

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF EDUCATION

Fifty-sixth session

Varembé Conference Centre
9-11, rue de Varembé, Geneva

23 – 25 January 2008

DRAFT AGENDA AND DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

DRAFT AGENDA

Wednesday 23 January (morning) 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1. **Opening of the session**
2. Adoption of the **Agenda** (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/1 Prov.) and the **Annotated agenda** (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/1 Prov./Add)
3. **Election** of the President, of the Steering Committee and of the subsidiary bodies of the IBE Council
4. **IBE activities during 2007**
 - 4.1 Report of the Director (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/2)
 - 4.2 Part one of the Report of the Administrative Group (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.3)
 - 4.3 Discussion

Wednesday 23 January (afternoon) 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

IBE activities during 2007 (continued)

- 4.4 Replies by the Director to the Council's questions
- 4.5 Approval of the Report of activities 2007
- 4.6 Approval of the provisional accounts 2007 (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.2)

Wednesday 23 January (evening) 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

5. **Forty-eighth session of ICE**
 - 5.1 Report of the Council's Working Group on preparations of ICE (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.5)
 - 5.2 Review of Preparatory Process Conference in Feb. 2008 and other regional preparatory conferences
 - 5.3 Review of ICE funding status including status of extra budgetary funding for ICE
 - 5.4 Review of status of Comenius Medal

7 – 9 p.m. Cocktail at the Varembe Conference Centre

Thursday 24 January (morning) 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Forty-eighth session of ICE (continued)

Thursday 24 January 12:00 p.m. – 13:30 p.m.

6. **Innovative financing mechanisms; cost recovery for enhancing predictable and sustainable availability of resources for IBE's core activities** (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.7)

Thursday 24 January (afternoon) 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

7. **The IBE programme of activities for 2008**
 - 7.1 Proposals by the Director (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/3)
 - 7.2 Part two of the Report by the Administrative Group (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.3)
 - 7.3 Discussion
 - 7.4 Replies by the Director to the Council's questions
 - 7.5 Approval of the Programme of activities for 2008
 - 7.6 Approval of the budget for 2008
 - 7.7 Approval of the entire report of the Administrative Group

Thursday 24 January (evening) 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

8. UNESCO's Strategy and the IBE Strategy 2008–2013

- 8.1 UNESCO's Strategy and the IBE Strategy 2008–2013 (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.6)
- 8.2 Discussion on future relationship between UNESCO ED sector and IBE in the context of attainment of EFA

Friday 25 January (morning) 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

9. Information and exchanges of view

- 9.1 South-South Co-operation Programme for education (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.4)
- 9.2 "L'Education Bilingue et biculturelle en Afrique"

10. Programme and budget for the 2008-2009 biennium (34 C/5)

11. Dates for the fifty-seventh session of the Council

12. Any other business including proposed use of funds from sale of Polish stamps

Friday 25 January (morning) 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

13. Adoption of the Decisions of the fifty-sixth session (UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Decisions Prov.)

14. Closing of the fifty-sixth session

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

The fifty-sixth session of the Council will be held in Room A of the Varembé Conference Centre (CCV) – 9/11 rue de Varembé (opposite the Geneva International Conference Centre – CICG).

It will begin on Wednesday 23rd January at 10 a.m. and is foreseen that it will end on Friday 25th January 2008, if possible at 5 p.m.

The session's working timetable will probably be as follows: 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. On Thursday 24th January the morning session will end at 1:30 pm; on Friday 25th January 2008, the morning session will start at 9:30 am.

The Administrative Group and the Working Group responsible for preparing the forty-eighth session of the ICE will meet at the same place (Rooms B and C) from Monday 21 January at 10 a.m. until Tuesday 22nd January 2008 at 1 p.m.

Wednesday 23 January 2008, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

1. Opening of the session

The session will be opened on Wednesday 23rd January at 10 a.m. by H.E. Mrs Bhaswati Mukherjee (India), the outgoing President of the IBE Council.

2. Adoption of the Agenda and the Annotated Agenda

DOCUMENT: UNESCO/BIE/C.56/1/Prov + Addendum

The preliminary draft agenda and the calendar for the session have already been discussed and accepted by the Council's Steering Committee on 17 July 2007. However, in conformity with its Rules of Procedure (Section IV, Rule 4, para. 5), "*After the adoption of the agenda, the Council may, in the course of a session, alter the order of the agenda items or add or delete items. A two-thirds majority of the members present and voting shall be required for the addition or deletion of an item in the course of a session*".

DECISION

The Council is invited:

- **to comment upon and, if necessary, amend the draft Agenda;**
- **to adopt it in its final form.**

3. Election of the President, of the Steering Committee and of subsidiary bodies of the IBE Council

DOCUMENT: Statutes of the IBE and Rules of Procedure of the Council of the IBE

Following the election of new members that took place at the thirty-fourth session of the General Conference of UNESCO (see the new composition of the Council as an *Annex*), the Council must choose its new Steering Committee for the 2008–2009 biennium, as well as any subsidiary bodies that it considers useful. In conformity with the Statutes of the IBE (Section II, Article IV, para. 5): "*The Council shall elect its Steering Committee, comprising a President and five Vice-Presidents, who shall be nationals of the six regional groups.*" The Steering Committee is elected for a period of two years; its members may be re-elected but cannot retain their seat for more than four years. During the last

biennium, the **Steering Committee** was made up of representatives of the following Member States: India, President (Electoral Group IV); Vice-presidents: for Group I (Western Europe): Netherlands; for Group II (Central/Eastern Europe): Latvia; for Group III (Latin America/Caribbean): Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; for Group Va (Africa) Madagascar; for Group Vb (Arab States): Yemen. Madagascar is no longer member of the Council. According to geographical distribution, the suggested group to hold the Council's Presidency would be Group III (Latin America/Caribbean).

In conformity with Article IV, para. 6, of the Statutes of the IBE, according to which: "*The Council may set up subsidiary bodies to assist in the execution of its specific tasks*", two bodies have been created regularly over a period of many years: the Administrative Group and the Working Group responsible for assisting the Director of the IBE in preparing for the International Conference on Education (ICE). The two groups include a representative from each electoral group and members may be re-elected.

During the last biennium, the **Administrative Group** was made up of representatives of the following Member States: Benin, Chairperson, Group Va (Africa); Members: Electoral Group I (Western Europe): Switzerland; Group II (Central/Eastern Europe): Bulgaria; Group III (Latin America/Caribbean): Dominican Republic; Group IV (Asia/Pacific): Republic of Korea; Group Vb (Arab States): Jordan. Bulgaria is no longer member of the Council.

During the last biennium, the **Working Group on ICE** was made up of representatives of the following Member States: Nigeria, Chairperson, Group Va (Africa); Members: Electoral Group I (Western Europe): Canada; Group II (Central/Eastern Europe): Latvia; Group III (Latin America/Caribbean): Dominican Republic; Group IV (Asia/Pacific): Malaysia; Group Vb (Arab States): Kuwait. Kuwait is no longer member of the Council.

In conformity with the Statutes of the IBE, which foresee that the Steering Committee (and its subsidiary bodies) remain in office until the new bodies have been elected, the Administrative Group and the Working Group responsible for assisting the Director of the IBE in preparing for the International Conference on Education (ICE) have been brought together in their present form. Interested Member States may, nevertheless, assign a representative or take a seat as an observer.

DECISION:

The Council is invited:

- **to elect a President and five vice-presidents for a period of two years;**
- **to elect, for the same period of time, the members of the Administrative Group;**
- **to elect, for the same period of time, the members of the Working Group to prepare the ICE.**

4. IBE activities during 2007

DOCUMENTS: UNESCO/BIE/C.56/2 and 56/Inf. 2 (Report of the Director) and UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf. 3 (Report of the Administrative Group, which will be distributed at the beginning of the meeting.)

4.1. The Director will present the salient points of the report on activities during 2007.

4.2. The Council will take note of the first part of the Administrative Group's Report on activities during 2007.

4.3. The Council will discuss the report of activities.

Wednesday 23 January (afternoon) from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Continuation of item 4 of the Agenda)

- 4.4. The Director and/or the programme co-ordinators will reply to the Council's questions.
- 4.5. The Council will proceed to approve the Report of Activities for 2007.
- 4.6. The Council will proceed to approve the Provisional Accounts for 2007 and the Resolution concerning the 2007 Appropriation.

DECISION:

In conformity with the Statutes of the IBE stating that it will “supervise the implementation of the programme of activities of the Bureau”, the Council is invited:

- **to discuss the report by the Director on the activities carried out during 2007;**
- **to discuss and adopt that part of the Administrative Group's Report concerning activities in 2007;**
- **to approve the Report of Activities in 2007;**
- **to approve the Provisional Accounts of the IBE for 2007 and the Appropriation Resolution for 2007;**
- **to delegate to its Steering Committee the authority to approve the audited accounts for 2007.**

Wednesday 23 January, (evening) from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

5. Forty-eighth session of ICE

DOCUMENT: UNESCO/BIE/C.55/Inf. 5

5.1 The Council will take note of the Report of the Council's Working Group responsible for assisting the Director in preparing for the forty-eighth session of the ICE, as well as of the activities carried out by the Education Sector's Working Group.

5.2. The Council will take note of the preparations carried out for the Regional Preparatory Conference for Europe and North America, entitled “Inclusive Education: from Policy Dialogue to Collaborative Action” organised by Latvia in Riga, on 24-26 February 2008, as well as of the other regional and sub-regional preparatory events.

5.3. The Council will be briefed on the financial aspects of the ICE preparations and of key elements of the resource mobilization efforts, including extra-budgetary funding for ICE.

5.4. The Council will take note of the steps taken with regards to the process of awarding the Comenius Medal during the 48th session of the ICE.

At 7 p.m. the traditional IBE cocktail will take place at the Varembe Conference Centre.

Thursday 24 January, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
(Continuation of item 5 of the agenda)

DECISION:

The Council is invited:

- **to approve the Report of the Council's Working Group;**
- **to request the IBE Director, in collaboration with the Working Group of the Council and the Education Sector's Working Group, to continue the preparatory activities over the coming months and to inform the Steering Committee at the time of its next meeting.**

Thursday 24 January, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

6. Innovative financing mechanisms; cost recovery for enhancing predictable and sustainable availability of resources for IBE's core activities

DOCUMENT: UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.7

6.1 The Director of the Bureau of Budget will inform the Council about the cost recovery policy within the context of the implementation of the Action Plan for improved management of the UNESCO Extra budgetary funds. The briefing will also include the status of UNESCO's participation in the UN High Level Committee on Management (HLCM) as regards the harmonization of such policy within the UN system. A short presentation on IBE experience will be given.

DECISION:

The Council is invited:

- **to discuss the cost recovery policy vis-à-vis IBE;**
- **to make recommendations in this regard.**

Thursday 24 January, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

7. The IBE programme of activities for 2008

DOCUMENTS: UNESCO/BIE/C.56/3 (Report of the Director) and C.56/Inf.3 (The Report of the Administrative Group, which will be distributed at the beginning of the meeting.)

7.1. The Director will present the proposals for a programme of activities, as well as the draft budget for 2008.

7.2. The Council will take note of the Administrative Group's Report on this subject.

7.3. The Council will discuss the proposals for the programme in 2008.

7.4. The Director and/or the programme co-ordinators will reply to the Council's questions.

7.5. The Council will proceed to adopt the Programme of Activities for 2008.

7.6. The Council will proceed with approving the IBE budget for 2008.

7.7. The Council will proceed with formal approval of the entire report of the Administrative Group.

DECISION:

In conformity with the Statutes of the IBE which stipulate that it is responsible for defining “*in detail, within the framework of the programme and budget adopted by the General Conference and taking available extra-budgetary resources into account, as appropriate, the activities to be undertaken by the Bureau*”, the Council is invited:

- to comment upon the Director’s proposals;
- to discuss and adopt that part of the Administrative Group’s Report concerning the programme for 2008;
- to approve the draft programme of activities for 2008;
- to approve the draft budget and the draft Appropriation Resolution for 2008;
- to formally approve the entire Administrative Group’s Report.

Thursday 24 January, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**8. UNESCO’s Strategy and the IBE Strategy 2008-2013**

DOCUMENT: UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf. 6

8.1 The ADG/ED, or his representative, will elaborate on the UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy 2008–2013 (34 C/4) that was approved by the 34th session of the General Conference. The Director of the IBE will highlight the main components of the draft IBE Strategy 2008-2013.

8.2 To respond to the request of the Council made at its 55th Session in January 2007, the ADG/ED, or his representative, will clarify the specific role of IBE in the larger “constellation” of the Education sector as well as the relations with field offices and other education institutes within the EFA framework.

DECISION:

The Council is invited:

- to discuss and approve the draft IBE Strategy 2008-2013.

Friday 25 January, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**9. Information and exchanges of view**

9.1. South - South Cooperation programme for education (*UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Inf.4*) The Council will take note of the Decision of the 34th session of the General Conference related to this item.

9.2. The Council will take note of the revised study submitted, which is entitled “Exploring language curriculum policies in Sub-Saharan Africa”.

10. Programme and budget for the 2008–2009 biennium (34 C/5)

10.1 The ADG/ED, or his representative, will illustrate to the Council the major strategic orientations of the 34 C/5 for the Education Sector, which was approved by the 34th session of

the General Conference and its relevance to the IBE activities. The Council will be briefed on the IBE related Resolution that was approved by the 34th session of the General Conference.

11. Dates of the fifty-seventh session of the Council

DECISION:

The Council is invited:

- to establish the dates of : a) the fifty-seventh session, according to the established procedures, just before and after the 48th Session of the ICE; b) the meeting of the Steering Committee in spring/summer 2008; c) the fifty-eighth session in January 2009.

12. Any other business including proposed use of funds from sale of Polish stamps

The Council will take note of the latest developments concerning the sale of the Polish stamps.

Friday 25 January, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

13. Adoption of the decisions of the fifty-sixth session

DOCUMENT: UNESCO/BIE/C.56/Decisions/Prov.

In conformity with the Rules of Procedure of the IBE Council (IV, Section XI, Rule 22), which foresee that “*the Council shall approve at each session the text of the decisions adopted during that session*” and that “*the text shall be published during the month following the end of the session*”, the Council is invited:

- to comment upon the draft Decisions of the fifty-sixth session;
- to adopt them;
- to make the Council Secretariat responsible for publishing the text between now and the beginning of March 2008.

14. Closing of the fifty-sixth session