



**Young Engineers / Future Leaders  
Committee**  
WORLD FEDERATION OF ENGINEERING  
ORGANIZATIONS



## **8th UNESCO YOUTH FORUM** **29th – 31st October 2013, Paris**

Eng. Zainab Lari, Chair of WFEO Committee YE/FL, along with a few members of the committee from Kuwait attended the 8th UNESCO Youth Forum at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

Eng. Zainab and the members of YE/FL participated at the opening ceremony that began with a speech by UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova, followed by a speech by Mr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri and other young leaders.

The Youth forum had plenary debates on “Youth and social inclusion - Civic management - dialogue and skills development” in line with UNESCO operational strategy on Youth 2014- 2021.



*UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova together with YE/FL chairwoman as she stopped at the YE/FL booth that was installed during the entire period of the Youth Forum*

Eng Zainab and the Kuwaiti delegation have also participated in the plenary debates that were divided into 3 groups:

- Group 1: Policy formulation and review with the participation of Youth
- Group 2: Capacity development for the transition to adulthood
- Group 3: Civic Management, democratic participation and Social Innovation.

They discussed policy formulations and exchanged views and experiences with the young participants on the implementation of methods and cross-cutting issues in line with the forum's general theme.

They also attended the UNESCO Award Ceremony where DG Irina Bokova presented the first UNESCO/ Juan Bosch Prize for the promotion of social science research in Latin America and the Caribbean” to Karen Nathalia Ceron Steevens from Colombia for her research on violence affecting youth.

On 30 October, Zainab Lari and the Kuwaiti delegation attended the Capacity building workshop on Engineering in Action for youth- hands- on experiments in engineering.



*UNESCO ADG Gretchen Kalonji and participants in the capacity building session on Engineering in Action for youth- hands- on experiments in engineering*

The workshop was to provide basic introduction to occupy young people with specific qualifications concerning projects of implementation and the development of monitoring operations. There was a presentation given by the UNESCO culture sector which included advancing policy; transforming learning and training environments; building capacity, empowering and mobilizing youth and accelerating sustainable solutions of local level.

The opening remarks of the workshop were given by *Gretchen Kalonji*, Assistant Director-General of the Natural Sciences Sector. Eng. Zainab had the opportunity to make a presentation of the WFEO YE/FL committee. Naadiya Mosajjee- co-founder & CEO of SAWomEng, Board Director at Pegasys Strategy Development, spoke about soft skills for engineers and scientists as well as a hands-on-activity on fracking. Ms. Emma Thompson- National outreach coordinator, Engineers Without Borders UK spoke about hands on engineering experiments.

Eng. Zainab and the YE members attended the closing ceremony of the Forum during which the past three days' activities were summarized and the following recommendations were identified:

1. More promotion and spread of awareness.
2. National educational system must be related to the environment and there must be enough trainers to improve the skills.
3. Attention should be paid for the global warming.
4. Climate change must be taken into consideration.