

Forum for Quality Public Education in the Americas

Parainfo of the University of San Carlos, Zone 1, Guatemala City, Guatemala

October 8-10, 2008

Objectives:

1. To analyze the current situation of Public Education in the Americas;
2. To discuss the advances of education organizations in research and pedagogical development.
3. To evaluate the state of Post-Secondary Education in the Americas
4. To discuss the role of the State in the defense of Public Education.
5. To evaluate the progress of governments in complying with the goals of the *Education for All* process.

Program (draft)

Wednesday, October 8

6:30 – 8:30: Opening Plenary

- 1 Blessing of the event (Mayan ceremony)
- 2 Welcoming address, Guatemalan Education Workers' Union (STEG)
- 3 Welcoming address, Guatemalan Association of University Students (AEU)
- 4 Welcome from the President of Guatemala
- 5 Keynote addresses:
 - a. Public Education in the Americas: Trends and Challenges – Emir Sader, CLACSO
 - b. What do We Mean When We Speak of Education Quality? – Juçara Dutra, Education International
6. Cultural performance

Thursday, October 9

9:00-11:00 Thematic Plenaries:

Thematic Path	Panelists*
1. Quality Public Education	Education Internacional - Latin America (IEAL), Ana Lucia Gozola, Latin American and Caribbean Students' Organization (OCLAE)
2. Public Education in Guatemala	Guatemalan Education Workers' Union (STEG), Education Commission of the Guatemalan Congress, Ana Ordonez de Molina, Minister of Education, Guatemala
3. Comercialization of Educación (Trade agreements, privatization, increased corporate influence in schools and curricula, etc.)	Larry Kuehn, BC Teachers' Federation, National Association of Economists of Cuba, Hilda Sánchez, Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA)
4. Evaluation of the "Education for All" process	Rafael Lucío, Central American Observatory of Education Policies (FOMCA), Pablo Gentilí Laboratory of Public Policies (LPP), UNESCO
5. Aboriginal and Intercultural Education	IDEA Indigenous Educators' Network (delegates to the II hemispheric encounter of Indigenous educators), STEG,
6. Education Reform	OCLAE, Napoleón Morazán, Federation of Central American Teachers' Organizations (FOMCA) Chilean Teachers' College (CPC)

7. Experiences of building social alliances in defense of public education	Quality Education as a Constitutional Right (QECR – USA), <i>Movimiento de los Pingüinos</i> (Chilean high school students' movement), Guatemalan National Parents Association
8. Education and Gender Equity	International Democratic Women's Federation, Loreto Muñoz, Female Education Workers' Network of the Americas (IE-AL), Luzmila Sánchez, Women's Secretary, FOMCA
9. Public education as a path to social development	UNESCO, Hector Navarro, Education Minister, Venezuela, Miguel de Castilla, Public Education Minister, Nicaragua

**Note panelists are invited, but not yet confirmed*

11:15 – 1:15: Workshops, Round 1 (Thematic paths 1-9): Participating *Organizations are invited to propose workshops related to the above themes. There will be one workshop per thematic path per round (i.e. 9 workshops per round).*

1:30 – 3:30: Workshops Round 2: (themes 1 – 9)

3:45 – 5:45: Workshops Round 2: (themes 1 – 9)

Friday, October 10

9:30 – 1:00: Final Plenary

- Reports from each thematic path
- Presentation and discussion of final declaration and action plan
- Cultural presentation

(Transport of participants to the University of San Carlos to participate in other activities of the Americas Social Forum)