



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

## The Director-General

Mr Christian A. Kurtén  
Chairperson  
Mr Vincenzo Morlini  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Melissa Liles  
Chief Education Officer  
AFS Intercultural Programs  
71 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street (6<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
New York, NY 10010  
United States of America

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10 AVR. 2015

Dear Messrs Kurtén and Morlini, dear Ms Liles,

Following your request of 26 November 2014 and further to the customary consultations, I am pleased to inform you that I have decided to establish an official partnership (consultative status) between UNESCO and AFS Intercultural Programs, in accordance with the *Directives concerning UNESCO's partnership with non-governmental organizations*, adopted by the General Conference at its 36<sup>th</sup> session (copy enclosed). I shall inform the Executive Board of my decision at its autumn session later this year.

There is a clear relevance of AFS' work to the current programmes and activities of UNESCO, particularly in the fields of education, youth and intercultural dialogue. Indeed, cooperation between UNESCO and AFS has a solid foundation based on many areas of common interest, synergies and previous collaborations, as witnessed by the organization at UNESCO Headquarters in November 2014, under UNESCO's patronage, of the AFS Global Intercultural Education Symposium. I am very pleased, therefore, to formalize this valuable cooperation between our two organizations, and I am convinced that this step will enhance the impact of our joint activities.

I invite you, therefore, to pursue your cooperation within the thematic area of education, and to explore new possibilities of synergy and collaboration within the framework of the current programmes of UNESCO in the fields of cultural heritage and youth.

The Desk for Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations in the Sector for External Relations and Public Information (Ms Sabina Colombo, Senior Officer; tel: +33 1 45 68 17 78; e-mail: s.colombo@unesco.org) remains at your disposal to guide you in this respect.

Thanking you for your continued action in the service of international cooperation, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Irina Bokova