

Message from Dr. Rupert MACLEAN, Honorary Advisor



Dr. Rupert MACLEAN
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The UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Education, which is located in Bonn (Germany), is delighted to be an international sponsor of the first international conference of the Asia-Pacific Education Research Association (APERA) to be held in Hong Kong, 28-30 November 2006. The theme of the conference, 'Educational Research, Policy and Practice in an Era of Globalization' is particularly relevant at the current time, given the increasing importance of building an effective bridge to encourage a better and closer dialogue between researchers, policy makers and practitioners working in the field of education.

As co-editor (with Ryo Watanabe, of NIER Japan) of the APERA book series *Education in the Asia-Pacific Region: Issues, Concerns and Prospects*, which is published by the international publishers Springer (the Netherlands), I very much hope that many of the papers presented at the conference will be published in this book series, in a volume specifically arising out of the conference proceedings.