

UK Ambassador's remarks as observer during the 6th Special Session of the UNESCO Executive Board 8th, 9th June 2020:

Mr Chairman, Madame Director General, Distinguished colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including the UK's Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, I am very pleased to address this 6th special session of UNESCO's Executive Board.

1. *We acknowledge the important and valuable work that UNESCO is conducting in response to the crisis, across all of its programme sectors – sharing knowledge and resources, acting as a laboratory of ideas, and promoting and advancing international collaboration and partnership.*
2. *We particularly appreciate UNESCO's efforts on launching The Global Education Coalition in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is fantastic to see such a range of partners working together to ensure that children everywhere can continue their education.*
3. *In these unprecedented times effective join up across the UN system is more essential than ever. UNESCO must continue to work to ensure that they are coordinating their COVID-19 response with other UN entities - particularly in the Education space.*

Thank you Mr Chairman, ladies and gentlemen for your attention.