



KENYA UNESCO OFFICE
— PARIS —

Annual Report

February 2006 - June 2007



Foreword



Mary M. KHIMULU PH.D
Ambassador
/Permanent Delegate

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the first edition of the Annual Report of the Kenya Unesco Office, (KUO) Paris. This special issue offers a great insight and goes a long way to explain Unesco in detail and Kenya's involvement in Unesco activities. The year 2006/2007 has been a very special year for KUO in the sense that Kenya established a direct link with UNESCO at its Headquarters in Paris. During this year, KUO activities have mainly concentrated in setting up the office in terms of regulations, procedures, staffing, equipment and all that appertains to the establishment of a new office.

Kenya Unesco Office is a very strategic office and was created on recommendations from the Ministry of Education to the Government (Cabinet) while recognising the need of Kenya to be involved in international development programmes of Unesco; at a global level.

I was appointed as Ambassador/Permanent Delegate of Kenya to Unesco by His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki in February 2006 and assumed office immediately. This is a very exciting while at the same time very challenging appointment. Representing our Government in meetings both within Unesco and at international meetings organised by other agencies on issues touching on Unesco's areas of competence while crosscutting different areas of development is overarching verdure and in most cases one is left with lots of food for thought on how to advance and actively involve our countries in all issues that foster sustainable development.

Kenya is one country that is gifted with natural resources, talent and human resources. This makes our country unique. I see KUO as a catalyst in collaboration processes and a means through which Kenya can benefit abundantly in terms of knowledge and information sharing. KUO receives and has received different guests both high-level and professional experts in various fields. Over the past one year, we have had the opportunity of promoting activities through dialogue and discussions and have linked Kenya's expertise to the international world. We want to enhance on this as the office initially experienced a shortage in personnel but is now growing with additional technical staff.

Nevertheless, KUO cannot stand alone, we work under the auspices of the Government with programmes falling under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Education while operations issues are overseen by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Through the direct linkage with the

Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM), the Commission is playing a vital role on the ground as a direct link to our Ministries and a reservoir from which we promote the flow of activities to the collaborative Ministries including Ministry of Gender, Culture, Sports & Social Services, Ministry of Heritage, Ministry of Information and Communication, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Environment among other Ministries with activities touching on UNESCO's main areas of competence.

Settling in Paris has not been an easy process but with the very able assistance and cooperation from the Kenya Embassy in Paris under the leadership of Ambassador Raychelle Omamo, I was welcomed in office and given the necessary assistance and orientation in setting up the office over the past one year. I take this opportunity to sincerely extend my appreciation to all the staff of Kenya Embassy in Paris for their assistance in varied ways, be it residence search (Diana) or driving me (Clement) around. Special thanks go to Mr. Fred Makindi, the Education Counselor and his secretary Mme Joy Eleonore, Mr. Abel Sagini, Financial Attaché and his secretary Jessie Otieno; all who tirelessly assisted with orientation within UNESCO including briefs on UNESCO matters, financial matters, administrative and logistical processes respectively.

There are people in UNESCO Headquarters, like Elizabeth Wangari and Colleague Ambassadors who played a big role in assisting me settle down. The Nairobi Regional Office played a big role too.

Although most of our activities have concentrated more on settling and setting up the office, I am happy to present and share KUO's first Annual Report under the theme of 'Promoting Kenya Internationally' we are excited with our achievements over the past one year and look forward to more fruitful years ahead with more tangible results.

In this report we will communicate the mission and vision of KUO in Paris, our strategy, operational model and also introduce our staff without whom much would not be achieved.

I want to end by thanking the Almighty God for granting me this noble calling and thank all those whose names I may not have quoted but who have played a very important role in the establishment of KUO. We count on your continuous support and ensure our reciprocal support in the different areas of collaboration.

Mary M. Rhimulu Ph.D

Message from the Education Counsellor

Mr. Fred M. MAKINDI
Education Counsellor

In the past UNESCO matters have been handled by the bilateral Ambassador of Kenya to France presently H. E. Ms Raychelle Omamo. As the Education Counsellor posted by the Ministry of Education to oversee education matters in Paris, I have enjoyed attending to UNESCO matters and have handled this domain over the past six (6) years with passion. Kenya has performed impressively in regard to UNESCO's fields of competence and programmes including the last 33rd UNESCO General Conference.

UNESCO matters being a heavy duty in addition to the usual bilateral assignments handled by the Kenya Embassy to Paris, I was assigned by H. E. Ms Raychelle Omamo to be responsible for all that appertains to UNESCO and collaboration with Kenya. It's been an honour to represent Kenya at regional and international meetings. Having Permanent Delegation to UNESCO can only be seen as a further means of fostering cooperation, participation and a way of ensuring effective performance that is timely.

On the appointment of a Permanent Delegate, I took the lead in setting up the Kenya UNESCO Office in preparation of the arrival of the Ambassador/Permanent Delegate. We played a major role in acquiring office space within the UNESCO Miollis building where the office is currently located.

On her arrival in Paris in her capacity as Ambassador/Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, it was my pleasure to organise the orientation of H. E. Mary M. Khimulu within UNESCO, its programmes and with the different sectors and fully prepared for her presentation of credentials to the UNESCO Director General after which the Ambassador of Kenya to France H. E. Raychell Omamo hosted a lunch in Ambassador Khimulu's honour.

Personally I see the Kenya UNESCO Office (KUO) as a key and strategic networking, connecting and collaborative point where Kenya stands to gain through an enhanced participation of Kenya's experts within UNESCO's programmes and where Kenya's visibility in international projects will be further enhanced and an office that will strengthen Kenya's relationship with UNESCO and its programmes through multilateral free flow of information.

Mr. Fred M. Makindi

Message from the Financial Attaché



MR. Abel O. SAGINI
Financial Attaché
Kenya Embassy to France

I see the establishment of a Permanent Delegation to UNESCO as a complimentary Mission to the Kenya Embassy in Paris in the sense that Kenya is now represented at UNESCO with a full fledged office. As the Government Accountant in the Paris Station, I took the responsibility of assisting the UNESCO office in all areas that concern Accounting, Administration and Procurement.

On the arrival of Ambassador / Permanent Delegate of Kenya to UNESCO, H. E. Dr. Mary M. Khimulu, to France, we embarked on the search for a suitable official residence for the Ambassador in a good, secure and representational location. I took the lead in the acquisition of the official representational car which we purchased from the manufacturers in Germany and an 8-seater utility van that has proved to be very useful when we receive big delegations from Kenya. I have been actively involved in assisting H.E the Ambassador / Permanent Delegation in the procurement of the office supplies including furniture, computers and stationery. I was also involved in the process of interviewing and hiring of suitable and qualified staff for the KUO office, who have now settled to handle everyday activities of the Mission.

I take this opportunity to congratulate H. E. Dr Mary M. Khimulu, Ambassador / Permanent Delegate to UNESCO on this first edition of KUO's Annual Report. My personal message is that it is fulfilling to see a fully fledged Kenyan mission to UNESCO and that we believe Kenya will not miss out on any opportunities regarding collaboration with UNESCO.

I take it as a great honour and challenge to have an opportunity of serving two fully pledged Missions in Paris simultaneously, that is the Kenya Embassy to France and the Kenya Permanent Delegation to UNESCO.

Mr. Abel O. Sagini



Glossary

AD-G	Assistant Director-General (UNESCO)
AU	Africa Union
D-G	Director-General (UNESCO)
EFA	Education for All
ESD	Education for sustainable Development
FPE	Free Primary Education
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IHP	International Hydrological Programme
IBC	International Bioethics Committee
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IGBC	Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee
IGCP	International Geosciences Programme
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IFAP	Information for All Programmes
ISP	Intergovernmental Scientific Programmes
KUO	Kenya UNESCO Office in Paris
KNATCOM	Kenya National Commission for UNESCO
MAB	Man and the Biosphere
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOST	Management of Social Transformation
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMK	National Museums of Kenya
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PS	Permanent Secretary
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UIS	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
UPE	Universal Primary Education
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WCS	World Conference on Science
WHC	World Heritage Committee
WHC	World Heritage Centre

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Scope Statement

United Nations Educational and Scientific Organisation (UNESCO) is an organisation dedicated to intellectual cooperation and practical action in the fields of Education, Science, Culture and Communication & Information. This is aimed at promoting the goals of peace, mutual understanding and equitable and sustainable human development. To achieve these aims UNESCO works in close collaboration with its 192 Member States and Associate Member States through the Permanent Delegations, the National Commissions and other varied organs.

The goal of the Kenya UNESCO Office (KUO) is to represent Kenya within the United Nations Educational and Scientific Organisation's (UNESCO) fields of competence by initiating, facilitating and promoting the interests of Kenya and Africa within UNESCO's mandate while meeting the objectives of UNESCO. The office carries out its responsibilities by facilitating and developing activities that foster the development and promotion of Education, Culture, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Communication & Information which include other crosscutting areas such as Gender, Sports and Youth. The Permanent Delegation's main role is to ensure liaison in programmatic activities between the Kenya Government, the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO and UNESCO Secretariat.

KUO through the leadership of the Ambassador/Permanent Delegate carries out its programmes in close cooperation with Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) under the umbrella of the Ministry of Education. The Minister for Education is the Chairman of KNATCOM. On the other hand KUO reports all its operational work to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Kenya Delegation also works in close collaboration with other Ministries that work towards the fulfilment of UNESCO's mandate in its fields of competence including Ministry of Science & Technology, Ministry of Gender, Sports & Social Services, Ministry of State for National Heritage, Ministry of Information & Communications, Ministry of Water, Ministry of State for Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.



I UNESCO



The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) was established immediately after the Second World War in October 1945. The organization was created to contribute to peace and security through promoting collaboration among nations in education, science, culture and communication. UNESCO is the intellectual arm of the United Nations with a mandate to promote Education, Science, Culture, Communication and information. UNESCO currently has 192 accredited Member States and 6 Associate

Member States in the world. These member States meet biannually at a General Conference usually held at the Headquarters in Paris, France. The last UNESCO General Conference was held in October 2005 and the next one is scheduled for October/November 2007. The General Conference determines the general policy of UNESCO, approves programmes and the budget and also elects a 58 Member Executive Board that oversees the programme implementation during the biennium.

1.1 Introduction

The main objective of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations. To achieve its objectives, UNESCO through its fields of competences, strategies and activities is actively contributing to

the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially those aiming to:

- *Halve the proportion of people living in extra poverty.*
- *Achieve universal primary education.*
- *Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education.*
- *Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.*
- *Ensure environmental sustainability.*

1.2 UNESCO Programmes

UNESCO performs and assumes a range of functions corresponding to its role as the international lead agency for Education, the Sciences, Culture and Communication & Information.



UNESCO is operating under the following principles and priorities:

1.2.1 Education

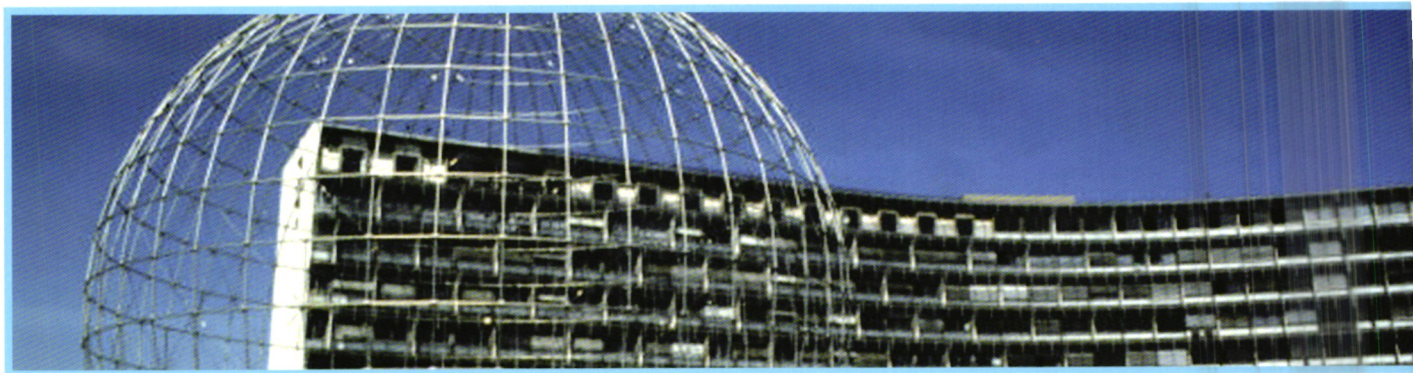
UNESCO is working to improve education worldwide through technical advice, standard-setting, innovative projects and networking. The six Education for All (EFA) goals, adopted by 164 countries at the World Education Forum in 2000, have become the Organization's overriding priority in education.

The UNESCO Education Sector with a vision that Education is key to social and economic development works for a sustainable world with just societies that value knowledge, promote a culture of peace, celebrate diversity and defend human rights, achieved by providing education for all. Coupled by its mission in providing international leadership for creating learning societies with educational opportunities for all populations and providing expertise and foster partnerships to strengthen national educational leadership and the capacity of countries to offer quality education for all, the Education Sector is the largest Sector of UNESCO and with which the KUO envisages to collaborate in various projects that could be beneficial to Kenya and its educational projects.

1.2.2 Culture

UNESCO regards cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue as the most effective way of achieving development and peace in the face of the challenges of globalization. The Organization is dedicated to protecting and promoting the world's tangible and intangible cultural heritage so that such wealth may be received by future generations in a context of sustainable development.

The Culture sector works to build and advance the recognition of cultural diversity for the sustainable development of peoples and societies, placing emphasis on a holistic approach to the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage in all its forms, tangible and intangible. In a diversified area of work, areas of work within the framework of the UNESCO sector of Culture include, world heritage, tangible heritage; Cultural heritage; normative action; intercultural dialogue; cultural industries; Arts & Creativity; museums and cultural tourism.



1.2.3 **Natural Sciences**

UNESCO through its various organs aims to enhance the management of water and associated ecosystems; oceans; capacity building in the basic and engineering sciences, formulation of science policies; application of science, engineering and technologies for sustainable development.

The UNESCO sector of Natural Sciences works under the following thematic areas: Fresh water, people, Biodiversity and Ecology, Oceans, Earth Sciences, Basic Sciences, engineering Sciences, coasts & Small Islands, Science policy & sustainable Development, natural Disaster Reduction and Renewable sources of energy.

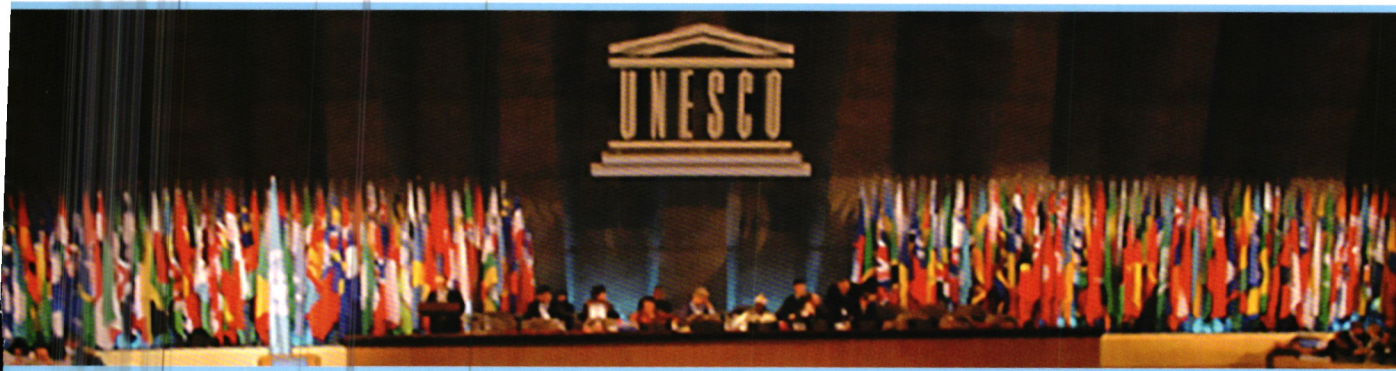
1.2.4 **Social & Human Sciences**

UNESCO considers that the scientific and technological progresses must be placed in a context of ethical reflection rooted in the cultural, legal, philosophical and religious heritage of the various human communities. In the field of the ethics of life with emphasis on bioethics; human rights and the fight against all forms of discrimination and intolerance, UNESCO establishes standards, creates legal instruments, advises governments and coordinates inter-governmental organizations.

As one of UNESCO's five specialized Sectors, the mission of Social & Human Sciences sector is to advance knowledge, standards and intellectual cooperation in order to facilitate social transformations conducive to the universal values of justice, freedom and human dignity.

The social and human sciences play a vital role in helping to understand and interpret the social, cultural and economic environment. They provide research, identify and analyze trends, propose paths of action.

Other activities within this sector include poverty eradication under varied projects, sports, youth and social transformations.



1.2.5 *Communication & Information*

UNESCO encourages the equitable access to information and knowledge and defends the freedom of expression and the development of the communication field. These include creating ICT (information and communication technology) training opportunities, in particular for women and young people; developing and distributing free software; and collaborating with private software companies for the benefit of all.

The communication sector seeks to empower people through the free flow of ideas by word and image, and by access to information and knowledge through its thematic programme of activities which include access to information, capacity development, and content development, freedom of expression, media development and memory of the world.

1.3 *UNESCO Executive Board*

The Executive Board is composed of 58 elected Member States elected during the General Conference and serves for a maximum of a four-year term on a rotational representation. The Executive Board is responsible for ensuring the execution of the

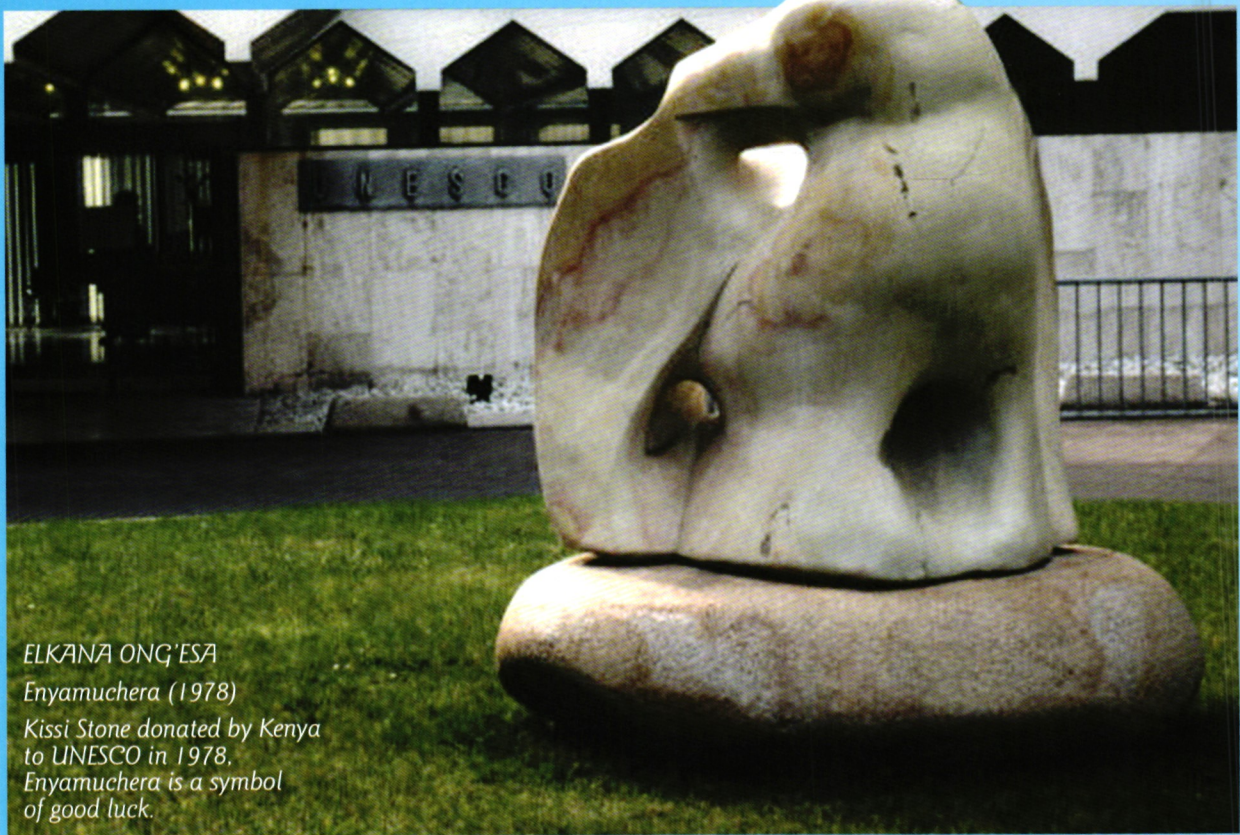
programme adopted at the General Conference. It meets twice a year to examine the Organization's programme and budget and offers a supervisory role in the execution of UNESCO's programmes and submits recommendations to the General Conference.

1.4 *UNESCO General Assembly*

The General Conference is the primary decision-making body, comprising of representatives of all Member States. It meets every two years to determine the policies and main lines of work of the Organization. Following the principle of one vote

per country, it approves UNESCO's biennial programme and budget. Every four years, it appoints the Director-General based on the recommendation of the Executive Board.

2 UNESCO AND KENYA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO (KNATCOM)



*ELKANA ONG'ESA
Enyamuchera (1978)
Kissi Stone donated by Kenya
to UNESCO in 1978.
Enyamuchera is a symbol
of good luck.*

Kenya joined UNESCO in 1964 as the 73rd Member and is the only country in Africa that has hosted in 1976 the UNESCO General Conference outside its Headquarter host country France. In the fulfilment of the Article VII of the UNESCO's Constitution which calls for the establishment of National Commissions, the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) was formed

Since its establishment the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO structurally operates under the professional head of Education, however the

under the Ministry of Education with the Minister for Education as its Chairman. The Commission derives its mandate from the Charter of the National Commissions for UNESCO which clearly articulates the purpose, functions, roles and responsibilities of the National Commissions within UNESCO Member States.

mandate of the Commission cuts across other Government Ministries which have activities under UNESCO's fields of competence.

Kenya National Commission for UNESCO operates under the following objectives as it aims, to fulfil its relationship with UNESCO :

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>i.</p> <p>forge dynamic and effective, partnerships and linkages that ensure the key priority areas of UNESCO namely Education, Sciences, Culture and Communication & Information.</p> | <p>ii.</p> <p>co-ordinate the activities of stakeholders for the enhancement and promotion of national, regional and global collaboration and linkages in all the priority areas of UNESCO.</p> | <p>iii.</p> <p>collaborate with key partners so that they can benefit fully from the UNESCO programmes through strategic participation.</p> | <p>iv.</p> <p>to promote and coordinate national and international cooperation in UNESCO's areas of competence.</p> |
|--|--|--|--|

2.1 Composition of the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO

2.1.1 Chairperson

The Commission is under the leadership of the serving Minister for Education and is currently chaired by Hon Prof George Saitoti, M.P., E.G.H.

2.1.2 Commissioners

The Commission is served by a maximum of twelve Commissioners drawn strategically from the Government Ministries; who work hand in hand with the Chairperson of UNESCO programme committees, and prominent scholars in the UNESCO fields of competence.

2.1.3 Secretary General

The Secretary General oversees the management of the Secretariat and its programmes in Nairobi. Ms. Mary T. O. Omondi is currently acting as the Secretary General of KNATCOM.

2.1.4 Expert Committees

KNATCOM has programmes committees formed along UNESCO's fields of competence. Within these programme committees, there are specialised sub-committees dealing with specific thematic areas and are referred to as Expert sub-committees. They have the role of representing Kenya within UNESCO's relevant areas of work through programme participation and participation in meetings convened by the Intergovernmental bodies and organs. Currently the following expert sub-committees are in existence under the auspices of KNATCOM.

i. Education

Under education KNATCOM has five (5) expert sub-committees working under the following thematic areas: Early Childhood Education; Basic and Higher Education; Special Education; HIV & AIDS and Development Studies and quality Assurance and Standards.

ii. Natural Sciences

KNATCOM has identified five (5) sub-committees under Natural Sciences guiding by the following thematic programmes: Man and the Biosphere (MAB); Hydrology; Geosciences; and Basic Sciences.

iii. Social & Human Sciences

Social & Human Sciences being a very active department within KNATCOM works under five (5) sub-committees under the following thematic areas: Bioethics and Ethics of Science; Philosophy and Human Sciences; Human Rights and Social Transformation; Youth Forum; UNESCO Clubs and ASPnet Schools.

iv. Communication & Information

Under communication and information, two (2) sub-committees have been formed under the themes Media and ICT.

v. Culture

The programmes within the department of culture are managed under the following thematic sub-committees: Heritage protection, preservation and safeguarding; Intangible and Tangible Culture; and Publisher and Book.

3 ESTABLISHMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF THE KENYA UNESCO OFFICE IN PARIS (KUO)



Over the years Kenya has been extremely active in activities covering UNESCO's fields of competencies. Given the increasing responsibilities and the need for Kenya to be more involved in the various sectors within UNESCO, the then Ministry of Education, Science & Technology recognised the need of appointing a full fledged Representative to UNESCO and made a proposal which was passed

by the Cabinet and approved by H. E. the President of the Republic of Kenya Hon Mwai Kibaki. It was then agreed that the Kenya Government should have a position of an Ambassador/Permanent Delegate to UNESCO as is the case with the United National Environmental Programme (UNEP) and UN HABITAT. This post was recommended to be at a full Ambassadorial level.

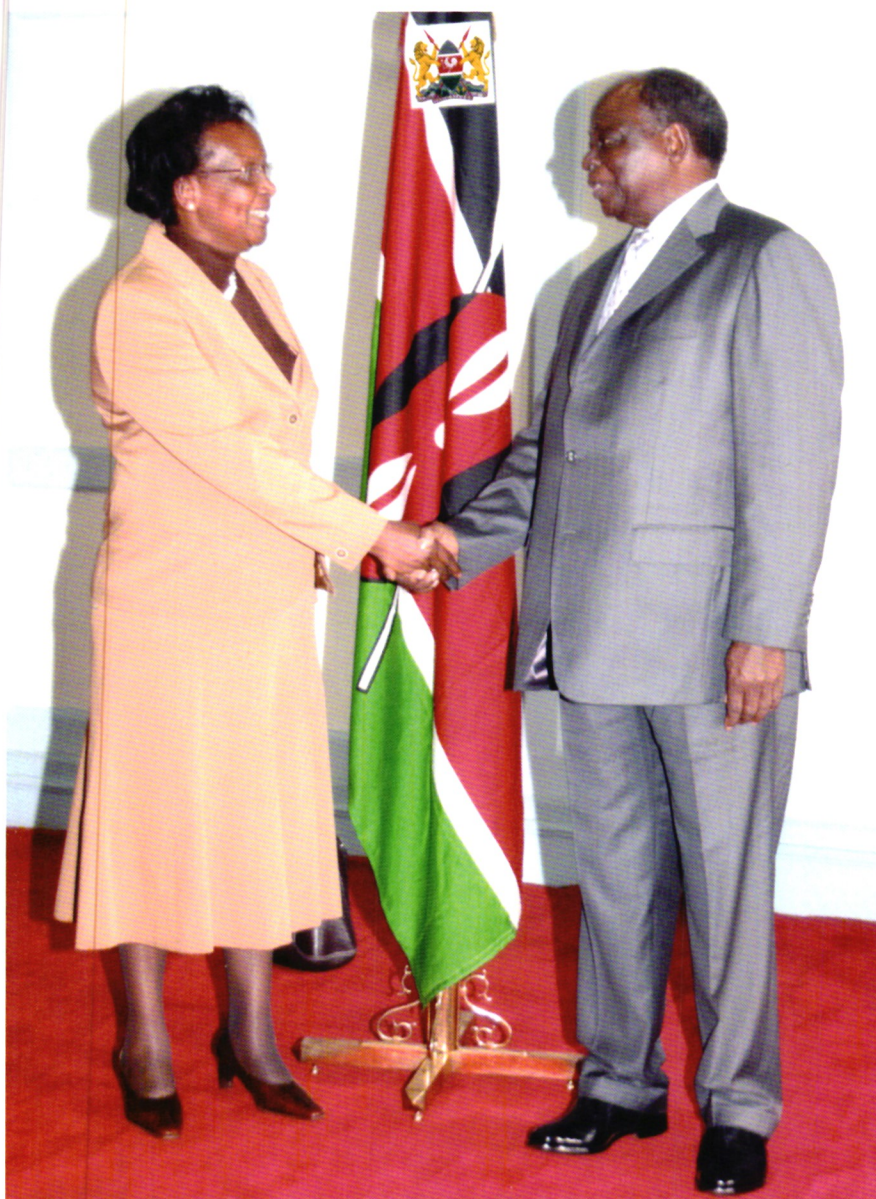
As proposed by the Ministry of Education, H. E. Hon Mwai Kibaki, the President of the Republic of Kenya appointed Dr. Mary M. Khimulu, in February 2006 as the Kenyan Ambassador/Per-

manent Delegate to UNESCO. She assumed office in Paris, France in May of the same year after an orientation period in Nairobi.

3.1 *Appointment of H. E. Mary M Khimulu, PhD, Ambassador/Permanent Delegate of Kenya to UNESCO*

H.E. Dr Mary M. Khimulu immediately embarked on the orientation process with relevant Ministries and agencies/organisations. Several meetings and briefing sessions were held with the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) officials. The

orientation programme offered an ideal opportunity to the Ambassador in setting out goals and envisaging the direction in which the Kenya UNESCO Office (KUO) would be established.



H. E. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya with H. E. Mary M. Khimulu



3.2 *Ambassador/Permanent Delegate's first Assignment*

As per the required procedural undertakings within both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ambassador reported in the Paris Office in May 2006. The first assignment was to equip the Kenya UNESCO Office located at the UNESCO Miollis building in the Centre of Paris. This was done

with the great help of the Bilateral Embassy under the leadership of Ambassador Raychelle Omamo. The Bilateral Ambassador assigned the Education Counsellor, Mr. Fred Makindi, the role of assisting the new Kenya Ambassador to UNESCO.

3.3 *Equipping the Office at Miollis*

Through the help of the Kenya Embassy in Paris, the office acquired its equipment including office furniture, computers, telephones and other essenti-

als. The Financial Attaché, Mr. Abel Sagini played a major role in this area.

3.4 *Finding the ideal Residence for the Ambassador/PD and furnishing it*

A search for the ideal Residence for the Ambassador was diligently carried out again through the help of the Kenya Embassy in Paris. After a number of visits to the various Paris suburbs, an ideal settle-

ment Resident was agreed upon and following the necessary procedures involving both the office and the Landlord, the issue of Residence was settled.

3.5 *Preparation of Office Policies, Procedures & Job Descriptions*

The Ambassador/PD in consultation with the Ministries of Education and foreign Affairs and finally with the Director of Personnel Management (DPM) in Nairobi identified the need for additional staff in order to efficiently run the office. To this effect the Ambassador/PD developed relevant job descriptions

for a home-based Education Officer Post within KUO, and locally hired posts including Personal Secretary, two Research Assistants, a Representation vehicle Driver, a Utility Driver/Messenger, a Residential Cook/Chef and a House Keeper.

3.6 *Advertisement and Hiring of new staff for efficient office operations*

The above positions were later advertised on the Kenya Embassy in Paris website, the applications were received and interviews held with officials from the Kenya Embassy as members of the Panel.

To date the Kenya UNESCO Office in Paris boasts of a team of eight (8) staff members including the Ambassador/PD.

3.7 Operational Channel of the Kenya UNESCO Office

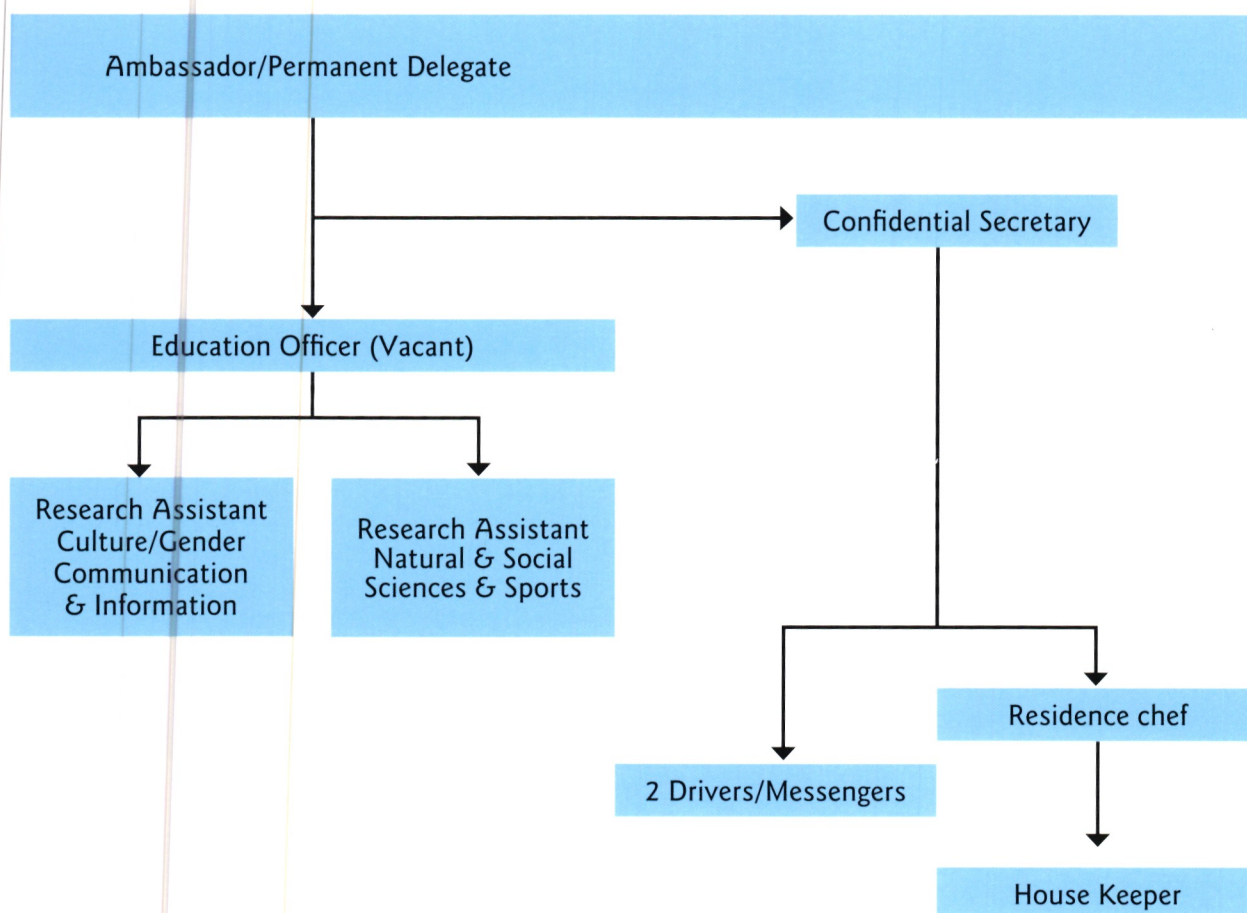
The office is awaiting the appointment of a home-based Education Officer, by the Ministry of Education in consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Kenya UNESCO Office (KUO) works very closely with the Kenyan UNESCO National Commission (KNATCOM) based in Nairobi. KUO plays a facilitating and liaison role due to its strategic position at

that UNESCO Headquarters where access especially to information and material is made easy.

The Ambassador/Permanent Delegate reports all her programmatic activities directly to the Ministry of Education while simultaneously reporting all functional and operational activities to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

3.8 KUO Organisational Chart





4

MISSION, VISION & OBJECTIVES OF THE KENYA UNESCO OFFICE



*H. E. Mary M Khimulu in brief discussion
with the Director General Mr Matsuura
and the assistant Director General of the African
Department at UNESCO Mr Noureini Tidjani Serpos*

The Kenya UNESCO office was created on the following premises and objectives:

- *Liaise* with the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) in advising the Kenyan Government on UNESCO matters.
- *Liaise* with other organisations interested in UNESCO activities by providing expert analysis, comments and advice on behalf of the Kenya Government to UNESCO.
- *Pursue* Kenya's National interests at the UNESCO General Conference and advance Kenya's multilateral interests within UNESCO.
- *Work closely* with both UNESCO Headquarters in Paris and the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO and UNESCO Regional Offices in promoting UNESCO's areas of competence including Education, Communication & Information, Natural Sciences, Social & Human Sciences, Culture and other crosscutting areas such as Gender, Sports, and Youth activities.
- *To develop* a capacity to reach out as broadly as possible to Kenyan civil society, through a wide range of channels to enable the public and organizations to understand more about UNESCO, and to participate as widely as possible in its programmes and debates by researching and communicating different areas and opportunities of collaboration and participation by Kenyan intellectuals and Government Officials.
- *To facilitate* communication from and to UNESCO within the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Science & Technology, including all other related Ministries that work closely on issues relating to UNESCO's fields of competence.
- *Voice and promote* Kenya's areas of interests and activities at global level, within UNESCO and other regions.
- *To participate* in UNESCO's programmes, their preparation and evaluation, in debates and in decision-making activities as appropriate.

The Kenya UNESCO Office (KUO) has assigned two (2) Research Assistants who oversee and coordinate all activities in order to fulfill these objectives.

5 ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2006/2007



H. E. Mary M. Khimulu
with the UNESCO Director-General
Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura

5.1 *H. E. Mary M. Khimulu, PhD, Presents her Credentials to Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, UNESCO Director-General*

On 26th May 2006, H E Dr Mary Mbiro Khimulu presented her credentials to Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO. During the ceremony

the Ambassador/PD was escorted by Senior Staff from Kenyan Embassy in Paris.

During the ceremony the Director-General :

Thanked the Government and in particular, the Head of State for the enhanced relations with UNESCO by appointing a Permanent Delegate to handle purely UNESCO programmes.

Reiterated the mutual association that has co-existed between the Government of Kenya, UNESCO and himself.

Thanked the Government of Kenya through H.E. the Ambassador for the support he received in the year 2006 during his reappointment for a second and last term as UNESCO, D-G.

Stated that, the posting of H.E. Ambassador Dr. Khimulu as the new Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Kenya has enhanced visibility and will contribute more to UNESCO programmes and activities.

Response by H. E. Dr Khimulu :

In her response, H.E. the Ambassador/PD took the opportunity to convey the following message to the Director-General:

Goodwill greetings from, the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E.Hon Mwai Kibaki, and from both the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Education.

H E Ambassador/PD thanked UNESCO and in particular the Director-General for the continued support to the Kenya Government and its development agenda.

Ambassador/PD informed the Director-General, that Kenya is now experiencing low HIV/AIDS scourge prevalent percentage and the Kenya Government's top priority remains preventive education and that Kenya is providing Free Primary Education (FPE) since 2003.

She took the opportunity to communicate to the Director-General the Government's wish and that of H.E. the President, to host him in Kenya.

And mentioned to the Director-General that a support seeking proposal for assisting the drought-affected areas in the country would be forwarded to UNESCO soon.

Wished the D-G and the Secretariat well.



H. E. Ms. Raychelle Omamo, H. E. Dr. Khimulu and Mr Githieya of the Kenya Embassy in Paris at the luncheon hosted in honour of Ambassador Khimulu.

In conclusion the Director-General agreed to schedule an official visit to Kenya and agreed to consult more often with the Kenya Ambassador/PD for mutual benefit. (The Director General carried out a consultative visit to Kenya in May 2007).

Later that evening the Bilateral Ambassador of Kenya to France, H. E. Ms. Raychelle Omamo hosted a luncheon in the honour of the new Ambassador/Permanent Delegate of Kenya to UNESCO.

5.1

Ambassador/PD of Kenya to UNESCO Pays Courtesy Calls to AD-Gs, Heads of Missions and Other UNESCO Ambassadors

UNESCO is a unique UN body in the sense that it works directly with Governments. Its areas of work is wide and its programmes are varied and complex. To better understand UNESCO, its work and those behind the work, H. E. the Ambassador/PD of Kenya to UNESCO deemed it necessary to pay courtesy calls to the different Assistant Director General (AD-Gs), Departmental heads and other UNESCO Ambassadors. Later she paid courtesy calls to selected Permanent Delegates to enable her understand other UNESCO programmes.

From each sector of UNESCO the Ambassador/Permanent Delegate was able to identify areas of networking and collaboration in various projects that could be beneficial to Kenya. At the same time KUO saw a great opportunity in information dissemination through UNESCO publications in its various fields of competence in order to promote awareness and linkages through knowledge.



6 INVOLVEMENT OF KENYA WITHIN UNESCO



Mr Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General UNESCO addresses a meeting during his first official visit to Kenya

Kenya has achieved much in different areas of development. In the area of Natural Sciences and Agriculture the country has achieved much. Kenya is developing other sectors of the economy in its renewed efforts to fast track economic growth; its natural resources and agriculture in particular

remain a cornerstone of the country's economy employing over 80 percent of the population and contributing to about 30% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). KUO aims to strengthen links with UNESCO and other agencies in different areas of development.

6.1 Natural Sciences

Kenya is one of the **17 megadiverse** countries of the world. The megadiverse countries are a group of countries that harbor the majority of the earth's species and are therefore considered extremely biodiverse, that is, the country has a high variability of plant, animal, and micro-organism communities.

Kenya is the host country for the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), the International Centre for Research in **Agroforestry (ICRAF)** and the NEPAD Bioscience Facility for Eastern and Central Africa.

Kenya is represented by Experts in the following scientific bodies at UNESCO in the following fields :

2.1.1 **The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)**

The IOC conducts research in an attempt to properly interpret the full value of the oceans to mankind. Kenya is represented in this commission by **Dr. Johnson M. Kazungu** who has now served for more than 4 years.

2.1.2 **The Advisory Board on Biosphere Reserves**

This advisory board falls under the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), which proposes an interdisciplinary research agenda and capacity building aiming to improve the relationship of people with their environment globally. **Dr. Paul M. Makenzi, a lecturer at Egerton University,** represents Kenya on this Board.

2.1.3 **The Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC)**

The IGBC informs the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) of its opinions and submits these opi-

nions along with proposals for follow-up of IBC's work to the Director-General for transmission to Member States, the Executive Board and the General Conference of UNESCO. The IBC is a body of 36 independent experts that follows progress in the life sciences and its applications in order to ensure respect for human dignity and freedom. The IBC provides the only global forum for in-depth bioethical reflection by exposing the issues at stake. **Professor Jude M. Mathooko** is Kenya's representative in the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee.

Kenya has served in the past in the Commission of **International Hydrological Programme (IHP)**. IHP is UNESCO's international scientific cooperative programme in water research, water resources management, education and capacity-building, and the only broadly-based science programme of the UN system in this area.

6.2 **Social & Human Sciences**

In the area of Social and Human Sciences, Kenya is not left out in its activities and has actively participated in meetings of Management of Social Transformation (MOST) of which Kenya hosted the Second last MOST Meeting held in Nairobi in January 2007, organized by the Sector of Social and Human Sciences in collaboration with the Government of Kenya. The meeting being a parallel event to the 7th edition of the World Social Forum. The event entitled "From Research to Policy to Action" was organized within the framework of UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST).

At the last MOST meeting held in Paris in July 2007, Hon Maina Kamanda, E.G.H, Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture & Social Services presented the report of the meeting held in Nairobi in January 2007.

Kenya Served in the last Committee of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sports (CIGEPS)

The commission has as its mandate the duty of guiding and supervising the planning and implementation of UNESCO's strategy and programme in the field of physical activity and sport, in particular by recommending an order of priorities among the various activities including promotion of international co-operation with a view to strengthening peace friendship, understanding and mutual respect between peoples in the attempt of encouraging the recognition of the social importance of physical education and sport.

6.3 Education

Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)

As a UNESCO Centre, specializing in the content of education, IBE leads a programme focussed on the theme "Learning to live together" working especially towards strengthening of capacity building to reform education content, collecting, analysing and disseminating information on best practices. As a member of the IBE Council, Kenya is playing a leading role in the management of IBE and is represented by the *Education Secretary Prof. George Godia*.

6.4 Culture

Kenyan Expert offers expertise in the UNESCO World Heritage Committee

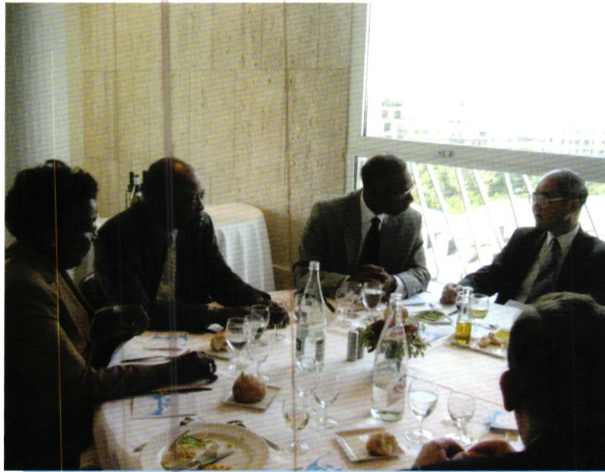
The UNESCO World Heritage Committee (WHC) comprises 21 members and is responsible for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. Dr. George Abungu, former Director-General, National Museums of Kenya is a member of the World Heritage Committee as an independent expert.

6.5 Kenya serves on the UNESCO Head Quarter Committee (HQ).

Ambassador/PD is a member of the Headquarter Committee, this Committee was earlier chaired by H. E. Raychelle Omamo before.

6.6 Kenya Chairs the UNESCO Commonwealth Group

The Commonwealth Group which comprises of 54 Member States plays an important role in contributing to UNESCO issues and programmes. This Group meets regularly to discuss issues touching on the Commonwealth countries, share experiences, network, discuss areas of collaboration, pin point strengths and weakness and offer an excellent forum where member states share best practices. H. E. Dr Khimulu the Ambassador/PD of Kenya to UNESCO was elected as its President for the year 2007.



Commonwealth Secretary General Mr Ransford Smith addresses the Commonwealth Group at UNESCO during the Commonwealth Annual Luncheon.



Mr. Kichiro Matsuura, UNESCO Director General addresses the Commonwealth Group at UNESCO during the Commonwealth Annual Luncheon.



Kenya Chairs the UNESCO Commonwealth Group

6.7 *Kenya Chaired the East African Community at UNESCO*

Kenya under the leadership of Ambassador/PD of Kenya to UNESCO acted as the Chair of the East African community (E.A.C) when the Groups of East African Community came to Paris to sign the MoU between E.A.C and UNESCO.



7 PARTICIPATION AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS



Kenya has achieved much in different areas of development. In the area of Natural Sciences and Agriculture the country has achieved much. Kenya is developing other sectors of the economy in its renewed efforts to fast track economic growth; its natural resources and agriculture in particular

remain a cornerstone of the country's economy employing over 80 percent of the population and contributing to about 30% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). KUO aims to strengthen links with UNESCO and other agencies in different areas of development.

30th World Heritage Committee (WHC)

8th – 16th July 2006
Vilnius, LITHUANIA

Participants from Kenya	Outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Alice K. Mayaka, OGW • PS. Ministry of State for Natural Heritage Office of the VP, Leader of the Kenya Delegation • Amb. Dr. Mary M. Khimulu, • Dr. Idle Omar Farah, OGW Director General, National Museums of Kenya • Mr. Anthony Githitho, Head Coastal Forest Conservation Unit • Mr. John Mireri, Assistant Secretary General, Culture, KNATCOM • Mr. F. Makindi, Education Counselor, Kenya Embassy Paris • Dr. George Abungu, The Kenya expert on the Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 new sites were inscribed on the World Heritage List. • They include 2 natural sites and the extension of one natural site, which also became a trans-boundary property. Sixteen cultural sites were inscribed, one of them trans-boundary and three existing sites were extended. • Improvements in the state of conservation of five sites warranted their removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger, while two sites were added to that list, which now numbers 31 sites. • Mauritius had its first site added to the List during this session.

Africities Meeting And Launching of Coalition of the African Cities Against Racism and discrimination on 20th September, '06.

18th – 24th Sept. 2006
Nairobi, KENYA

Participants from Kenya	Outcome
<p><i>Held in Nairobi, therefore very many Kenyans attended and the meeting was opened by H.E. The President of the Republic Of Kenya and closed by H. E. the Vice President Hon. Moody Awori.</i></p> <p>H.E. Dr Khimulu also took part in this meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO launched the Regional African Coalition which aims to create an International Coalition of Cities against Racism. This was an elaboration of the Ten-Point Plan of Action for UNESCO Coalition of African Cities against Racism. • Participants to the Africities meeting in general came up with a Declaration of 12 Points- drastic steps that will be required for change and are important/Urgent for the effective implementation of the MDGs and affirmed that the time for action has come.

High level Group meeting on EFA Education For All-Fast-Track Initiative-4th Partnership Meeting

13th – 16th November 2006
Cairo, EGYPT

Participants from Kenya

- Prof. Karega Mutahi, PS Ministry of Education. Leader of the Kenya Delegation
- Prof George I. Godia Education Secretary,
- Mr. Laban P. Ayiro Senior Deputy Director Education,
- Mrs. Leah K. Rotic, Deputy Director of Education,
- Mr. Simion M. Karanja Principal Economist
- Amb. Dr. Mary M. Khimulu, Kenya.

Outcome

- EFA High-Level Group Meeting urges higher spending and stronger focus on early childhood programmes and disadvantaged groups
- The fourth meeting of the FTI Partnership took place in Cairo, Egypt on 13 and 14 November 2006. Ministers of Education from all endorsed countries and from countries expected to join the Partnership in the next few months participated, along with Ministers from donor countries, high level officials from bilateral and multilateral agencies, and civil society representatives.

First Session of Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

18th to 19th November 2006
ALGERIA

Participants from Kenya

- Amb. Dr. Mary M. Khimulu, Kenya Ambassador/Permanent Delegate attended as an Observer

Outcome

- Kenya has not signed the Convention and it is very important that Kenya does so, as Kenya has a lot to gain. This is because Kenya needs to safe guard the transfer of the rich heritage it has from one generation, one century to another– of its different communities. This will greatly contribute to the development of Kenya, even economically. There is need to protect the Kenya's rich art, craft and music inheritances.
- The meeting mainly went through the document on the criteria for inscription on the representative list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Regional meeting for Great Rift Valley

20th – 24th November 2006

Nairobi, KENYA

Participants from Kenya

Mr. Fred. Makindi, Education Counsellor-Kenya Embassy, Paris, represented the Ambassador/Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Paris

Outcome

Kenya was asked to take the leadership (Coordinating meetings) of this initiative which is aiming to have the Great Rift valley in the future inscribed as one the UNESCO World heritage Sites.

Kenya for Kenyans

9th December 2006

London, UK

Participants from Kenya

- Hon. Amos Kimunya – MP, Minister of Finance GOK – main Speaker.
- HE Joseph Muchemi – Kenya High Commissioner to the UK
- Hon. Billow A Kerrow, MP
- Hon. Norman G.K. Nyagah, MP Government Chief Whip
- Mr. Richard Gold – Director, Commonwealth Secretariat, GIDD
- Mr. Peter K. Munga – Founder Chairman Equity Bank
- Mr. Jimna Mbaru – Chairman, Nairobi Stock Exchange – Role of the Nairobi Stock exchange
- Ms. Susan Kikwai – Managing Director, Kenya Investment Authority, investment climate and Opportunities for Kenyans living abroad
- Dr. Ochieng Ogong'a – MD KTB Investing in the Tourism Sector.
- Mr. Lee Karuri – Chairman Kenya Private Sector Alliance, Role of the private sector in Harnessing Diaspora Investments.
- Julius Kabere, Advisor and Programme Manager CSAP/GIDD
- Mr. Adan Mohamed – Managing Director, Barclays of Kenya
- Mr. Frank Ireri – MD Housing Finance
- Mr. Philip Ilako – Divisional Director, Corporate, Kenya Commercial Bank Ltd
- H.E Ambassador Kalimi Mworira, Netherlands
- H.E Dr. Mary M. Khimulu.
- Nearly 500 Kenyans and other nationalities attended.

Outcome

The Forum is being jointly organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Governance and Institutional Development Division (GIDD), the Kenya High Commission in the United Kingdom and Africa Recruit, an initiative of the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) and The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Scheduled speakers at the conference include Kenya's Minister of Finance Amos Kimunya and representatives of the Nairobi Stock Exchange, Kenya Investment Promotion Authority and Kenya Private Sector Alliance

26th – 28th April 2007

Essen, GERMANY

International Conference on Cultural Diversity

Participants from Kenya

- H. E. Dr. Mary M Khimulu

Outcome

The conference focussed on issues concerning cultural diversity and explored on how the UNESCO convention on cultural diversity would be implemented.

G8-UNESCO World Forum on Education, Research and Innovation

10th – 12th May 2007

Trieste, ITALY

Participants from Kenya

- Hon. Dr. Noah M. Wekesa, MP Minister of Science & Technology, Leader of Kenyan Delegation.
- Prof. Crispus Kiamba, PS. Minister of Science & Technology
- H E Dr Mary M Khimulu
- Kenyan students living in Trieste



Hon. Noah Wekesa, Minister of Science and Technology gives his presentatin at the G-8 UNESCO Meeting in Trieste.

Outcome

The major issues explored at the forum included:

- The role of universities in developing innovation and entrepreneurship;
- Forging an integrated approach to research, education and innovation to meet global environmental challenges, most notably to combat climate change; and
- The reforms in governance that are needed both at the national and international levels to make innovation policies more effective.
- Issues related to energy, environmental degradation and public health were also discussed.

14th Session of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC)

17 – 19 May 2007

Nairobi, KENYA

Participants from Kenya

- Opened by H E Mr Koïchiro Matsuura UNESCO Director-General,
 - Mr. Nouzha Idrissi, Chairperson of to International Bioethics Committee,
- the Kenya Government was well represented by the presence of:
- Hon. Prof George Saitoti, Kenya's Minister for Education
 - Hon. Dr. Noah M. Wekesa, Kenya Minister for Science & Technology
 - Hon. Maina Kamanda, Minister, Gender, Sports, Culture & Social Sciences
 - Hon. Kagwe Mutahi, Minister for Communication & Information
 - Hon. Suleiman R. Shakombo, Minister of State for National Heritage
 - Many Senior Government Officials, Professors, Scientists, KNATCOM Staff and other Kenyans.

Outcome

The meeting brought together 150 participants from 53 countries with active participation of numerous Government representatives and experts from various African countries.

This was the first time IBC was holding this meeting in the African content. Discussions centred on social responsibility and health.

During this time the UNESCO Director General was on Official Visit to Kenya and he had a meeting with H.E The President, Mwai Kibaki at State House, met Senior Government Ministers and Officials plus visited Lamu one of the World Heritage Sites.

During IBC Meeting the Regional Center for Bioethics at Egerton University was Officially Opened

14th Ambassadors/High Commissioners' Conference

26th – 1st June 2007
Windsor Golf Hotel and Country Club
Nairobi, KENYA

Participants from Kenya

All Ambassadors/High Commissioners and Consul Generals serving in all Kenyan Foreign Missions attended it.

Outcome

- The Conference was opened by His Excellency, President Mwai Kibaki on Saturday, 26th May 2007.
- During his address the President briefed the Ambassadors about the progress the country had continued to enjoy in various sectors including agriculture, infrastructure, tourism, health, education and the manufacturing industry.
- The President noted that last year Kenya had realised an economic growth of 6.2%. Due to these achievements, there was a significant reduction of poverty from 56% to 46% of the population.
- The Head Of State told the Ambassadors and High Commissioners that the Government is very commitment in its work and he expects the same from them too.
- The Head of State invited the envoys to visit the rural areas to familiarise themselves with these developments.

50th anniversary of UNESCO-IHE Anniversary symposium for UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education on the theme of Water in a Changing World : enhancing Local Knowledge and Capacity

12th – 16 June 2007
Delft, NETHERLANDS

Participants from Kenya

H.E Dr. Mary M Khimulu

Outcome

This symposium reaffirmed the role of science and public involvement in positive contexts and stressed by affirming the commitment of UNESCO-IHE Institute in supporting the global partnership both in education and capacity building for water education in a long-term basis and with an objective of enhancing local knowledge capacity through sustainable water management and strategic actions.

UNESCO Director-General Makes an Official Visit to Kenya

At the invitation of the Government of Kenya, Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO paid an official visit to the Republic of Kenya from 17 to 19 May 2007 in view of strengthening the links between Kenya and UNESCO. The Director-General participated in the Fourteenth (ordinary session) of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) in Nairobi, Kenya (17 May 2007).

During DG's official visit to Kenya, the Director-General paid a courtesy call on President Mwai Kibaki. Mr. Matsuura thanked the Government of Kenya for hosting the IBC meeting. He applauded the President for his efforts to widen access to education through the implementation of free primary education and pledged UNESCO's continued assistance in the proposed programme to broaden access to secondary and tertiary levels of education. He also congratulated the Government on the successful campaign on HIV/AIDS prevention education. With regard to culture, the Director-General stressed the importance of establishing a credible management plan for the preservation



The Director-General Mr Koïchiro Matsuura and the Minister for Education Kenya Hon Prof George Saitoti during his official visit to Kenya in May 2007

of Lamu Old Town, one of the three World Heritage Sites in Kenya but the only cultural heritage site. In addition, he said that intangible cultural heritage goes hand in hand with tangible heritage. Therefore it would be advisable for Kenya to join the Convention for the protection of intangible cultural heritage. President Kibaki welcomed the



Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura, UNESCO Director General plants a tree in Lamu Old Town one of Kenya's World Heritage Sites.

decision to accord Kenya the opportunity to host the first International Bioethics Committee meeting in an African country and expressed his satisfaction with the existing cooperation between UNESCO and Kenya in all areas of common interest. He also called for UNESCO's continued support to the Government's effort to promote education, science, technology, cultural heritage and communication in the country.

Mr Matsuura also held a joint meeting with Hon. Prof Saitoti, Minister of Education, Hon. Dr Noah Wekesa, Minister of Science and Technology, Hon. Mr Maina Kamanda, Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, Hon. Mr Suleiman Shakombo, Minister of State for Natural Heritage. The meeting took stock of the cooperation between Kenya and UNESCO.

Highlights



H. E. Hon Mwai Kibaki and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Raphael Tuju join the Ambassadors in a group photograph.

14th Ambassadors /High Commissioners' Conference

All Ambassadors/High Commissioners and Consul Generals serving in all Kenyan Foreign Missions attended a strategic meeting organised by the ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Windsor Hotel in Nairobi on 26th May – 1st June 2007. H. E. Hon Mwai Kibaki and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Raphael Tuju join the group in a group photograph.



**UNESCO - SOCIAL SERVICES MINISTER'S CONFERENCE.
WINDSOR GOLF HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB, NAIROBI KENYA
HELD ON 22/01/2007-24/01/2007**

UNESCO-Social Services Minister's Conference.

8 MAIN EVENTS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY KENYA EMBASSY / KUO IN PARIS



8.1 Launch of Kenya Airways (KQ) Direct flight Nairobi to Paris

Kenya Airways launched its new direct route Nairobi to Paris, France with effect from 26th. October 2006, when the maiden flight landed at the Charles De Gaulle airport, Paris.

The new route was officially launched on 17th October 2006 evening in Paris at a function attended by businessmen and Kenyan nationals in Paris. The function was jointly organised by Kenya Permanent Delegation to UNESCO and Kenya Embassy in Paris.

Hon. Amos Kimunya Minister for Finance was the Chief Guest during the launching ceremony and in his speech; Hon. Kimunya said that the introduction of a direct route from Nairobi to Paris would play an important role in enhancing Kenya-French trade relations.

He noted that the Government of Kenya was committed towards creating a conducive environment to attract investment adding that Kenya's economic growth had increased from 0.6% in 2003 to 5.8% in the year 2005. He also noted that this was a very positive sign that indicates the steady growth in Kenya that is good for both local and foreign investment.

Present during the occasion hosted by H. E. Ms. Raychelle Omamo, Kenya's Ambassador to France and H. E. Dr. Mary Khimulu, Kenya's Ambassador to UNESCO, were Assistant Ministers Hon. R. Githae and Ekwe Ethuro, H. E., and Hon Joeph Muchemi Kenya's High Commissioner to London.

The Kenya Embassy in Paris organised a Trade Fair the following day which was very well attended and Ambassador/Permanent Delegate Dr Khimulu attended.

8.2 *Jamhuri Day Celebrations*

Each year Kenya celebrates its independence day commemorating the anniversary nationally and internationally in capitals where Kenya is present through its diplomatic missions. On 11th December, 2006, the Kenya Embassy in Paris jointly with the Kenya UNESCO Office brought together at a dinner hosted at UNESCO restaurant Kenyans, partners and diplomatic missions in France. This was a

very special gathering in which H. E. Ms. Raychelle Omamo, together with H. E. Dr Mary M. Khimulu, ushered their guest to dinner and took the opportunity to discuss and take stock of Kenya's performance in various sectors and promote by conveying the opportunities offered by Kenya both in terms of investment and tourism.



8.3 UNESCO Africa Week, 21 – 26 May 2007

During the UNESCO Africa week held from 21st to 26th May 2007, Kenya UNESCO Office together with the Kenyan Embassy in Paris hosted a stand with the theme “Kenya in Harmony with Culture and Nature”. The Kenyan stand was popular as it was visited by many international guests. Cultural messages displayed were clustered under their respective themes using different instruments and

materials. This was the second Africa week organized by both Missions, as a similar one took place in May 2006 where Kenya displayed its fabrics and art. The May 2006 exhibition was organized by Ms. Eva Rogo-Levenez. The Kenya Embassy staff and spouses treated guests to sumptuous traditional Kenyan dishes.



Messages by guests visiting the Kenyan exhibition during the African week.

“Kenya”, it’s really magical! This stand presents not only the cultural side of the country but the rich wildlife of the very well known Masai-Mara. Bright and beautiful exposition
 Chipo Mwanawasa (Zambia)

I have been very much impressed by the exhibition of the Kenyan artistic products:
 Flavian Komla

This is a very encouraging African exhibition. Thanks a lot for showing our continent to the world.

Kanja Samuel – Minister of Agriculture, the Gambia

I like the coastal towns in Kenya. The reception at the stand was great, maybe more displays of the Teas/coffees
 Paya Mreye



9 KUO HOSTS LADY AMBASSADORS TO UNESCO



UNESCO is proud and honoured to host 50 Lady Ambassadors. In this regard H E Dr Khimulu deemed it paramount to bring the Lady Ambassadors together at a dinner hosted by the Kenyan Delegation to UNESCO. Seen as a dinner of its kind, and very well attended by 26 Lady Ambassadors both Bilateral and Permanent Delegates to UNESCO, the gathering offered the opportunity of getting to know each other, discussion on issues relating to UNESCO and concerning the represented countries and an excellent opportunity for networking.

KUO took the opportunity in creating a Kenyan ambience by decorating the room in the red maasai colours and gave a PowerPoint presentation on Kenya, its people, culture, natural sites and sceneries and entertained the esteemed guest with traditional Kenyan music from the various regions of Kenya. The guests were entertained by Kenyans working at UNESCO and KUO staff plus their families. They ushered the guests and danced to the Kenya Music.


H. E. Yolande BIKE, the Ambassador/Permanent Delegate of Gabon to UNESCO, who is the Chairperson of the African Group (Va) conveyed a special message on behalf of the lady ambassadors present

by reiterating that the example shown by Kenya in hosting lady Ambassadors was a noble one that should be replicated by others.

This was supported by the current Ambassador/PD of Mauritius who is the current President of the Lady Ambassadors at UNESCO. A special thank you note went to the Ambassador of Namibia who travelled all the way from Brussels to attend the dinner.

All the guests left with presents kindly donated by Kenya Airways and Trade offices in Paris and Kenya calendars sent from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We take this opportunity to thank all our supporters who contributed to the success of this event.





10 VISITORS TO THE KENYA UNESCO OFFICE (KUO) IN PARIS



KUO office offers a conducive and strategic environment and location for short roundtable briefing sessions, a channel of disseminating best practices, knowledge and information sharing. In the past one year the office has received a number of high-level guests, professionals and experts both from Kenya and other countries. During these briefs KUO has had very promising and fruitful discussion on issues

pertaining to UNESCO matters and other development issues. The location of the office has offered Kenya a great opportunity for networking, prospective collaboration opportunities and information point for Kenyan professionals and experts participating at UNESCO meetings or en route to other destinations on official functions through Paris.



Mamoun N. Bukhari of ESTILATE, United Arab Emirates signs the visitor's book at KUO.



Senior Experts on UNESCO Committees and Mrs Mary T. Omondi.



Prof. George Saitoti, Minister of Education. During his short visit, met with UNESCO Director-General, Mr. Koichiro MATSUURA, Mr. Pierre SANE and Assistant Director General of Social and Human Sciences.



Hon Maina Kamanda during his visit in Paris presented to the MOST participant a progress report on Kenya's involvement with MOST programme.



Christine Gilbert and Gaël de la Porte Du Theil of the Kenya Tourism Board, Paris office



Mayor Dick Wathika, Mayor of Nairobi and Mr. John Nkinyangi of UNESCO Regional Office, Nairobi.

The following Officials also paid tribute to the Kenya Office during their missions in France and Europe.

- **Hon. Beth Mugo, M. P.**, Assistant Minister of Education
- **Hon. R. Githae**, Assistant Minister for Transport
- **H. E. Mr Joseph Muchemi**, Kenya High Commissioner in London together with the First Secretary of the Kenya High Commission in London **W Kiboi**.
- **Hon. Norman Nyagah**, M.G.K., M.P., Government Chief Whip
- Justice **Lee Muthoga**, Judge of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ)
- **Hon. Prof Kiamba**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Science & Technology
- **Mr. G. Ikiara**, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Transport
- **Mr. R. Jilo**, Cooperation, Secretary Kenya Maritime Authority
- **Ms Z. Kasu**, Director o Information, Ministry of Information & communication
- **Mrs. N. Karigithu**, Director General, Kenya Maritime Authority
- **Mr. P. Thuo**, Ag. Director, Shipping & Maritime Affairs

We would like to thank all the guests, Ministry Officials, National Commission staff and Experts who have paid a visit to our offices and shared with

us their experiences. We ensure you of the importance we attach to the messages you leave behind and wish to assure you of our usual cooperation.

II KENYA SITES LISTED IN THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST



UNESCO has a World Heritage Committee responsible for the implementation of the world heritage convention including decision making on the inscription or deletion of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Kenya is one of the 21 WHC Members. The following sites and properties of Kenya are inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Lamu Old Town

Lamu Old Town is the oldest and best-preserved Swahili settlement in East Africa, retaining its traditional functions. Built in coral stone and mangrove timber, the town is characterized by the simplicity of structural forms enriched by such features as inner courtyards, verandas, and elaborately carved wooden doors. Lamu has hosted major Muslim religious festivals since the 19th century, and has become a significant centre for the study of Islamic and Swahili cultures.



Lake Turkana National Park

The most saline of Africa's large lakes, Turkana is an outstanding laboratory for the study of plant and animal communities. The three National Parks serve as a stopover for migrant waterfowl and are major breeding grounds for the Nile crocodile, hippopotamus and a variety of venomous snakes. The Koobi Fora deposits, rich in mammalian, molluscan and other fossil remains, have contributed more to the understanding of paleo-environments than any other site on the continent.

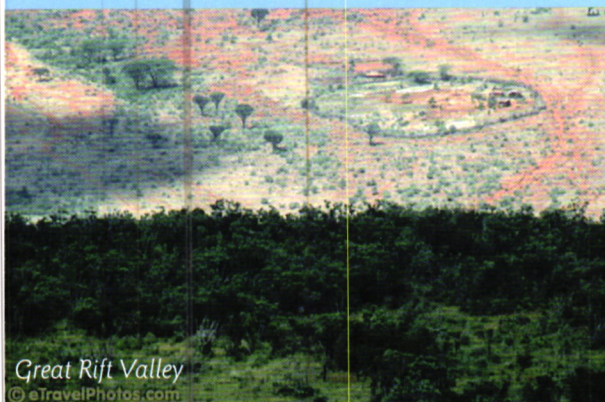


Mount Kenya

At 5,199 m, Mount Kenya is the second highest peak in Africa. It is an ancient extinct volcano, during whose period of activity (3.1–2.6 million years ago) it is thought to have risen to 6,500 m. There are 12 remnant glaciers on the mountain, all receding rapidly, and four secondary peaks that sit at the head of the U-shaped glacial valleys. With its rugged glacier-clad summits and forested middle slopes, Mount Kenya is one of the most impressive landscapes in East Africa. The evolution and ecology of its afro-alpine flora also provide an outstanding example of ecological processes.

Other Properties submitted on the Tentative UNESCO World Heritage List include :

- *Mombasa Old Town*
- *Fort Jesus*
- *Lake Nakuru National Park*
- *Lake Naivasha*
- *Lake Bogoria National Reserve*
- *The Mijikenda Sacred Kaya Forests and groves*
- *Great Rift Valley Ecosystem*



Great Rift Valley
© TravelPhotos.com



Lake Nakuru



Lake Bogoria

12 SOME FACTS ON KENYA



Kenya, its Government and people are very enthusiastic when it comes to development issues and are working extremely hard within the different sectors

towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) albeit the adverse challenges.

12.1 Kenya Land & Resources

Total land of **582,646 sq km**.

The **equator** passes through the middle of the country.

Coastline measuring **536 km** in length and is fringed with coral reefs.

Eastern Rift Valley bisects the country from the north to the south.

The central region boasts of **great highlands**.

Numerous extinct volcanoes, the highest of which is **Mount Kenya**, (5,199 m/17,057 ft)

Numerous Rivers & Lakes including **Lake Victoria**

A diverse plant life and is home to a great variety of **wildlife** and is especially

Famous for its big game animals associated with the African Savanna. The different topographical regions experience distinct climates.

12.2 Education in Kenya

Kenya's educational system commonly known as 8-4-4, consists of eight years of primary school, four years of secondary school, and four years of higher education.

The official primary school-going age is between 6 and 13 years. The government witnessed a tremendous increase in enrolment rates at primary level with its initiative of Free Primary Education (FPE) that was introduced in 2003. The implementation of FPE aimed at achieving universal primary education (UPE) in the country saw a significant increase in pupil enrolment in the first year of its implementation.



University of Nairobi

Kenya has a number of Public and Private Universities. The major public universities are the University of Nairobi (founded in 1956); Kenyatta University (1972), in Nairobi; the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (1981), near Nairobi; Egerton University (1939), near Nakuru; and Moi University (1984), outside Eldoret. The government also provides opportunities for higher education through several polytechnic institutes and teacher-training colleges.

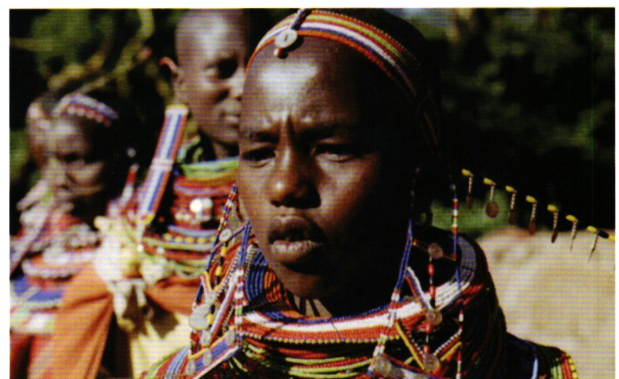
Age Group	At School		No longer attendance		Never attended	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
6-9	92.42	90.2	0.8	1.0	8.8	8.8
10-14	91.4	91.8	3.8	3.2	4.7	5.0
15-19	65.1	52.4	28.4	38.2	6.5	9.4
20-24	16.2	9.3	75.5	79.8	8.3	11.0
25-29	3.4	2.5	88.6	85.7	8.0	11.8
30+	1.2	1.1	82.0	67.2	16.7	31.7
Total	39.9	34.7	49.6	48.0	10.6	17.3

Percentage of the population aged six years and above at school, left school or never attended by age group and gender (source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Report on Literacy, May 2007)

12.3 Kenya & Culture

Kenya's ethnic diversity has produced a variety and richness of cultural forms that reflect African continent. Visual arts are highly important in contemporary Kenya, and varieties of wood and clay sculpture are produced for the tourist trade.

Distinctive forms of music and dance are associated with each of Kenya's ethnic groups, and traditional music has flourished since independence. Kenya also has a thriving industry in popular music, which combines Western and African influences.





12.4 Economy

Kenya is a capitalist economy based mainly on the export of agricultural products. The most important export crops are tea, coffee, horticultural products (flowers, fruits, and vegetables), chrysanthemums (flowers from which pyrethrum insecticides are made), and sisal. Kenya has witnessed a great eco-

nomical increase since 2005. Other sectors that have contributed to the positive economical growth include, Forestry & fishing, Energy, Labour force, Manufacturing & mining, Transportation, Communication



12.5 Social service

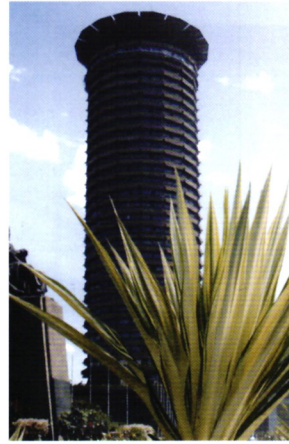
Kenyans rely on family support for many of their social welfare needs, including school fees, social security & household expenses. However, Kenya's

government provides funding for a range of hospitals, health centers, and clinics. The government also provides support for adult literacy classes.

12.6 International & Regional Organisations

Kenya is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, the African Union (AU), and the United Nations (UN) plus many other regional and international communities. Kenya is linked economically and politically with Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda through its membership in the East African

Community and also a member of the COMESA region. Kenya the hub of East Africa has hosted several international and regional meetings at the famous Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) located in the heart of Nairobi.



12.7 Tourism in Kenya

The service sector accounts for 54 percent of Kenya's GDP. This includes the various services provided by the government and the increasingly important restaurant, hotel, and safari industries, which have grown in response to the increasing number of tourists visiting Kenya.

Tourism in Kenya has expanded dramatically since 1963, and since 1989 it has been the country's

leading source of foreign currency. Tourist arrivals, mainly from Europe and North America, numbered 1,399,000 in 2005. Kenya's main tourist destinations are the beaches along the Indian Ocean coast; national parks and game reserves, such as Masai Mara Game Park, Tsavo National Park, and Amboseli National Park; and museums and historical sites.



Tourism in Kenya continued...



... Kenya is a land endowed with natural richness and biodiversity and is ranking in the list of the top 17 Mega diversity with a varied landscape of plateaus and high mountains and is home to many different ethnic groups.



13 WAY FORWARD



The strategy of the Kenya UNESCO Office (KUO) is to give detailed attention to the ongoing international knowledge networking processes by responding and playing an active role within the programmes of UNESCO while ensuring close and strategic collaboration between Kenya and UNESCO while responding effectively to cultural diversity and at the same time looking for opportunities in strengthening and promoting sustainable development in regard to the issues concerning the UNESCO's five (5) key areas of work.

The challenges are diverse and call for the willingness to collaborate, enthusiasm and innovative approaches to programmes and issues by the current KUO staff and their counter parts at the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) and the relevant Ministries.

14 MEET THE STAFF AT THE KENYA UNESCO OFFICE



KUO office with its offices located within the UNESCO premises of Miollis which hosts other delegation offices has eight (8) full time staff including the Ambassador/Permanent Delegate and Deputy Permanent Delegate/Ambassador (post to be filled in due course).



Mary M. Khimulu Ph.D

*I love my job, I love my team,
it's all God's blessing.*



Edith Kiget

*It is a pleasure meeting all the VIPs that we host
at the KUO office in Paris, we just want to let you
know that we are here to serve Kenya and therefore
take great pride in working with you during your
missions to Paris.*



John-Paul Oluoch

*It is great working with my colleagues ; they are
positive, supportive and have a talent that truly
draws the best from anyone.*



Lilian Siwolo-Piquet

*As the Editor of this first Edition of the KUO Annual
Report, it will be a great joy to hear your views on
this noble venture.*



Alexander Maina

*I take good care of the Ambassador as well
as KUO guests staying at the Residence.*



Moses Buyu

*With my kind of duty, it is a pleasure to meet
Ministers and delegates from my country and share
with them my knowledge of the French Country
and their Culture.*



Herath Dharmaratna

*I enjoy keeping time with Her Excellency!
It is a pleasure being part of the KUO team.*



Baby Salespara

*Being part of the KUO team and working with
Kenyans is an honour.*

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