



Organisation Mondiale pour L'Éducation Préscolaire  
World Organization for Early Childhood Education  
Organización Mundial para la Educación Preescolar



## EXCO-COMMUNICATION: August 9, 2022

Dear colleagues,

During the month of July, work has been intense for our Organization. After 30 months of virtual work, we could participate in person in various particularly important events and work processes.

### SPECIAL REPORT ON THE 2022 OMEP WORLD ASSEMBLY AND CONFERENCE IN ATHENS, GREECE



As you know, on July 12 and 13 we held the World Assembly with the presence of 34 Presidents or representatives of the National Committees of Argentina, Australia, Belgium (Preparatory Committee), Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Cuba, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Ireland, Island, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

Likewise, the 20 Committees that delegated their vote were Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Haiti, Hong Kong-China, Kenya, New Zealand, Pacific Islands, Pakistan, Panama, Sierra Leone, Ukraine, USA and Venezuela, which allowed the representation of a total of 53 National Committees and 1 Preparatory Committee, out of a total of 63 National Committees and 6 Preparatory Committees. Apart from this, 51 observers participated in the Assembly.

The work agenda included the approval of **new committees** in our organization. Therefore, we welcome the Preparatory Committees of Tanzania and Angola. It also highlighted the importance of the work and efforts of its Vice President, Nyamikeh Kyiamah to grow in the African Region.

The Assembly unanimously approved to distinguish as **Honorary Members** our dear colleagues Abimbola Are from Nigeria and Liz Hryniewicz from the United Kingdom.

As you know, members of the **World Executive Committee** were voted in. I feel very honored to have been re-elected as World President and I appreciate the trust and unanimous support of the National Committees. Colleagues were also elected as EXCO members for the period 2023-2025: **Sandie Wong**, President of OMEP Australia, was elected as Regional Vice President for Asia Pacific; **Desirée López de Maturana** was re-elected as Vice President of the Latin American Region; and **Soon Hwan Kim**, President of OMEP from the Republic of Korea, was elected as the new World Treasurer. We thank our colleagues Sandie, Desirée and Soon for their courage, commitment and service to OMEP and we wish them a fruitful administration.



During the Assembly, different colleagues reported on areas and initiatives of the **Strategic Plan**:

- The **OMEP World Report 2021 “Advancing the work for the right to early childhood education and care (ECEC)”** was communicated by me and is available at: <https://omepworld.org/annual-report/>
- The **balance and budget** of OMEP was reported by Elin Eriksen Ødegaard
- On **political advocacy work**, Jessica Essary reported on our representation at the United Nations and Danièle Perruchon on the work done at UNESCO with Lisbeth Gouin. I reported on the work in the CCNGO and progress on projects such as the Decade for Early Childhood and the new global legal framework for the protection of the right to early childhood education.
- Regarding the area of **Knowledge**, we received a video with the report on the International Journal of Early Childhood (IJEC) by our editor, Ali Kemal Tekin, and also the video made by Eliana Espinosa

regarding the OMEP journal: Theory into Practice. Also, Soon Hwan Kim reported on work related to the New Scholar Award.

- Regarding the work on the **Education** area, reports were presented on ESD Project and awards by Ingrid Engdahl and Adrijana Višnjić-Jevtić, WASH by Udomluck Kulapichitr, Color your rights by Maria Vassiliadou, and Toy Libraries-Play and resilience by Nyamikeh Kyiamah.
- Regarding the **Organization** area, Adrijana Višnjić-Jevtić reported on Youth in OMEP, Elin Eriksen Ødegaard spoke on strategies to increase income with donations and sponsors. It was also decided to form a working group to develop an updated version of the Administrative Guide.
- Regarding **Communication**, Gonzalo De La Cuadra sent a video with the Balance and the strategies for strengthening internal and external communications. You can watch it again at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opL6e99UFaA>

Subsequently, work was carried out in parallel sessions and the Strategic Plan 2020-2022 was reviewed, as well as the guidelines for the development of a **new plan 2023-2025**, which the World Team and the EXCO are drafting and will share shortly.

Moreover, in the Assembly, we had the honor of having the **participation of Vernor Muñoz**, Head of Politics and Activism of the Global Campaign for the Right to Education (GCE). Vernor is Costa Rican and has been a consultant for UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and other international organizations and United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education from 2004 to 2010. Vernor provided us with ideas, experiences and reflections on advocacy work for realizing the human rights of young children and building a strong civil society movement to promote free, inclusive and public education. We thank Vernor for his participation and the GCE for supporting OMEP with their travel and accommodation expenses.



Likewise, the **World Declaration “Stop wars and violence. Urgent call for peace, disarmament and dialogue”** was approved and can be found here: <https://omepworld.org/omeps-declarations/>

For this reason, we ask each of the National Committees to organize meetings to discuss its contents and place peace at the center of their work agendas. Peace is a foundational value at OMEP and we must continue striving to achieve it around the world for the benefit of the present and future of children and humanity. For this reason, it will be indispensable to defend the declaration. A first step will be to translate it

into the local languages, and share and discuss its meanings with our own members. This will allow us to carry out a dissemination and communication campaign that we will share on our social media.

The members present at the Assembly approved to hold the next **World Assembly 2023** virtually, while in July 2024, OMEP Indonesia will host the **2024 World Assembly and Conference** in Bangkok, Thailand. Thanks to Udomluck Kulapichitr and OMEP Thailand for this wonderful offer!

Regarding the **2023 Regional Assemblies**, hosts have already been defined:

- OMEP Colombia will organize the Latin American Regional Assembly and Conference
- OMEP Cyprus will organize the European Regional Assembly and Conference
- OMEP Australia will host the Regional Assembly and Conference for Asia Pacific
- The Africa and North America and Caribbean regions will confirm soon

### **OMEP WORLD CONFERENCE**

Also, from July 13 to 15, the OMEP World Conference was held under the title: **“Early childhood education in the 21st century: new perspectives and dilemmas”**.

Link to full program: <https://www.omep2022.org/articlefiles/programomep.pdf>

The conference stood out for its academic and political quality and offered the participation of 8 relevant speakers. In addition, 193 free papers were presented in parallel sessions and 18 symposia were held on different topics. The Poster session had 43 presentations. The prizes for the Contest on Education for Sustainable Development and the New scholar award were also given out.

Closing words of the World Conference



**We appreciate the participation, commitment and professionalism of all those who organized and spoke on such an important event!**

**Soon we will have more information, photos and videos to share.**



## CUMBRE SOBRE LA TRANSFORMACIÓN DE LA EDUCACIÓN - TES TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SUMMIT - TES



### OMEP IS PARTICIPATING IN THE SUMMIT!!

The Summit aims to be a driver for political ambition, action, solutions and solidarity to transform education by 2030: review the efforts made to recover from the loss of education during the pandemic, reimagine education systems for the world of today and tomorrow, and reinvigorate national and global efforts to achieve SDG4.

Recognizing that education is a human right and a foundation for peace, tolerance, other human rights and sustainable development, the UN Secretary-General announced in his report to the UN General Assembly his intention to convene a Summit for Transformation of Education (TES) in September 2022.

The main expected results of the Summit are:

- 1) national and international commitments to transform education;
- 2) increased public commitment and support to transform education; and
- 3) a summary and call to action of the Secretary General (summit outcome document), capturing the knowledge/commitments generated by the Summit and its preparatory process.

For more information: <https://www.un.org/es/transforming-education-summit>

Mercedes Mayol Lassalle as President of OMEP and Danièle Perruchon as OMEP representative at UNESCO participated in the **Pre-Ministerial Summit on the Transformation of Education** from June 28 to 30, 2022 at the United Nations, which was held at the central headquarters of UNESCO in Paris.

On June 28, the pre-summit included a **global day of engagement**, and ministerial meetings and side events were held on June 29 and 30.



On Wednesday 29, OMEP World President Mercedes Mayol Lassalle was a speaker at a Side Event, co-organized with the Initiative for the Right to Education (RTE): **"The Need to Expand the International Legal Framework"** with the participation of colleagues from RTE , CLADE, the Global Campaign for Education and other key organizations.

The round table was coordinated by Borhene Chakroun (UNESCO) and began by framing the discussion from a system-wide perspective and highlighting the importance of giving concrete content to guaranteeing the interdependence of human rights. This perspective was detailed by Mercedes Mayol Lassalle (OMEP), Bede Sheppard (Human Rights Watch) and Ana Raquel Fuentes (CLADE), who spoke of the need to strengthen the State's obligations from early childhood education and care to secondary and adult education, taking a holistic approach, improving access and removing all barriers.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0xDXsfOP7I>

Some notes and articles that collect the work that has been done in reference to the new legal framework and the debates of the parallel session can be found here:

- <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381108>
- <https://www.unesco.org/en/education/right-education/evolving>
- <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000382114>

To learn more: <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/putting-right-education-heart-transformation-education>



**UNITED NATIONS**

**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2022**

In July, the High-Level Political Forum 2022 was held: "**Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing in the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**".

<h2>2022 HLPF and High-level Segment of ECOSOC</h2> <p>Theme: <i>Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</i></p>			
<p><b>9</b> Days</p>	<p><b>5</b> SDGs under review</p>	<p><b>44</b> Countries presented VNRs</p>	
<p><b>WHO WAS THERE?</b></p> <p><b>More than 140</b> Heads of State and Government, Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers, Vice Ministers and Ministerial Level Officials</p>			
<p><b>214</b></p>		<p>Keynote speakers, panelists, lead discussants, respondents, moderators in townhall meeting, panels, and fireside chats</p>	
<p><b>to talk about</b></p>			
<p><b>8 Special Events</b> Including a pop-up concert with an SDG Piano</p>	<p><b>VNR Labs</b> <b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Side Events</b> <b>273</b> (43 in person)</p>	<p><b>Exhibitions</b> <b>11</b></p>

The Forum provided an important platform for landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) to share their challenges, and to highlight the areas where they need more support from the international community. In this regard, seven of the 45 countries presented their voluntary reviews of progress on the SDGs. During its 2022 session, the Forum reviewed in depth the following set of Goals:

- SDG 4 on quality education (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all)
- SDG 5 on gender equality and empowerment of women (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls)

- SDG 14 on life below water (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and resources for sustainable development)
- SDG 15 on life on land (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of land resources, ecosystems, manage forests sustainably, combat desertification and halt and reverse the degradation and halt loss of biodiversity)
- SDG 17 on partnerships for the Goals (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development)

**OMEP has not been able to participate in the Forum because the activity overlapped with WAC 2022**

## MONTHLY NEWS

### 1. EXCO MEETING

→ **World Executive Committee Meeting (EXCO)**. It was held on Monday July 11 in Athens, Greece.

#### EXCO Participants

World President: *Mercedes Mayol Lassalle*

VP Africa: *Nyamikeh Kyiamah*

VP Asia Pacific: *Udomluck Kulapichir*

VP Europe: *Adrijana Višnjić Jevtić*

VP Latin America: *Desiree Lopez de Maturana*

VP North America and The Caribbean: *Christiane Bourdages Simpson*

World Treasurer: *Elin Eriksen Ødegaard*

**President of OMEP Greece:** *Effrosyni Katsikonouri*

**Greek Team:** *Angeliki Vellopoulou, Sofia Saiti, Stella Deli*

**World Presidency team:** *Eliana Espinosa and Carlos Páez*

**Special guests:** *Ingrid Engdahl, Soonhwan Kim, Maria Vassiliadou, Matteo Corbucci, Jessica Essary, Lisbeth Gouin, Danièle Perruchon.*

The following topics were discussed:

- Financial situation
- Participation of National Committees
- World Assembly Agenda
- Approvals: Minutes 2021 and World Declaration 2022
- Changes in the Administrative Guide
- Parallel sessions during the Assembly

**It was very exciting for all of us to meet face to face!**

### 2. CAMPAIGNS AND NETWORKS

→ **June 16: President Mercedes Mayol Lassalle visits the World Assembly facilities in Athens, Greece, accompanied by the President of the host committee Effrosyni Katsikonouri.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid02NQPFTc6PiiRF8KzJeHdoenSZdKjUts1W74eAfgUBCiH9C74oTPA6tXovxfmY1N6DI>

→ **June 20: Invitation to the Pre-Summit in Paris.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid02TgVyTgcfwRzJ7CdThUx4Sy3MVawtxrRnBreEV Tc8bfcDbm12WBJusGXxN4y5UjjaI>

→ **June 21: Meetings with OMEP Spain and visit to Virgen de Europa School.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid03D6ccqE1MPzbg3fMJXXaV7ZGoHVbLukxvPJ5s kD5c48394cJawyUxdNrPRsbw4WtI>

→ **June 30: Bulgarian preschool anniversary.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid02bkTxn7ex12iQRbt8NhUSzivXp8Vc3WKGg1u6j ZWYqAaqRy8ZZ6osFtgQxgPRGu5Zl>

→ **July 1: Pre-summit: side event.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid02EuqXHC19jita4ZWrQeb52KzcEJFAK2rdkxxy9SF MiWQoRHL6sZGUoMcVpPRHVD5eI>

→ **July 1: The World President in the face-to-face meeting with the CCNGO.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid0DDL9Tc8bn6v3MVPz13fv8i5ChH5r6c7f5V9mQ JFAii1o6k3rdD99tsMAkrrRbKYjI>

→ **July 4: Consultations on non-state actors in early childhood care and education with UNESCO.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid035BmPdBU3GquM5aLLp8wvPgrJfs9t8rvR3vQx TNYq2pCzgm3Hd9NbefzKeK1F8fvrl>

→ **July 5: Visit to Kindergarten N°59 in Paris and interview with public education inspectors.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid0qx27yf1aGVN7aUAZq3h7adh9EcPjjyotJ2u88wf RxPS6XkXaYQRzbaMfunW6qNhl>

→ **July 7: 95th National Congress in Boulazac, France.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid02qgQGmTBe5Z74UtRnVnTBBBvufpVfyu7JPRR8 c6E46JB2vC73XWKYf8HxdJLfWWLLI>

→ **July 8, 9, 10 and 11: WAC 2022 announcements.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid08JHvLeGpjUTLfk6V9YVF55iV5xTvMbKcC92DdE B7wrUmX4ZgvKm3pi8LKhxfobHVl>

→ **July 11: 2022 World Assembly announcement.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid0DNqDmEnzYbKtZHAPbRsNNfehZFzpBwsLUHQ VqwGqBU2XXhYMFjq2Ex2dtwUR5wYDI>

→ **July 15: The World Assembly in pictures.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid0tpnRX8VRtW6mzMpPAshjkGBd533tZuuzTTiBi V5N9icWKhUM6pTQQHu8fQDXrM9CI>

→ **July 23: Official commemorative photo of the 74th OMEP World Assembly.**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldOMEP/posts/pfbid02vJWhZ14MEDwgJjqtR31Ldvm8aNOC7YrRtG57v8Hu4KJSKZLkCHh2At1GhSoBnutl>

## OMEP BLOG “Rights from the start”

Space for reflection and defense of early childhood education, with the voices of great leaders around the world.

**SUBSCRIBE AND SHARE!**

→ **Mothers and peace, by Pauline Ambrogi.** “Each mother should be able to provide her children, from conception, with a supportive environment: serenity, shelter and healthy eating. Human security is a prerequisite for children to develop a sense of self-worth, confidence and balance,” says Jill Donnelly, who has worked as a tutor for families in vulnerable situations, where violence is daily”.

**To read more:**

<https://omepworld.org/mothers-and-peace-pauline-ambrogi/>

→ **The view from and towards childhoods, aesthetic and poetic experiences of art, by Laura Liliana Bianchi.** “La construcción de la mirada se inicia desde el momento de nacer y será cada cultura quien le otorgue sentido y significado a aquello que los bebés comienzan a descubrir visual y corporalmente. En ese camino rescato el valor fundamental que portan las experiencias estéticas para la primera infancia, en particular desde los discursos que ofrecen las Artes Visuales.”.

**To read more:**

<https://omepworld.org/the-view-from-and-towards-childhoods-aesthetic-and-poetic-experiences-of-art-laura-liliana-bianchi/>

## IMPORTANT DATES AND NEWS

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### IJEC (INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EARLY CHILDHOOD)

The call is open for articles that contribute to the development of knowledge and the improvement of policies and practices in early childhood education and care.

For more information and submission of proposals: <https://bit.ly/3r8u66B>

### PAYMENT OF THE ANNUAL FEE 2022

**ONLY 10 NATIONAL COMMITTEES HAVE FULFILLED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY**

**CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACTION OF OMEP**

**PAY BEFORE AUGUST 30, 2022**

We ask the **NATIONAL COMMITTEES** to pay the **membership fee 2022**.

**ACCESS FOR PAYMENT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE:**

<https://omeworld.org/national-committees-2/>

- Enter from the **“About OMEP”** button and search for **“OMEP Annual Fee”**.
- Find in the table the value that corresponds to pay your National Committee and below the **PayPal** link.
  - Pay with a credit card.

**Remember that you can also continue paying by [bank transfer](#).**

**OMEP INTERNAL CALL: Worldwide team of volunteer translators**

To improve our ability to share and exchange OMEP's ideas and actions on our website, blog and social networks we are creating a group of volunteers to help with translations of posts, short articles, statements and videos.

If you want to be **part of the worldwide team of volunteer translators**, sign up using the following form:

<https://forms.gle/xho1EKfvCk7qv7mQ9>