SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF WORKSHOP III
„RESEARCH – STUDIES – EVALUATION – UNESCO-CHAIR”

Workshop III was structured into four parts:
   a. short introduction into the subject
   b. exchange about current studies and evaluations in this field of research
   c. discussion about special questions to the theme in working groups (short survey)
   d. common discussion about the results of the working groups and recommendations for the future

A) Short introduction (see ppt-presentation)

B) Results of a short workshop survey:

There were three questions in our workshop-survey with the following results:
The first question was: Is it necessary to invest more money in basic research for arts education? 75% of the participants say yes, 25% are not sure.
The second question was: Is it possible to prove the success of arts education by evaluation? 52% agree, 10% disagree, 38% say, that they are not sure.
The last question: Is it possible to develop “effectiveness research” for arts education that measure creativity and key competence? 40% say yes, 5% say no and 55% are not sure.

Looking on the results of this little survey there might be the impression that there has been a lot of disagreement under the participants of the workshop. This was not the case. The discussion in the working group shows that one has to be careful with the contents of the questions if you go to the interpretation. The meaning of key words in arts education can be defined differently. It is for example possible to measure success in arts education if you have a clear definition of success in arts education. If there is an agreement of goals in arts education you can measure it. But this needs also an agreement if it is necessary to prove success. Some of the participants underline that it is more important to prove the quality in arts education.

C) + D) Main essentials and recommendation for the future

The discussion shows that currently a lot of basic research is under way. There are many countries that are right now collecting basic data to pupil and school activities. Also there are studies to special themes like about the potential of arts education, about the way to teach creativity, diversity and cooperation and much more. But it is really necessary to backup the international exchange. Everybody has to find own solutions and then there is the problem that the data in the different countries are not comparable. Here is the absolute request to the participants to do more for exchange. There was the proposal to collect in a first step current research studies and evaluation of the participants of the workshop, so that interested participants of this symposium can get a list of these studies and their contact partners.
In a second step it would be really helpful if there is more support for the international exchange in research studies and evaluation between the different countries by installing Unesco-chairs, contact points or other arrangements. Another important point was the need of more quality research in the impact of art. The discussion works out that there is a problem between research and politics. Politicians prefer research studies on a short term basis with fast and clear results. The researchers want more support for long term studies to work out the impact of arts education. Also the need was underlined to develop more quality research to the content of art education teaching not only to the framework of arts education projects. By this way it would be helpful to prove skills that teachers are needed for arts education and for this point more teachers should be involved in research studies to art education. Some representatives of special arts disciplines who have no tradition as a subject in school like dance, theatre or media arts remark that it would be necessary to develop more basic research for installing these arts disciplines systematically in school.

So this is a short list of the joint recommendations of workshop III worked out in a very lively and serious discussion:

- Mapping research studies in arts education that have been already done- or better: are preparing - in the different countries
- More international exchange in research
- More long term quality research in the impact of art
- More quality research to the content of art education teaching
- More research to arts disciplines that have no tradition in school as a subject

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