

# BIANNUAL REPORT

## 2008-2009



הוועד הישראלי לאונסקו  
ISRAEL NATIONAL  
COMMISSION FOR UNESCO  
اللجنة الإسرائيلية لليونسكو



# BIANNUAL REPORT

2008-2009

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## General

In 2008-2009 the Commission's budget underwent major changes and was cut by 66% versus 2006-2007. The Commission's activities are not budgeted by outside sources. The Commission budget is a highly problematic since it is an operational budget, and any budget cutbacks in the Ministry of Education affect it.

A major event during the past two years was UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura's official visit to Israel. The Director-General met with Israel's President and Ministers of Education, Foreign Affairs, and Culture, Science and Sport. He also visited the Weizmann Institute, Tel Aviv University and Yad Vashem. The Director-General and the Foreign Minister signed a Memorandum of Understanding between Israel and UNESCO (2/08).

## The 35<sup>th</sup> UNESCO General Conference

Israel delegation attended the General Conference, headed by Minister of Education MK. Gideon Sa'ar (President of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO), Mr. Sammy Revel (Charge d'affaires at Israel's French Embassy), Prof. Niv Ahituv (Chairperson of Information for All Committee), Prof. Mike Turner (Chairperson of Israel World Heritage Committee), Ms. Osnat Elroi (Ministry of Education), Mr. Tibi Schlosser (International Organizations, Foreign Ministry), Ms. Michal Pilosoff (Israel Embassy to UNESCO) and Mr. Daniel Bar-Elli (Secretary-General, Israel National Commission for UNESCO).

During the General Assembly Israel's request for a UNESCO Category II Institute "International Center for Bioinformatics" at the Weizmann Institute was approved.

In addition, Israel concluded its membership in UNESCO's Intergovernmental Commissions: Man and the Biosphere (MAB), World Heritage (WHC), Intergovernmental Program for the Development of Communication (IPDC). Israel was chosen for Intergovernmental Committee of the International Bureau of Education (IBE) (10/09).

## Changes at the Israel National Commission for UNESCO

- Prof. Yuli Tamir, Minister of Education and President of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO completed her tenure and was replaced by Adv. Gideon Sa'ar, MK.
- Ms. Shlomit Amichai, Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Chairperson of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO, completed her tenure and was replaced by Dr. Shimshon Shoshani.

- Prof. Mina Teicher, Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Science and Chairperson of the Science Commission, retired and was replaced by Prof. David Mendelovitch.
- Prof. Sydney Strauss, Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Education, retired and Dr. Gabriel Avital was appointed in his place.
- Prof. Anat Zohar, Chairperson of the Pedagogical Secretariat and Chairperson of the Education Committee of the Ministry of Education, retired and was replaced by Dr. Zvi Tzameret.
- Prof. Tamar Dayan retired as Chairperson of the Man and the Biosphere Committee, and Prof. Uriel Safriel was appointed in her place.
- Dr. Benjamin Ze'ev Begin retired from his position as Chairperson of the Geology Committee and Dr. Itai Gavrieli replaced him.
- Adv. Micha Yinon retired from his position as Chairperson of the Culture Committee and was replaced by Mr. Tzach Granit.

## A. Committees' Activities

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### [ 1. Education

*Chair: Dr. Zvi Tzameret, Israel Pedagogic Secretariate.*

#### UNESCO Chairs

##### **Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue – Haifa University, Prof. Aviva Doron**



- An international conference was held on dialogue between the three monotheistic religions; 20 years of Spanish-Israeli relations.
- Prof. Aviva Doron participated in the Annual Meeting of the Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue unitwin Network, and was elected to the network's executive committee (Oregon, USA, 5/09).

##### **Education for Human Values, Tolerance and Peace – Bar-Ilan University, Prof. Yaacov Iram**



- A research student, Ms. Irit Fogel, received a scholarship to complete her doctorate on Conflict Resolution through Art.

##### **Education for Peace and Multi-Culturalism – Beit Berl Academic College, Dr. Yael Harel**



- The sixth international Conference of National Coordinators of the UNESCO-Associated Schools Network in the European Region was held in Israel. 23 coordinators participated in workshops dealing with; teaching human rights, sustainable development, conservation of heritage, cultural diversity and quality education.
- In addition, the Conference launched the Hebrew version of the book "How to File a Complaint on Human Rights Violation" by Prof. Klaus Hübner (6/09).

- A winter workshop was held on “The Brain and Education for Peace,” led by Prof. Alev Yemenici of the Middle East Technical University, Turkey, with the participation of IS-ASP network teachers (4/08).



#### Desertification - Ben-Gurion University of the Negev/Sede Boker



- The Chair's status was renewed, and Prof. Avigad Vonshak was appointed as Chairholder.

#### Science for Peace – Hebrew University, Jerusalem



- The Chair was terminated due to the retirement of its Chairperson, Prof. Yehiel Backer.

## Humanistic Education – Kibbutzim College of Education, Prof Nimrod Aloni



- The Third Annual Conference was attended by the President of the State of Israel, the Minister of Education and the Prime Minister, with the participation of over a thousand educators and scholars (5/08).

**חינוך זה לב העניין**  
100 לתל-אביב-יפו, 70 לסמינר הקיבוצים  
יום ג' 12.5.08 תאטרון הקאמרי תל-אביב

**09:30-09:50** **מושב פתיחה במליאה:**  
ראש מכללת סמינר הקיבוצים, נח גרינפלד - מנהל האגף להכשרת עובדי הוראה במשרד החינוך.  
ספר: נחמד אלהי ירד בנעם מכללת סמינר הקיבוצים  
הרצאה: סביבנו חתום סיום גולד - "תפוציות אישיות דרך הנעם האנושי"  
על אגבי הדרך לפרשת חרפות - מן הרעיון ועד למעשה החוליה  
קטע אמנותי

**11:30-09:30** **מושב פתיחה במליאה:**  
ראש מכללת סמינר הקיבוצים, נח גרינפלד - מנהל האגף להכשרת עובדי הוראה במשרד החינוך.  
ספר: נחמד אלהי ירד בנעם מכללת סמינר הקיבוצים  
הרצאה: סביבנו חתום סיום גולד - "תפוציות אישיות דרך הנעם האנושי"  
על אגבי הדרך לפרשת חרפות - מן הרעיון ועד למעשה החוליה  
קטע אמנותי

**13:15-11:45** **סדנאות מקבילות:**  
1 **החן בגיבס בינלאומי:**  
החן בגיבס בינלאומי (Prof. Wal Veugelen - University for Humanistic, Utrecht, the Netherlands) ישראל  
ספר: מילד ביד - מנחם רייזמן, ישראל  
2 **"זה לא ילד בלי הורים"**  
ספר: חיים גמלי - אוניברסיטת תל-אביב | דר. חאלד אמר עטוב - מכללת בית ברל | ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר  
3 **שליחות מוסמכת ופועלת ניהולית:**  
השליחות המוסמכת והפועלת  
ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר  
4 **החן עומד עם צדק חברתי:**  
ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר  
5 **במקום הכיבשה בתל-אביב:**  
אמנות טובה בבסיס לחינוך ולתרבות  
ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר  
6 **החן זמן חורף:**  
מועדון חובבי המשחק, המועדון המקצועי  
ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר | ד"ר חיים גמלי - ראש מכון סמיר

**17:30-16:00** **מושב שר החינוך - נעילה במליאה:**  
ראש מכללת סמינר הקיבוצים, נח גרינפלד - מנהל האגף להכשרת עובדי הוראה במשרד החינוך.  
ספר: נחמד אלהי ירד בנעם מכללת סמינר הקיבוצים  
הרצאה: סביבנו חתום סיום גולד - "תפוציות אישיות דרך הנעם האנושי"  
על אגבי הדרך לפרשת חרפות - מן הרעיון ועד למעשה החוליה  
קטע אמנותי

## Modern Heritage – Tel Aviv University, Prof. Moshe Margalit



- The Chair held start-up meetings on preserving Modern Heritage in Israel: government-owned buildings, buildings in kibbutzim, industrial buildings and public institutions.
- The Chair is promoting international relations with: The Bauhaus Institute in Dessau, Germany; The Polytechnic University in Prague and the Chandigarh College of Architecture in Chandigarh, India

## Urban Conservation and Design – Bezalel Academy of Art, Prof. Michael Turner



- An international encounter was held between researchers from Bezalel and Cracow University in the context of the two historic cities, Cracow and Jerusalem, challenging their historic urban landscape (3/09).

## Bioethics – University of Haifa, Prof. Amnon Carmi



- The Chair produced new guidebooks: “Psychiatric Ethics and the Rights of Persons with Mental Disabilities” and “Moral Games for Teaching Bioethics,” which were distributed in Israel and throughout medical schools in the world.
- The UNESCO Curriculum for Teaching Bioethics was translated into Hebrew. It will be introduced in medical and nursing schools in Israel.
- The Fifth Annual Conference on Bioethics was held in Safed with researchers from around the world and Israel. Prof. Henk ten Have welcomed the conference participants on behalf of UNESCO (5/09).
- The Chair expanded its network of Bioethics units to Brazil, Croatia, Slovakia and Spain.
- A branch of the Haifa Chair in Bioethics was opened at the Safed College.

## Developing Chairs

The Commission entered into the process of developing new chairs in the following areas:

- Cultural Diversity – Prof. Oz Almog, University of Haifa
- Cultural Tourism – Prof. Yoel Mansfeld, University of Haifa
- Globalization of Culture – Prof. Moti Regev, Open University

## UNESCO-Associated Schools Project Network (ASP)



- The Network promoted the Budo project in its schools. Budo is a program in which physical training is used as a platform for cultural dialogue (3/2008).
- The Annual Meeting for coordinators of the European Network was held by the Israeli network jointly with Beit Berl College. The conference focused on developing a Strategic and Action Plan for the ASPNET network (6/09).

- The Shaked (Ra'anana) and Comprehensive Chet (Rishon LeZion) schools continued their activity in the Euromed project, hosting delegations from Germany, Austria, Turkey and Hungary (8/08).
- **Memory of the Future** – the Network sponsors a multi-cultural project between France, German, Israel and the Palestinian Authority, using artistic elements (sculpture, painting, photography and literature) to express the memory of the pupils in these countries. The project was initiated by Israeli-French artist Margalit Brier.
- **The Euromed Forum of Schools (Anna Lind Foundation)** – The following countries have been involved in the project during the past two years: Denmark, Austria, Hungary, Israel, Lebanon, Jordan and the Netherlands. Two Israeli schools participated; Hayovel School, Herzliya and Comprehensive Chet, Rishon LeZion.
- Dr. Esther Lucas, Honorary President of the Network, celebrated her 90th birthday and 30th year of Network involvement.
- Dr. Lucas was awarded a medal by UNESCO for her achievements and her involvement in the Network activities.

## Higher Education

- Ms. Eva Egron-Polak, Secretary-General of the International Association of Universities (IAU), visited Israel as the guest of the Council for Higher Education. She met with the Vice Presidents for Research and Development of Israeli Universities and visited several universities, in order to recruit them to join the IAU (1/08).

### The World Conference on Higher Education (WCHE)

- UNESCO organized a World Conference on Higher Education (WCHE), which focused on the impact of higher education on social-economic-cultural development at the national, regional and global levels. Israel was represented at the conference by Ms. Michal Neuman of the Council for Higher Education (France, 7/09).

## Adult Education



- The Division for Adult Education submitted the Israel report, which was incorporated into UNESCO's Global Report and presented at the Confintea meeting held in Budapest (12/08). Ms. Riva Aviad led the round table discussions on the subject of immigrant absorption. Furthermore, she participated in an International Conference held in Brazil (12/09).

- Yearbook No. 10 was disseminated to UNESCO member states. The Yearbook is devoted to adult education, community, society and economics in Israel and abroad.

## Holocaust Remembrance

### International Holocaust Remembrance Day

- Minister of Education and President of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO Prof. Yuli Tamir represented Israel in a ceremony held at UNESCO Headquarters to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day (France, 1/09).
- In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day UNESCO sponsored an International Youth Conference, held at Yad Vashem. Pupils from 62 countries participated. The UNESCO Director-General sent a recorded a welcoming message to the participants (1/08).
- Twenty-three coordinators from UNESCO-Associated Schools in Europe participated in training at Yad Vashem as part of their exposure to the topic of the Holocaust (6/09).

## Education and Human Rights

- Exhibit – 60th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights; Israel participated in an exhibit initiated by UNESCO to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights (1949-2009). Israel presented the “Box of Pupils’ Rights” and “Israel’s Charter for Pupils’ Rights.”

## Sustainable Education

### Learning about the Environment (SEMEP)



- Mr. Farid Hamdan participated in a SEMEP conference aimed at promoting sustainable education in Mediterranean countries. The program focused on environmental research dealing with bio-diversity and energy resources (Slovenia, 4/09).

### The International Conference on Sustainable Education

- Dr. Irit Wertheim (Madatech) presented and submitted a position paper on Israel’s behalf at the Conference held in Bonn, Germany (3/09).

## Science and Technology Education

- Prof. Yaakov Schwartz, School of Education at Hebrew University, represented Israel at an experts' meeting on the subject: Science, Mathematics and Educational Policy. As a result of his participation, he prepared a position paper that combines mathematics and science approaches in education (4/09).
- UNEVOC, the vocational education arm of UNESCO, recognized the Holon Institute of Technology for its academic achievements.

## On-Line Teaching

- Prof. Yoav Yair of the Open University participated in a seminar for On-Line Teaching organized by UNESCO and attended by 38 representatives of Open Universities from all over the world. The seminar discussed quality control of on-line teaching and distance learning in Latin America, Africa and Southeast Asia (3/09).

### Projects sponsored by Israel Commission for UNESCO

|                                                                             |                                                          |                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| ASP Conference - National Coordinators, European Region                     | Beit Berl College                                        | Dr. Yael Harel                           |
| Social, Cultural and Economic Impact of Higher Education – A Position Paper | Council for Higher Education                             | Ms. Galit Eisman                         |
| Science Education                                                           | Institute of Advancement in Education, Hebrew University | Dr. Meir Buzaglo<br>Prof. Yacov Schwartz |
| Art as a Tool for Creating Dialogue                                         | Anna Lind Foundation (Austria, Turkey, Israel)           | Rebecca Luise Zeilinger (Austria)        |
| Memory of the Future                                                        | Associated Schools Project Network                       | Dr. Yael Harel                           |
| Humanistic Education Conference                                             | Kibbutzim Academic College – UNESCO Chair                | Prof. Nimrod Aloni                       |
| International Conference on Children's Literature                           | Levinsky Academic College                                | Prof. Miri Baruch                        |

## [ 2. Human and Social Sciences (IS-SHS/MOST)

Chair: Prof. Abraham (Rami) Friedman



- Israel was elected for a second term (2009-2013) to the MOST Intergovernmental Committee.
- The Chairperson, Prof. Abraham (Rami) Friedman, attended the International Social Science Council (ISSCU) in Bergen, Norway (5/09). He also attended the MOST Committee meeting in Paris (9/09).

### Philosophy



- The IS-SHS Committee sponsored the Annual Meeting of Philosophy Teachers and Students on the subject of "Attitudes Toward the Other," in Jerusalem (4/08).



#### היחס ל"אחר" בפילוסופיה

כנס ארצי של תלמידי תיכון בפילוסופיה ומוריהם  
בית הספר התיכון למדעים ואמנויות בירושלים  
יום ג', כ"ד ניסן, תשס"ח; 29 באפריל, 2008

### Bioethics

#### The International Bioethics Committee (IBC)

- The International Bioethics Committee is an advisory body of UNESCO whose members are international experts in the field. Representing Israel on the Committee is Professor Efrat Levy-Lahad of Shaarei Zedek Medical Center, who attended the meetings (Paris, 10/08, 7/09).
- Translations of the three International Declarations on Bioethics were incorporated in the Israel Commission's website and UNESCO portal.
- The Annual International Conference was dedicated to "Hospital Bioethics Committees." It was sponsored by the Center for Medicine and Law and the UNESCO Chair of Haifa University and organized by the Safed branch. The conference was attended by Israeli and international experts. The conference was chaired by Professor Amnon Carmi, who holds the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics (5/09).

## Ethics in Science and Technologies



- Professor Hagit Messer-Yaron, Tel-Aviv University, initiated a brainstorming session on the issue of: Does research need a code of ethics (4/08).
- A conference on "An Ethical Research Code and its Interface with Society" was held, and chaired by Professor Hagit Messer-Yaron, President of the Open University. The conference was attended by researchers from different universities and non-government organizations. As a result, the Commission will establish a new committee to deal with this issue (4/09).



## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- To mark the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations, Israel Pedagogic Secretariat's submitted material and posters to the international exhibition at UNESCO.

## Coalition of Cities Against Racism



- The Center for Local Government and the Center for Regional Councils in Israel cooperate with the Commission on this project. An information kit in Hebrew and Arabic will soon be distributed to all local authorities and regional councils.

## Gender

- The Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center has continued the tradition of conferences on women's empowerment, and organized an international conference entitled "The Global Financial Crisis – Implications for Women." Ms. Gülser Corat represented UNESCO at the conference, held in Haifa (11/09).

## Inter-Religious and Intercultural Dialogue

### Jaffa Conference on Coexistence between Jews and Arabs in Israel – The Citizens' Accord Forum

- The Commission sponsored the Jaffa Conference, dealing with relations between Jews and Arabs in Israel. The Education Minister, Prof. Yuli Tamir, spoke at the conference on "Educating Towards Living Together." The conference was held at the Arab-Jewish Center in Jaffa (12/08).



## Restless Democracy – Spinoza Institute, Jerusalem

- At the conference, which was sponsored by the Commission, theoretical and actual issues related to Israeli democracy were discussed, addressing specific aspects, immediate needs and long-term interests in democracy. The conference was attended by the Education Minister, Prof. Yuli Tamir, President of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO (12/08).



## Culture of Dialogue – Al-Qasemi College

- Al-Qasemi Academic College of Education in Baqa el-Gharbia held the Third Conference dedicated to the "Culture of Dialogue" (3/08).
- The fourth conference organized by the College dealt with the "Status of Women in Islam, and the European Influence on Muslim Sharia in the Modern Era" (4/09).
- The conferences are a joint initiative of the College and the Commission, in cooperation with the American Jewish Committee, the United States-Israel Education Foundation, the Interfaith Encounter Association and the Coexistence Network in Israel, and were attended by representatives of various universities and colleges in Israel. Among the participants were Dr. Amal Jamal, Chairperson of the Department of Political Science at Tel Aviv University, writer Michal Snunit and writer Taha Muhammad Ali.



### Projects sponsored by the Israel Commission for UNESCO

|                                                        |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jaffa Conference                                       | Citizens' Accord Forum         | Ehud Cohen<br>Ibrahim Abu-Shindi |
| Developing Bioethics Documentation Center              | Safed College                  | Dr. Shmuel Volman                |
| Developing Bioethics Curriculum                        | UNESCO Chair, Haifa University | Prof. Amnon Carmi                |
| Restless Democracy                                     | Jerusalem Spinoza Institute    | Dr. Ishai Menuchin               |
| Philosophy Day                                         | Chief Inspector for Philosophy | Itay Snir                        |
| Conference on Code of Ethics in Science and Technology | Open University                | Prof. Hagit Messer-Yaron         |
| Cultural Dialogue                                      | Al-Qasemi College              | Dr. Dalia Faddilah               |

## [ 3. Science

*Chair: Prof. David Mendelowich, Chief Scientist Ministry of Science and Technology*

### Synchrotron Light for Experimental Science and Application in the Middle East (SESAME)



- Inauguration of the Synchrotron facility took place in Jordan, in the presence of the UNESCO Director-General, King of Jordan, and Israel Minister of Science (11/08).
- Young Israeli researchers from the Weizmann Institute visited the facility still under construction (6/08).
- Mr. Avi Anati, representative of the Ministry of Science, participated in budget meetings in Cairo, Egypt (3/08, 10/08, 5/09), and in Amman, Jordan (10/09).
- Prof. Eliezer Rabinovici of the Hebrew University and Prof. Moshe Paz-Pasternak of Tel Aviv University participated in meetings of the SESAME International Council (7/09, Istanbul, Turkey; 11/09, Amman, Jordan).

## Oceanographic Commission (IOC)



*Chair: Prof. Barak Herut, Director General, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research*

### **Warning System for Tsunamis in the Mediterranean - Israel Platform**

- On the Commission's initiative, a start-up meeting was held in order to establish a national platform for a Warning System for Tsunamis in the Mediterranean, led by the Director General of the Ministry of Infrastructures and with the participation of representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Israel Navy, Magen David Adom, Israel Police, Geological Survey of Israel, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Institutes, and Israel Emergency Committee (11/08).
- Dr. Amos Solomon of the Geological Survey of Israel and Prof. Dov Rosen of Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research presented Israel's models for developing a Warning System for Tsunamis in the Mediterranean.

## Man and the Biosphere (MAB)



*Prof. Uriel Safriel (Hebrew University) was appointed Chair of the Committee, replacing Prof. Tamar Dayan (Tel Aviv University), who retired after a six-year term.*

- The committee chair participated in the EuroMAB meeting that was held in Slovakia (10/09).

### **International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere**

- The meeting was held in South Korea, and participation was made possible through the kind assistance of the Division of Cultural and Scientific Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Israel was represented by Dr. Eliezer Frankenberg of the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (5/09).

### **Ramat Menashe-Megiddo Biosphere Reserve**

- An external evaluation of the BR was conducted by Mr. Andrew Bell from Great Britain (1/09).
- The IS-MAB Committee submitted the Megiddo Biosphere Reserve to UNESCO's International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (9/09).

### International Desertification Conference

- The Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, in cooperation with UNESCO and with the support of the Commission, organized a conference on Desertification held at the Sede Boker Campus (12/08).
- The MAB Committee's Chairperson Prof. Uriel Safriel hosted the award ceremony for the Poster Competition sponsored and supported by the Commission.
- Israel submitted a research proposal to UNESCO Headquarters for the implementation of the Madrid Action Plan in the local context (2/09).

### International Hydrological Program (IHP)



*Chair: Prof. Daniel Ronen, Water Authority and the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research at the Ben-Gurion University Blaustein Institutes.*

- The Chair participated in the IHP Intergovernmental Council meeting, France (6/2008).
- Dr. Orit Ben-Zvi Assaraf (Ben Gurion University), represented the Committee at an International Conference on Conserving Water Resources (England, 5/08), and at a Conference on Sustainable Environmental Literacy, Delft, Holland (2/09).
- Prof. Daniel Ronen presented a position paper on "Water Quality" at a Rotary meeting in Tel Aviv (5/09).

### Water Cycle - Blue Planet Curriculum

- The Commission, the Weizmann Institute, and the Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research at Ben-Gurion University, with the support of the Water Authority, initiated the translation to Chinese of the Blue Planet Water Cycle Curriculum.



## Stockholm Junior Water Prize

- Prof. Gideon Dagan, Tel Aviv University, organised the International Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition for young pupils in Israel, and the IS-IHP Committee sponsored it. At a ceremony held in the presence of the Swedish Ambassador, the Mayor of Ramat Gan, the Chairperson of the Water Authority and the Rector of Tel Aviv University. The winner, Emily Elhacham, a pupil of the Ohel Shem high school in Ramat Gan, received a Diploma of Excellence and presented her research project on the topic of "Detecting Water Contamination Chemical Sensors Using Metal Nanoparticle Networks," under the guidance of Prof. Gil Markovich of Tel Aviv University (5/09).



## International Geological Sciences Program (IGCP)



*Chair: Dr. Itai Gavrieli replaced Dr. Benjamin Ze'ev Begin as Director of the Geological Survey of Israel.*

- Mr. Avi Shapira and Mr. Rami Hofstetter of Israel's Seismology Institute represented Israel and submitted a position paper at a conference on Seismic Hazards (South Africa, 1/09).
- Mr. Rami Hofstetter participated in a conference on Disaster Reduction (earthquakes) held under UNESCO auspices in Istanbul, Turkey (5/08).
- Prof. Gideon Leonard participated in a workshop on earthquakes in Portugal (10/09).
- Dr. Yoseph Yechieli of the Geological Survey of Israel represented Israel in a meeting on the Relationship between Climate Change and Groundwater held in France (4/09).
- Mr. Avi Shapira was recommended to serve on an International Team charged with preparing a Global Seismological Evaluation Report.

### International Year of Planet Earth

- The Israel Geological Society, in cooperation with the Geological Survey of Israel and the Earth Studies Superintendent in the Education Ministry, implemented a public- community-oriented program over the course of the year. The following is a selection of activities:
- Lectures: Contribution of Earth Sciences to Society (Prof. Ariel Heimann), State of Israel's Preparedness for Earthquakes (Prof. Avi Shapira), Relationship Between Forests and Climate Change (Prof. Dan Yakir), and Dead Sea Sinkholes (Prof. Meir Abelson).
- During the course of November and December, brief texts on the topic were broadcast.
- Prof. Yehoshua Kolodny presented a 13 part series at the Broadcast University, entitled "Conversations on Geology."

### International Centre for Bioinformatics



- On the initiative of Prof. Meir Edelman and Prof. Joel Zusman (Weizmann Institute of Science), preliminary contact was made with the UNESCO Science Sector, and a feasibility study was carried out by UNESCO. The 35th UNESCO General Conference approved the draft agreement for establishing a Category II Center at the Weizmann Institute under UNESCO auspices.

### L'Oreal- UNESCO Award for Young Women in Science



- IS-L'OREAL, the Commission and the Ministry of Science ratified a protocol for promoting young women scientists in Israel. The jury committee headed by Prof. Ruth Arnon chose three candidates; the first prize was won by Ms. Meital Caspari (NIS 50,000). The second prize was shared by Ms. Kholoud Takrouri and Ms. Dana Chuderland (NIS 50,000).

## International Year of Astronomy

- The Academy of the Hebrew Language and Israel Astronomical Association issued an appeal to the public to choose Hebrew names for the planets Uranus and Neptune. At the ceremony, the names of the planets in Hebrew were announced: Oron (Uranus) and Rahab (Neptune) (11/09).
- The Israeli Astronomical Association dedicated an exhibition entitled "In the footsteps of Galileo Galilei" at the Givatayim Observatory. (12/09).

### Projects sponsored by the Israel Commission for UNESCO

|                                                       |                                                      |                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| International Desertification Conference              | Ben-Gurion University                                | Prof. Alon Tal                         |
| International Conference on Water in Arid Areas       | Ben-Gurion University                                | Prof. Daniel Ronen                     |
| International Year of Planet Earth                    | Israel Geological Survey / Israel Geological Society | Mr. Shachar Bookman                    |
| Developing Parameters for Risks in Biosphere Reserves | Haifa University                                     | Ms. Naama Tessler                      |
| L'Oreal-UNESCO Award for Young Women in Science       | L'Oreal Israel                                       | Ms. Dorit Vidavsky                     |
| International Center for Bioinformatics               | Weizmann Institute                                   | Prof. Meir Edelman / Prof. Joel Zusman |
| International Water Prize (Stockholm)                 | Tel Aviv University                                  | Prof. Gideon Dagan                     |
| Ecosphere                                             | Hof Carmel Regional Council                          | Mr. Carmel Sela                        |
| International Year of Astronomy                       | Israeli Astronomical Association                     | Dr. Igal Pat-El                        |

## [ 4. World Heritage



*Chair: Prof, Michael Turner, Bezalel Academy*

- Prof. Mike Turner (Chair) and Mr. Yoav Sagi (Open Landscape Institute) were named Outstanding Planners of the Year by the Israel Planners Association(2008).
- Prof. Emanuel Mazor, member of the Israel World Heritage Committee, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Ministry of Environmental Protection for his achievements in this field. The award was presented to him by the President of Israel (10/09).
- A visit by a World Heritage Centre technical delegation to Jerusalem's Old City was coordinated by the Jerusalem Municipality and the Israel Antiquities Authority. The purpose of the visit was to collect additional information regarding UNESCO's Action Plan for the conservation of Old City sites and buildings. The delegation included Daniele Pini, Franca Miglioli and Luca Lanzoni (2/2008).
- The Japanese Ambassador to Israel, Yoshinori Katori, his spouse and the embassy staff were invited by the Israel World Heritage Committee and the Israel Nature and Parks Authority to visit the biblical Tel Hatzor (a World Heritage site), and the Triple-Arch Gate at Tel Dan (7/08).
- Prof. Mike Turner participated in an Expert Meeting on Risk Preparedness of World Heritage Sites, Japan (8/08).
- The Committee Chairperson participated in expert meetings held in Zanzibar and Brazil to prepare the "Recommendations for Historic Urban Cultural Landscapes" to be presented to the next UNESCO General Conference (10/11) and to update the Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention.

## Israel World Heritage Committee

### **Think Tank teams Activities.**

- The Tentative List Team, headed by Dr. Tzvika Tsuk, is in the midst of preparing an action plan.
- The Conservation Principles Team, headed by Ms. Nira Peretz, continues its work sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism to undertake the task of preparing a Principles of Conservation document for Israel.
- The Arab Building Heritage Team, headed by Prof. Rasem Khamaisi continues its work.
- The Monitoring and Reporting Team will renew its activity, headed by Mr. Guy Kav-Venaki.

## World Heritage Sites in Israel

- The Holy Bahai sites in Acre and Haifa were inscribed by UNESCO on the World Heritage List (Quebec, Canada, 7/08).

**ערכי מורשת מוחשיים ובלתי מוחשיים – מה ראוי לשימור?  
יום עיון לציון הכרזת האתרים הבהאים בחיפה ובעכו כאתרי מורשת עולמית**

**יום שישי 20.2.09 במרכז הבהאים רח' גולומב 16 חיפה**



אנא אשרו השתתפותכם  
בטל' 03-5034256 או בדוא"ל [haifa@shimur.org.il](mailto:haifa@shimur.org.il)



- The Triple-Arch Gate at Dan was once again not inscribed inspite of its acknowledged OUV by the Committee, due to the “politics” that have made their way into the Committee’s (Quebec, 04/08, Sevilia 07/09) discussions.
- The nomination of Ancient Christian Sites in the Galilee was withdrawn by Israel, and resubmitted to UNESCO. Two evaluations were conducted; by Dr. Bernard Furrer (10/08) and by Amond Larsen (10/09) on behalf of the International Council on Monuments and sites (ICOMOS). The Israel Antiquities Authority, which has prepared the dossier, and the Commission are coordinating the process vis-à-vis the Christian communities in Israel and abroad.

## • UNESCO World Heritage Committee



- Prof. Mike Turner (Chair of the Israel World Heritage Committee and Deputy Chair of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee) participated in a Bureau meeting which prepared the agenda for the Committee Session in Quebec (Paris, 6/08).
- The Israel delegation to the 32nd Session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Quebec City, Canada included Prof. Mike Turner (Chairperson), Prof. Nitza Szmuk (Technion), Albert Lincoln (Bahai), Architect Ruth Liberty-Shalev, Yuval Peled (Nature and Parks Authority), Architect Ariel Waterman (Haifa Municipal Engineer), and Mr. Guy Kav-Venaki (Planning Administration) (7/08).
- The Israel delegation to the 33rd Session of the World Heritage Committee held in Seville, Spain, included: Prof. Mike Turner, Architect Ruth Liberty-Shalev (Technion), Ms. Humi Novenster (Society for Heritage Sites Conservation in Israel), Architect Tzahi Katz (Jerusalem Municipality), Mr. Modi Oron (Nature and Parks Authority), and Adv. Gideon Koren (ICOMOS Israel) (7/09).

## Information Meetings – World Heritage Center

- During these two years, of information meetings were held for members of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee on two main issues: "Future of the Convention" (2009); "Elections to the Committee" (2008); Israel was represented in these discussions by Prof. Mike Turner.
- The Committee Chair participated in the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention – Paris, France (10/09).
- Prof. Mike Turner participated in a meeting for developing the Action Plan for Prehistoric Sites – France (9/09).

## International Cooperation

### Cooperation with Advisory Organizations to the Convention – ICOMOS



- Adv. Gideon Koren was elected to the ICOMOS Executive Committee at the organization's General Assembly, Canada (10/08). The Israeli delegation, headed by Adv. Gideon Koren, also included Architect Giora Solar, Ms. Michal Pearson, and Avi Shoket (former Ambassador to UNESCO).

### Expert Visits from Abroad

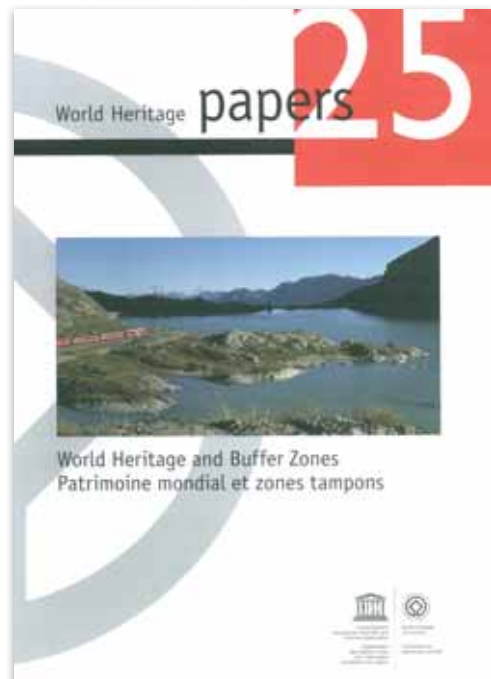
- Mr. Lodovico Folin represented UNESCO World Heritage Center at the Tel Aviv Centennial Conference (1/09).
- Dr. Nuria Sanz of the World Heritage Center took part in a seminar on "Prehistoric Heritage Sites" in the Carmel Caves initiated by the Committee, the Nature and Parks Authority and the Israel Antiquities Authority. Other participants included Prof. Emmanuel Anati (Italy) and Prof. Ofer Bar-Yosef of Harvard University (11/08).

### UNESCO – University Heritage Forum

- Prof. Mike Turner gave a keynote lecture the Forum annual meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam (April, 2009).

### Buffer Zones – Expert Meeting

- Israel and Switzerland cooperated in organizing an International Expert Meeting sponsored by the UNESCO World Heritage Center on Buffer Zones. A publication summarizing the meetings was disseminated to member states of the World Heritage Convention Participating on behalf of Israel were Prof. Mike Turner, Architect Shammai Assif (Head of the Interior Ministry's Planning Administration), Prof. Eli Stern (Ben-Gurion University) and Architect Chezy Berkowitz (City Engineer, Tel Aviv Municipality). (3/2008).



### **International Conference on World Heritage Cultural Landscapes**

- Mr. Yuval Peled of the Nature and Parks Authority participated in a conference on “Authenticity and Integrity of Cultural Landscapes of World Heritage Sites,” held in Granada, Spain (11/09).
- 

### **Recommendations on the Status of Urban Historic Cultural Landscapes**

- Prof. Mike Turner attended two expert meetings dealing with the formulation of new recommendations to UNESCO on Historic Urban Cultural Landscapes, held in Zanzibar (11/09) and Brazil (12/09).

## **Conferences in Israel**

The Israel World Heritage Committee in cooperation with conservation organizations in Israel sponsored and supported conferences aimed at promoting the implementation of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage.

- A conference on Traditional Conservation Technologies was organized by the Tel Aviv Municipality (7/08).
- An International Conference on “Nondestructive Technologies for Use in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in the Levant” took place at Ben-Gurion University under the sponsorship of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO (5/08).

### **Projects sponsored by Israel Commission for UNESCO**

|                                          |                                                                                                               |           |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Future of the World Heritage Convention  | ICOMOS Israel, Forum UNESCO – University and Heritage, UNESCO Chair for Academic Urban Conservation – Bezalel | Jerusalem |
| Heritage of Modern Movement              | ICOMOS Israel, Docomomo, UNESCO Chair at Tel Aviv University                                                  | Tel Aviv  |
| Landscape Conservation in the White City | Tel Aviv Municipality, Council for Conservation, Tel Aviv University, Technion, Antiquities Authority         | Tel Aviv  |
| The Story Behind Conservation            | Planning Administration, Southern District                                                                    | Beersheva |

|                                                                     |                                                                                                                          |               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Tangible and Intangible Heritage Values – What is Worth Preserving? | Haifa Municipality, World Bahai Center, Council for Conservation of Heritage Sites in Israel, Ethics Center in Jerusalem | Haifa         |
| Preserving the Past While Developing for the Future                 | Antiquities Authority, Planning Administration                                                                           | Safed         |
| Kibbutz Time – “The Dining Hall as an Allegory”                     | Kibbutz Movement                                                                                                         | Kibbutz Yifat |

## Capacity Building and Development

### Conservation Course

- To date some 150 professionals have participated in this course. The course is sponsored academically by Bar Ilan University at the initiative of the Interior Ministry's Planning Administration, and by the Israel National Commission for UNESCO, and aims to train local authorities engineers in issues of conservation.

### Professional Conservation Needs in Israel



- The mapping of capacity building needs was carried out by ICCROM. The report describes the present situation and makes recommendations for training professional conservation personnel, both at the institutional level (academic, government ministries and conservation organizations), and at the site management level (Focal Points Sites Managers and Directors of Conservation Departments in local authorities).

### ICCROM Course



- Mr. Yoram Saad of the Israel Antiquities Authority received a scholarship enabling him to attend an ICCROM course on "Conservation Decision-Making Process" in Rome, Italy (11/08).

## Course on Conservation in Stone

- The International Conservation Center in Acre organized a course on Stone Conservation for foreign students as part of the "MASA" project (12/09).



## International Conferences in Israel

### Conference on Risk Preparedness

- The conference, initiated by Israel's Antiquities Authority and sponsored by the Commission and UNESCO World Heritage Centre, focused on formulating an action plan for reducing disaster risks at World Heritage Sites. The participants represented international organizations ICOMOS, ICOM and ICCROM, and the UNESCO Chairs for Conservation from around the world. The Scientific Committee was headed by Prof. Mike Turner (Acre, 11/09).



## Prehistoric Heritage Seminar – Carmel Caves

- The Israel World Heritage Committee promotes sites with extraordinary universal significance in Israel, in order to nominate them as UNESCO world heritage sites. On its Tentative List are: the Carmel Caves, Ubadiyya and Sha'ar Hagolan sites. In conjunction with Haifa University and the Hof Carmel Regional Council and World Heritage Center a seminar was held to examine the feasibility of nominating the Carmel Caves. The seminar was coordinated with the Antiquities Authority, the Parks and Nature Authority, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Ben-Gurion and Hebrew Universities (11/08).

## World Heritage Exhibitions

**Participation in exhibitions promoted by the Israel World Heritage Committee:**

- The White City of Tel Aviv (France)



- An exhibit by artist Jean Baptiste Avril-Bodenheimer (Tel Aviv)

## Projects sponsored by the Israel National Commission for UNESCO

|                                                                   |                                                   |                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| World Heritage Sites Stamps                                       | Postal Authority                                  | Yinon Ratzon                                |
| Course on Conservation for Planners and Local Authority Engineers | Planning Administration, Ministry of the Interior | Architect Raz Efron/<br>Dr. Irit Amit-Cohen |
| Incense Route Conference                                          | ICOMOS Israel                                     | Carla Morano/Prof.<br>Henry Cleer           |
| Well Houses in Jaffa                                              | Tel Aviv University                               | Architect Amnon Bar-On                      |
| Feasibility Study on "Nahal Me'arot HaCarmel"                     | Haifa University                                  | Dr. Dani Rosenberg                          |
| Feasibility Study of Old City of Nazareth                         | Antiquity Authority                               | Raanan Kislev                               |





**אוניברסיטת תל אביב**  
הפקולטה למסחר ולמנהל  
בית הספר לאדריכלות ע"ש יוסף ודוד  
המכון לתכנון ולמנהל ערים ויישובים  
המכון לתכנון ולמנהל ערים ויישובים

**בית תרבות משכנות רות דניאל**  
רחוב בן-גוריון 47 | יפו

**לקראת שימור חוצה תרבויות**  
יום עיון בנושא בתי הבאר של יפו

רביעי | 26.3.2008 | 12:45-19:30 | משכנות רות דניאל | שדרות ירושלים 47 | יפו  
הכניסה חופשית

מרחב הפרדסים של יפו היה, עד למחצית המאה העשרים, מנוקד בתי באר. בראשיתם היו אותם בתים מבנים חקלאיים שאכלסו את הבאר, משאבות המים ובריכות האגירה והיו, באמצעות תעלות השקיה, למקורות המים של הסביבה. מאוחר יותר, העבירו רבים מעשירי יפו את משכנם מבין החומות אל בתי הבאר, והפכו אותם לארמונות של ממש. אותם בתי באר, שהיו בתפארתם מקור מים חיים לשפע ופריחה בפרדסיה וגניה של יפו, עומדים כיום יבשים וחרבים, כראי לסביבתם שהזנחה בעקבות משך כל שנות קיום המדינה. רובם המוחלט של בתי הבאר אינם מיועד לשימור, והדבר הינו בגדר אסון תרבותי וחורבן של הזכרון העירוני. במסגרת הכרזת אונסק"ו על תל אביב כעיר מורשת עולמית לשימור, קיבלה

עליה העיר את האחריות לשימור מרקם "העיר הלבנה". יום העיון מבקש לדון בהרחבת אחריות זו לשימורם של בתי הבאר של יפו כמייצגים תרבות חקלאית יפואית שהגיעה לשיאה במחצית השנייה של המאה התשע-עשרה וחורבה כליל. יום העיון יתקיים בסמוך לתערוכה "בתי הבאר – הארמונות הנעלמים של יפו", ויסתמך על גוף המחקר ההיסטורי והאדריכלי המרשים המוצג בה, פרי עבודתם של תלמידי בית הספר לאדריכלות ע"ש יוסף ודוד בפקולטה לאמנויות ע"ש יולנדה ודוד כץ והתכנית ללימודי תואר שני בלמודי שימור המורשת הבנויה באוניברסיטת תל אביב. ביום העיון נדון באפשרויות החברתיות, האדריכליות, הגיאוגרפיות, והפוליטיות לשימור בתי הבאר ולהשמשתם.

## [ 5. Culture

Chair: Mr. Tzach Granit, Ministry of Culture and Sport.

### International Music Council (IMC)

- Dr. Avishai Yaar, Chairperson of the Committee, coordinated and organized the European IMC Region Conference under UNESCO auspices. The Arab-Jewish Youth Orchestra performed at the conference (10/08).

### To Touch the Music

- The Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra performed works by Mozart at a musical event in support of music education in peripheral localities. The project, which was sponsored by the Commission was held at Kibbutz Yakum (1/08).



### Index Translatum

- The National Library sent a list of 1007 bibliographic records for publication by UNESCO in 2008-2009.

## The Work of Eliezer Ben Yehuda

- Subsequent to Ben Yehuda's recognition by the 33rd General Assembly and in honor of the 150th Anniversary of his birth, the following events were held:

**France** – Université de Paris VIII, sponsored by the World Hebrew Union (3/08)

**Uruguay** – An exhibition on The Art of Hebrew Calligraphy was inaugurated at the Jewish Universidad ORT, Uruguay (4/08).

**Israel** – Dr. Yossi Lang's book on Ben Yehuda was launched at the Yad Ben-Zvi Institute (11/08).



## Conservation of Intangible Heritage

### The Center for Jewish Art

- The Center at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem has for several years documented synagogues throughout the world (Ukraine, Slovakia, Romania, India, Poland). The Center has developed an index of Jewish artifacts with the assistance of UNESCO's Museums Section. Mr. Laurent Levi-Strauss visited the center (4/09).

## **International Year of Languages**

The year 2008 was announced by UNESCO the a year for promoting the conservation of languages in danger.

- The Israel Commission for UNESCO sponsored two conferences, under the auspices of Ben-Gurion University on Ladino (7/09), and by Hebrew University on Yiddish (11/09).

## **International Conferences**

### **On “Identity, Memory and Culture in the Europe - Mediterranean; Disappearance or Renewal”**

- The conference, under the auspices of Haifa University and chaired by Prof. Joseph Chetrit, took place with experts from Mediterranean countries (9/09).

### **Yad Ben-Zvi Institute**

- The Open University, in cooperation with the Yad Ben-Zvi Institute, organized a conference on “North Africa and its Jews During the Second World War” chaired by Dr. Haim Saadon (5/08).

### **Oranim College**

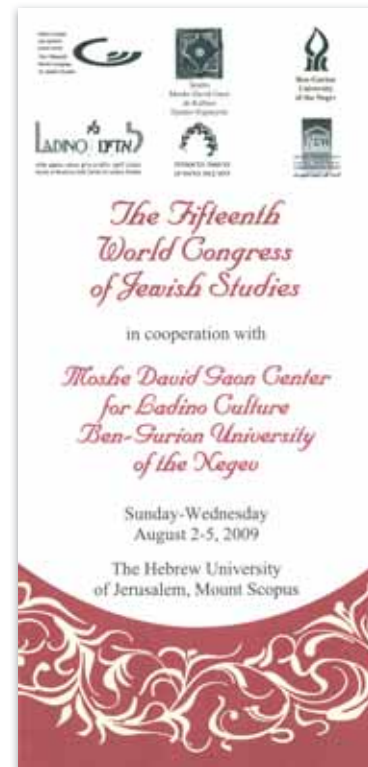
- The Commission sponsored an in-service training course for teachers on Piyut and Melody of Jewish tradition of Middle East Committees (7/08).

### **CIAK Festival**

- As in previous years, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Division for Cultural and Scientific Affairs assisted in funding a delegation to the CIAK Festival held under UNESCO auspices in Treviso, Italy. The film "Stinker", produced by pupils from the Beit Hinuch Matan School in the Southern Sharon Regional Council, won the UNESCO award for best film (6/08).

## Accreditation of Conservators

- The Israel Conservators Organization, which was recently established, began a process of accreditation and certification of conservators in Israel, with assistance from the English Institute of Conservation (ICON). UNESCO will also assist with the training process.



## International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals (CIOEF)

- The Israeli branch of the CIOFF, headed by Dr. Dan Ronen, is promoting the organization's activity in Israel under the auspices of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs Culture and Education. He participated in CIOEF annual meeting in Larnaca, Cyprus (3/09).



### Projects sponsored by the Israel Commission for UNESCO

|                                                          |                                                       |                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Heritage of Fez Jewry                                    | Dehan Center, Bar-Ilan University                     | Dr. Shimon Ohayon       |
| Conference on Mediterranean Cultural Dialogue            | Haifa University                                      | Prof. Joseph Chetrit    |
| Ladino Language                                          | Ben-Gurion University                                 | Prof. Tamar Alexander   |
| Singing Communities                                      | International Cultural Center                         | Yossi Ohana             |
| International Museum Day                                 | Israel Museum Organization                            | Dr. Dorit Volinitz      |
| Eliezer Ben Yehuda Anniversary                           | Zionist Council / Yad Ben-Zvi                         | Dr. Gidon Shthal        |
| Conference on Mediterranean Culture in North Africa      | Yad Ben-Zvi                                           | Dr. Haim Sa'adon        |
| Cultural Encounter: Poland-Israel                        | Hebrew University, Institute for Contemporary Judaism | Prof. Daniel Blattman   |
| 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Yiddish – Where to Now? | Hebrew University                                     | Prof. Yechiel Sheintoch |

## [ 6. Information for All

*Chair: Prof. Niv Ahituv, Tel Aviv University*

### Intergovernmental Committee on “Information for All” (IFA)

- Prof. Niv Ahituv, Committee Chairperson, took part in a meeting of the IFA committee aimed at coordinating a five-year plan (Moscow, 12/09).
- Mr. Aviv Zeevi Balasiano, Coordinator of the Israel IFA Committee, participated in the session held at UNESCO Headquarters (4/08).

- Prof. Niv Ahituv gave the opening lecture at a training course on “Media in Developing Countries” at the Carmel Center in Haifa (11/09).

## **Intergovernmental Committee International Program for the Development of Communication (IPDC)**

- The Commission continues to support the IPDC this year as well.

## **International Conferences**

### **International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS)**

- Israel and France National Commissions for UNESCO jointly sponsored this event. Prof. Dov Te’eni of Tel Aviv University and Prof. Frantz Rowe of the University of Nantes, France chaired the conference. The Commissions assisted experts from developing countries to attend the round table discussions (Paris, 11/08).

### **24th International Information Conference**

- Prof. Niv Ahituv, Chairperson of the IS-IFA Committee, presented a paper on “Organization Toward Open Access at Academic Institutions.” The Commission’s Secretary-General presented UNESCO’s program “Memory of the World” (5/09).

## **Digital Conservation**

### **World Digital Library**

- The launching of the World Digital Library by UNESCO provides a database of the most significant materials from countries around the world. The web site is open to all ([www.wdl.org](http://www.wdl.org)).

### **Digital Cultural Heritage**

- The Minerva Project, the National Library and the European Union held its Annual Conference on Digital Culture, under the auspices of the Commission for UNESCO (11/08).

### **Digital Conservation Processes in Israel**

In recent years the Committee has been promoting the issue of digital conservation. Four projects constitute an innovative attempt in Israel - in journalism, architecture, film and the Internet.

- **Jerusalem Cinemateque – Axelrod Collection:** The purpose of the project is to document the famous Axelrod Film Collection depicting Israel. The project gained special impetus thanks to UNESCO's Memory of the World program, and at the end of the process it will be available to the general public for research and study purposes



- **Haifa University – Social / Cultural Diversity:** Development of the website aims to document Israeli society in pictures and through stories.
- **Bezalel Academy – Architectural Conservation:** The UNESCO chair at Bezalel Academy, together with the Central Zionist Archives, the State Archives and the National Library, held a seminar in order to define the thesaurus of conservation documentation in Israel, both for art objects and for architecture. The project is in its initial development stage.
- **Givat Haviva – Arab Press The library in Givat Haviva:** digitizing of the Arab Press, as of the 1920s. Upon completion of the project the information will become available to researchers and the general public.

## Memory of the World Program



- UNESCO's Memory of the World Program aims to preserve valuable universal collections that have contributed towards the development of mankind. In the coming months a national committee will be established to undertake preparation of Israel's tentative register. The committee will also define the most valuable collections, and will choose the collections to be submitted to the Memory of the World Program.

## The Michael Project

- This project is part of the digitization of cultural heritage in Europe. The National Library and the Commission establishing an Israel database that will form the basis for Israel's Tentative Register.

## B. UNESCO in Israel



UNESCO's activities in Israel are visible by expert visits and the Commission's sponsorship of projects aimed at promoting UNESCO's in Israel.

- During the visit of UNESCO Deputy Director-General Marcio Barbosa, two joint projects were approved for UNESCO sponsorship (name and logo).
  - » International Youth Conference – International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yad Vashem (27.1.08).
  - » 2nd Annual Drylands, Deserts and Desertification Conference, Sede Boker Campus, Ben Gurion University (12/08).

### UNESCO Expert Visits to Israel

|                       |                                                                                       |                                                     |         |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Science</b>        | Feasibility Study of the International Centre for Bioinformatics (Weizmann Institute) | Maciej Nalecz                                       | 2/2008  |
| <b>World Heritage</b> | Technical Delegation on Monitoring the Mughrabi Gate                                  | Francesco Bandarin, Mounir Bouchnaki, Michael Pezet | 2/2008  |
|                       | Technical Delegation to the Old City – operating plan                                 | Franca Magnlioli, Daniel Pini                       | 8/2008  |
|                       |                                                                                       | Prof. Bernard Furrer                                | 11/2008 |
|                       |                                                                                       | Armond Larsen                                       | 10/2009 |

## UNESCO's Logo/ Emblems

- A second announcement was published in Reshumot – the Official Gazette (Government Notices, July 2008), to protect UNESCO symbols (the Associated Schools Project Network, ICCROM, Adult Lifelong Learning). The protection ensures that all UNESCO emblems and symbols are used only if authorized by the Israel National Commission for UNESCO.



- The Commission continues its tradition of raising UNESCO's visibility in Israel and sponsors conferences and projects relevant to UNESCO. All projects have been presented in the committees' activities chapters.

## Internships at the Israel National Commission for UNESCO

- During 2008-2009 three interns participated in the Commission's activities. Ms. Hannah Nagel (Canada) processed data about Think Tanks in Israel for the Committee of Human and Social Sciences(6-9.2009) Mr. Ibrahim Zuabi coordinated the Team for Arab Build Heritage, (8-12.2009) and Ms. Michelle Sofge, coordinated the Euro-Med Periodic Reporting Meeting. (1-3.2010)

## C. Israel in UNESCO



- Israel's activities in UNESCO focused on participating in intergovernmental committees: the World Heritage Committee (WHC); Information for All (IFA); Human and Social Science (MOST); Man and the Biosphere (MAB); and expert committees in Bioethics, Synchrotron, Water and Education. Enhancing relations with member states is also an indicator of the scope of the Commission's activities.

### Participation of Israel experts in UNESCO meetings

|                            |                                                                      |                                                                                                          |                                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>World Heritage</b>      | Extraordinary Session of the World Heritage Committee                | Prof. Mike Turner                                                                                        | France (1/2008)                      |
|                            | Expert Meeting on Buffer Zones                                       | Prof. Mike Turner<br>Architect Shamai Assif                                                              | Switzerland (3/2008)                 |
|                            | Monitoring World Heritage Sites                                      | Daniel Bar-Elli (Secretary-General)                                                                      | Greece (4/2008)<br>Portugal (5/2009) |
|                            | World Heritage Committee                                             | Prof. Mike Turner<br>Prof. Nitza Szmuk,<br>Yuval Peled, Architect<br>Ruth Liberty-Shalev                 | Canada (7/2008)<br>Spain (7/2009)    |
| <b>Information for All</b> | Intergovernmental Committee – Information for All                    | Aviv Zeevi Balasiano (Tel Aviv University)                                                               | France (4/2008)                      |
| <b>Science</b>             | Intergovernmental Council on Man and the Biosphere                   | Rotem Dotan (Nature and Parks Authority)                                                                 | Spain (2/2008)                       |
|                            |                                                                      | Dr. Eliezer Frankenberg                                                                                  | South Korea (5/2009)                 |
|                            | International Biosphere Reserve Congress                             | Shlomo Brand (JNF)<br>Hadas Bashan (Menashe Regional Council)                                            | Spain (2/2008)                       |
|                            | Intergovernmental Committee – International Hydrologic Program (IHP) | Prof. Daniel Ronen                                                                                       | France (6/2008)                      |
|                            | Expert Meeting on Mediterranean Tsunami Early Warning System         | Prof. Dov Rosen (Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research)<br>Dr. Amos Solomon (Geological Survey) | Athens (11/2008)                     |
| <b>Education</b>           | UNESCO Education Sector / Council of Europe                          | Daniel Bar-Elli                                                                                          | France (2/2008)                      |

## **Relations with UNESCO Member States**

### **Austria**

- Cooperation between schools in the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network sponsored by Anna Lind Foundation (2008-09).
- Participating in workshop on UNESCO's Public Relations program (5/2009).

### **Japan**

- The Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Yoshinuri Katuri, visited the World Heritage Site of Tel Hatzor Ancient Arch at Dan, in coordination with the Nature and Parks Authority (7/2008).

### **Italy**

- A group of experts from the Cinque Terre National Park visited the Old City of Acre as part of efforts to enhance relationships between world heritage sites in the Mediterranean Basin (3/2009).

### **Palestinian Authority**

- The Department for International Organizations, Foreign Ministry, released a container from the Ashdod Port with equipment for preserving documents at the library on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem (7/08).
- The Commission hosted Mr. Ray Everton from Australia, who advises UNESCO Ramallah with regard to the conservation of documents, films and photographs of Palestinian archives.

### **Uzbekistan**

- The Jewish Museum in Bukhara was officially opened in 2008 and a mezuzah was affixed to the entrance of the museum in the presence of a representative of the Israeli Embassy in Uzbekistan.

### **Poland**

- Following 25 years of relations between Israel and Poland in studying the history of Polish Jewry, an international conference was held in Jerusalem and attended by researchers from all over the world (9/09).

## Capacity Building Development

### **MASHAV – Center for International Cooperation (Foreign Affairs Ministry)**

- As part of the activities of the Center for International Cooperation of the Foreign Ministry (MASHAV), the Commission sponsored training courses for developing countries:
  - » Developing Microenterprises in Communities – Carmel Center (7/09);
  - » Facilitators for Developing Communications skills in Communities – Carmel Center (12/09);
  - » “Mapping of Mauritius Education System,” Mofet International Organization (2/08).

### **Weizmann Institute of Science**

- The Institute organized the first International Training Workshop for Scientists on Bioinformatics (9/09).

### **Women’s Leadership for Sustainable Development**

- The Carmel Center’s International Conference on Women’s Leadership for Sustainable Development was held in the presence of the President of Israel, the Foreign Minister, UNESCO Deputy Director-General, and representatives from 40 countries. The conference issued a statement declaring its commitment to sustainable leadership, Haifa (11/07).

### **Planning Administration – Ministry of the Interior**

- Courses in conservation for directors of conservation departments and city engineers in the local authorities have been held under the auspices of Bar-Ilan University to promote awareness regarding the need for conservation in Israel.

## Participation Programs, 2008-2009

- Regional Conference Europe-ASP: Coordinators of UNESCO-Associated Schools Project Network in Europe (ASP-Beit Berl)
- International Conference on the Digitization of Cultural Heritage (Minerva)
- Submission and Evaluation of Ramat Menashe Biosphere Reserve (Megiddo Regional Council)
- Conference on the Boundaries of Ethics in Science (Open University)

At UNESCO Headquarters it was decided that countries with a higher per capita GNP than \$10,000 would receive up to \$10,000 per program.