NEWSLETTER N°3 JANUARY – JUNE 2013

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1. THE UNESCO FORTHCOMING PHILOSOPHY AND THE NEW DIRECTIVES

In December 2012, during 3 days, the Cultural NGOs International Conference was held at the UNESCO Headquarters .

. An event in the UNESCO-NGOs relations

This international Conference has not been held during the last 3 years, and proposed to elaborate a previous thought for the 2015 General Conference, year of the end of the "Education for all program". This International General Conference initiated a thought covering 4 years (instead of 2 as it was made before), and pointed out the importance to have a longer program .

The chosen subject to be presented in 2015 to the UNESCO General Conference is: "*Culture and cultures: reconciling universality and diversity*".

First of all, in his opening speech, the deputy Director-General remained the NGOs' reform made by UNESCO during the last General Conference, as well as the directives which were voted in 2011. Those directives are available at

the following address: http://unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=48884&URL_DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

There are explained the NGOs status, the obligations and the advantages, the way of collaborating with UNESCO, the participation to the priority programs, the use of the name and of the logo of UNESCO, the cooperation with the prior NGOs.

The deputy Director General insisted on 'the importance of culture as a source of renewed and unlimited energy, as a central force for the unity of the societies, as the cement able to reinforce the links between the communities.'

The 'Murals Program' initiated by the Mexican NC – this project will be developed in the Newsletter N°4 – proved the truth of this affirmation.

2.The new UNESCO directives

- lead in the direction of a more and more important regionalization with new open doors on the world for the NGOs.

That's what IAA AIAP is experiencing through the creation of new NCs. We take this opportunity to welcome the last created NCs in South America, North Africa, Africa and Europe.

The NGOs were clearly requested to collaborate with other associations and/or NGOs defending the same values, even if those associations don't work with UNESCO directly.

-Culture will take the first place of the preoccupations, Culture being a values carrier transversal theme that will be very important in the

forthcoming mandate.

Today, Culture still means "Civilization", being opposed to the still present barbarism of our societies.

It was also remained that Culture was one of the UNESCO great missions since its creation.

-The adopted and definitely defined resolutions during this General Conference are presented at the address:..CONF\ONG 2012\CONTRIBUTION_CIONG_C4C5_FINALE_FR(1).txt..\Conf.ONG2012\RESOLUTION2012finale_EN(1).txt

3.The writer from Congo Alain MABOUCKOU's intervention was focused on the definition of the national identity within the today identity crisis,

-the conclusion of which leading to the verse borrowed to the French writer Pierre Corneille: " Rome is no longer in Rome. Rome is where I am". Alain Mabouckou explained that the definitions of the dictionary justify hate, war, and violence, because based on separation. But "the exchanges and the encounters are what definite our identities… Tomorrow will be a world of additions, may be of multiplications."

***The 2012 South Africa NC exhibitions program presented this particularity in its exchanges between South Africa, China, France, and Namibia*.**

-During the debate that followed, A. Mabouckou insisted on the "diversion of the cultures that could take place in a goal of domination, with the will to impose cultures that lead to the 'unique thought'. The real worldwide comes from the connection, not by imposing a political or an economical ideology. "This kind of culture is nothing else for the powers than a new way

of dominating. The art of the meeting lays in the preparation of the tomorrow culture."

Last year, the first celebration of the World Art Day, in eleven countries, carried out those values of encountering between the artists and the civil societies.

4.Those declarations allowed the Director for Culture's speech, Francisco Bandarin, the topic of which being "Culture and growth".

- He remained the NGOs 'essential role, as well as the complexity of their relationships with the Organization.

- He underlined that, due to the UNESCO financial problems, without the NGOs interventions in the civil societies, the Conventions won't be able to exist. They would be 'virtual', 'abstract' only .

-He added that the international agreements were dominated by a political and a governmental approach, while the NGOs were 'sticking to the field', making concrete the decisions and the words.

Being one with IAA AIAP preoccupations and thoughts about the best way to participate to the UNESCO programs.

-The programs having suffered a lot because of this huge financial crisis, he requested the NGOs to activate their networks as strongly as they could in order to promote creativity as the main pillar of growth, imagination and inventiveness " having to take the power" in order to find out solutions.

-Effectively, the topic "Culture and growth", not only will be the very center of the essential element of the strategy to be managed by UNESCO, but it will constitute the most important element that the Organization wants to

place at the heart of the preoccupations of the international agenda.

Mr Francisco Bandarin insisted on the economic side of Culture, requesting quite a lot of realism, and the recognition of the economic impact of Culture as a source of jobs, in the cultural industries for instance.

UNESCO does count on the support of this creativity to create new jobs in view to overcome the already existing economic difficulties coming from the financial crisis, and the forthcoming ones.

Thus, all the artists worldwide are requested to think about the way of creating a new economic model in their artistic field, all the ideas having to be made concrete by the NCs.

-Then, the Director for Culture remained that today, the UNESCO priorities were : Africa, gender equality, Education for all, intercultural dialogue, knowledge societies , sustainable development.

Of course, the previous programs are going on being applied, every action for the civil society being important.

2. PUBLIC and PRIVATE GRANTS and RESIDENCIES FOR ARTISTS: an inventory to do.

Some years ago, the UNESCO World Observatory on the condition of the Artist published a lot of public and private grants lists, as well as lists of residencies for artists.

But those structures are evolving all the time, and, since the creation of this website, those lists became very uncompleted, over sometimes.

So, it is necessary to update those lists in order to propose the right

information able to help the visual artists' mobility:

. residencies lists

. existing grants lists

. existing prizes lists

. Museum accepting the IAA card lists

Eventually, a bibliography of the last publications able to give information for the artists' survival . Ex: How to become an auto-entrepreneur, etc.

***Each NC is requested to introduce this information on its own website*. The new IAA AIAP website – for budgetary reasons –won't be able to reproduce all those lists. In the framework of the UNESCO regionalization, an explanation is given to lead the artists to the NCs websites that will relay.**

3. **IAA Events**

. On June 28th 2013, the Irish Committee organizes a Day dedicated to debates and sharing in the framework of " Get together 2013".

Please, see the program and application form on :

http://visualartists.ie/jobs-ops/vai-professional-development-training/visual-artists-ireland-get-together-2013-Friday-28th-june-2013/

. In 2013, The International Women's Day **was celebrated by:**

The Mexican NC: 2 exhibitions in the metro of Mexico

The Norvegian NC: national debates on the web linked with female exhibitions, about the problems faced by auto-entrepreneur female artists .

The other NCS are invited to think about actions for next year.

. A new initiative of the Swedish NC, dated November 2012, is going to be applied worldwide in 2013. This idea *"Cultitudes"* **aims to increase cooperation in latitudes and longitudes through new technologies, with artists, art projects, institutions, and creative industries. Cf: http://www.facebook.com/NorthCultitude6263?ref=h**

This is a connecting opportunity for all the NCs to exchange and to compare quite a lot of topics from a country to another country, as well as from a continent to another one. Coordination : Anders Liden, Sweden.

(anders.a.liden@telia.com)

4 The UNESCO last publications

***Global survey on Internet and Freedom of Expression*. English version only.**

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002182/218273.pdf

***Human Rights: questions and answers* by Leah Levin with drawings by Plantu. English version. Translation into French soon**

http://publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Live=4953

Conclusion

The next newsletter will be partly devoted to examples of artistic projects already financed by UNESCO worldwide, ideas for creating jobs, as well as a

new sponsorship model able to inspire other actions to investigate.

More, in the framework of the UNESCO policy which will be developed in 2015, it is kindly asked to artists who already worked and experimented economic conversion or re-conversion to give the testimony of their experiences in order to incite other actions worldwide. Those experiments could be presented in a newsletter to make everybody able to take advantage of individual actions, and to help those new models to be created.