

## ***Inclusive Education: from Policy Dialogue to Collaborative Action***

Riga, Latvia  
24 – 26 February 2008

Organized by:

The Latvian National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia and UNESCO International Bureau of Education

### **Preliminary Programme**

<b>Sunday, 24 February 2008</b>	
The whole day	Arrival of the participants
16.00	<b>Meeting of the conference steering committee (including moderators and rapporteurs)</b> <i>Venue: University of Latvia</i>
18.00	<b>Opening of the exhibition</b> <i>Venue: Lobby of the University of Latvia</i>
<b>Monday, 25 February 2008</b>	
8.00 – 9.00	<b>Registration of the participants</b> <i>Venue: In front of the Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>
9.00 – 10.00	<b>Official opening of the conference</b> Welcome speeches by <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prof. Tatjana Koke, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia</li><li>• Prof. Mārcis Auziņš, Rector of the University of Latvia</li><li>• Ms. Clementina Acedo, Director of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education</li><li>• A Representative of the European Commission</li></ul> <li>• Latvian cultural performance by Jazeps Medins Music School Boys' Choir</li> <i>Moderated by Mr. Rolands Ozols, Secretary General of the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO</i> <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>
10.00 – 11.30	<b>Introductory plenary session – Theory and Practice of Inclusive Education: Continuous Challenges and New Approaches</b> Key – note speeches by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Charles Beer, Minister of Education of Geneva (Switzerland)</li><li>• Mr. Cor Meijer, Director of the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education</li><li>• Dr. Sai Väyrynen (Ms), Inclusive Education Adviser and Researcher of Finland, Adviser to Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Tanzania</li></ul> <i>Moderated by Alexandre Sannikov, Regional Education Advisor for Europe of UNESCO</i> <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>

11.30 – 12.00	Coffee Break			
12.00 – 13.30	<b>Panel Discussion – Inclusive Education and Social Cohesion: Some International Perspectives</b> <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Marta Lafuente, Vice Minister of Education of Paraguay</li> <li>• Mr. Ali Bubshait, Education Specialist, Gulf Arab States Educational Research Centre (GASERC), Kuwait</li> <li>• Mr. Godswill Obioma, Executive Secretary of the National Education Research and Development Council (NERDC), Nigeria</li> <li>• Mr Gabriele Mazza, Directorate of School, Out-of-School and Higher Education, Council of Europe</li> </ul> <p><i>Moderated by Clementina Acedo, Director of UNESCO International Bureau of Education</i>  <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i></p>			
13.30 – 15.00	Lunch			
15.00 – 16.30	<b>Roundtable discussion with representatives from the Ministries of Education of the European and North American Region - Inclusive Education Policies and Practices in Europe and the North American Region</b>  <i>Moderated by Mr. Mareks Gruškevics, State Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia</i> <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>			
16.30 – 17.00	Coffee Break			
17.00 – 18.30	<b>Roundtable discussion with representatives from the Ministries of Education of the European and North American Region - Inclusive Education Policies and Practices in Europe and the North American Region</b>  <i>Moderated by Mr. Mareks Gruškevics, State Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia</i> <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>			
18.30	<b>End of the working day</b>			
19.30	<b>Reception hosted by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia</b> <i>Venue: Museum of the History of Riga and Navigation</i>			
<b>Tuesday, 26 February 2008</b>				
9.00 – 11.00	<b>Simultaneous workshops – Inclusive Education: Conceptual and Practical Issues (based on the experiences of European and North-American countries)</b>  <i>Venue: University of Latvia</i>			
	<b>Workshop 1 -Special needs education</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>	<b>Workshop 2 – Different learner needs and learning styles and how to address them meaningfully</b> <i>Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>	<b>Workshop 3 – Pedagogical management of diversity</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>	<b>Workshop 4 - Addressing poverty, marginalization and violence</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee Break			

11.30 – 13.00	<b>Simultaneous workshops – Inclusive Education: Conceptual and Practical Issues based on the experiences of European and North-American countries</b>  <i>Venue: University of Latvia</i>			
	<b>Workshop 1 -Special needs education</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>	<b>Workshop 2 - Different learner needs and learning styles and how to address them meaningfully</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>	<b>Workshop 3 – Pedagogical management of diversity</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>	<b>Workshop 4 - Addressing poverty, marginalization and violence</b> <i>* Experts presentations followed by discussions</i>
13.00 – 15.00	Lunch			
15.00 – 16.30	<b>Closing session - Inclusive Education from Policy Dialogue to Collaborative Action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Plenary presentation of workshop outcomes</li> <li>- Presentation by the General Rapporteur: outcomes of the conference and the way forward</li> <li>- Reactions to the General Rapporteur’s presentation</li> <li>- Evaluation of the conference</li> </ul> <i>Moderated by a representative of European Commission</i> <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>			
16.30 – 17.00	<b>Official closing of the conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Tatjana Koke, Minister of Education and Science of Latvia</li> <li>• Mr. Alexandre Sannikov, Regional Education Adviser for Europe, UNESCO</li> </ul> Moderated by Mr. Rolands Ozols, Secretary General of the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO <i>Venue: Aula Magna of the University of Latvia</i>			