



Assistant Director-General
Social and Human Sciences Sector

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

To Permanent Delegations to
UNESCO

Cc: National Commissions

17 May 2019

Ref.: SHS/BIO/19/34

Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Director-General, I am pleased to invite your country to participate as an observer in the public meetings of the **11th (Ordinary) Session of the UNESCO World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST)** and the **26th (Ordinary) Session of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee (IBC)**, which, at the kind invitation of the Government of Thailand, will take place in **Bangkok, Thailand** on **5 and 6 July 2019**. Furthermore, at the initiative of the Government of Thailand, these public meetings will be held in conjunction with the **Conference on the Ethics of Science & Technology and Sustainable Development**.

You will find herewith the provisional agendas for the COMEST and IBC sessions, as well as the tentative programme for the Conference. The final programme and all other relevant documents will be made available on the UNESCO webpage (www.unesco.org/bioethics) and on the Conference website prior to the meetings.

The working languages will be English and French and simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages for the public plenary meetings of COMEST and the IBC.

If your country is able to accept this invitation, I should be grateful if you would indicate the name(s), title(s) and contact email(s) of your designed representative(s), **preferably before 17 June 2019** to the Bioethics and Ethics of Science Section, Social and Human Sciences Sector (7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France; tel.: +33 1 45 68 14 08; e-mail: ibc@unesco.org). As is customary for meetings of this category, the travel and living expenses of observers will be borne by the country they represent.

All correspondence concerning these meetings and any request for further information should be addressed to the Bioethics and Ethics of Science Section at the address indicated above.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration,

Nada Al-Nashif

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United Nations
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World Commission on
the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge
and Technology (COMEST)

Distribution: limited

SHS/BIO/COMEST-11/19/1
Paris, 8 April 2019
Original: English/French

**11TH (ORDINARY) SESSION OF THE
WORLD COMMISSION ON THE ETHICS OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND
TECHNOLOGY OF UNESCO (COMEST)**
Bangkok, Thailand, 2-7 July 2019¹

Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the 11th (Ordinary) Session of COMEST
2. Ethical Implications of the Internet of Things (IoT): Preliminary Reflection of COMEST²
3. Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: Preliminary Study of the COMEST Extended Working Group²
4. Land Use Ethics: Preliminary Reflection of COMEST²
5. Follow-Up to the Recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO as related to COMEST³
6. Work Programme of COMEST for 2020-2021³
7. Election of the Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur³
8. Conclusions and closure of the 11th (Ordinary) Session of COMEST

¹ Public meetings of the 11th (Ordinary) Session of COMEST will be held in conjunction with the public meetings of the 26th (Ordinary) Session of the IBC and the Conference on the Ethics of Science & Technology and Sustainable Development on 5 and 6 July.

² Items 2, 3 and 4 will be discussed during public meetings on 5 and 6 July, as well as during meetings reserved for the members of COMEST.

³ Items 5, 6 and 7 will be dealt with during meetings reserved for the members of COMEST.



United Nations
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International Bioethics
Committee (IBC)

Distribution: limited

SHS/BIO/IBC-26/19/1
Paris, 8 April 2019
Original: English/French

**26TH (ORDINARY) SESSION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE OF UNESCO (IBC)**
Bangkok, Thailand, 2-7 July 2019¹

Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the 26th (Ordinary) Session of the IBC
2. Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) and Parenthood: Draft Report of the IBC²
3. Principle of Individual Responsibility as related to Health: Draft Report of the IBC²
4. Follow-Up to the Recommendations of the open-ended working group on governance, procedures and working methods of the governing bodies of UNESCO as related to the IBC³
5. Work Programme of the IBC for 2020-2021³
6. Election of the Chairperson, four Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur³
7. Conclusions and closure of the 26th (Ordinary) Session of the IBC

¹ Public meetings of the 26th (Ordinary) Session of the IBC will be held in conjunction with the public meetings of the 11th (Ordinary) Session of COMEST and the Conference on the Ethics of Science & Technology and Sustainable Development on 5 and 6 July.

² Items 2 and 3 will be discussed during public meetings on 5 and 6 July, as well as during meetings reserved for the members of the IBC.

³ Items 4, 5 and 6 will be dealt with during meetings reserved for the members of the IBC.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

(final programme will be made available on the website of the conference)

CONFERENCE ON THE ETHICS OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

in conjunction with the

26TH SESSION OF THE UNESCO INTERNATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE (IBC) AND
11TH SESSION OF THE UNESCO WORLD COMMISSION ON THE ETHICS OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE
AND TECHNOLOGY (COMEST)

Centara Grand at Central Plaza Ladprao, BANGKOK, THAILAND
5-6 July 2019

Day 1 – 5 July 2019 (Friday)

FRIDAY, 5 JULY 2019	
07h30 - 08h30	Registration of Participants
08h30 - 09h30 08h45	Opening Ceremony Arrival of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at Place of Meeting
09h00 - 09h30	Presenting Programme Booklet to HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Assoc. Prof. Soranit Siltharm , Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Science and Technology (Thailand) Briefing of the meetings Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj , Minister of Science and Technology (Thailand) Opening Remark HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>
09h30 - 10h10 09h30 - 09h50	Keynote Addresses: <i>(title TBC)</i> Mr. Xing Qu , Deputy Director-General of UNESCO
09h50 - 10h10	“Ethics of Science and Technology in the Context of Sustainable Development” Prof. Yongyuth Yuthavong , Member of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and Former Chairperson of UNESCO Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>

10h10 - 10h30	Coffee Break		
10h30 - 11h40	Plenary 1: Ethics of S&T and Sustainable Development – From Policy to Practice <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>		
11h40 - 12h50	Plenary 2: “Principle of Individual Responsibility as related to Health” <i>(Plenary of the 26th Session of the IBC)</i> <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>		
12h50 - 14h30	Lunch Break		
14h30 - 18h20	Parallel Sessions <i>(conducted in English only, no interpretation provided)</i>		
“Ethical and Societal Challenges toward Genome Technology”	“AI, Robotics and Big Data: Giving Legitimacy to <i>Homo Digitus</i> ”	“Towards Climate Change Ethics Implementation”	“Building up the Culture of Research Integrity in the Developing World”
19h30	Reception Dinner (By Invitation Only)		

Day 2 – 6 July 2019 (Saturday)

SATURDAY, 6 JULY 2019	
08h00 - 08h30	Registration
08h30 - 09h25	Plenary 3: “Ethical Implications of the Internet of Things (IoT)” <i>(Plenary of the 11th Session of COMEST)</i> <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>
09h25 - 10h20	Plenary 4: “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: Preliminary Study of the COMEST Extended Working Group” <i>(Plenary of the 11th Session of COMEST)</i> <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>
10h20 - 11h10	Plenary 5: “Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) and Parenthood” <i>(Plenary of the 26th Session of the IBC)</i> <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>
11h10 - 11h30	Coffee Break
11h30 - 13h00	Plenary 6: Bridging Science and Society: Consequences of Scientific Developments in Reproduction Lessons Learned from the Public Communication, Consultation and Participation through Art and Media: Youth Engagement in Science, Technology and Innovation Project <i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i>
13h00- 14h00	Lunch Break

14h00 - 15h10	<p>Plenary 7: “Water Ethics: Ocean, Freshwater, Coastal Areas” & “Land Use Ethics” <i>(Plenary of the 11th Session of COMEST)</i></p> <p><i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i></p>
15h10 - 16h40	<p>Plenary 8: Building Collaborations for Ethics of S&T and Sustainable Development</p> <p><i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i></p>
16h40 - 17h00	<p>Coffee Break</p>
17h00 - 17h20	<p>Presentation of the Bangkok Statement (Format to be decided)</p> <p><i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i></p>
17h20 - 17h40	<p>Closing Remarks by Assoc. Prof. Soranit Siltharm, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Science and Technology (Thailand)</p> <p><i>Interpretation: <u>English and French</u></i></p>



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**11TH (ORDINARY) SESSION OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON THE ETHICS OF
SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY (COMEST) / 11^{EME} SESSION
(ORDINAIRE) DE LA COMMISSION MONDIALE D'ETHIQUE DES CONNAISSANCES
SCIENTIFIQUES ET DES TECHNOLOGIES DE L'UNESCO (COMEST)**

**26TH (ORDINARY) SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE
(IBC) / 26^{EME} SESSION (ORDINAIRE) DU COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE
BIOETHIQUE DE L'UNESCO (CIB)**

5-6 July/juillet 2019

Registration Form ***Formulaire d'inscription***

Mr / Ms Monsieur / Madame	Family name Nom	First Name Prénom
Country or Organization represented (if applicable) Pays ou Organisation (le cas échéant)		
Function / Title Fonction / Titre		
Postal address / Adresse postale		
Telephone / Téléphone	E-mail	

To be returned before 17 June 2019 to:

À retourner avant le 17 juin 2019 à:

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