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Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
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Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
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联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

**Video message from Ms Irina Bokova,  
Director-General of UNESCO  
on the occasion of the International Conference on  
Education for Sustainable Development  
8 June 2015, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russian Federation**

Honourable Ms Natalya Komarova, Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk  
Autonomous Okrug,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank the Government of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous  
Okrug for this initiative, and wish to pay special tribute to  
Governor Natalya Komarova.

I am also grateful to the National Commission of the Russian  
Federation for UNESCO and the Coordination Committee of  
UNESCO Chairs of the Russian Federation.

This *International Conference on Education for Sustainable  
Development* is an important step after the *UNESCO World  
Conference on Education for Sustainable Development*, held in  
Japan, last November.

UNESCO was created 70 years ago, on the idea lasting peace and sustainable development must be built in the minds of women and men.

This begins with education.

Sustainability requires changes in how we produce and consume.

Fundamentally, it requires new ways of thinking and acting as global citizens, and this requires new values, skills and knowledge.

This is why education for sustainable development must stand at the heart of the new global development agenda States are shaping today – this message was sent clearly at the UNESCO *World Education Forum* last month in Republic of Korea.

Agreed in Japan last November, the Global Action Programme provides a roadmap to take education for sustainable development across the world.

For this, we need stronger partnerships, and I am confident this International Conference will provide a powerful platform to take this forward.

In this spirit, I thank you again and wish you productive discussions.