We are happy to send you this internal newsletter with the latest updates from our Working Group.

**Achievements**

The Harmonization team has achieved notable milestones since May 2018:

- It has received the 2018 Secretary-General Award in the Multilingualism category. At UNOG, Director-General Michael Møller met with Geneva colleagues to celebrate the Award and featured the project in a message to the UNOG community. Under-Secretary-General Catherine Pollard, Coordinator for Multilingualism, wrote to the working group expressing her congratulations and reinforcing its critical role.

- The UN Language Framework - UN Levels of Language Competence has been finalized based on feedback from colleagues in learning and language teachers at UNHQ, UNOG and other duty stations. The Framework can be found [here](#).

- Learning objectives for UN Level I have been developed based on feedback gathered during the workshops held in July and September. They can be found [here](#).

- Language teams from Chinese, French and Spanish have begun the development of the language-specific component of the Course Programme. Arabic, English and Russian will start in 2019.

- A new section has been added to the project page on the HR Portal to include past newsletters and results of the main surveys conducted until now. Please see [here](#).
Thank you to:

Heads of the UNOG and UNHQ Language Programmes, Virginie Ferre and Felipe Martín-Saráchaga, for their continued commitment to the Harmonization Project.

Fernando López, Anna Sanvisens, Fabienne Pairon, Rodrigo Bergamasco Bottura, Valérie Desmontais and Kieran Rigney for their participation in the Working Group.

Communicative language model

The Working Group has continued to improve the language model. A new proposal has been drafted to ensure a dynamic, communicative model that will facilitate implementation. Please see our draft proposal here. You may leave your feedback and comments in the document.

Terminology Survey

As the project and its documents have evolved, so has the need to clarify and update the terminology used in our work. Therefore, the WG has created a survey for terms such as "Annexes", "Course programme", "language-specific part", etc. In the survey, we request your input to help in the decision-making process. The chosen terminology will be communicated by December 2018.

Thank you for developing the language-specific parts of UN I for:

Chinese
Li Bourrit and Zhuting Chang

French
Valérie Desmontais, Virginie Busetto and Sébastien Durietz

Spanish
Almudena Rueda and Carmen Criado

Assessment team
Bénédicte Saouter and Jérôme Quentin
• **Language-specific Part of Course Programme**
  Teams working on the language-specific parts have made significant progress in developing core content for UN Level I across duty stations. They have outlined the grammar, lexis and functions needed to achieve Level I objectives in Chinese, French and Spanish. Colleagues enjoyed working together and identifying several commonalities in their programmes.

• **Exam specification for UN Level I**
  The team has worked on a proposal for specifications for UN Level I exam. They are almost ready to share a first draft as they need to receive feedback from other teams and languages. A mechanism for collecting that feedback will be communicated as soon as possible.

• **Administrative Instruction**
  An Administrative Instruction exclusively dedicated to our new UN Language Framework is currently being drafted. Two drafts have been submitted to HR Policy. Publishing this ST/AI will be a significant milestone in our project as it will officialize our efforts in harmonizing language learning and assessment in the Organization. Once it is published, several stakeholders will be able to reference the document in furthering multilingualism across multiple duty stations.

• **Translation of the UN Language Framework**
  UNOG translators have started to translate the UN Language Framework. Initial versions are ready for comparison and approval by the language teams.

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**Next Steps**

While the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the project may shift given the current management reform, the following actions are forthcoming:

- Develop learning objectives for UN Levels II to III.
- Finalize development of the Chinese, French and Spanish language-specific parts of the course programme for all levels.
- Begin and finalize the Arabic, English and Russian language-specific parts of the course programme.

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**Support**

Thank you so much for the continuous support from the rest of the teachers, OAHs, learning focal points, multilingualism focal points and all other colleagues across the Organization who contribute to the project.

**LTP/LCP teams:**
- Jilan Nada, Sylviane Jailet-Boberg, Sarah Jordan, Carol Waites, Andrey Novikov, Charlotte Jacquier
- Riadh Bounatirou, Rabab El Nady, Yang Du, Pascal Schaller, Naima Charafi, Claire Lerognon, Myriam Mugica, Sébastien Garaud, Ludovic Gaucher, Jodi Nooyen, David Hattem, Kirsten Duckett, Mary Regan, Anna Dvigubski, Sonia Torres, Sofía Gallego, Carmen Criado, Cristina Pérez, Monica Parra

**Economic Commissions and Offices:**
- ECA (Agraw Kedir, Sajiv Nair), ECLAC (Alberto Santibanez, Paula Saenz, Simona Verdugo), ESCAP (Yuko Kitada, Claudia Laessing), ESCWA (Souad Azar), UNOV (Wanda Muellener, Claudia Figueroa) and UNON (Tsehainesh Ghebremedhin, Laura Rubio)