

Minutes of the 20th Executive Board Meeting of AFUCA
held in Nara, Japan from 25-27 September 2010

The 20th Executive Board Meeting of the Asian Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (AFUCA) was held on 25 September 2010 at the historical city of Nara, Japan in conjunction with the 3 days Seminar of clubs for UNESCO in the Asia-Pacific Region, which was co-organized by UNESCO and the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ). 11 member countries attended the meeting through their official representatives and 2 countries (Bhutan & Philippines) participated as observers.

Member countries which participated in the Executive Board meeting were Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mongolia, Nepal, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam.

Mr. George Christophides, President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA) attended the meeting as a special invitee and Ms. Akane Nozaki, Assistant Programme Specialist, UNESCO's sector for External Relations and Public Information, Department of UNESCO Clubs in UNESCO Head Quarters; Paris was the guest of honour.

Opening the meeting Mr. Noboru Noguchi, Secretary General of AFUCA and Director-General of the NFUAJ greeted and welcomed members to the 20th Executive Board of AFUCA in the historical and beautiful city of Nara. He informed the members that Nara is an ancient city and was the 1st capital of Japan. He said Nara is celebrating 1300th anniversary of its foundation. He further informed that Nara is world famous for its ancient temples and natural beauty. Nara has over 900 temples and monuments and 3 UNESCO World Heritage sites. Mr. Noguchi apologized for the absence of Mr. Masatake Matsuda, President of AFUCA who was busy in the 66th National Convention of UNESCO Club Movement in Japan also being held in Nara, simultaneously with this meeting.

Mr. Noguchi invited Mr. Tao Xiping, Honorary President of AFUCA to address the participants. Mr. Tao Xiping expressed his happiness to attend this board meeting in the historical city of Nara. He said he was happy to see a large number of AFUCA members present in the meeting and particularly to see two young faces from Bhutan and Philippines present as observers. He hoped that soon both these countries will join AFUCA as regular members. Mr. Tao Xiping also welcomed Mr. Georges Chirtophides, President of WFUCA and Ms. Akane Nozaki, UNESCO representatives in the meeting and said not long back, he had the pleasure of meeting many of those present here, in Beijing, China during the WFUCA Board Meeting. He hoped that the members will have useful discussions and arrive at positive decisions to strengthen the UNESCO Club movement and AFUCA in particular.

Next Mr. Noguchi invited Mr. Georges Christophides to say a few words to the participants. Mr. Georges Chirstophides said he was delighted to attend for the first time the Board meeting of AFUCA. He recounted the contribution of AFUCA in formation of WFUCA, as AFUCA was establishment in 1974 and WFUCA came into being only in the year 1981. He said he was particularly happy that the next World Congress of WFUCA will be hosted by an AFUCA member in Asia. He wished the Board Meeting a success.

Next Mr. Noguchi invited Ms. Akane Nozaki to address the participants. Ms. Akane Nozaki said she was delighted to be present at the Board Meeting of AFUCA. She said Asia Pacific region account for about 50% of the all UNESCO Clubs and Associations in the World.

She said AFUCA has a long history and has contributed richly in the World UNESCO Club Movement. She said she would watch proceedings of the meeting and enrich herself from the deliberations.

Two Vice Presidents of AFUCA, Mr. Dambar Bir Thapa of Nepal and Mr. P.W. Lee of Republic of Korea were present in the meeting. Mr. Lee announced his resignation from the post of Vice President of AFUCA as he has ceased to be the President of the Korean Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (KNFUCA). He introduced to the members Mr. Yoo Jaykun, the new President of the KNFUCA and suggested that for the rest of his term as the Vice President of AFUCA, Mr. Yoo Jaykun should be accepted as his replacement. Mr. Georges Chritophides, President of WFUCA who was present in the meeting as special invitee, said the constitution of AFUCA must be consulted in such like case and if need be constitution must be amended to allow such mid term changes. Since there was no specific provision in the AFUCA constitution on this point, Mr. Yoo Jaykun was accepted as the Vice President of AFUCA in place of Mr. P.W. Lee.

Speak on this point Mr. Tao Xiping recalled the services of Mr. Lee to the UNESCO Club movement. He mentioned that only last year Mr. Lee was awarded the AFUCA-Penglai Peace prize, during the Penglai Peace festival to recognize & appreciate Mr. Lee's rich contribution to UNESCO Club movement & to AFUCA in particular. He hoped that despite his resignation as the Vice President of AFUCA, Mr. Lee would remain involved with the UNESCO Club movement & keep on guiding the organization through his rich experience.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Noguchi said that the Secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda of the Board Meeting and asked the members for their comments, any changes/additions/deletions in the Agenda before its formal adoption. In absence of any suggestions, the Agenda was adopted.

Nomination of rapporteurs

Mr. Noguchi suggested the names of Ms. Lee Sunjoo of Republic of Korea and Mr. Dharendra Bhatnagar of India as rapporteurs. He asked for their consent and approval from the members. Both members gave their consent and their nomination was unanimously confirmed by the members.

Approval of the summary report of the 19th session of AFUCA Executive Board Meeting held in Penglai, China on 21st August 2009

Mr. Noguchi said a draft of the report was sent to all members much in advance inviting their comments/suggestions for corrections and additions etc. The summary report was unanimously approved and adopted.

Approval of the admission of the new member

Mr. Noguchi informed that a formal request has come from Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, duly recommended by the National Commission of Kazakhstan. A copy of the letter written by the NATCOM of Kazakhstan was attached with the documents distributed to the members. Since requirements for admitting a new number, as per the constitution of AFUCA were fulfilled, members welcomed the admission of Kazakhstan as a regular member of AFUCA with loud applauses. Mr. Noguchi invited representatives of Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs to present their activity report. Ms. Khanzada Yessenova, Vice President of Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs with help of the power point and an interpreter presented the activities of Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs which

was appreciated by all. Hard copy of the activity report was also distributed amongst the members.

AFUCA's activities and financial report for 2009-2010

Copies of the report of the activities carried by AFUCA and financial statement were already distributed among the members. Commenting on this, Mr. Dharendra Bhatnagar from India said that Mitsubishi Asian Children's Enikki Festa & Penglai China "Ode to Peace" International Youth Culture and Art Festival have been shown as the regular activities of AFUCA, where as expenditure on these activities is not reflected in the financial statement. He suggested that it may be stated in the activity report that these events have been sponsored by the local organizations in the respective countries therefore no expenditure has been shown in the financial statement. On publication of AFUCA news letter, Mr. Bhatnagar congratulated the secretariat for their efforts and suggested it should be made a regular quarterly publication. He offered the services of the Indian Federation for publishing the AFUCA News Letter free of any charge. His offer was welcomed and accepted by the members. It was suggested by a Korean delegate that it would be more appropriate if the text for publication is approved by the AFUCA Secretariat.

Explaining the financial report Mr. Noguchi requested the members to pay their membership fee and clear their old dues, if any. Several members paid their annual contribution and cleared their old dues as well.

Member felt that AFUCA should increase its membership. Mr. Bhatnagar from India informed that on recommendation of UNESCO New Delhi Office and on the invitation of the National Commissions he has conducted Training Seminars for starting UNESCO Club movement in Bhutan and Maldives. Both countries now have UNESCO Clubs and would soon join AFUCA and WFUCA. He also informed members about his visit to Sri Lanka and discussion with the Secretary General of Sri Lankan National Commission for UNESCO. He said that Sri Lanka is reorganizing the UNESCO Clubs in its country. Mr. Bhatnagar further informed that he has urged the National Commissions of Iran and Indonesia to start the UNESCO Club in their respective countries. Members appreciated his efforts.

Mr. Bhatnagar said AFUCA is the oldest regional federation of UNESCO Clubs & Associations, established way back in 1974. Founder members of AFUCA are either retired or no more involved with the UNESCO Club movement and some have even died. New members are joining the movement. He said it would be beneficial for all if a back grounder or history book of AFUCA is prepared by the Secretariat, giving information on the Board meetings, past and current office bearers and brief notes on the activities of AFUCA. This will be a permanent & very useful record. He said since beginning NFUAJ has hosted the secretariat of AFUCA so it can be done only by Japan. Members supported the need of such a document. Mr. Georges Christophides, said next year WFUCA will be celebrating its 30th anniversary and a history book of WFUCA is being prepared. If a document, as suggested by Mr. Bhatnagar is prepared it could be included as a chapter in WFUCA history book. Mr. Noguchi after consulting Mr. Akito Terao said he will make all possible efforts to retrieve the records of AFUCA to prepare such a document.

AFUCA's proposed activities plan for 2010-2011

Mr. Noguchi invited the attention of the members to the papers distributed and said for the time being only the Mitsubishi Asian Children's Enikki Festa, Penglai China "Ode to Peace" International Youth Culture and Art Festival and Publication of AFUCA News Letter have been

included in the proposed activities. He said organizing some regional seminars could be considered if some funds are made available by UNESCO under P.P Scheme of UNESCO. He informed the members that UNESCO headquarters does not accept direct proposals from the Regional Federations and all applications have to be routed through WFUCA. However, he invited views of Ms. Akane Nozaki of UNESCO on this point. Ms. Akane Nozaki said she will have to check with her department if there is any provision to accept direct applications.

Venue of the next Executive Board Meeting in 2012

Mr. Noguchi invited offers from the members. Mr. Yoo of Korea suggested that it could be held in Seoul. Mr. Dambar Bir Thapa of Nepal Federation said his country never had the privilege of hosting any meeting of AFUCA or WFUCA. He said it would be a great honor for his country & Nepal federation in particular, if members agree to hold the next Board Meeting of AFUCA in Nepal. Mr. Yoo said he is ready to withdraw his offer, if all members accept the proposal of Mr. Thapa. Members accepted the offer of Mr. Thapa with applause and decided to have next board meeting of AFUCA in Kathmandu, Nepal in 2012. Mr. Noguchi said opportunities to hold meetings in other places like during Penglai Peace Festival, during WFUCA Congress in Hanoi or Asia Study Tour in Seoul could be termed as extra ordinary meetings of AFUCA.

Others

For discussion on any other item, Mr. Bhatnagar of India suggested that efforts should be made to revive the membership of the countries which had UNESCO Club federations in the past and were admitted as members of AFUCA through their National Commissions. He also pointed out about the mention of two Honorary Vice Presidents in AFUCA News Letter. He recalled discussion of the Executive Board on this matter. He requested Mr. Noguchi to please refer to minutes of some previous Executive Board meetings. Mr. Bhatnagar said he remembered that this matter was discussed in detail in one of the meetings when the issue came up for discussion in regard to a past president of AFUCA who continues to write himself as Honorary President of AFUCA even expiry of his term almost 2 decades before. Mr. Noguchi assured that he would see the past decisions, if any, in this regard. Mr. Georges Christophides read out to the clause in AFUCA Constitution which was general in nature with no specific mention to the term of the honorary office bearers. He said it is better to look at the past decision in this regard.

Mr. Noguchi announced that on 27th September i.e. at the time of presentation of country reports on ESD members will have opportunity to discuss their general activities and can give suggestions for more activities of AFUCA.

Since there was no other item for discussion, meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

**20th Session of the Executive Board Meeting of
Asian Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations
(Nara, Japan, 25 September 2010)**

- Address by Mr. Tao Xiping, Honorable President of AFUCA
- Adoption of Agenda
- Nomination of rapporteurs
- Approval of the summery report of
the 19th session of AFUCA Executive Board Meeting
- Approval of the admission of the new member
- Speech by the representative of
the Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs
- AFUCA's activities and Financial Report for 2009-2010
- AFUCA's proposed activities plan for 2010-2011
- Venue of the next Executive Board Meeting in 2012
- Others

List of Participants

Delegation

	Mr/Ms	name	title, organization
Bangladesh	Mr.	Mahbubuddin Chowdhury	Secretary-General, National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh
China	Mr.	Tao Xiping	President, Chinese National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
India	Mr.	Dhirendra Bhatnagar	Secretary General, Confederation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations of India (CUCAI)
Kazakhstan	Mr.	Serkan Ayazbayev	Vice-president, Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs
Mongol	Mr.	SAMDAN Tsedevsuren	President, Mongolian National Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations
Nepal	Mr.	Dambar Bir Thapa	President, Vice President of AFUCA, National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Association of Nepal
Russia	Mr.	Yuri Borissikhin	President, National Ural-Siberian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations
Korea	Mr.	YOO, Jaykun	President of KNFUCA, Korean Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (KNFUCA)
Thailand	Mr.	THONGCHART WONGSAWAN	Vice President, Centre for International Understanding, Thailand
Vietnam	Mr.	Nguyen Xuan Thang	President and Secretary General, Vietnam Federation of UNESCO Associations
Japan	Mr.	Noboru NOGUCHI	Director-General , National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)

Observers

UNESCO	Ms.	Akané NOZAKI	Assistant Programme Specialist, Sector for External Relations and Cooperation
WFUCA	Mr.	George Christophides	President, World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations
Bhutan	Mr.	Sonam Gyamtsho	Chukha Higher Secondary School, Ministry of Education
China	Mr.	Mu Xueren	Interpreter, Exchange Centre of Beijing Ark UNESCO Club
	Mr.	LAN Hongsheng	President, Beijing Municipal Clubs Association
	Mr.	PAN Dong	Deputy Secretary General, Beijing Municipal Clubs Association
	Ms.	DU Ping	Deputy Secretary General, Beijing Municipal Clubs Association
Kazakhstan	Ms.	Khanzada Yessenova	Vice-president, Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs
	Ms.	Sabina Chukayeva	Assistant to KazFUCA President, Translator, Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs

Nepal	Mr. Gopal Krishna Shrestha	President, UNESCO Associated Teachers' National Association
Philippines	Ms. Kristine Joyce Manalo LAROCO	Director-General , Lyceum UNESCO Club
Russia	Ms. Yulia Averina	Vice-President, National Ural-Siberian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations
	Mr. Artur Yulbarisov	President, The Bashkortostan Federation of UNESCO Clubs, UNESCO Club "Step to the future" in the UNESCO Associated School "ALFA"
Korea	Mr. LEE, Pyung woo	Vice President of AFUCA, Honorary President of Korean Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (KNFUCA)
	Ms. LEE, Sunjoo	Head of Public Relations, Korean Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (KNFUCA)
	Mr. KIM Jongsoo	Chairman of supporters committee, Korean Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (KNFUCA)
	Mr. SONG Jongjin	Head/ASPnet National Coordinator, Partnership Schools Team, Korean National Commission for UNESCO
Thailand	Mr. PATTANACHAI DAORUANG	Secretary of CIU Committee, Centre for International Understanding, Thailand
Vietnam	Mr. Tran Van Manh	Deputy Secretary General and Chief of Administration, Vietnam Federation of UNESCO Associations
Japan	Mr. Taichi OTAKI	Auditor, National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
Secretariat	Mr. Akito TERAO	Director, Division for Organization , National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
	Ms. Mariko FURUSAWA	Chief, Division for Organization , National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
	Ms. Hatsuka MABE	Program Officer, Planning and Public Relationship Department, National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
	Ms. Ryoko SHISHIDO	Program Officer, Division for Organization , National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
	Ms. Naoko KISHIMOTO	Assistant, Division for Organization , National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
	Ms. Kanayo SAKAI	Assistant, Division for Organization , National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)
	Ms. Akiko GONO	Interpreter, National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)