



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

**MINEPS VI**  
KAZAN 2017

Sixth International Conference  
of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible  
for Physical Education and Sport



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair "Transforming the Lives  
of People with Disabilities, their Families  
and Communities, Through Physical Education,  
Sport, Recreation and Fitness"



INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
TRALEE



The Commonwealth

## Concept Note for Side Event at the UN Human Rights Council Social Forum 1-3 October 2018, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

**Social Forum title:** "USING SPORT AND THE OLYMPIC IDEAL TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND TO STRENGTHEN UNIVERSAL RESPECT FOR THEM"

**Side-event title:** UNESCO's Kazan Action Plan: Pivotal Instruments to Advance Action and Investment in Human Rights. (*October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1.15pm-2.50pm, Venue XXIII Palais des Nations*)

**Proposer:** UNESCO & the UNESCO Chair, Tralee, Ireland, the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The promoters are UNESCO, UNESCO Chair and the Commonwealth Secretariat, collaborators include; the Institute for Human Rights and Business/ Centre for Sport & Human Rights, the International Paralympic Committee, Special Olympics International, the International Committee for Sports for the Deaf, the Global Network on Disability Inclusive and Accessible Urban Development (DIAUID) & Universal Fitness Innovation and Transformation & IHSA the Global Fitness Industry Body.

**Proposal:** Align the goals of the forum with the human rights deliverables under UNESCO's Kazan Action Plan and follow-up framework highlighting the potential roles and input of the multi-stakeholder forum audience.

**Context:** The Human Rights Council, in its resolution [35/28](#) entitled "The Social Forum", decided that the 2018 meeting of the Social Forum should focus on "*the possibilities of using sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights for all and to strengthen universal respect for them.*" This focus is congruent with the outputs of the 2017 sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport ([MINEPS VI](#)), convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and held in Kazan, Russian Federation in July 2017.

MINEPS VI adopted the [Kazan Action Plan \(KAP\)](#) "to facilitate international and multi-stakeholder policy convergence, ease international cooperation and foster capacity-building efforts of governmental authorities and sport organisations". Marking a shift from mere declarations of policy intent towards action, the KAP consists of five priority areas of multi-stakeholder cooperation at international, regional and national levels, as well as a MINEPS sport policy follow-up framework designed to measure progress. This framework is fully integrated within the SDG framework while embedding human rights at its core. It is structured around three main policy areas:

- I. Developing a comprehensive vision of inclusive access for all.
- II. Maximizing the contributions of sport to sustainable development and peace.
- III. Protecting the integrity of sport.

The General Conference of UNESCO in November 2017 welcomed the Kazan Action Plan as a "voluntary, overarching reference for fostering international convergence amongst policy-makers in the fields of physical education, physical activity and sport, as well as a tool for aligning international and national policy in these fields with the United Nations 2030 Agenda". Considerable work has taken place to operationalise the follow-up framework led by UNESCO with the support of the Commonwealth, the Council of Europe, and the UNESCO Chair IT Tralee, Ireland and many other partners. At its 37<sup>th</sup> session in the Human Rights Council adopted resolution [37/18](#) entitled 'Promoting Human Rights through Sport and the Olympic Ideal' acknowledged the Kazan Action Plan and particularly policy area III of its follow-up framework.

Furthermore in New York in June, 2018 at the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Conference of State Parties 11, a side-event on Kazan Action Plan was hosted by the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN, together with UNESCO, the UNESCO Chair IT Tralee, the Commonwealth and others as a means for 'Driving Government and Private Sector investment and Action in Inclusive Sport'. KAP was also referenced at side-events during the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur in February 2018, at the Sport Accord Summit in Bangkok Thailand in April 2018 and the Asian Development Bank and Islamic Development Bank Innovations and Actions against the Non-Communicable Diseases Events in Manila in July 2018.

The renewed momentum by UNDESA to reinvigorate sport, within and beyond the UN system, together with UNESCO's remit through MINEPS and its Intergovernmental Committee, CIGEPS, has resulted in definitive and positive progress in consolidating the commitment of the UN and other agencies to sport in the sustainable development agenda.

The provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the UN General Assembly ([A/73/150](#)), beginning in September 2018, includes the report of the Secretary-General, [A/73/325](#) "Strengthening the global framework for leveraging sport for development and peace". Adoption of the resolution as proposed, confirms top-level political acknowledgement of the central role of the Kazan Action Plan in the Sport agenda across the UN system. KAP 'can be used as a basis upon which to build strengthened coherence and coordination across the United Nations system' with UNESCO '.....playing a pivotal role'. The complementarity of KAP with the WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018-2030 is also highlighted.

Given the significant commitment and momentum to advance the objectives of KAP in relation to human rights and sport since July 2017, the Social Forum theme this year represents an excellent opportunity to show progress and highlight how human rights are and can be addressed through the KAP implementation. This will show stakeholders how they can leverage their organisational and country commitments to KAP to stimulate action and investment for human rights.

#### **Summary forum goals:**

- A.** To exemplify how sport and the Olympic ideal continue to be used in the promotion and strengthening of universal respect for human rights.
- B.** To redouble efforts to uphold and advance Olympic Charter goals as they intersect with the Sustainable Development Goals and the pursuit of sustained peace.
- C.** Demonstrate how, as a universal language, sports can play a major role in respecting, protecting and fulfilling all human rights for all.

#### **Side-Event Objectives:**

- 1.** Outline the evolution and scope of the Kazan Action Plan (KAP) as an instrument for more effective and coherent policy development, implementation and monitoring in relation to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Olympic Charter and the sustainable development goals.
- 2.** Demonstrate how the UN, UNESCO and partners through the KAP follow-up framework are supporting governments and International bodies with a coherent mechanism to respond to human rights agendas while incorporating the voice of rights holders through this process.
- 3.** To explore how the development of common indicators on sport and the SDGs (KAP Action 2) can promote respect for human rights in and through sport.
- 4.** Top-down & bottom up- from global to local: bringing meaning to human rights agendas in communities globally.

**Panellists: (*Panellists from disability organisations will address the area of double and multiple discrimination relating to gender and intersectional inclusion, while all panellists will address geographical balance actions*)**

**UNESCO / UNESCO Chair IT Tralee** Catherine Carty

**Commonwealth Secretariat** Oliver Dudfield

**International Paralympic Committee** Juan Pablo Salazar

**Special Olympics International** Javier Vasquez & Athlete Advocate TBC

**The International Committee for Sports for the Deaf & Deaflympics** Dmitry Rebrov

**The Global Network on Disability Inclusive and Accessible Urban Development** Federico Poitier

**UFIT, IHRSA Global Fitness Industry Body** Jim Worthington

**The Institute of Human Rights and Business / Centre for Sport and Human Rights** Guido Battaglia

**Contact:** Catherine Carty UNESCO Chair Project Manager [Catherine.carty@ittralee.ie](mailto:Catherine.carty@ittralee.ie) +353 87 2868250