

- Considering* that greater global awareness and understanding of the role of engineering in modern life is essential to mitigate the impact of climate change and advance sustainable development, especially in Africa and the small island developing states (SIDS),
- Stressing* that engineering is essential for economic advancement and for the implementation of new technologies and the application of science, including for basic needs of food, health, housing, roads and transport, water, energy and management of the planet's resources,
- Noting* the broad and significant impact of recent initiatives of UNESCO's programmes in the basic and engineering sciences and the enthusiastic commitment of the international engineering community to continue to work with UNESCO on internationally coordinated advocacy activities,
- Recognizing* that it is vital that the achievements of earlier UNESCO initiatives in science and education are effectively followed up and strengthened,
- Also recognizing* the commitment of UNESCO and its Member States to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as it will contribute to interdisciplinary and human sciences for and with society to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),
- Further recognizing* the need to address gender segregation in engineering by showcasing important engineering role models and developing programmes to encourage more girls to consider engineering as a career,
- Recognizing* that engineering has been changing the world for millennia and that the new rapidly emerging technologies are an opportunity for positive transformation that leaves no one behind,
- Acknowledging* the driving role of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) together with the Federation of African Engineering Organizations (FAEO), Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP), Pan-American Federation of Engineering Societies (UPADI), European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI), International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFEES), and more than 75 other institutions including women-in-engineering networks and engineering academies, in the conception of a world engineering day for sustainable development, as well as in the organization and mobilization of partners for celebrations and events annually around this day,
1. *Welcomes and endorses* the proposal of the Executive Board to proclaim a world engineering day for sustainable development;
 2. *Proclaims* 4 March of every year World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development;
 3. *Invites* Member States to provide extrabudgetary funds to enable the Director-General to ensure the participation of UNESCO in the promotion and celebration of World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development.

Resolution adopted on the report of the SC Commission at the 16th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2019.

32 Proclamation of an international year of basic sciences for sustainable development (2022)

The General Conference,

Recalling 207 EX/Decision 45,

Having examined document 40 C/76,

Also recalling that the Ministerial Round Table on "The Basic Sciences: The Science Lever for Development", held during the 33rd session of the General Conference, called upon UNESCO to "place greater emphasis on promoting the basic sciences and science education with a view to the attainment of a science culture as a precursor of a knowledge-based society worldwide, through various means available at UNESCO, and in particular the recently launched flagship International Basic Sciences Programme" (document 185 EX/11),

Further recalling United Nations General Assembly resolutions 70/212 (22 December 2015) on International Day of Women and Girls in Science and 68/220 (20 December 2013) on science, technology and innovation for development, in which it recognized that full and equal access to and participation in science, technology and innovation for women and girls of all ages is imperative for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Considering the Organization's Global Priority Africa, and *recognizing* that science, as a universal public good is an important tool for the achievement of the African Union Agenda 2063,

Stressing the need to build on the potential of UNESCO's International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP),

Also considering the high value for humankind of basic sciences, and that enhanced global awareness of, and increased education in, the basic sciences is vital to attain sustainable development, and to improve the quality of life for people all over the world,

Stressing that the applications of basic sciences are vital for advances in medicine, industry, agriculture, water resources, energy planning, environment, communications and culture, and that basic sciences rupture technologies respond to the needs of humankind by providing access to information and increasing societal wellbeing, and promoting peace through improved collaboration,

Noting the broad and significant impact of recent initiatives of UNESCO's International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP) and the enthusiastic support for an international year of basic sciences for sustainable development,

Recognizing that it is essential to ensure that existing gains from previous initiatives of UNESCO in science and education are effectively followed up and strengthened,

Emphasizing the importance of basic sciences to launching rational and innovative thinking and a knowledge-based society,

1. *Invites* the Director-General to support all efforts leading the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim 2022 as international year of basic sciences for sustainable development, emphasizing a broader participation of women;
2. *Recommends* that the United Nations General Assembly at its 75th or 76th session, adopt a resolution declaring 2022 as United Nations international year of basic sciences for sustainable development.

Resolution adopted on the report of the SC Commission at the 16th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2019.

33 Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

The General Conference,

Recognizing the important role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), established as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, to promote international cooperation and to coordinate programmes in research, services and capacity building, in order to learn more about the nature and resources of the ocean and coastal areas and to apply this knowledge for the improvement of management, sustainable development, the protection of the marine environment, and the decision-making process of its Member States,

Recalling that the IOC plan of action for the period 2018-2021 contributes to the following two strategic objectives of the UNESCO Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021, as translated into the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021:

Strategic objective 4: Strengthening science, technology and innovation systems and policies nationally, regionally and globally

Strategic objective 5: Promoting international scientific cooperation on critical challenges to sustainable development

Also recalling that, in accordance with the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021 and Resolution XXVIII-3 of the IOC Assembly, the IOC plan of action is focused on the following four thematic programme areas (high-level objectives), with particular attention to ensuring that all its Member States have the capacity to meet these objectives:

- (i) Ensuring healthy ocean ecosystems and sustaining ecosystem services;
- (ii) Effective early warning for ocean hazards, including tsunamis;
- (iii) Increasing resiliency and adaptability to climate change and variability;
- (iv) Enhancing knowledge of emerging issues;

and supported by the conceptual framework of functions:

- A. Foster ocean research to strengthen knowledge of ocean and coastal processes and human impacts upon them (*ocean research*);
- B. Maintain, strengthen and integrate global ocean observing, data and information systems (*observing systems and data management*);
- C. Develop early warning systems and preparedness to mitigate the risks of tsunamis and other ocean-related hazards (*early warning and services*);
- D. Support assessment and information to improve the science-policy interface (*assessment and information for policy*);
- E. Enhance ocean governance through a shared knowledge base and improved regional cooperation (*sustainable management and governance*);
- F. Develop institutional capacity in all of the above functions, as a cross-cutting function (*capacity development*);

1. *Requests* the IOC governing bodies, in accordance with the Statutes of the IOC that came into force through the adoption of 30 C/Resolution 22 of 16 November 1999 and with this resolution, when approving the Commission's programme and budget for 2020-2021:
 - (a) to continue implementing during the period 2020-2021 the plan of action for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) structured around the two abovementioned strategic objectives and corresponding to one main line of action, with special emphasis on Africa, gender equality, least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), as well as youth and the most vulnerable segments of society, including indigenous peoples, and in support of the below expected result adopted by IOC Executive Council resolution EC-XLIX.2;
 - (b) to resort also in the implementation of the plan of action for IOC to South-South and North-South cooperation, as modalities for delivery of the programme and to continue to develop partnerships with civil society, the private sector, organizations of the United Nations system, and other international organizations at all stages of programme development, in order to achieve the IOC high-level objectives and consistent with the purpose and functions of the Commission, as defined by its Statutes;
 - (c) to implement the various activities authorized by this resolution in such a manner that the overall objectives of the two global priorities Africa and gender equality, as pertains to IOC's area of competence, are also fully achieved;
2. *Authorizes* the Director-General to allocate for this purpose for the period 2020-2021 the integrated budget amount under all sources of funds of \$26,835,700.