

INTERNSHIP REPORT

Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia for UNESCO



EMBASSY OF REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



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Introduction

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN). Founded on 16th November 1945 with its purpose is to contribute to peace and security by promoting international collaboration through education, science, and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, the rule of law, and human rights along with fundamental freedom proclaimed in the UN Charter. It is the heir of the League of Nations' International Commission on Intellectual Cooperation. It is governed by the General Conference and the Executive Board. The Secretariat, headed by the Director-General, implements the decisions of these two bodies. The Organization has more than 50 field offices around the world. Its headquarters are located at Place de Fontenoy in Paris, France, in an outstanding, Modernist building inaugurated in 1958 and recently renovated.

Their work is to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values. It is through this dialogue that the world can achieve global visions of sustainable development encompassing observance of human rights, mutual respect and the alleviation of poverty, all of which are at the heart of UNESCO'S mission and activities.

The broad goals and concrete objectives of the international community – as set out in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – underpin all UNESCO'S strategies and activities. Thus UNESCO'S unique competencies in education, the sciences, culture and communication and information contribute towards the realization of those goals

UNESCO has 195 Member States¹ (it recently added Palestine in November 2011) and eight Associate Members. Most of the field offices are "cluster" offices covering three or more countries; there are also national and regional offices. UNESCO pursues its objectives through five major programs: education, natural sciences, social & human sciences, culture, and communication & information. Projects sponsored by UNESCO include literacy, technical, and teacher-training programs; international science programs; the promotion of independent media and freedom of the press; regional and cultural history projects; the promotion of cultural diversity; translations of world literature; international cooperation agreements to secure the world cultural and natural heritage (World Heritage Sites) and to

¹ UNESCO'S General Conference voted on 31 October 2011 "to admit Palestine as a Member State". However it notes that for "its membership to take effect, Palestine must sign and ratify UNESCO'S Constitution". "UNESCO » Media Services » General Conference admits Palestine as UNESCO Member State". Portal.unesco.org.

preserve human rights, and attempts to bridge the worldwide digital divide. It is also a member of the United Nations Development Group.

UNESCO's aim is "to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information". Other priorities of the Organization include attaining quality education for all and lifelong learning, addressing emerging social and ethical challenges, fostering cultural diversity, a culture of peace and building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication. The broad goals and concrete objectives of the international community—as set out in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) - underpin all UNESCO's strategies and activities.

The Organization focuses, in particular, on two global priorities: Africa and Gender equality, and on a number of overarching objectives:

- Attaining quality education for all and lifelong learning
- Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development
- Addressing emerging social and ethical challenges
- Fostering cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace
- Building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication

As a multinational organization, UNESCO has its own representative from each of its members called The Permanent Delegations and the National Commissions which are the basic means employed by States to watch over their interests at UNESCO and to cooperate with the principal national groups dealing with issues falling within UNESCO's mandate. The existence of Permanent Delegations and National Commissions should help to strengthen the intergovernmental character of UNESCO, and not weaken it, and it is obvious that no encouragement can be given to the establishment of any bodies or programs that would weaken UNESCO's intergovernmental character. This Permanent Delegation has a strong relationship and direct communication with the Embassy of its country, in the location of headquarter of UNESCO.

Embassy is a country's main diplomatic office in another capital city of the host country where the highest diplomatic officer is the ambassador, a highest ranking diplomat who represent nation and is usually accredited to a foreign sovereign or government or to an international organization. It premises and all of its diplomatic staff fall under the sovereignty of the ambassador's home country and are protected under the concept of diplomatic

immunity by the host country.²

One of the members of UNESCO which also have its Embassy in France is Indonesia, or officially called as the Republic of Indonesia who is located in south-east Asia, with an archipelago comprising approximately 17,508 islands.³ It has 33 provinces with over 238 million people⁴, and is the world's fourth most populous country.⁵ Indonesia is a republic, with an elected legislature and president that are located in its capital city of Jakarta. The country shares land borders with Papua New Guinea, East Timor, and Malaysia. Other neighboring countries include Singapore, Philippines, Australia, and the Indian territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Indonesia is a founding member of ASEAN and a member of the G-20 major economies, the world's sixteenth largest by nominal GDP with 845,680 million US Dollar and fifteenth largest by purchasing power parity with 1,124,649 US Dollar.⁶

The Indonesian archipelago has been an important trade region since at least the 7th century, when Sriwijaya and then later Majapahit traded with China and India. Local rulers gradually absorbed foreign cultural, religious and political models from the early centuries CE, and Hindu and Buddhist kingdoms flourished. Indonesian history has been influenced by foreign powers drawn to its natural resources. Muslim traders brought Islam, and European powers brought Christianity and fought one another to monopolize trade in the Spice Islands of Maluku during the Age of Discovery. Following three and a half centuries of Dutch colonialism, Indonesia secured its independence after World War II in 1945. Indonesia's history has since been turbulent, with challenges posed by natural disasters, corruption, separatism, a democratization process, and periods of rapid economic change.

Across its many islands, Indonesia consists of hundreds of distinct native ethnic and linguistic groups. The largest and politically dominant ethnic group is the Javanese. A shared identity has developed, defined by a national language, ethnic diversity, religious pluralism within a majority Muslim population, and a history of colonialism and rebellion against it. Indonesia's national motto, "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" ("Unity in Diversity" literally, "many, yet one"), articulates the diversity that shapes the country. Despite its large population and densely populated regions, Indonesia has vast areas of wilderness that support the world's second highest level of biodiversity. The country has abundant natural resources, yet poverty remains widespread.

² The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition.

³ ASEM Development Conference II: Towards an Asia-Europe partnership for sustainable development. 26-27 May 2010, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

⁴ Badan Pusat Statistik Indonesia/ Indonesian Central Statistical Agency

⁵ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs – Population Division

⁶ World Economy Outlook Database, April 2012 – International Monetary Fund

Indonesia has a very important role in Europe, especially in France, where they established the Indonesian embassy in Paris since 1950 with Mr. Nazir Datuk Pamoentjak as its first ambassador and Mr. Rezlan Ishar Jenie as the current ambassador since 2010. The Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia for UNESCO was established on with its current ambassador Mr. Carmadi Machbub.

There are several agreements that have been signed between Indonesia and France government. One of its agreements is the educational cooperation with each university in both countries that consists the exchange of the academic information and knowledge, as well as the student exchange program that could open a scientific and cultural discussion with a wider point of view. The number of Indonesian student that goes to France is increasing recently. Most of them are studying in Paris where the rest are spread in almost every region in France.