



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Message from Irina Bokova,

Director-General of UNESCO

on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Russian IFAP Committee

2 December 2010

It is a pleasure to express my best wishes to all colleagues and partners on the 10th anniversary of the creation of the Russian Committee for the Information for All Programme.

The information age has opened unparalleled opportunities for people and societies to connect and access information. It has also raised a new challenge -- to build knowledge societies that are inclusive and pluralist, where all voices are heard and all sources of knowledge are developed.

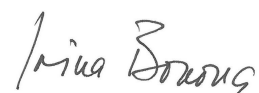
The Information for All Programme seeks to harness the technologies of the information age by bringing together Governments and international non-governmental organizations along with key actors in civil society. Our goal is to overcome the digital divide that exists within and between societies in terms of access, competence and experience. Digital literacy is vital for individuals to make the most of change and a key resource for the competitiveness of societies as a whole.

National Committees play a crucial role in raising awareness, developing expertise and implementing shared goals. The Russian National Committee has been a pioneer in all respects. It was the first National Committee established and it has undertaken major projects of national and international scope, many with UNESCO support.

This role has mirrored the active engagement of the Russian Federation itself in promoting the objectives of the Information for All Programme. The election of Mr

Evgeny Kuzmin as Chairman of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme in 2010 reflects widespread recognition of Russia's leadership.

On this 10th anniversary, I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to the Russian National Committee, to its members and leaders, for their dedication in working towards the goals of the Information for All Programme. I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Irina Bokova". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Irina" and the last name "Bokova" clearly distinguishable.

Irina Bokova