



VENEZUELA'S CANDIDACY
TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO
(2017-2021)

VENEZUELA'S COMMITMENT TO UNESCO

The candidacy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the Executive Board of UNESCO for the period 2017-2021 represents a commitment of the Venezuelan Government and its Foreign Policy of Peace with the mandate of the Organization, with inclusive multilateralism and with the achievement of the Goals of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030.

Venezuela is committed to the construction of a truly humanistic multilateralism, which contributes to achieving a fair balance of the international system in the face of the multifactorial crisis where social and economic inequalities, violence, armed conflicts and the risks arising from the climatic phenomenon increase dangerously. Venezuela will promote the strengthening of the principles contained in the Constitution of UNESCO, considering that the Organization must play a decisive role in the construction of a Culture of Peace, anchored on the values of understanding, cooperation and moral and intellectual solidarity, and on respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of the Peoples.

Venezuela's action at UNESCO

Venezuela's action at UNESCO as part of the United Nations system is aimed at defending inclusive multilateralism, which should foster a framework of democratic, transparent and non-discriminatory relations. Venezuela promotes a representative action of the interests of all the sovereign countries that comprise it.

Venezuela will encourage in UNESCO a multilateralism for the peoples, that promotes equal rights before the enormous challenges arisen by the global economic, cultural and environmental crises. To this end, the participation of governments and social movements should be combined with a view to promoting a debate on the types of development and governance models that the multilateral system must promote in order to achieve a balance and regulation of social, political and economic changes, before the consequences of globalization and to the maintenance of peace, consolidation of social justice, partnership, self-determination of peoples, sovereign equality of States and the territorial integrity of nations.

Venezuela is committed to safeguarding the interests of the most vulnerable countries, promoting South-South cooperation and consolidating an international multipolar system that contributes to the promotion, on a fair basis, of programs in education, science, culture and communication and information.



The last participation of Venezuela in the Executive Council was during the 2009-2013 term without re-election, which has meant a wait of two periods to present again its candidacy to the Executive Council, respecting the principle of the geographic rotation within the Electoral Group III (GRULAC). Venezuela is one of the countries with less representation in UNESCO's subsidiary bodies, with the exception of the Committee for the Information for All Program (IFAP), whose membership ends this year, and the Headquarters Committee until 2019.



OBJECTIVES AND PROPOSALS OF VENEZUELA FOR THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board should be strengthened as a forum for political agreement. For this reason, Venezuela considers it necessary to promote a better balance between substantive issues and administrative and micromanagement issues. The Council needs to essentially strengthen its executive nature by promoting the inclusive and equitable participation of its members in substantive discussions linked to the implementation of the programs and to the monitoring of their own decisions. Venezuela considers that the Executive Board should prevent UNESCO from becoming embroiled



in issues and matters which, by their nature, did not form part of its mandate or competence. In this sense, our country is determined to join forces with all the members of the Council, in order to concentrate the functions of this body and align itself with what is established in article V.b of the UNESCO Constitution.

Strategic initiatives

Taking into account the operational difficulties facing the Organization, Venezuela considers it appropriate to propose strategic initiatives from the Executive Board that will allow:

- To address exceptional or emergency situations in order to rapidly mobilize human and financial talents from different sectors of the Organization, including South-South and North-South Cooperation, to respond to such eventualities in the field, with the consent of the Respective State.
- To ratify the prospective, normative and intellectual function of the Organization, as well as its status as a laboratory of ideas and a catalyst for international cooperation.
- To address, as a matter of priority, capacity building, fellowship schemes and other international assistance mechanisms, especially to Africa, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
- To strengthen cross-sectoral coordination and expertise, with a view to making the best use of available resources, improving synergies and avoiding duplicity at the Secretariat level.
- To strengthen UNESCO's level of interaction with other United Nations agencies, reaffirming its leadership in its fields of competence (Reference to Articles X and XI of the UNESCO Constitution).



Venezuela and UNESCO programs

Education

Venezuela has reaffirmed its commitment to meeting the principles set out in the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 4, “Ensuring inclusive, equitable and quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all”.

Education should remain a priority for being a public good and a fundamental human right. For this reason, Venezuela insisted from the Executive Council on the need to protect education at all levels of the effects of the financial crisis that broke out in 2008. One example was the draft decision presented by our country in order to sustain the Organization’s commitment to Education for All Goals by 2015

(reference to Decision 181 EX/57).

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has been working for more than 15 years to ensure that the free and public university allows the entry of hundreds of thousands students, paying off the social debt of those who were not able to access third-level education by the excluding means that existed. By bringing a university education to every corner of the country the possibilities of access were maximized.



Registrations of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the List of Intangible Heritage of Humanity;

Diablos Danzantes (Dancing Devils) from Venezuela. Year of Inscription: December 2012. Nomination file n ° 00639. Approved at the 7th Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. 7.COM 11.35 ICHDOC



Traditional Knowledge and Techniques related to Growing and Processing of Curagua. Year of Inscription: November/ December 2015. Nomination file n ° 01904. Approved at the 10th Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. 10.COM 10.b.35

The Carnival of El Callao: Festive Representation of a Memory and Cultural Identity. Year of Registration November/December: 2016. Nomination file n ° 01198. Approved at the 11th Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. 11.COM 10.b.36



The Parranda (Carousel) of San Pedro of Guarenas and Guatire. Year of Inscription: 2013. Nomination file n ° 00907. Adopted at the 8th Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. 8.COM 8.30 ICHDOC

During the 12th annual meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Seoul (South Korea), from 4 to 8 December 2017, Colombia and Venezuela will join efforts to register the binational nomination of "Cantos de Trabajo del Llano", which require urgent safeguard measures.





Culture

Venezuela considers that the protection of the Culture and heritage of each nation should be given under a context of strengthening of international law and respect for the principles of sovereignty, self-determination and equality of the member States. The Executive Board should therefore ensure the proper implementation and strengthening of the Cultural Conventions and monitor the decisions of the bodies of such normative instruments in order to avoid contradictions between the latter and the Council itself.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has the following places that have been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO:

Natural Heritage of Humanity: Canaima National Park, registered in 1994 under UNESCO Ref: 701.

Cultural Heritage of Humanity: Coro and its Port, inscribed in 1993 under UNESCO Ref.: 658.

World Heritage Sites: University City of Caracas (UCV), registered in 2000 under UNESCO Ref. 986.

Venezuela and UNESCO programs

Venezuela believes that the Executive Board should value the importance of the Natural Sciences and the Social and Human Sciences, under a holistic and interdisciplinary vision and without ignoring the autonomy, competences and technical specificities of each one of them, as well as its contribution to the 2030 Development Agenda.

Science



Natural Sciences

Venezuela recognizes and vigorously promotes the development of scientific knowledge from a humanistic perspective. To this end, it promotes a model based on the appropriation of knowledge and social inclusion, which contributes to the development, security and sovereignty of the nation. Focused on the transformation of society and the configuration of values and models of action, to make science, technology and innovation an integral area of collective production, sustained in the dialogue of knowledge and committed to inclusion and preservation of the planet, it also promotes open access and massive use of new technologies.

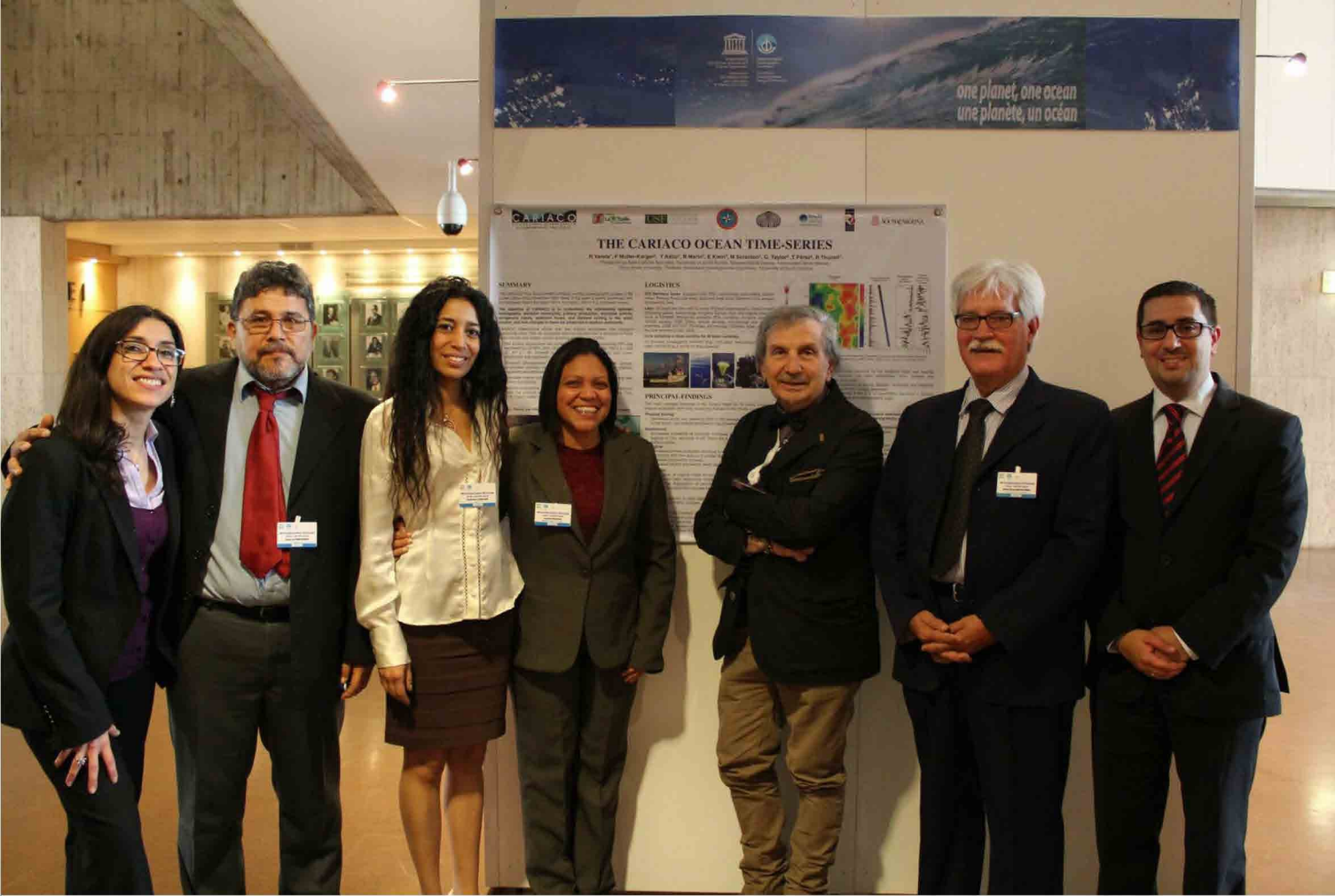


The Canaima Education Project

contributes to the improvement of the quality of education with a comprehensive education perspective, through the technological updating of the children and teachers of public schools, by providing free of charge a laptop to each student with educational content formulated 100% by Venezuelan authors and developed in free software.

On November 8, 2013, UNESCO recognized the contribution of the Canaima Project within the framework of the 37th Session of its General Conference. On that occasion, the Assistant Director-General for Education of the Organization, Mr. Qian Tiang, praised the achievements of the Canaima Project as “an innovative practice of national public policy in support of quality education and for the provision and access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for all segments of society.”





Cariaco Project

A Window to Oceanography in Venezuela

In July 2014, UNESCO recognized the studies of climate change carried out by the “Cariaco Project: A Window to Oceanography in Venezuela”, presented during the conference in commemoration of the scientist Roger Revelle, as part of the activities of the 47th Session of the Executive Board of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).



Venezuela and UNESCO programs

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Venezuela believes that the Executive Board of UNESCO should ensure that the two divisions of Major Program V, Freedom of Expression and Development of the Media and Society, and the division of Knowledge Societies, establish greater synergy to ensure a comprehensive execution of its different axes, avoiding the overlap or hierarchy of programs and activities.


WE EXPECT TO COUNT WITH THE VALUABLE SUPPORT OF YOUR COUNTRY

The commitment of Venezuela to the fundamental principles of UNESCO focuses on actively accompanying the processes of transformation that make the Organization more close to people and with a human face. It is therefore intended that the Executive Board can reflect on fundamental issues such as peace, overcoming illiteracy, the climate change crisis and its consequences,

culture in the broadest sense, sustainable development and youth, among others.

As an observer country to the Executive Board, Venezuela has been actively involved in discussions on program and budget implementation, emphasizing the need to promote a new political and administrative governance that will allow UNESCO to strengthen its intergovernmental nature and to meet priorities, especially within the framework of Agenda 2030.

From the Executive Board, Venezuela stands ready to contribute with the improvement of synergies and cooperation between the General Conference, the Secretariat and the Council itself. In this regard, Venezuela considers it is necessary to address the procedures and working methods of the Secretariat in order to contribute to the improvement of Governance. In addition, it is necessary to take into account the situation of geographical balance and gender equality in the posts of the Secretariat, since it is one of the fundamental elements, based on inclusion, to ensure the proper functioning of UNESCO management.



Venezuela has strengthened community and alternative media as spaces for the construction of new social relations for the empowerment of communities and the strengthening of local culture, which can only be achieved with the active and proactive participation of each of the citizens of the area where the medium is circumscribed. By 2015, 876 community and alternative media, 659 radio stations and 75 television stations had been created. In 2016, 405 new community and alternative media were added.

The satellite VENESAT-1 Simón Bolívar

is the first artificial satellite owned by the Venezuelan State. It was launched on October 29, 2008 with the aim of facilitating access and transmission of data services over the Internet, telephony, television, telemedicine and tele-education.



**Bolivarian Government
of Venezuela**

People's Power Ministry
for Foreign Relations



1817 - 2017
ZAMORA
UNIÓN CIVICO-MILITAR