

**Universal Periodic Review
(12th session, 3-14 October 2011)**

Contribution of UNESCO

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

I. Human rights treaties which fall within the competence of UNESCO and international instruments adopted by UNESCO

1. Table:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations /reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>	<i>Reference to the rights within UNESCO's fields of competence</i>
Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960	-	<i>Reservations to this Convention shall not be permitted</i>		Right to education
Convention on Technical and Vocational Education. 1989	-			Right to education
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972	01/11/1983			Right to take part in cultural life
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003	-			Right to take part in cultural life
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions 2005	-			Right to take part in cultural life

II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

1. Right to education¹

2. Constitutional framework: The 1981 Constitution includes human rights guarantees, but not the right to education. However, Section 11 (2) states that “Except with his own consent (...), no person attending any place of education shall be required to receive religious instruction (...) if that instruction (...) relates to a religion other than his own.”

3. Legislative framework: (a) The Education Act of 4 April 1973 - its section 43 states that it is compulsory for all children aged between 5 and 16 to attend school. Section 7 states that no person shall be refused admission to public school on account of the religious or political persuasion, race, social status of such a person or his parents. Section 17 guarantees that no child who is eligible for admission to a public school shall be refused admission except on the authority of the Minister of Education in each particular case. (b) The Act 11 of 1994 establishes a Board of Education for the execution of certain education policies of the Government. (c) The Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education Act, 2008.

2. Right to take part in cultural life

4. Capacity-building and technical assistance provided and/or recommended by UNESCO: Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda participated in the Caribbean Sub-regional meeting on Cultural Diversity Programming Lens and Intangible Cultural Heritage held in Grenada in June 2010. UNESCO provides assistance for advocacy and promotion of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

Right to education

5. Antigua and Barbuda should be encouraged to ratify the 1960 UNESCO’s Convention against Discrimination in Education and the 1989 UNESCO’s Convention on Technical and Vocational Education.

¹

Sources:

Ministry of Education of Antigua and Barbuda

http://www.education.gov.ag/about/pdf/education_act.pdf (Accessed 23/02/11).