Report on OMEP's participation in the development programme of the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 2025 (UNESCO section)

Note prepared in February 2026

4- OMEP's contribution to promoting UN/UNESCO objectives

Activities aimed at promoting the implementation of the ECOSOC and United Nations development programme in general. List your main activities during the year that support this programme.

- 2 April 2025 – Second webinar of the OMEP Francophone Commission on linguistic and cultural diversity: Presentation by a UNESCO education programme specialist responsible for mother tongue issues (Noro ANDRIAMISEZA); report in French and English (https://www.omepfrance.fr/domaines-d-action/langues-art-et-culture)
- 14-17 July 2025 – Report on OMEP and UNESCO and presentations by UNESCO speakers at the World Assembly and Conference in Bologna:
    - Communication on OMEP's activities with UNESCO at the World Assembly;
    - Presentations by Rokhaya Diawara-Fall, programme specialist at UNESCO, on the ECCE PATT analysis tool;
    - Lecture by Borhene Chakroun, Director of Lifelong Learning at UNESCO, who launched a call for systemic action for ECCE;
    - Conference reports (in French, pp. 3-4 and 9-10): https://www.omepfrance.fr/publications-et-ressources/publications-omep-france/conferences-et-webinaires
- 16 September 2025 – ESD-Net learning webinar on early childhood care and education for sustainable development. In conjunction with UNESCO's ESD service. Report: https://omepworld.org/fr/webinaire-dapprentissage-esd-net-sur-la-protection-et-leducation-de-la-petite-enfance-pour-le-developpement-durable/
- 27 September 2025 – As part of UNESCO's NGO Liaison Committee, OMEP participated in the webinar "The Role of Art in the Culture of Peace" on the occasion of the International Day of Peace, celebrated on 21 September; organised by the Collective of UNESCO Partner NGOs, in collaboration with UNESCO Maghreb. https://www.omepfrance.fr/actualites/actualites-omep-france
  Since 2012, this collective has been celebrating the International Day of Peace through cultural, inclusive and intergenerational events in different regions of the world.
- December 2025 – OMEP Blog:
    - "Working with international organisations to advance early childhood rights " (Mercedes Mayol-Lassalle and Gilles Pétreault) focusing in particular on OMEP's work in conjunction with UNESCO (https://omepworld.org/fr/travailler-avec-les-organisations-internationales-pour-faire-progresser-les-droits-de-la-petite-enfance/)

- 2025 – OMEP publications on the internet and social media concerning UNESCO:
    - On the OMEP France website (8 articles in 2025); on social media via the OMEP France account (in French and English for some): LinkedIn (13 posts over 12 months, from February 2025 to February 2026; 341 followers); Facebook (11 posts in 2025; 98 followers)

5- Participation in United Nations system activities:

Intergovernmental meetings relevant to the work of the Council.
Contributions to meetings and final documents or reports; oral and written statements; proposal of agenda items; and organisation of NGO side meetings or parallel events, among others.
Accuracy in listing activities: Each reference to a conference or meeting must indicate the official title of the meeting (without acronyms or abbreviations), the United Nations agency or office organising the meeting, the location where it took place (city and country) and the exact date of the meeting. Please indicate the nature of your participation (i.e. attending a meeting, participating in consultations or round tables, contributing to a report, etc.) and the title or subject of any document, contribution or statement presented by your organisation at the event.

- 21 February 2025 – Participation in the 25th International Mother Language Day and publication by OMEP-France of a booklet of activity references for educators (in French: https://www.omepfrance.fr/domaines-d-action/langues-art-et-culture)
- 19 May 2025 – Participation in the national day of the French network of UNESCO Chairs through sport as a lever for inclusion, health and empowerment. Report on https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco
- 18 June 2025 – Participation in the *Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions*. OMEP statement on the pedagogy promoted by OMEP and on the theme of the conference and world assembly, "Arts and Culture in Early Childhood Education: Play, Expression, Participation".
- 1-2 October – Participation of a "young" member of OMEP in the meeting organised by the NGO Liaison Committee. Report on: https://omepworld.org/fr/la-jeune-representante-de-lomep-presente-a-la-reception-de-lunion-europeenne-a-paris-aux-cotes-du-comite-de-liaison-ong-unesco/
- 3 October 2025 – 222eUNESCO Executive Board, consultation with non-governmental partners (NGPs). Statement by Gilles Pétreault on behalf of OMEP affirming the need to develop free, inclusive and quality pre-primary education. (https://www.youtube.com/shorts/fPq9KmnFhao)
- 17 October 2025 – Participation in the presentation of the new volumes of the General History of Africa (GHA), a collective work initiated in the 1960s to tell the history of the continent from an African perspective. Three new volumes, devoted to the African diaspora and people of African descent, complement the first eight volumes. An educational manual and a fun app called "African Heroes" were also presented to make this history accessible to teachers and young people. Report: https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco

- 24 October – Participation in International Education Day 2025, which aimed to examine the new possibilities offered by AI. Publication of a blog post entitled "AI and EPPE: preserving humanity and promoting equity in an automated world" by Mercedes Mayol-Lassalle (https://omepworld.org/fr/journee-internationale-de-leducation-2025/) and an opinion piece by Lisbeth Gouin entitled "Preserving autonomy in an automated world " (https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco)
- 31 October / 5 November – Participation in the 43rd session of the UNESCO General Conference, Samarkand. Gilles Pétreault represented OMEP.
    - Presentation of OMEP at the NGO Forum
    - Statement to the Education Commission on the proposed revision of the 1966 UNESCO/ILO Recommendations concerning the teaching profession to highlight a major gap concerning early childhood personnel
    - Participation in the general policy debate with a statement by OMEP: general policy (https://www.youtube.com/shorts/fPq9KmnFhao)
    - Presentation by OMEP at a side event organised by the Uzbek Ministry of Education on the occasion of the creation of a category 2 centre on preschool and early childhood education.
    - Summary report on the OMEP-World website https://omepworld.org/fr/actualites/ and on https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco
- 20 November 2025 – International Children's Day – 36th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. OMEP statement: in a world ravaged by conflict and where children's rights are often violated, education is more than ever a priority (https://omepworld.org/fr/journee-internationale-de-lenfance-36e-anniversaire-de-la-convention-relative-aux-droits-de-lenfant/).
- 24 November 2025 – Webinar reviewing UNESCO's 2024-2025 participation programme for OMEP, "Toy library project: learning about life through play". Presentation: https://omepworld.org/fr/webinaire-projet-ludotheques-apprendre-la-vie-par-le-jeu/ Replay: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBgyodRIjYs
- 9 December 2025 – Participation in the international symposium on the right to education (9 December 2025), on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the 1960 Convention against Discrimination in Education, at UNESCO. Report available at: https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco
- 10 December 2025 – TAG follow-up in Tashkent – Preparation of the report on (new) ECCE funding mechanisms.

6- Cooperation with United Nations agencies:

Indicate any cooperation the organisation has had with a United Nations agency, entity or agency in countries or regions.
This may include: joint funding, preparation or contribution to events, research and studies, joint organisation of meetings, humanitarian activities or operational projects, or financial assistance received from or provided to the United Nations. List of initiatives undertaken in support of internationally agreed development goals:

- 19 March and 17 June 2025 – OMEP/UNESCO webinars, "Strengthening local engagement and international partnerships for ECCE":
    - 19 March (in French): documents used and summary at https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco; video recording at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Ndd8UydT28
    - 17 June (in English): different UNESCO speakers and adapted content.
- 1-3 September 2025 – *UN HRC – Open-ended intergovernmental working group* (Geneva) . Establishment of the working group. Statement by the Chair, Mercedes Mayol-Lassalle, on recognition of the right to early childhood education. See https://omepworld.org/fr/lomep-a-geneve-une-etape-historique-vers-la-reconnaissance-du-droit-a-leducation-de-la-petite-enfance/
- 15 October 2025 – Submission of OMEP's application to UNESCO for a change of status (from consultative to associate status). Application (in French) available at: https://www.omepfrance.fr/partenaires/onu-et-unesco; the application will be submitted to the Executive Board for decision at its 225th session in autumn 2026.
- 10 December – Participation in *the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on ECCE,* which aims to produce biennial reports on global progress towards the Tashkent goals and on its functioning.
- 12 December 2025 – *UN HRC – Open-ended intergovernmental working group (Geneva)* – Exploring Complementary Pathways to Strengthen the Right to Education (12 December 2025). OMEP statement on the need for a legal obligation to ensure access to free pre-primary education as a human right.

8- Describe the main strengths of the team of representatives.

- Thanks to the commitment, presence and constant availability of the team of representatives and the remarkable work of the president, OMEP is highly appreciated by UNESCO's Education Sector, as well as by the Liaison Committee and the CCONG in education.

9- Explain the main areas for improvement in relation to the actions and responsibilities of representatives.

- Ensure good communication in order to better distribute information and actions, develop reports and information on the OMEP-World website and social networks.
- Communicate systematically in French and English.