



## **UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

### **Meeting at COP 20/CMP 10**

**10 December 2014, 16:00-17:00**

#### **Participants**

- UNESCO: Julia Heiss
- UNITAR: Angus Mackay
- UNDP: Holly Borday
- UNFCCC: Adriana Valenzuela, Alla Metelitsa, Nick Nuttal and Moritz Weigel (Chair)

#### **Agenda**

1. Planning for 2015
2. Possible collaboration with the UNFCCC observer constituency of research and independent NGOs
3. Draft Lima Ministerial Declaration on Education and Awareness-raising
4. Possible collaboration with the UN Development Group on the design and implementation on a global survey on climate change

#### **1. Planning for 2015**

UNESCO will organize further regional expert meetings on climate change education in Costa Rica and Jordan in April as well as the World Education Forum in Korea in May. UNESCO will continue its work at the country level by

supporting national climate change programmes in six countries. UNESCO invited UNFCCC to participate in the regional expert meetings and collaborate on identifying participants through the network of national focal points on Article 6 of the Convention.

UNESCO has been approached by France on the organization of events in the run-up to and during COP 21/CMP 11. France would like to use UNESCO premises and offers space at the conference venue in return. While plans are still being finalized, the biennial UNESCO Youth Forum, which will take place in mid-November, has been identified as one major event for collaboration. UNESCO is also exploring the possibility of hosting a large UNESCO Associate Schools Programme meeting with the support from the French government. Furthermore, UNESCO will be working on translating its climate change education materials into French.

UNITAR appreciated the Alliance logo and thanked FAO for the generous in-kind support in developing it. UNITAR briefed members on the expansion of UN CC:Learn and the start of its first regional project. By mid-2015 16 countries will have UN CC:Learn support, including Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kazakhstan, Niger, Peru and The Gambia among others. UNITAR will also train negotiators from LDCs prior to and after COP 21/CMP 11 as part of a GEF-funded joint project with UNDP/UNEP. In response to UNITAR's question whether capacity-building activities or support to LDC delegations would also be possible during UNFCCC conference, UNFCCC said that IIED and UNEP have been engaged in similar activities.

UNFCCC highlighted the importance of engaging education Ministers in the development of the Paris agreement. The UNFCCC Executive Secretary has strategically engaged with Ministers of Finance, Health and other areas. It would be

interesting to know about major upcoming events that would allow her to also engage with education Ministers. UNESCO suggested that the World Education Forum to be held in May in Korea would be an excellent opportunity in this regard given that most of the world's education Ministers will be attending this Forum. UNFCCC will explore the possibility of the Executive Secretary's participation with her office.

UNFCCC will not have a communication campaign around the Paris agreement. One concept that has been beginning to emerge around branding of COP 21/CMP 11 is the theme of a COP of light/COP of love in the city of light/city of love. The government of France is expected to launch its official COP 21/CMP 11 conference website on 12 December.

UNFCCC suggested exploring possibilities of engaging other organizations in the work of the Alliance, such as ILO and UNV, to further catalyze action on the ground.

UNFCCC briefed participants on planned activities for 2015, which include the finalization of Guidelines for National Focal Points for Article 6 of the Convention, the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dialogue on Article 6 with a focus on education and training, and negotiations under Article 6 on the development of terms of references for the intermediate review of the implementation of the Doha work programme in June. UNFCCC highlighted that the SBI has invited Parties and observer organizations to make submissions on both the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dialogue and the development of terms of references for the intermediate review.

## **2. Possible collaboration with the UNFCCC observer constituency of research and independent NGOs**

UNFCCC was approached by the UNFCCC observer constituency of research and independent NGOs (RINGOs),

who expressed interest in collaborating with the Alliance. Specific proposals for collaboration included promoting teaching materials developed by Alliance members, exploring the possibility of organizing a writing competition around climate change with a prize for the winner being awarded by the Alliance, and having Alliance members visit universities to present the Alliance's work.

UNESCO expressed interest in working with RINGO to identify experts for participation in the UNESCO regional experts meetings to be held in April 2015.

UNFCCC suggested involving RINGO in a research project being conducted with UNESCO and the Center for Environment Education to assess mitigation and adaptation effects of climate change education and communication activities.

### **3. Draft Lima Ministerial Declaration on Education and Awareness-raising**

UNFCCC briefed participants that the draft Lima Ministerial Declaration on Education and Awareness-raising proposed by Poland and the Peruvian COP President is still being discussed. It was agreed that Alliance members would promote the Declaration on their websites and social media should it be adopted at the COP closing plenary on Friday/Saturday.

### **4. Possible collaboration with the UN Development Group on the design and implementation on a global survey on climate change**

Ms. Holly Borday presented the UN Development Group (UNDG)'s plan to launch a spin-off voting platform from the MyWorld Survey with a focus on climate change. Initial discussions on the platform design were held with the SG's

Climate Change Support Team, UNV, UN DPI and UNDP country offices. UNDG invited the Alliance to contribute to the design of the survey to ensure its relevance for the UNFCCC process. Further information on this initiative will be shared by UNDG shortly.