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GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION FOR A JUST, PEACEFUL, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE FIELD

15 June 2015 • 10:30 - 13:00
Conference Room 6, UN Headquarters

WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION

H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

Moderator:

H.E. Ambassador Hahn Choong-hee, Deputy Permanent
Representative of the Republic of Korea
to the United Nations

Mr. Yousef Sultan Laram, Deputy Permanent
Representative of the State of Qatar to the
United Nations

Speakers:

H.E. Ambassador Richard Erdman, Acting Representative
to ECOSOC, Permanent Mission of the United States
of America to the United Nations

Mr. Francois Gave, Counsellor
Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations

H.E. Ambassador Usman Sarki, Deputy Permanent
Representative, Permanent Mission of the Federal
Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations

Mr. Christopher Castle, Chief
UNESCO Section of Health & Global Citizenship Education

Ms. Antonia Wulff, Coordinator
Education International

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION: OPPORTUNITIES BASED ON APPLICATION IN THE FIELD

Moderator:

Mr. Daniel Perell, Representative,
Bahá'í International Community

Prof. William Gaudelli, Professor of Social Studies and
Education, Columbia University

Speakers:

Mr. Ramu Damodaran, Chief,
United Nations Academic Impact Secretariat

Mr. Rilli Lapalainen, Secretary General,
DEEP and CONCORD

Dr. Jinhee Kim, Member of the Advisory Council of
UNAI Korea, Korea Educational Development Institute

Mr. Ramesh Jaura, Director General and Editor in Chief,
Inter Press Service News Agency

Mr. Jordi Torrent, Project Manager
Media & Information Literacy
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Ms. Sofia Garcia-Garcia, Post-2015 Advisor,
SOS Children's Villages

Dr. Neelam Chowdhary, Executive Director of
Professional Development and Curriculum, Asia Society

A UN Pass is required to attend the event. Those without UN Passes must RSVP by June 10 at aimiesunwoolee@gmail.com.



Concept Note

Global Citizenship Education for a Just, Peaceful, Inclusive and Sustainable World: A conceptual framework and its application in the field.

The international community now faces a rare opportunity to find fundamental and long-term solutions to global challenges including inequality, environmental degradation and intolerance. Global citizenship education (GCED) is a transformative approach to building the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that humanity needs to be able to contribute to a more inclusive, just, peaceful and sustainable world. GCED has been embraced in the Draft Sustainable Development Goals as an important dimension to global development (Goal 4.7).

In 2012, the Secretary General launched the “Global Education First Initiative” which holds global citizenship education as one of its three pillars. In April of 2015, UNESCO adopted a resolution which “encourages Member States and UNESCO to further involve youth, teachers, educators, school staff, families and parents' associations in the conceptualization and the implementation of programmes and policies concerning global citizenship education and all related aspects.”ⁱ Last month the World Education Forum, held in Seoul, South Korea, saw numerous advances made in furtherance of GCED.

This important event on Global Citizenship Education aims to highlight some of the areas where GCED can be most effective; to provide both theoretical and practical guidance for implementing GCED; and to raise the profile and galvanize action among the UN community in New York.

Given the compelling necessity to tackle critical global challenges such as the prevalent trends of intolerance and violent extremism, global citizenship is being more widely recognized as part of a new paradigm that upholds universal values and rethinks the role of education in the 21st century. There are various ways to define the scope of GCED, but they all emphasize the universal values and core responsibilities of the global community such as human rights, gender equality, cultural diversity, tolerance, and environmental sustainability.

Global citizenship refers to a sense of belonging to a broader community and common humanity. It emphasizes political, economic, social and cultural interdependency and interconnectedness between the local, the national and the global. Global citizenship education is identified as a priority on the Report of the High-level Group of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations as a way to strengthen multiculturalism and the better understanding among individuals from different cultural and religious backgrounds.ⁱⁱ Global citizenship education takes “a multifaceted approach, employing concepts and methodologies already applied in other areas, including human rights education, peace education, education for sustainable development and education for international understanding”ⁱⁱⁱ and aims to advance their common objectives. Global citizenship education applies a lifelong learning perspective, beginning from early childhood and continuing through all levels of education and into adulthood, requiring both “formal and informal approaches, curricular and extracurricular interventions, and conventional and unconventional pathways to participation.”^{iv}

This event will have two segments. In the first, GCED will be discussed at the level of concept. How can it strengthen the three pillars of the United Nations and the three pillars of sustainable development in furtherance of a just, peaceful, inclusive and sustainable world. In the second, examples from the field – the local, national and international levels – will be presented and discussed as will certain opportunities going forward including the important role of media.

***** This event is in support of United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative *****

ⁱ 196 EX/32

ⁱⁱ <http://www.unaoc.org/who-we-are/high-level-group/>

ⁱⁱⁱ UNESCO (2014). Education Strategy 2014 – 2021, p.46.

^{iv} UNESCO (2014). Global citizenship education: Preparing learners for the challenges of the 21st century.