

**(Draft)**

**Minutes of the 24<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting for the Asian-Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (AFUCA)**

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2018  
Venue: Conference Hall of Ibis Astana Hotel, Astana, Kazakhstan  
Chairperson: Mr. Bolat Akchulakov, President of AFUCA  
Participants: Please refer to the attached list.

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Under the chairmanship of Mr. Bolat Akchulakov, President of the Asian-Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (AFUCA) and generous support of the host country Kazakhstan, through Mr. Akchulakov, President of Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, the 24th Session of the Executive Board Meeting of AFUCA was successfully held at the Ibis Astana Hotel, Astana, Kazakhstan on 1st July 2018.

Representatives from the following countries were present: Bangladesh, China, the Philippines, India, Japan, Kazakhstan (including several local UNESCO clubs in the country), Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal and Tajikistan. In addition, representatives of Jamaica (Jamaican Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers, and Associations) also participated as an observer. Mr. Noboru Noguchi was invited as honorary guest by the organizer.

Mr. Akchulakov welcomed all participants who came to Astana, which marked 20th anniversary as the new capital of Kazakhstan and is symbolic city of peace and reconciliation. He added that the International Festival under the auspices of UNESCO “The Planet of ART” was also being held during that period.

Then he invited Mr. Dharendra Bhatnagar, President of WFUCA to make an address.

Mr. Bhatnagar welcomed all participants and expressed his appreciation to those who

came to Astana, to Kazakhstan Federation of UNESCO Clubs as the host organization, and to Kazakhstan National Commission for UNESCO for its kind support.

He introduced new participating organizations, namely, the Philippines, Tajikistan, and Jamaica. He expressed his regret that some members were not able to attend the conference due to some reasons.

### **Agenda for AFUCA Executive Board Meeting**

#### **ITEM 1. Amendments and adoption of the Agenda**

Taking the first item on agenda, Mr. Akchulakov asked the members if there would be any amendments to the draft agenda for the 24<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting. No amendment was made and the agenda was adopted by the meeting.

#### **ITEM 2. Adoption of the Report of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of AFUCA Executive Board Meeting held on September 5-8, 2016 in Almaty, Kazakhstan**

Mr. Akchulakov asked the members if there would be any amendments on the draft minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Executive Board Meeting, which was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan in 2016. As Secretary General of AFUCA, Mr. Noboru Noguchi highlighted revised points such as increase of membership fees from 100 USD and 200 USD. Since there were no suggestions and comments on the draft report of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session, the report was adopted by the meeting.

#### **ITEM 3. Report from the AFUCA Secretariat Office**

Mr. Akchulakov invited Mr. Noguchi to report AFUCA's activities as well as its financial report. Mr. Noguchi appreciated the Kazakhstan Federation for having organized this Executive Board Meeting. He explained about Mitsubishi Asia Enikki Festa and expressed his appreciation to those who have kindly supported the Festa, co-sponsored by AFUCA, Mitsubishi Public Affairs Committee, and NFUAJ. He added that an Award ceremony would be held in Yokohama, Japan from July 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. All grand prix winners will be invited to Yokohama and will take part in the ceremony

and related activities.

Then, Mr. Noguchi expressed that he would resign from the position of AFUCA Secretary General because he retired as Director General of NFUAJ in June 2017 (and became Deputy President). Mr. Yuji Suzuki, current Director General of NFUAJ proposed that he would succeed Noguchi's position because NFUAJ is responsible for working as a Secretariat Office until 2020.

The members approved Mr. Suzuki's proposal and he became Secretary General of AFUCA. Later, Mr. Akchulakov made a proposal that Mr. Noguchi be appointed an advisor for AFUCA and this proposal was approved by the meeting. It is confirmed that there should be a provision about the position of an advisor in the Constitution and that amendment of the Constitution is necessary. For this purpose, AFUCA Secretariat drafted the following amendment:

“The Executive Board may appoint one or more Honorary Presidents / Advisors for four years. They will be eligible for re-appointment.”

The above amendment has been approved by the meeting.

#### **ITEM 4. Membership Fees and Financial Report**

On behalf of the Secretary General, Mr. Tomoya Kamoshida of NFUAJ explained to the members the current AFUCA's balance (5,471 US dollar as of August 20<sup>st</sup>, 2018) and added that no expenditure had been occurred from 2017 to 2018. It was also reported that Thailand (CIU) is likely to lose its membership status because it had not paid membership fees for more than 4 years (based on the revised Constitution).

In addition, it was confirmed by the members that the increase in annual membership fees from 100 USD to 200 USD was applied from 2017 and new members pay its annual membership in the year of participation in AFUCA membership.

### **ITEM 5. Reports from AFUCA members**

Mr. Akchulakov invited the members to present their country report on their recent activities about 10 minutes, respectively. According to the alphabetical order, each member Federation presented its activity report.

Commenting on the activity reports, Mr. Akchulakov congratulated each member Federation for its dedication and commitment in advancing the aims, objectives, and ideals of UNESCO.

### **ITEM 6. Admissions of new members**

Two candidates for AFUCA members, Tajikistan National Federation of UNESCO Club and the National Association of UNESCO Clubs in the Philippines were approved by the meeting. As to the Philippines Federation, it was approved under the condition that it sends the supporting letter from the Philippines National Commission for UNESCO to AFUCA Secretariat.

Mr. Suzuki told that the Philippines' participation in AFUCA is important for expanding AFUCA membership to other ASEAN countries.

Later, Mr. Akchulakov handed over a membership certificate to each member and praised its activities.

### **ITEM 7. *New Regulatory Framework regarding Associations, Centres, and Clubs for UNESCO* adopted during 39th General Conference of UNESCO**

Mr. Bhatnagar explained a background of the *Regulatory Framework* and discussion with Mr. Eric Falt, then Assistant Director-General of UNESCO.

Mr. Noguchi added that during the 38th WFUCA EB meeting, which was held in Tokyo in July 2017, the meeting discussed this problem and drafted an appeal letter which was approved by the meeting and was eventually sent to the then Director-General of UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova.

Mr. Noguchi also added that he had a meeting with Mr. Eric Falt about this Framework

when he visited Paris in 2017.

Mr. Bhatnagar also explained that the Regional Federation could be sustained and that the name “Center” would not be used any longer after two year grace period.

Mr. Suzuki, new Secretary General of AFUCA, emphasized that UNESCO Associations and Clubs need to work closely with each country’s National Commission for UNESCO according to the Resolution of the 38th Session of General Conference of UNESCO.

Finally, Mr. Akchulakov emphasized that UNESCO Movement should be free from politics and business and that its main purpose is working for betterment of children.

#### **ITEM 8. Proposals for the future programmes and activities of AFUCA for 2018-2020**

Mr. Suzuki, Director-General of NFUAJ, explained his plan to organize a 3-4 day program for high school students (15-18 years old) for leadership development to be organized in March 2019 in Tokyo. The contents would be about SDGs and how younger generation could contribute to SDGs.

Dr. Arviola Jr., the Philippines Federation, introduced its activities for anti-doping; which leads to education children as well as to nurture respect to others.

Mr. Akchulakov emphasized the importance of tourism. Likewise, he added that dance and cultural activities contribute to peace and that although AFUCA does not conduct any supports activities, sports is a field by which younger generation could contribute to peace.

He also added that “Mitsubishi Asia Children Enikki Festa” and International Festival “The Planet of ART” (former “Children are painting the World. Asia” are implemented as AFUCA activities.

Ms. Zhyldyz Liu-Min-Chin, Kyrgyzstan Federation introduced activities of sports and youth activities in its country.

Ms. Bolormaa Samdan, Mongolian Federation proposed that an activity like Penglai Children Art Festival should be conducted under the umbrella of AFUCA.

**ITEM 9. 25th Session of the E.B. of AFUCA and other activities**

Vietnam Federation had proposed that it would organize a next Session of AFUCA Executive Board Meeting at its previous session held in 2016; however, decision was not made due to its absence. Instead, Nepal Federation expressed its willingness as a candidate for the next AFUCA Executive Board Meeting to be held in 2020. Thus, the venue of the next AFUCA EB meeting is yet to be decided.

**ITEM 10. Miscellaneous**

Ms. Sabina Akzharova, Secretary General of Kazakhstan Federation, made a presentation on proposed design of an AFUCA website.

The members were requested to send their feedback to Ms. Akzharova.