- 022.320.22.02

### **Post and telephone**

A post-office is located at one of the side entrances to the Conference Centre.

The counters are open from Monday to Friday

- from 8 a.m. to 12 noon
- and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

On Saturday

- from 8.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

### **Bars and cafeteria**

**Two bars** (on levels 0 and +1), **a cafeteria** (Level +1) and **a restaurant** (Level +1) are open to participants.

### **Banks and currency exchange**

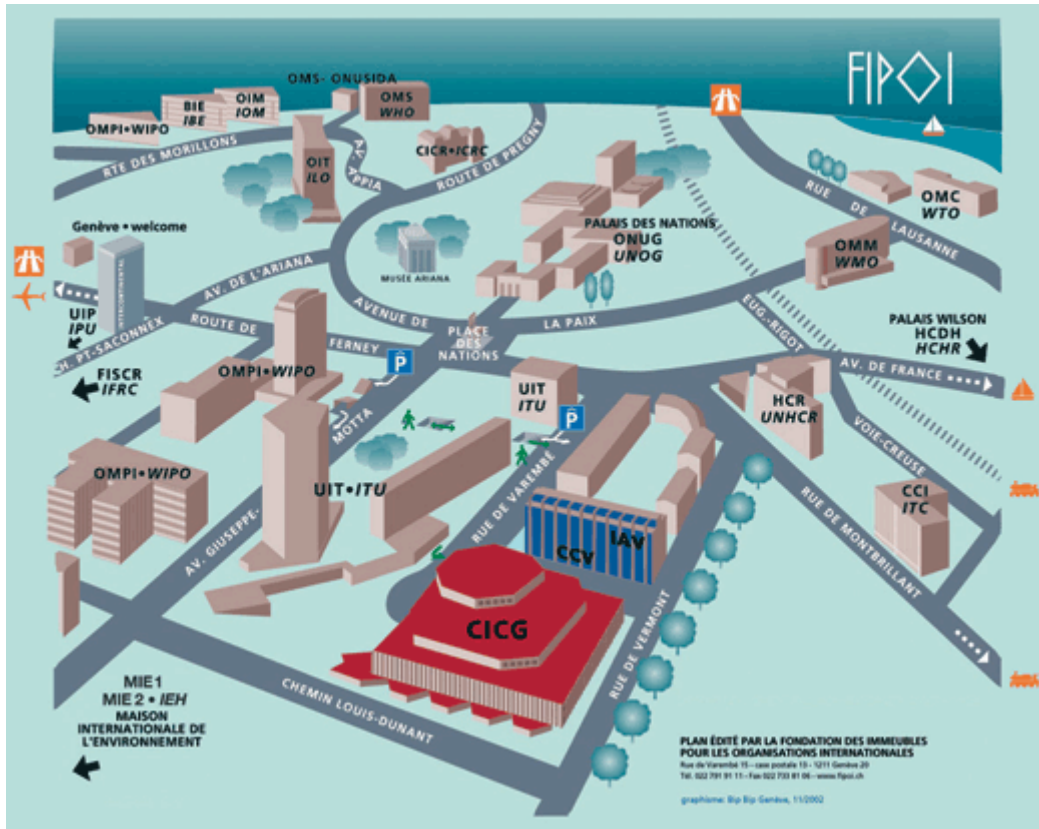
A branch office of the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) is located just outside the Conference Centre on the corner of chemin Louis-Dunant and avenue Giuseppe-Motta.



**Please note that the entire CICG building is strictly non smoking!**

## **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda  
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/1
3. Election of the Chairman
4. Election of the Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur of the Conference and constitution of the Drafting Group of the "Conclusions and Recommendations"
5. Proposed Organization of the Work of the Conference  
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/2
6. Review of the Conference's theme:  
"Inclusive Education: The way of the Future"  
ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/3
7. Presentation of the Outcomes of the Work of the Conference by the Rapporteur
8. Adoption of the Conclusions and Recommendations of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE
9. Closing of the Conference



<b>Proposed structure of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the International Conference on Education</b> <b>"Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future"</b>		
<b>Session</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time schedule</b>
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	Tuesday 25	9:30 – 11:00
<b>Introductory Debate</b> "From Inclusive Education to Inclusive Society"	Tuesday 25	11:00 – 12:45
Research Findings and Policy Challenges for Inclusive Education	Tuesday 25	12:45 – 13:30
<b>Workshop 1</b> "Inclusive Education: Approaches, Scope and Content" (parallel sessions A + B + C + D)	Tuesday 25	15:00 – 18:00
<b>Workshop 2</b> "Inclusive Education: Public Policies" (parallel sessions A + B + C + D)	Wednesday 26	9:30 – 12:30
J.A. Comenius Medal Award Ceremony	Wednesday 26	14:00 – 15:15
Synthesis and discussion of the outcomes of Workshops 1 and 2	Wednesday 26	15:45 – 17:45
<b>Workshops 3</b> "Inclusive Education: Systems, Links and Transitions" (parallel sessions A + B) <b>Workshop 4</b> "Inclusive Education: Learners and Teachers" (parallel sessions A + B)	Thursday 27	10:00 – 13:00
Synthesis and discussion of the outcomes of Workshops 3 and 4	Thursday 27	15:00 – 16:00
<b>Final Debate</b> "Inclusive Education: From Vision to Practice"	Thursday 27	16:00 – 18:00
<b>Closure of the 48<sup>th</sup> Session</b> Presentation of the results of the Conference by the Rapporteur and approval of the final document.	Friday 28	10:00 – 13:00