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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF EDUCATION

Fifty-sixth session

**WORKING GROUP FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE 48<sup>th</sup> ICE**

21 - 22 January 2008

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE COUNCIL**

**5.1**



## Introduction

The Working Group (WG), constituted by the Council at the time of the fifty-fourth session, met at the Varembe International Conference Centre, from 21 January (10:00 a.m.) to 22 January 2008 (13:30 p.m.). Those participating in the meeting were:

Chairperson: H.E. Ambassador Michael Omolewa (Nigeria), Group Va; Members: Group I: Ms. Dominique Levasseur on 21 January and Mr. Raymond Theberge on 22 January (Canada); Group II: H.E. Tatjana Koke and Mr. Guntis Vasilevskis on 21 January, and Mr. Rolands Ozols on 22 January, (Latvia); Group III: absent (Dominican Republic); Group IV Ms. Farida Abu Hassan (Malaysia); Group Vb: Mr. Muhammad Al-Shatti (Kuwait). The President of the IBE Council, H.E. Ms. Bhaswati Mukherjee (India), assisted by Mr. Vijay K. Trivedi also attended the meeting as an observer. Other observers in attendance were Ms. Marie-Henriette Timmermans, from the French Community of Belgium and of the Wallon Region in Geneva on 21 January; Mr. Roger Dehaybe, from the Government of the French Community of Belgium on 22 January; Mr. Bossou C. René Ahouansou, of the National Commission of Benin; Mr. Comlan Maoudi Johnson, National Coordinator of Education for All (EFA), Benin; Mr. Issaou Gado, from the Benin National Institute of Training and Research in Education; Ms. Marguerite Yallou-Kogui N'Douro of the Permanent Delegation of Benin to UNESCO; Ms. Leticia Baquerizo Guzman on 21 January, from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the UN; Ms. Patricia Ashton Donoso on 22 January, from the Ministry of Education, Ecuador; and Ms. Mariela Gonzalez of the Permanent Mission of Venezuela to the UN. From the UNESCO Education Sector, Ms. Ana Luiza Machado, DADG/ED participated in the meeting on behalf of the ADG/ED of UNESCO; Mr. Alexandre Sannikov, Chief, Institutes Coordination Office, attended only part of the meeting. The IBE was represented by Ms. Costanza Farina, Mr. Massimo Amadio and Mr. Renato Operti.

The WG covered all of the points on the agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting, reminder of the mandate of the Working Group and adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes of the informal meeting of the Working Group
3. Reminder of the decisions taken in 2007 concerning the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE
4. Oral reports on the status of the ICE preparatory process
5. Issues to be discussed and proposals to be submitted to the Council
6. Any other business
7. The report of the Working Group
8. Closing of the meeting

**The report which follows summarises the discussions and recommendations that the Working Group addresses to the Council as a whole for the consideration of point 5 on the Agenda of the 56<sup>th</sup> session.**

## **1. Opening of the meeting, reminder of the mandate of the Working Group and adoption of the agenda**

The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, H.E. Ambassador Mr. Omolewa, who warmly greeted the participants and welcomed all the observers. He thanked the members of the Working Group for their very important contributions towards the preparatory works of the ICE. He congratulated H. E. Ms. Tatjana Koke for her nomination as the Minister of Education and Science of Latvia.

The Chairperson briefly recalled the mandate of the WG, namely “to assist the Director of the IBE in preparing for the next ICE”. The Chairperson proposed that the composition of the Working Group on the ICE be kept as it is, while ensuring that a new member be elected to replace Kuwait, which is not a member of the Council any longer.

The Chairperson briefly introduced the Agenda and announced that item 5.6 of the Agenda (“financing the 48<sup>th</sup> ICE”) will be discussed jointly with the members of the Administrative Group on 22 January at the morning session. This suggestion as well as the proposed agenda was adopted by the WG.

## **2. Approval of the minutes of the informal meeting of the Working Group**

No objections were raised and the WG approved the minutes of the informal meeting held at UNESCO HQ on 18 October 2007 (*annex 1*).

## **3. Reminder of the decisions taken in 2007 concerning the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE**

The Secretary of the Council briefly recalled the decisions taken in 2007:

- **The decision by the IBE Council during its fifty-fifth session (January 2007)** to propose to the 34th General Conference that the 48th session of the ICE be organized in Geneva from 25 to 28 November 2008 on the theme: “Inclusive Education: The way of the future”; to recommend that Member States organize preparatory meetings at the regional level in all regions; and to request that the Director-designate, in collaboration with the Working Group of the Council and of the Education Sector, initiate the ICE’s preparatory works and report to the Council at its 56th session.
- **The decision by the Steering Committee of the IBE Council at its meeting in July 2007** to request the Education Sector and IBE to suitably sensitize the UNESCO Regional Offices, so that preparatory meetings could be arranged and could result in useful inputs to the ICE; the Education Sector and IBE to facilitate the preparation of a draft resolution to be co-sponsored by IBE Council members who are members of the Executive Board, to be presented to the 177th session of the Executive Board to include the theme and date of the 48th session of the ICE, so that these two items could be approved; to ensure that as soon as the ICE theme and dates are approved, the process for the award of the Comenius Medal during the 48th Session of the ICE will be started according to the established procedures; at its next session in June/July 2008 that some more Council members, possibly those members of the IBE Council’s Working Group on the ICE, be invited to participate in the deliberations, since this will be the last meeting of the Steering Committee before the ICE; to establish a close

and effective collaboration between the Working Group of the Education Sector and the Working Group of the IBE Council in charge of assisting the IBE Director in preparing for the next session of ICE.

- **The decision by the 177<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board (October 2007)** that recommended that the General Conference request, at its 34th session, the IBE Council, in accordance with the IBE Statutes, to organize the 48th session of the International Conference on Education from 25 to 28 November 2008 on the theme of “Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future”, and modify accordingly the draft resolution concerning the International Bureau of Education in draft document 34 C/5; invited the Director-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the International Bureau of Education so as to mobilize the necessary human and financial resources necessary for the International Bureau of Education to successfully organize the International Conference on Education in 2008; renewed its call to Member States, international organizations and other agencies to contribute financially and by other appropriate means to the organization of the International Conference on Education in 2008; and requested the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 179th session a progress report on the preparatory process for the 48th session of the International Conference on Education ;
- **The decision by the 34<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference (October 2007)** to request the Council of the IBE, acting in conformity with the Statutes of the Bureau, when approving the Institute’s budget for 2008 and 2009, to consolidate and develop the IBE’s programmes and projects, namely – among others- the promotion and renewal of international dialogue on educational policies, by organizing from 25 to 28 November 2008 the 48th session of UNESCO’s International Conference on Education on the theme of “Inclusive Education: the Way of the Future”;
- **The decision by the 178<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board (October 2007)** (a) that invitations to participate in the 48th session of the International Conference on Education with the right to vote will be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO; (b) that invitations to send observers to the Conference will be sent to the States mentioned in paragraph 6 of document 178 EX/2, which are not members of UNESCO but are members of another organization of the United Nations system, and to any other State that becomes a member of one of the organizations of the United Nations system before the opening date of the Conference; (c) that an invitation to send observers to the Conference will be sent to Palestine, as mentioned in paragraph 7 of document 178 EX/2; (d) that invitations to send representatives to the Conference will be sent to the organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements and which are listed in paragraph 8 of document 178 EX/2;(e) that invitations to send observers to the Conference will be sent to the organizations, foundations and institutions listed in paragraph 10 of document 178 EX/2; and that authorized the Director-General to send out any other invitations he may deem useful for advancing the work of the Conference, notifying the Executive Board thereof.

The Chairperson further elaborated the above texts, and thanked the President of the IBE Council and the Swiss Ambassador to UNESCO for their efforts in ensuring a sustained level of the UNESCO financial contribution to the IBE. He also praised the Ambassador of Benin to UNESCO, presently Chairperson of the Executive Board of UNESCO, for his efforts as Chairperson of the IBE Administrative Group. He expressed the hope that more countries will contribute financially to the ICE.

#### **4. Oral reports on the status of the ICE preparatory process**

An oral presentation was given by the representative of Latvia on the status of the preparations of the Regional Preparatory Conference for Europe and North America entitled "*Inclusive Education: from Policy Dialogue to Collaborative Action*", Riga, 24-26 February 2008. Ms. Koke pointed to an important feature of the Conference, namely the private/public partnerships, demonstrated by the participation of the Council of Europe and by the private partners, in supporting the Conference. She stated that the main goals of Conference are: a) to provide a platform for discussion on inclusive education in terms of policy trends and implementation results; b) to analyze experience of inclusive education in Europe and North America and to highlight achievements and challenges; and c) to provide suggestions on policy lines of actions/guidelines to feed into the ICE. A description of the structure and the agenda of the conference were conveyed, including the official opening, the introductory debate and panel discussions; a round table with representatives of the education ministries; four simultaneous workshops on conceptual and practical issues pertaining to Inclusive Education; and a closing session. Exhibitions will also be organized and a reception will take place at the presence of the Latvian First Lady (more information can be found on the website: [www.unescoconference.lv](http://www.unescoconference.lv)). The representative of Latvia concluded indicating her hope to receive more feedback on the expected outcomes for the Latvia Conference in relation to the ICE.

The Chairperson greatly commended the work and the dedication of Latvia, as a member of the Electoral Group II, and thanked its representative for taking the lead in this initiative, which will give greater visibility to the ICE and will raise wide interest in it. He drew the attention of the participants on the structure of the ICE, as a key element to be discussed, and on to the issue of languages and of the exhibitions.

The Secretary of the IBE Council gave a Power Point Presentation on the results obtained so far in the different preparatory activities, including the National Reports and the Comenius Medal Award. She particularly emphasized the importance of the regional, sub-regional and international preparatory consultations, which constitute one of the key innovative elements of the preparatory process for the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE. As for the A. J. Comenius Medal Award, she stated that in consultation with the relevant Czech authorities, and according to the established procedures, at the end of November 2007, invitation letters to request suitable candidatures had been issued to all Member States of UNESCO, as well as to the relevant organizations and institutions. The suggested candidatures, which should reach IBE by 30 April 2008, will be properly recorded and then screened. An initial shortlist of around 20 candidatures will be submitted to a Jury, consisting, according to the Comenius Medal's Statute, of the President of the IBE Council, the IBE Director, a representative of the Czech authorities and of the Education Sector of UNESCO. The decided upon final shortlist of not more than ten candidates, representing the five regions of the world (Africa, Arab States, Asia, Europe and Latin America and Caribbean) will be then submitted to the Director General of UNESCO, for approval. The selection process will be completed by mid September, so that the candidates can be given sufficient advance notice and participate in the Medal Award Ceremony during the ICE.

The Chairperson summarized some key issues in connection with the ICE preparatory process, on which the participants were invited to debate, namely the level of involvement of the public/private partnerships and the identification of specific donors; the importance of the website and what can be expected from it; the identification of potential keynote speakers,

policy makers and experts; how to benefit from the continued contribution of the conceptual roadmaps within the Community of Practice (COP) in Curriculum Development; and the ICE structure, which should be constructed to avoid “monologues” and increase interaction and dialogue among the ministers.

When the floor was open, the President of the IBE Council noticed that Asia has not been sufficiently involved in the regional preparatory process, while there is a lot of good will and interest in the ICE and potential funders. The IBE should address those potential donors. A question was asked about the involvement of the ED Sector, suggesting that it should be more substantive. The President agreed that suitable modalities should be identified to make the ICE more interactive. As for keynote speakers, she expressed concern that the agenda of eminent personalities may be already booked a year ahead and that steps should be taken to expedite contacts. She also suggested that Mr. Amartya Kumar Sen (Nobel Prize for Economics in 1998) be considered as a keynote speaker for the introductory debate. The President of the IBE Council also congratulated Latvia for the organization of the conference and ensured that a representative from India will participate as an observer.

The Chairperson emphasized the issue of ‘ownership’ as a key feature of the ICE and encouraged the members of the WG to suggest names for keynote speakers.

The representative of Kuwait stated that the request of the Minister of Education for funding for the ICE is being processed by the Ministry of Finance and that as soon as there are further developments, he will be happy to inform the WG. He also stressed the importance of the private sector in education, due to its dynamism, and suggested that this also be considered for the ICE.

The representative of the ED Sector agreed on the importance of involving the private sector. As an example, she mentioned that Mr. N. Burnett, ADG/ED of UNESCO, will be participating in the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos in January 2008, where the UNESCO-IIEP publication on “Multiple Stakeholders Partnerships for Education (MSPE)” will be launched. She also enquired about the results of the regional conferences, how successful they were and what the main recommendations would be. She stressed the importance of creating synergies with the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA IV), which will take place in May 2009 in Brazil.

The representative of Benin highlighted the fact that the concept of inclusive education may not be easily understood in some countries, which have not yet fully exploited the concept of integration. He also suggested that UNESCO and IBE should improve the way in which information is shared and disseminated.

In response to the questions of some participants, information was shared on the main outcomes of the regional consultations carried out in 2007 within the COP framework. In particular, a briefing was given on the six main issues that have emerged from the eight seminars/workshops carried out in 2007, namely: a) the different positions that countries have in relation to the concepts of special education, integration and inclusion; b) the complex relationship between social inclusion and inclusive education; c) the role of inclusive education within the EFA goals; d) the importance of promoting and safeguarding the right to an equitable, high quality education; e) the importance of the curriculum in the achievement of an inclusive education environment; and f) the importance of changing teachers’ profile and role, and to support teachers professional development. While each preparatory event

resulted in regional roadmaps, an inter-regional roadmap is currently being developed so as to identify common challenges and work out a policy agenda. It was confirmed that close coordination was achieved with the UNESCO Regional Bureaus for Education, Cluster and National Offices, in particular in Africa (BREDA), Asia (Bangkok and Beijing), and Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC and Kingston Office). With the UNESCO Bangkok Regional Office an ICE preparatory seminar is being planned in April or early May 2008. A draft, preliminary list of potential keynote speakers and experts, primarily resulting from the COP consultations, was shared as a way to report on an initial elaboration of a roster of possible expertise.

At the beginning of the morning session of the second day, on 22 January 2008, Mr. Roger Dehaybe, Chargé de mission with the Government of the French-speaking Community of Belgium was given the floor to introduce a theme very relevant to the ICE, namely the role of governments in education. He announced also that a high-level international symposium will take place in Brussels on 23 May on this topic, where some thirty eminent personalities will participate.

## **5. Issues to be discussed and proposals to be submitted to the Council**

5.1 **Provisional Agenda:** The WG reviewed the provisional agenda of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE, and suggested some modifications (see *annex 2*). **It is suggested that the IBE Council adopt the provisional annexed agenda.**

5.2 **Organization of the work of the ICE:** A very intense and rich debate took place on this point, since the structure of the ICE was recognized as a key issue, although rather complex, for the success of the Conference. The representatives of the IBE shared with the members of the WG the outcomes of the experts meeting (November 2007) concerning the four sub-themes and presented several possible scenarios, with their related advantages and disadvantages. Several alternatives were thoroughly discussed, such as the possibility of organizing parallel or sequential workshops, the visibility offered to ministers in each case, the working hours and the cost implications, the option of having plenary sessions summarizing the outcomes of the workshops, the number of panelists involved, the logistical implications of each option, based on the assumption of the increasing number of participants (from 800 to 1,400 participants in 2004), the opportunity of providing for an innovative and dynamic setting, and the importance of keeping the debate at a ministerial level.

At the end of the debate, it was agreed that: a) the **chart** (see *annex 3*) should be maintained as the main reference for the ICE structure; b) the **logical sequence** (one workshop to feed into the other) should be adopted to the maximum extent to ensure fruitful intellectual discussion around the theory and practice of inclusive education under a common framework and as a build-up process; c) the first two workshops will be **split into four sessions**, to allow for wider and more in-depth participation and will be organized in sequential order; d) the third and fourth workshops will run in parallel and will each be split into two sessions; e) a plenary session should be kept after the first two workshops, as well as after the third and fourth workshops; e) the A.J. Comenius Medal Award will take place on the evening before the closure of the ICE. **It is suggested that the IBE Council adopt the proposed structure as reflected in annex 4.**

- 5.3 **Chairperson and Rapporteur of the ICE:** The WG reviewed the *annex 5*, which shows how the functions of the Chairperson and Rapporteur of the ICE have been assigned to the various UNESCO Electoral Groups since 1986. The WG took note that, assessing the chart according to the chronological order, the Group Vb (Arab States) should be invited to provide for the role of Chairperson and the Group IV (Asia and Pacific) for the role of Rapporteur. **It is suggested that the IBE Council: a) adopt the proposal to assign the role of Chairperson to the Electoral Group Vb and that of Rapporteur to the Electoral Group IV.**
- 5.4 **Composition of the Drafting Group of the ICE:** It was recommended that due to the importance of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE, the Drafting Group should be composed of three members from each electoral Group. This would include the members of the ICE Working Group. **It is suggested that the IBE Council adopt the following proposals: a) to have the members of the WG on ICE included in the Drafting Group *ex-officio* and to have two more representatives from the six Electoral Groups elected as members; b) to place the Drafting Group under the chairmanship of the Director General of UNESCO, if he so wishes; c) to request the IBE Director to contact the Chairs of each Electoral Group immediately after the IBE Council to ensure the identification of the additional members.**
- 5.5 **Time management for interventions and speaking time:** The WG reviewed the issues related to time management and suggested that the practice of registering for the right to speak during the plenary sessions should be maintained. However, the practice introduced at the General Conference of UNESCO, which consists of alerting the speaker that his/her time is running out by playing music that gradually increases in volume, was not considered as appropriate. The idea of informing the speaker through a written message was considered more appropriate. **It is suggested that the IBE Council adopt the proposal of: a) maintaining the practice of registering for the right to speak during the plenary sessions; and b) alerting the speaker that his/her time is running out by the means of a written message.**
- 5.6 **Suggestions for names of “challenging” keynote speakers:** The WG took note of the progress in the preparation of a roster for potential keynote speakers, policy-makers and experts as a result of the regional consultations within the COP framework. It also suggested that due to the importance of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE, the Director-General of UNESCO be invited to chair the final debate, as it was the case in the 47<sup>th</sup> session. **It is suggested that the IBE Council requests that: a) interested members provide the IBE Director with suggestions of names of eminent personalities who could be keynote speakers and/or panelists; and b) that the Director-General of UNESCO be invited to chair the final debate.**
- 5.7 **Financing the ICE:** The WG was briefed on the financial situation of the ICE funding and the efforts made to mobilize resources. The discussion was based on the estimated budget for the ICE, which was then revised upward to accommodate the comments made by the participants of the Administrative Group and the Working Group on the ICE in a joint session. Several points were debated, particularly the importance of a visibility strategy for the IBE, which would facilitate the efforts for resource mobilization. The amount allocated for the participation of representatives from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) was also increased. The revised budget is reflected on

*annex 6. It is suggested that the IBE Council adopt the budget as reflected in the annex 6.*

- 5.8 **Further activities of the WG:** The WG discussed the possible calendar and modalities of its work from the present time to the holding of the ICE. It suggested that the composition of the Working Group on the ICE be kept as it is, while ensuring that a new member be elected to replace Kuwait, which is not a member of the Council any longer. The WG also drew its attention to the decision of the meeting of the IBE Steering Committee in July 2007, that “*at its next session in June/July 2008, some more Council members, possibly those members of the IBE Council Working Group on the ICE, be invited to participate in the deliberations, since it will be the last meeting of the Steering Committee before the ICE*”. **It is suggested that the IBE Council:** a) **adopt the proposal to maintain the present composition of the WG, while ensuring that a new member be elected to replace Kuwait, which is not a member of the Council any longer;** and b) **request that the IBE Director at the next session of the Steering Committee in spring/summer 2008, invite more Council members, including those members of the Working Group on ICE, to participate in the deliberations.**

## **6. Any other business**

No additional item was discussed.

## **7. The Report of the Working Group to the 56<sup>th</sup> session of the Council**

The WG adopted the normal procedure for transmission of the results of its work in the form of this report and its annexes, which will be presented and commented upon orally by the Chairperson of the WG when point 5 of the agenda of the 56<sup>th</sup> session is under discussion.

## **8. Closing of the meeting**

The WG finished its session on Tuesday, 22 January at 13:30 p.m.

**INFORMAL MEETING OF**  
**THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE 48<sup>TH</sup>**  
**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (ICE)**  
**COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF EDUCATION**

**Tuesday, 18 October 2007**

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

UNESCO Headquarters  
7, Place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris, France  
Room 4042

**Draft Minutes**

The informal meeting of the Working Group of the IBE Council was opened by the Chairperson at 11:00 a.m. The Chairperson thanked the members for their excellent contributions made so far and suggested that more members of the IBE Council should be encouraged to participate in the next meeting of the Working Group in January 2008. The Chairperson stressed on the importance of using the ICE as a platform for policy dialogue to bring the world together. He also introduced the Permanent Delegate of Belgium (French Community), invited as an observer, and reminded the participants that the Working Group is “open-ended”.

The DIR/IBE reported on the progress made as far as preparations for the ICE are concerned, in particular the regional/sub-regional seminars and workshops organized within the framework of the IBE Community of Practice of Curriculum Specialists. She also encouraged members to provide comments on the draft documents submitted, namely the Concept Paper and the Progress Report no.1.

The Representative of Latvia informed the Group about the preparatory conference (co-organized with the IBE) for Europe and North America to be held in Latvia at the end of February 2008, which is expected to discuss four main topics: special needs education, learners' needs, cultural diversity and poverty and marginalization.

The ED representative confirmed that the amount of \$250,000 has been made available by the ED sector and that some additional \$100,000 may become available soon.

The Delegates of Kuwait and Malaysia suggested ensuring more involvement of the private sector and NGOs in the works of the forthcoming ICE. The Representative of Canada recommended mobilizing knowledge on Inclusive Education prior to ICE, as ministers should engage in interactive discussions on the implementation of Inclusive

Education policies, not on concepts or theoretical frameworks. They should not *talk* about Inclusive Education, but should discuss how to *move ahead*. The importance of providing the ministers with the proper framework for the discussion was highlighted, by assigning moderators to ask the key questions. He also added a word of caution about involving the private sector, since sponsorship is business and comes with conditions. He mentioned the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), but the private sector's role in education has not been clarified yet.

The idea of making space available for private sector exhibitions was mentioned as an interesting option, publishing houses could be involved.

The Latvian representative stressed on the importance of identifying keynote speakers, who would present their good practices.

Concerning the structure of the ICE, the representatives of Canada, Latvia and Nigeria recommended not organizing two parallel workshops on each of the four themes (e.g. there should be only four workshops).

With regards to budget issues, the Delegate of Kuwait informed the Group that the new Minister of Education will try to mobilize a contribution of US\$100,000 for the 48<sup>th</sup> ICE.

Finally, the Permanent Delegate of Belgium informed the Group that an international symposium on the role of governments in education will be held in Belgium on 23 May 2008, and that the outcomes of the discussions might be useful for the next ICE, in particular for workshop 2 (i.e. public policies). In addition, he suggested considering Prof. Jan De Groof (Belgium, currently *chargé de mission* on the right to education) as a potential resource person for the Conference. Interest was expressed to look into follow up actions to the Kigali meeting (within the ICE preparatory workshops) with some possible extra budgetary funds.

The Chairperson mentioned that contacts should be established with the different regional groups to see about the next President of the ICE. He also was reassured that the preparatory process for the Comenius Medal award will be initiated in November 2007.

The ADG/ED attended briefly the beginning of the meeting, emphasizing that the theme of the 48<sup>th</sup> ICE is a good theme and highly relevant to all countries. He also warned about making the ICE too "inclusive" and loosing focus, he suggested to define its scope in a systematic manner. He reminded that the theme is not about children only, but also adults. He sees ICE not as an event in itself, but as integral part of the ED priorities. ADG/ED ensured his personal involvement in, and support to, the ICE.

The meeting was closed at 13:15 hours.

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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION**

Forty-eighth session

International Conference Centre, Geneva  
25-28 November 2008

**“INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: THE WAY OF THE FUTURE”**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

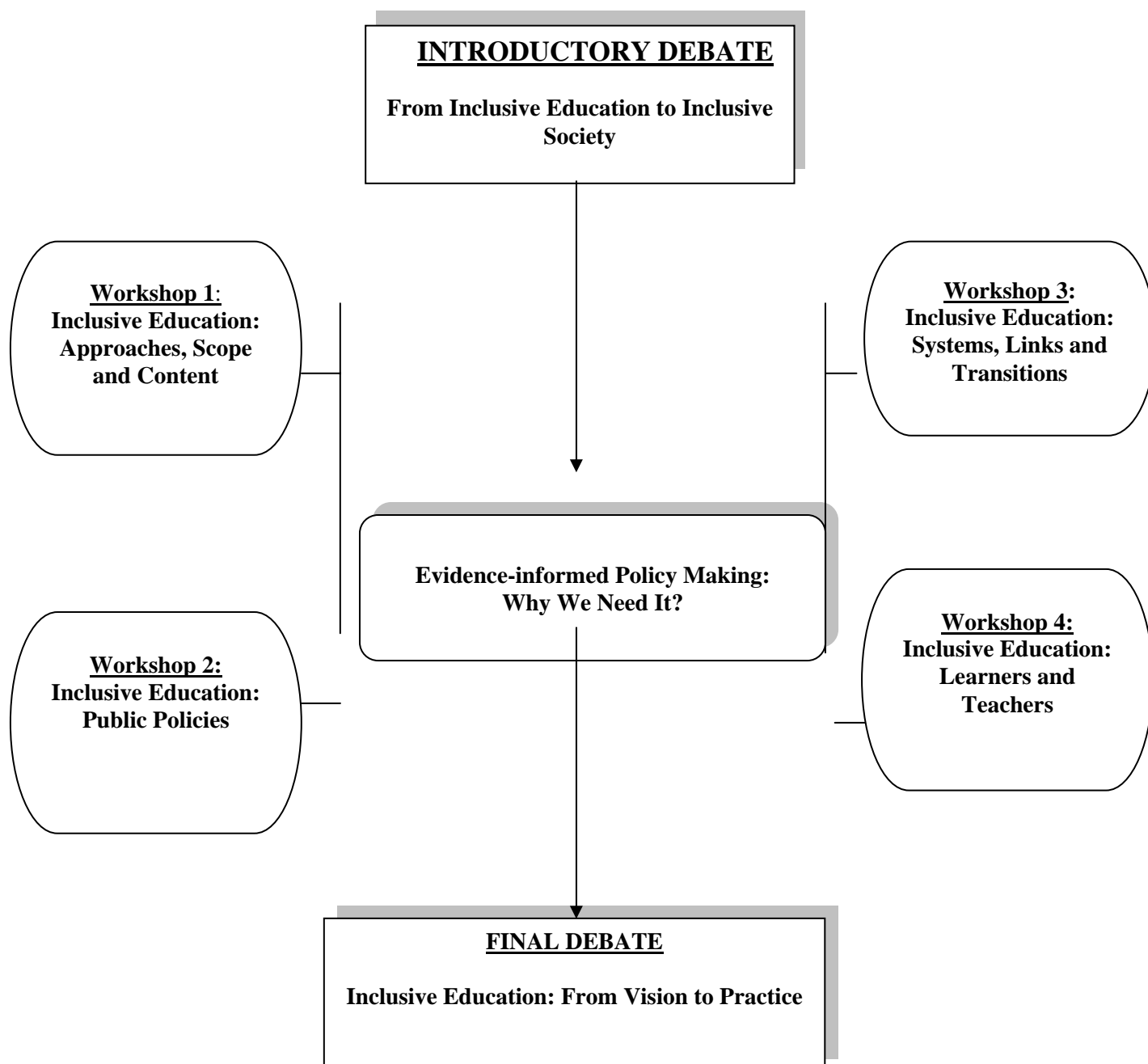
1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of the Chairperson
3. Adoption of the Agenda (ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/1)
4. Adoption of the Revised Rules of Procedure of the International Conference on Education
5. Election of the Vice-Chairpersons and the Rapporteur of the Conference
6. Organization of the Conference's work (ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/2)
7. Review of the Conference's theme: “Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future” (ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/3 and ED/BIE/CONFINTED 48/4)
8. Presentation of the outcomes of the work of the Conference by the Rapporteur
9. Adoption of the Conclusions and Recommendations of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the ICE
10. Closing of the Conference



**48<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION**

**24 – 29 NOVEMBER 2008**

**“INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: THE WAY OF THE FUTURE”**





<p align="center"><b>Proposed structure of the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Conference of Education “Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future”</b></p>		
<b>Session</b>	<b>November 25 - 28 2008</b>	<b>Time Schedule</b>
Opening meeting	Tuesday 25	9.30 – 11.00
Introductory debate “From Inclusive Education to Inclusive Society”	Tuesday 25	11.00 – 13.00
Workshop 1: “Inclusive Education: Approaches, Scope and Content” (parallel sessions A + B + C + D)	Tuesday 25	15.00 – 18.00
Workshop 2: “Inclusive Education: Public Policies” (parallel sessions A + B + C + D)	Wednesday 26	10.00 – 13.00
Synthesis and discussion of the outcomes of Workshops 1 and 2	Wednesday 26	15.00 – 18.00
Workshops 3: “Inclusive Education: Systems, Links and Transitions” (parallel sessions A + B) and Workshop 4: “Inclusive Education: Learners and Teachers” (parallel sessions A + B)	Thursday 27	10.00 – 13.00
One hour devoted to the discussion of the outcomes of Workshops 3 and 4	Thursday 27	15.00 – 16.00
Final Debate: “Inclusive Education: From Vision to Practice”		16.00 – 18.00
A. J. Comenius Medal Award Ceremony		18.30 – 20.00
Closure of the 48 <sup>th</sup> Session: Presentation of the results of the Conference by the Rapporteur and approval of the final documents.	Friday 28	10.00 – 13.00



**CHAIRPERSONS AND RAPPORTEURS OF SESSIONS OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION SINCE 1986**

**PRESIDENTS ET RAPPORTEURS DES SESSIONS DE LA  
CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ÉDUCATION DEPUIS 1986**

Electoral groups Groupes électoraux	I	II	III	IV	Va	Vb
<b>CHAIRPERSON PRÉSIDENT</b> <i>Rapporteur</i>						
1986			<i>Cuba</i>		<b>BURUNDI</b>	
1989				<i>Sri Lanka</i>		<b>EGYPT / EGYPTE</b>
1990	<i>Denmark / Danemark</i>			<b>INDIA / INDE</b>		
1992	<b>CANADA</b>				<i>Nigeria Nigéria</i>	
1994		<b>CZECH REP. / REP. TCHEQUE</b>				<i>Egypt / Égypte</i>
1996		<i>Bulgaria / Bulgarie</i>	<b>ARGENTINA / ARGENTINE</b>			
2001	<i>Belgium / Belgique</i>				<b>NIGERIA / NIGÉRIA</b>	
2004				<b>INDIA / INDE</b>		<i>Libyan Arab Jamahiriya / Jamahiriya arabe libyenne</i>
2008						



<b>I. <u>Estimated budget for 48th Session of ICE</u></b>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
<b>A) 2007 Budget for preparatory activities</b>				
IBE budget (ICE 151'000 and COP 20'000)	<b>\$171'000</b>			
33 C/5 ED Sector budget 75'000 + 150'000 + 15'000	<b>\$240'000</b>			
Other resources for co-funding for joint IBE - FOs activities	<b>\$85'000</b>			
<b>B) Draft breakdown of 2008 Budget</b>				
Consultants and reference document.....		<b>\$130'000</b>		
Keynote speakers		<b>\$10'000</b>		
Participants travel from LDCs .....		<b>\$140'000</b>		
Simultaneous interpretation.....		<b>\$85'000</b>		
4 Workshops		<b>\$100'000 (***)</b>		
Translation of documents.....		<b>\$65'000</b>		
Support staff and staff missions.....		<b>\$56'000</b>		
Research assistants (3 x 12 months).....		<b>\$140'000</b>		
Information/Communication.....		<b>\$26'000</b>		
Printing of documents / publications.....		<b>\$90'000</b>		
Video production.....		<b>\$95'000</b>		
Conference rooms services.....		<b>\$56'000</b>		
Registration Badges for participants.....		<b>\$33'000</b>		
Security arrangements.....		<b>\$50'000</b>		
Rental of equipment (laptops, printers, photocopies).....		<b>\$35'000</b>		
Miscellaneous.....		<b>\$74'000</b>		
Cultural events		<b>\$35'000</b>		
<b>C) Follow-up actions and publications in 2009</b>			<b>\$350'000</b>	
<b>T O T A L 2007-2009</b>	<b>\$496'000</b>	<b>\$1'220'000</b>	<b>\$350'000</b>	<b>\$2'066'000</b>
<b>II. <u>Resources secured</u> (as of 17.1.2008)</b>				
34 C/5 Education Sector		<b>\$350'000</b>		
Switzerland (CHF65'000 + CHF75'000)		<b>\$125'000</b>		
IBE resources		<b>\$300'000</b>		
<b>Sub-total 2008</b>		<b>\$775'000</b>		
<b>Resources to be mobilized for 2008-2009 activities</b>		<b>\$445'000</b>	<b>\$350'000</b>	<b>\$795'000</b>

(\*\*\*) 4 consultants for background papers 40'000\$; experts participation 38'000\$, translation 22'000\$