



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

7 February 2012

Ref.: CL/3988

Subject: **World Radio Day (WRD)**

Sir/Madam,

At its 36th session, the UNESCO General Conference proclaimed 13 February of each year as World Radio Day (36 C/Resolution 63). The proposal, put forward by the Kingdom of Spain, was first presented at the 187th session of UNESCO's Executive Board. The date of 13 February was selected in recognition of the day, in 1946, the United Nations created the United Nations Radio.

The objective of the Day is to raise awareness in the general public and media on the value of the radio, improve international cooperation between radio broadcasters and encourage decision-makers to create and provide access to information through radio, including community radios.

In its decision, the General Conference encourages Member States to undertake activities to celebrate this Day at both the local and national level, with the participation of National Commissions, non-governmental organizations, the general public and diverse institutions (schools, universities, municipalities, cities, broadcasters, the press, professional associations and unions, museums, cultural organizations and so forth).

Moreover, the decision invites national, regional and international broadcasting organizations and unions, as well as the media at large, to ensure the successful observance of World Radio Day by devoting it as appropriate to educational, cultural and public-awareness activities.

I should be most grateful if you could send, in writing, information about any events in which your country plans to engage in celebration of World Radio Day. Such information should be sent to Ms Mirta Lourenço, Chief of the Section for Media and Society in the Division of Freedom of Expression of the Communication and Information Sector (tel: +33.1.45.68.42.13; fax: +33.1.45.68.55.79; e-mail: m.lourenco@unesco.org). Information so received will be included in the official programme of events that will be made available on the

UNESCO dedicated World Radio Day website. The website also will include various elements for diffusion such as an audio message, as well as a joint message on World Radio, which I have co-signed with the Secretary-General of the ITU. I invite you to distribute these elements within your networks.

I hope sincerely that your Government will be in a position to associate itself fully with the celebration of the 2012 World Radio Day.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Irina Bokova". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Enclosures: 36 C/Resolution 63

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

36 C/Resolution 63**63 Proclamation of World Radio Day¹**

The General Conference,

Having considered document 36 C/63 and 187 EX/Decision 13,

Welcoming the results of the feasibility study presented by the Director-General on the proclamation of a world radio day,

Recognizing the contribution by the prominent scientists who laid the technological foundation for the long-distance transmission of sound messages by radio waves,

Mindful that the celebration of a world radio day will raise greater awareness among the public and the media of the importance of radio, and enhance networking and international cooperation among broadcasters,

Convinced that this event will encourage decision-makers and those who work on radio broadcasting in all its forms to establish and provide access to information through radio, including community radio, and to diversify the content in order that all may enjoy the benefit,

1. *Proclaims* World Radio Day, to be celebrated on 13 February, the day the United Nations established United Nations Radio in 1946;
2. *Calls upon* the Member States of UNESCO to celebrate the Day with activities at both the local and national levels, with the participation of National Commissions, NGOs, the general public and diverse institutions (schools, universities, municipalities, cities, broadcasters, the press, professional associations and unions, museums, cultural organizations and so forth);
3. *Invites* the national, regional and international broadcasting organizations and unions, as well as the media at large, to ensure the successful observance of World Radio Day by devoting it as appropriate to educational, cultural and public-awareness activities;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to encourage all national, regional and international initiatives taken in this respect;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations so that World Radio Day may be endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its 67th session (September 2012).