

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
IRAQ

UNESCO

International Conference

**TOWARDS A NEW EDUCATION SYSTEM
FOR REBUILDING THE IRAQI SOCIETY:
FROM VISION TO PRACTICE**

Paris, 8-9 December 2005

AGENDA

MBI International Support to the Development of Education

Objectives of the conference

- To give international visibility to the current efforts of the Iraqi authorities to modernise the education system of Iraq with a view to contributing to the rebuilding of the Iraqi society based on education change and improvement;
- To facilitate fruitful interactions between national and international stakeholders and education partners in order to capitalize on existing initiatives and maximize the benefits of reform efforts based on coordinated action;
- To benefit from international good policies and practices of modernizing education systems (especially under difficult circumstances);
- To analyse the current needs, achievements and obstacles/difficulties with a view to set the grounds of a realistic medium-term strategy to assure quality learning for all based on cooperation between the Iraqi authorities, the civil society and the international community.

Agenda

Thursday 8 December

09:00- 9:30

Participants' registration

9:30-10:30

Opening session

Opening speakers

Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General, UNESCO

Mr Abdel Falah Hassan Al Sudani, Minister of Education, Iraq

Mr. Staffan De Mistura, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General of United Nations (via video conference link from Amman)

Mrs Saida Sharfudin, ALECSO Representative

Mr Peter Smith ADG/ED, UNESCO

10:30-11:00

Tea and coffee break

11:00-12:30

Reforming the Education System in Iraq: Current Challenges, Opportunities and Prospects

Chair: Dr. Kathem Ghaidan Al-Khazraji, Secretary General, Iraqi National Commission for Education, Science and Culture.

Introduction to the conference and agenda overview

Mr Mohamed Djelid, Director, UNESCO Iraq Office

The Educational Reform in Iraq

Dr. Muhsen Abed Ali Shalaga, DG of Curricula, MoE, Iraq

The International Assistance to the Reconstruction of the Educational Sector in Iraq.

Mr. Maman Sidikou, UNDG Cluster B Coordinator (UNICEF)

Plenary discussions

12:30-14:00

Lunch Break

14:00-15:30

**Education Change to Rebuild the Iraqi Society:
Processes, Products and Meaningful Partnerships (1)**

Chair: Mr. Ali Al-Adeeb, Iraqi Parliament

Panellists:

- Ms Saadia Hasson (NGOs)
- Mr Jassim Mohammed (Teacher Union)
- Mr Badie Al-Kasim (Educational Industry)
- Mrs. Carmel Gallagher (Lessons from International Experience).

Plenary discussions

15:30-16:00

Tea and coffee break

16:00-17:30

**Education Change to Rebuild the Iraqi Society:
Processes, Products and Meaningful Partnerships (2)**

Chair: Mr Pierre Luisoni, Director, IBE-UNESCO

Panellists:

- Mr Ali Al-Adeeb (Political Movements and Media)
- Mr Mohammed Baqer Kadhom (Civil Society)
- Ms Samira Ahmed (Women Associations)

Plenary discussions

18:00-20:00

UNESCO Cocktail

09:30-11:00

Education Policy: Issues, Dilemmas and Choices

Chair: Mr. Peter Buckland, World Bank.

Partnerships in the Reconstruction of Education in Iraq

Baroness Emma Nicholson of Winterbourne.

Summary of the discussion on Education Change to Rebuild the Iraqi Society

Mr Muhsin Abed Ali Shlaga, MoE, Iraq
Mrs Dakmara Georgescu, IBE-UNESCO

Curriculum Development and Learning Materials: How to Improve Quality Learning for All

Mr Ian Colwill, UK.

Teacher Training

Mr Abdeljalil Akkari, Switzerland

11:00-11:30

Tea and coffee break

11:30-13:00

Group activity, breakout sessions

In the three groups, representatives of the MoE of Iraq will introduce the discussion by briefing the participants on the MoE policy related to the respective area, and achievements and obstacles encountered to date

Group 1: Curriculum;

Facilitator: Mr. Ian Colwill, UK.

Rapporteur: Mrs. Dakmara Georgescu, IBE

Group 2: Learning materials;

Facilitator: Ms. Jean Bernard, ED/PEQ/PHR

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohamed Bile, UNICEF

Group 3: Teacher Training;

Facilitator: Mr Abdel Jalil Akkari, Switzerland

Rapporteur: Mr Qutub Khan, Iraq Office.

13:00-14:45

Lunch, co-hosted by the Director-General and Sheik Mohamed Bin Issa Jaber, MBI International

15:15-16:00

Summary of the group discussions

Chair: Mr. Karim Obeid Al Wa'eli, Director
General of General Education, MOE

Presentations by the three Rapporteurs

Plenary Discussions

16:00-16:15

Break

16:15-18:00

Closing Session

Chair: Mr Mir Asghar Husain, Director, ED/EPS,
UNESCO

Summary of the conference proceedings and outcomes by the General Rapporteur

Mr Kamel Braham, UNESCO Office Iraq

Closing Statements

Dr. Abdel Falah Hassan Al-Sudani, Minister of
Education, Iraq

Sheikh Mohamed Bin Issa Al Jaber, MBI International

Mr Peter Smith, Assistant Director-General for
Education, UNESCO HQ, Paris

18:00

End of the conference