



## The United States of America's Candidature for the Executive Board of UNESCO 2011-2015

**As a candidate for UNESCO's Executive Board, the United States commits to:**

- ❖ **Support the objectives of UNESCO, including its two overarching goals of priority Africa and priority gender equality**

*The United States is committed to the Medium-Term Strategy's mandates that UNESCO accord priority to Africa and its development, as well as to the pursuit of gender equality, in all its fields of competence.*

- ❖ **Reform UNESCO to ensure effectiveness and quality throughout the organization**

*The United States is dedicated to improving the effectiveness of the organization through reform measures with special emphasis on coherence, efficiency and high-quality program delivery by the United Nations system at the regional and country level.*

- ❖ **Strengthen public-private partnerships**

*The United States will work to enhance UNESCO's collaboration with non-governmental and private partners, to secure financial and programmatic support for UNESCO's priorities and strategic objectives.*



UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova meets with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in Washington.



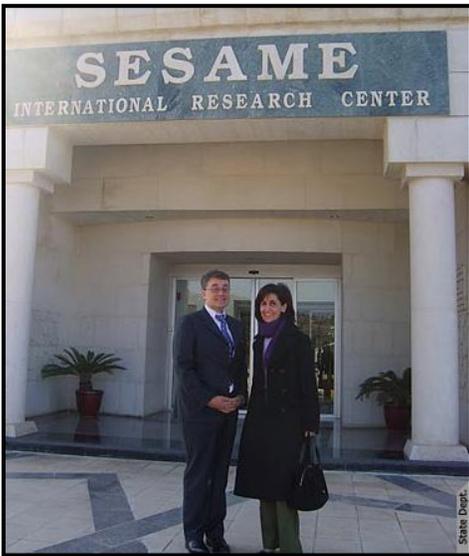
**The United States is the largest overall contributor to UNESCO, providing 22 percent of the Organization's budget.**

The United States also makes significant extrabudgetary contributions for a variety of programs in a wide range of sectors, including the World Heritage Committee, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, Creative Cities, and the International Institute for Educational Planning.

In addition to financial contributions, the United States demonstrates its commitment to UNESCO through active membership in and support for many committees and councils.

In 2010, the United States added Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Hawaii) to the World Heritage List.

## As a member of the Executive Board, the United States pledges to:



U.S. Ambassador David Killian and Jordanian Ambassador Dina Kawar visit the SESAME International Research Center in Amman, Jordan.

### ❖ Bolster Quality Learning for All

*The United States believes that UNESCO can play an important role in ensuring that everyone receives a quality education. The United States funds essential literacy projects, and has helped expand UNESCO's advocacy for women's and girls' education through public-private partnerships. In addition, the United States leads the global community in advocating for Open Educational Resources, which democratize access to information and dramatically reduce the cost of textbooks.*

### ❖ Strengthen the Role of Science at UNESCO

*The United States believes that UNESCO has unique convening authority to build peace through science diplomacy. The United States will continue to leverage and raise awareness of UNESCO's network of experts on complex technical matters, including freshwater resources management, ocean observations, tsunami warning systems, and disaster risk reduction and preparedness.*

### ❖ Empower Youth as Positive Agents of Change

*Youth are not just the next generation; they are the leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators of today. The United States believes in empowering youth and providing them with the education and skills needed to build peace and thrive in an increasingly globalized world. The United States and Brazil are working with UNESCO to develop an anti-racism curriculum for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, designed to foster tolerance within society, especially among youth.*

### ❖ Encourage the Development of Independent and Pluralistic Media

*The United States supports UNESCO as a UN system leader in promoting freedom of expression in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The United States will help UNESCO create new mechanisms to not just condemn, but prevent the killing and silencing of journalists through training and awareness-raising. As democracy spreads, the United States will encourage UNESCO's International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) to play a prominent role in fostering independent, community-based media where it is needed most.*

### ❖ Harness the Power of Cultural Heritage and Creative Industries

*The United States believes UNESCO must renew its focus on the preservation of cultural heritage, both through the World Heritage Convention, and through the protection of monuments, sites and museum collections from natural and man-made disasters. The United States welcomes UNESCO's new focus on culture and development and will advocate for successful programs like the Creative Cities Network.*



President and Mrs. Obama visit Humayun's Tomb, a World Heritage site, in Delhi, India.

