

General Framework

UNESCO, through its Education Sector in Paris, the Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNESCO-OREALC) and the International Bureau of Education (UNESCO-IBE), in partnership with the “Education for All” (EFA) Flagship on the Right to Education for Persons with Disabilities: Towards Inclusion”, are hosting the Regional Meeting “Implementation of Inclusive Education Policies in Latin America: Progress and Pending Challenges” from 18 to 20 November 2009 in Santiago, Chile.

This meeting follows up the Conclusions and Recommendations of the 48th session of the International Conference on Education (ICE 2008) adopted by the representatives of 153 UNESCO Member States, 20 Intergovernmental Organizations, 25 NGOs, as well as other institutions of the civil society. Furthermore, a discussion will take place on the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the region.

Objectives:

- (i) Present and discuss the Conclusions and Recommendations of the 48th ICE session and their implication for the development and strengthening of inclusive education in the region;
- (ii) Identify and analyze progress and pending challenges at the regional level with regard to the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (iii) Discussion on the general approach and criteria for setting up a Regional Observatory on Inclusive Education and other actions to support the monitoring of inclusive policies and practices; and
- (iv) Discuss and agree upon a regional agenda to enhance a broadened concept of inclusive education as a cross-cutting dimension of EFA.

Expected outcomes:

- (i) A Regional Agenda on inclusive education contributing to strengthen the attainment of the EFA goals.
- (ii) A series of actions contributing to accelerate and improve the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (iii) Foundations and basic content of a Regional Observatory on Inclusive Education.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Day 1 Wednesday 18 November	
08:30 – 9:00	Registration of participants
Opening Session	
09:00 - 09:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Welcome address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Alicia Barcena, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Executive Secretary • Mr. Cristian Martínez Ahumada, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Education of Chile • Ms. Ana María Foxley, UNESCO National Commission of Chile • Representative of the Director of UNESCO-OREALC
09:30 – 10:00	Coffee/tea break
Session 1: The situation of inclusive education in Latin America	
10:00 – 11:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICE 2008: Main topics and challenges Introductory Video of the ICE de la ICE 2008 Sr. Renato Operti (UNESCO-IBE) • “Inclusive education in Latin America and the Caribbean” (Presentation of the results of an exploratory analysis of the National Reports submitted to the ICE 2008) Mr. Massimo Amadio (UNESCO-IBE) • Implications of the Conclusions and Recommendations of the ICE 2008 Mrs. Silvina Gvirtz (University of San Andres, Argentina)

Session 2: Conceptualizing inclusive education within the framework of EFA	
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive education and the knowledge society Mrs. Inés Aguerro (Researcher, Argentina) • Inclusion and quality education: a human rights issue Mrs. Rosa Blanco (UNESCO-OREALC) • Inclusion and citizenship Mr. Cristián Cox (Catholic University, Chile) <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
Session 3: Regional perspectives on social and educational inclusion	
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive education: public policies on social inclusion and equity Mr. Néstor López (UNESCO-IIEP, Buenos Aires) • Inclusion and cultural diversity: strengthening the agenda Mr. Martin Hopenahyn (Director of the Social Division of ECLAC) • Inclusion challenges in the knowledge society: Renovating the EFA agenda Mr. Juan Carlos Tedesco (Executive Director of the Strategic Planning Unit for Education, Argentina) <p>Discussion</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee/tea break
Session 4: Discussion on EFA and inclusive education	
16:30 – 18:00	<p>Moderator: UNESCO</p> <p>Panel: Vice Ministers of Education per sub-region</p>
20:00 – 22:00	Cocktail offered by UNESCO

Day 2 Thursday 19 November	
Session 5: Towards the development of inclusive education policies: training inclusive teachers	
09:00 – 11:00	<p>Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <p>Teacher education: global perspectives from the region</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Manuel Bello (Cayetano Heredia University, Peru) • Ms. Denise Vaillant (Programme to Promote Educational Reform in Latin America, GTD-PREAL) • Ms. Matti Kuorelahti (Jyväskylä University, Finland) <p>Discussion</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee/tea Break
Session 6: Changes of paradigm in inclusive education and their impact on school and curricular transformation	
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive education and inclusive curricula Video ICE 2008 (experience of a school in Manchester, England) Mr. Renato Operti (UNESCO-IBE) • Assessment and Inclusive Education: Barrier or support? Mr. Seamus Hegarty • What makes a school inclusive? Mr. Héctor Valdés (Coordinator of the Latin American Laboratory for Assessment of the Quality of Education–LLECE, UNESCO-OREALC) <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
Session 7: From an education systems' perspective: What investments and actions are needed to advance with social and educational inclusion?	
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <p>Panel:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Leonardo Garnier Rímolo (Minister of Education of Costa Rica) • Mr. Fernando Filgueira (Social Division of Development, ECLAC) • Mr. Juan Eduardo García Huidobro (Alberto Hurtado University, Chile) <p>Discussion</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee/tea break
Session 8: Tools for implementing inclusive education	
16:30 – 18:00	<p>Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A model for assessing the quality of the school response to the diversity of students Ms. Cynthia Duk (Central University, Chile) • Support materials in the region Educating for diversity in the MERCOSUR countries Indicators of inclusive schools (Colombia) Country representatives <p>Discussion</p>
20:00 – 22:00	Dinner

Day 3 Friday 20 November	
Session 9: Discussion on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	
09:00 – 10:45	<p>Moderator: Sr. Rosa Blanco (UNESCO-OREALC)</p> <p>Video on the Convention</p> <p>The new Convention: introductory framework and a global overview The situation in the region: signatory countries, ratifications and challenges ahead</p> <p>Focus on excluded groups</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Vernor Muñoz Villalobos (Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, United Nations Human Rights Council) • Mr. Kenneth Eklinth (UNESCO Paris) <p>Discussion</p>
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee/tea break

11:15 – 13:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Voices from organizations advocating for the rights of people with disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Carlos Eroles (Regional Higher Education Network for People with Disabilities, Argentina) • Ms. Soledad Cisternas (Member of the Convention Monitoring Committee, Chile) • Mr. Fernando Ayala (Association of the Deaf) <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
Session 10: Setting up a Regional Observatory on inclusive education	
14:30 – 16:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: Vice Minister of Education</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Resources and tools to monitor and evaluate inclusive education policies and programmes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Massimo Amadio (UNESCO-IBE) • Ms. Rosa Blanco (UNESCO-OREALC) • Mr. Kenneth Eklinth (UNESCO Paris) <p>Discussion</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee/ tea break
Session 11: The way of the future: existing commitments and new opportunities	
16:30 – 18:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: Mr. Jorge Sequeira (Director of UNESCO-OREALC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice Ministers of Education • UNESCO representatives