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**President of the General Conference Ambassador Santiago Iñazabal  
Murao,**

**Director General Madam Audrey Azoulay,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**1 I am honoured to be addressing my fellow Member States at the 41<sup>st</sup>  
session of the UNESCO General Conference.**

**2 First, let me congratulate Director General Azoulay for her re-  
election to a second term. The resounding support is a testament to DG  
Azoulay's steady leadership over the last four years, particularly in the  
face of the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**3 Singapore would also like to congratulate UNESCO on 75 years of  
building peace through education, culture, information, and science.**

**a UNESCO has contributed greatly to building a culture of  
peace, ensuring universal access to quality education,  
preserving cultural and natural heritage, and safeguarding the  
basic right to access to reliable information.**

**b Singapore appreciates UNESCO's efforts in supporting**



**c. We are confident that we can continue to add value to UNESCO's important work in this field, and look forward to Member States' support of our candidature for re-election to the IGBC at this General Conference.**

**Development Goal Four (SDG-4) for inclusive and equitable access to education**

- b Singapore shares these concerns and strives to ensure the continuity of quality education for our students, without neglecting their emotional needs and well-being**
- c Through our participation in UNESCO programmes, we hope to exchange information with and learn from the UNESCO community to realise the targets under SDG4**
- d As a UNESCO Creative City of Design, Singapore has also participated in the network's covering of the Cities of Design to share Singapore's efforts in responding to the pandemic to support the creative industry and design practitioners.**

**10 Dear colleagues and friends, this has been a difficult time for many of us. The pandemic has exacerbated many of our existing inequalities, economic uncertainties and challenges posed by climate-related and technological changes.**

**11 UNESCO's work is more critical than ever:**

**12 As a committed and responsible member of this organisation, Singapore hopes to work with you to strengthen UNESCO, so that we can overcome these challenges and build a more peaceful and sustainable world**

**Thank you**