

Wendy Watson-Wright, Ph.D.
**Assistant Director General and Executive Secretary, UNESCO Intergovernmental
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Wendy Watson-Wright has been Assistant Director General and Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC-UNESCO) since January, 2010. Headquartered in Paris, IOC-UNESCO promotes international cooperation and coordinates programmes in marine research, services, observation systems, hazard mitigation and capacity development in order to better manage the nature and resources of the oceans and coastal areas.

From 2001 to 2009, she was Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Science Sector, in Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) where she was responsible for providing the leadership, and policy and scientific direction for all science activities in the department, including oceanography, hydrography, and fisheries, aquaculture, habitat, climate and aquatic ecosystem science.

Other positions she has held within the Canadian federal public service include research scientist (shellfish toxins) with the Inspection Services branch of DFO in Halifax, Nova Scotia; Director of the DFO St. Andrews (Marine) Biological Station in New Brunswick, Director General of DFO Audit and Evaluation (Ottawa, Ontario), and Director General of Strategic Policy and later Associate ADM of Population and Public Health Branch in Health Canada.

A Killam scholar, Dr. Watson-Wright holds a Ph.D. in Physiology from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has been a member of several boards including the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Science and Ocean Networks Canada, and was a Canadian commissioner on the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.