

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Seminar to Join Teachers from Wales and Zanzibar

London, UK – 18 June 2008. Teachers from Wales and Zanzibar will converge at the National Botanic Garden of Wales on 26 June to build upon the success of their ongoing partnership and discuss how international links can further benefit schools in both developing and developed countries.

The seminar, hosted by UNESCO Associated Schools, will build on the experience of the Wales/Zanzibar Associated Schools partnership project “ERLAFS”, which is part of the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) / FAO (Food and Agricultural Organisation) flagship project Education for Rural People. Teachers from across Wales will participate in the event. The day will focus on how schools can use a thematic approach in school linking to support skills based learning.

“Our involvement with the Wales/Zanzibar Associated Schools partnership has showed us how valuable school linking can be for all parties involved,” says Saada Rashid, a teacher from Zanzibar who will be attending the seminar. “Despite different circumstances, we face similar issues and have a lot to learn from each other. We look forward to meeting our Welsh colleagues in person and further developing this partnership.”

The seminar will be followed by a reception hosted by Sazani Associates and the Workers Educational Association South Wales. The reception will feature the launch of two joint projects: ‘Rural Education for Global Citizenship and Food Security’, funded by Europe Aid and ‘Global Learners as Educators in Wales (GLEW)’, funded by the Department for International Development (DFID).

ENDS

Notes to Editors

For further information, please contact Anne Breivik at the UK National Commission for UNESCO on +44 (0)20 7766 3460 or abreivik@unesco.org.uk.

- **The UNESCO Associated Schools network** in the UK is part of a global network of schools engaged in fostering and delivering quality education in pursuit of peace, liberty, justice and human development. The main emphasis of the UK Network is on integrating an international dimension into the school curriculum. Twinning and partnerships across borders have been one of the cornerstones of UNESCO Associated Schools since it was initiated by UNESCO in 1953.
- **Anne Breivik, the UK National Coordinator** for UNESCO Associated Schools is based at the UK National Commission for UNESCO. The UK National Commission is the focal point in the UK for UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)-related policies and activities. As an independent body, the UK National Commission brings together a network of over 200 experts from across the UK in the fields of education, culture, sciences and communication. Working closely in partnership with HM Government and UK civil society, the UK National Commission aims to provide expert advice to the Government on UNESCO related matters, develop UK input into UNESCO policy-making, promote reforms within UNESCO, and encourage support in the UK for UNESCO’s ideals and work.

- **The ERLAFS (Education for Rural Livelihoods and Food Sovereignty) project** is part of the UNESCO/FAO flagship project Education for Rural People. It involves nine schools in Wales, including three secondary schools which are members of UNESCO Associated Schools in the UK. The focus of the project is on the transition between primary and secondary education in Wales and Zanzibar. Using traditional transition education frameworks and a current interest in the use of media technologies, the ERLAFS project has identified three broad topics, one for each cluster: Food and Farming; Identity and Culture; and Human Rights.
- **Sazani Associates** is a not for profit consultancy of highly motivated consultants dedicated to promoting sustainable solutions through participatory research, integrated management policies and development practices. Based in Wales, Sazani Associates operates in the fields of socio-economic development, natural resource management and education in the statutory, commercial and NGO sectors. The organisation comprises of an interdisciplinary group of skilled professional consultants, academics and project managers. This resource enables us to undertake a range of integrated services from feasibility and conceptual studies, through project design, implementation, evaluation and strategic impact assessment.
- **The Workers' Educational Association (WEA)** is a voluntary movement for lifelong learning. The objective of WEA is the creation of an educated democracy in which participation in public affairs, and the knowledge that it requires, are widely spread throughout the community. The WEA South Wales is democratically accountable to its members and federated educational and workers organisations. It is inclusive, non-sectarian and non-party political, and wholly concerned with promoting lifelong learning in south Wales.