



Committee Name: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Topic/ Agenda: (1) Promotion Sustainable Education for Climate Action

(2) Strengthening The Protection and Promoting of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Country: Canada

Delegate's Name: Ayşegül Çalışkan

Agenda Topic 1:

Canada has a good education system. Every province runs its own schools, so they can be a bit different. But generally, the system is similar to other countries. Kids usually start school at 5 or 6 years old and continue until they are 16 or 18. Schools are divided into three parts: elementary school, secondary school, and high school. You can learn in English or French, and in some areas, you can learn in both languages. Students do not just memorize facts; they are encouraged to research and think. Canada's education system is advanced in both achievement and fairness. This is why many students prefer to study there.

In schools, subjects like science, geography, and social studies should include topics such as climate change, sustainability, and environmental protection. In this way, children can become more aware and responsible about the environment.

But giving only theoretical knowledge is not enough. Students should also join activities where they can use what they learn. For example, schools can organize tree planting, recycling campaigns, trash collection events, or climate-themed exhibitions. These activities help students become more active and more sensitive to environmental issues. Hands-on learning like this helps students remember information better. It also teaches them how to use this knowledge in real life.

With the help of technology, many digital tools are now available for education. Teachers can use documentaries, videos, and environmental movies in class or as homework. For younger children, educational games and cartoons can be useful. These make learning fun and more effective.

Canada has focused on environmental education for a long time. In 1980, the first Earth Day event was held with activities like tree planting and environment talks to raise public awareness (Earth Day Canada, 2024). In 1988, Canadian universities signed the Halifax Declaration, promising to support sustainable development and environmental education (ESE in Faculties of Education, 2024). In the 1990s, environmental education improved in content. The Let's Talk Science program encouraged young students to think scientifically

(Let's Talk Science, 2024). Also, the Pembina Institute created educational materials about climate change for teachers and students in 1999 (Pembina Institute, 1999).

In Canada, many schools include environmental topics in the curriculum. In British Columbia, high school students can take optional courses about climate change. Also, in places like Ontario and Manitoba, teachers get training and support to teach these subjects better.

In recent years, the Canadian federal government has also supported climate education. In 2024, it gave 2.9 million Canadian dollars to 8 organizations for environmental education projects. These projects helped bring sustainability topics into school programs.

However, there are still some problems. Many teachers say they do not have enough knowledge to teach climate change well. To improve this, Canada needs to train teachers better, update the school curriculum, and provide more resources to schools.

Agenda Topic 2:

There is nothing from Canada on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) list yet. But people in Canada try to protect and continue their traditional and cultural heritage. There are many examples of intangible cultural heritage from different communities in Canada.

One example is *Katajjaq*, the Inuit traditional throat singing. In this tradition, two women stand face to face and make rhythmic sounds with their voices. It is an important part of the Inuit identity, especially in the Nunavik region.

In the Saskatchewan region, special words like "bunnyhug," and traditional dance and music events called "powwow" are part of community memory.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, there is an old Christmas tradition called "mumming." In this tradition, people wear masks and go from house to house singing songs. Also, the local fishing culture, food recipes, and stories are protected and shared.

Possible Solutions

As Canada, it is very important that we work together to protect our intangible cultural heritage. We should come together with our local people and record our traditional songs, stories, and handcrafts.

Education is also the key to keeping this heritage alive. We should teach cultural heritage in our schools. Our children should learn about our traditional dances, music, and games. Also, we should create digital archives and platforms to protect these valuable traditions and share them with more people. In this way, our heritage will be safe and passed on to future generations easily.

