

Final Outcome Document
Symposium of UNESCO Chairs in Human Rights, Democracy,
Peace, Tolerance and Bioethics
Bergamo, Italy, 3-4 March 2011

We, the representatives of 41 UNESCO Chairs in Human Rights, Peace, Democracy, Tolerance and Bioethics participating at the Symposium on “Developing together a new partnership for strengthened cooperation” organized by the UNESCO Chair in Human Rights and Ethics of International Co-operation at the *Università degli Studi* of Bergamo (Italy) in cooperation with UNESCO, on 3-4 March 2010,

Recognizing the role of UNESCO Chairs in analysing and promoting the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights, as reaffirmed by the World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna in 1993, as well as in human rights research, education and advocacy,

Convinced that in the face of current and future global challenges, UNESCO Chairs can advance international academic cooperation, irrespectively of their level of development, and create synergies between the academic world, civil society, research, international organizations, and public, private and civil actors,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in which Heads of State and Government supported the promotion of human rights education and learning at all levels, as well as the UNESCO Human Rights Strategy,

Taking note of the draft United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training submitted to the Human Rights Council for adoption at its 16th session (28 February – 25 March 2011),

Noting that in accordance to Article 23 of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights (2005) “States should endeavor to foster bioethics education and training at all levels as well as to encourage information and knowledge dissemination programmes about bioethics.”,

Bearing in mind that a human rights based-approach in designing, implementing and evaluating programmes is a central tenet of the ongoing UN reform process,

Acknowledging the emphasis placed by UNESCO on equality between women and men as defined by a gender approach and on the rights within its fields of competence, namely the right to education, cultural rights, including the right to take part in cultural life, the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the right to enjoy the benefits from scientific progress and its applications, the right to water and sanitation,

Aware of UNESCO’s mandate for the promotion of a global ethics framework for science and technology and of the normative instruments adopted by its General Conference in the field of bioethics that are based on a human rights framework, namely the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights (1997), the International Declaration on Human Genetic Data (2003) and the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights (2005),

Taking stock of the good practices and rich experience of UNESCO Chairs,

Agree to the following:

1. Carry out individually and/or collectively the following actions, further elaborated in the roadmap hereby attached:
 - a. Promote research on human rights, with emphasis on the rights within the fields of competence of the Organization and on bioethics;
 - b. Integrate a human rights-based approach in research and teaching programmes;
 - c. Advance the teaching on human rights, with emphasis on the mandate of UNESCO in human rights and bioethics, in both formal and non-formal education settings, addressing inter alia the needs of civil society actors and various professional groups;
 - d. Monitor the implementation of decisions taken at this meeting with due account of the tasks and responsibilities to which UNESCO Chairs subscribed voluntarily.
2. Implement the aforementioned actions bearing in mind the provisions of the Plan of action for the second phase (2010-2014) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.
3. Reinforce communication and impart information among the members of this network, making optimal use of ICTs, and invite UNESCO to play a central role in this regard.
4. Organize, individually or in collaboration with other Chairs, events to mark forthcoming important anniversaries, such as the 20 years since the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993) and the 20 years since the launching of the UNITWIN / UNESCO Chairs programme.
5. Appeal to UNESCO to facilitate, in as much as possible, the holding at regular intervals of similar fora where Chairs network, share good practices and define joint action with a view to advancing research, training and other projects in accordance with UNESCO's programmatic priorities.
6. Commend the *Università degli Studi* of Bergamo, UNESCO Divisions of Human Rights, Philosophy and Democracy and Ethics of Science and Technology and the City of Bergamo for the successful organization of this Symposium.