
A HISTORY
OF
UNESCO

Fernando Valderrama

UNESCO Reference Books

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To the founders of UNESCO, those inspired builders who, in creating this Organization, set out to construct the defences of peace in the minds of men.

And to its Directors-General, successive heirs to this undertaking accomplished with dedication and enthusiasm, from Julian Huxley, its first champion, to Federico Mayor, committed to the consolidation of its ideals.

Preface

Why a history of UNESCO?

History, it has been said, really begins where the memory of living generations ends – with our grandparents. Before that, there can only be chronicles, stories, eye-witness reports and accounts of personal experience, which may be suspected of partiality.

And yet the truth is that any history begins when human beings have to draw on their knowledge of the past in order better to understand the present and look ahead to the future, when they come to realize that they must look into the facts, events and trends that have prefigured their own era. It is only when their background and their links with the past are brought to light that the present ceases to be incomprehensible, gratuitous and meaningless.

History – an ongoing dialogue between the past and the present, a constant interchange of ideas binding today's world with yesterday's and tomorrow's – is always, ultimately, contemporary history, as Benedetto Croce and Fernand Braudel have said. Every generation needs to check its own truths by reference to its past so as to be able to experience them as living reality. Verifying these truths also amounts to understanding them and hence implies a capacity for tolerance and solidarity. People's will to 'give shape to history', as Karl Mannheim said, is bound up with their ability to comprehend it.

The history of UNESCO, too, is marked by a need to understand and a sense of moving towards the future.

Its history is not just that of an institution, but of a whole era, which the Organization has reflected in its programmes, declarations and resolutions and on which it has made its mark by its international action and presence. This is why, in the course of its history, there have been shifts in emphasis and in priorities in response to the changing needs of the outside world. It is why the history of its Member States – in other words world history – is woven into the institutional life of UNESCO. And it is also why crises have from time to time upset its

established beliefs, without, however, challenging its fundamental constitutional principles, not because they are regarded as unshakeable dogma, but because they serve the human condition, which is immutable.

At the same time, its history proves most eloquently how individual and collective dreams, what we imagine but believe to be impossible, what we call Utopia, can become a reality when human beings, groups, institutions and States make common cause, conclude agreements and build majorities and solidarities on a planet-wide scale. All that was inconceivable before the creation of UNESCO.

Because UNESCO has a history and because it is a chapter in the history of humanity, it needed to place on record the milestones that have marked its own existence. The idea was not to look back nostalgically to the landscapes of memory, in the view that the best years are always behind us, but on the contrary, to set the record straight, eschewing the usual plaudits and also the pessimism which regards any change as the inevitable onset of decadence.

There was no question, either, of associating the Organization's memory with a single absolute truth, turning its origins into the stuff of legend, appropriating the past so as to rewrite and justify it. The intention was far more modest and at the same time more important – to grasp the meaning of the common undertaking built upon the ideal which has guided its steps from 1946 until the present day, to understand the past so as to take more effective action in the world today in anticipation of the future of humankind which is where its action lies.

'If UNESCO did not exist, it would have to have been invented', it has been quipped. But all joking aside, Fernando Valderrama's book takes us back to the time when UNESCO did not exist and explains why, when and how it came to be 'invented'. An 'invention' forged with patience, tireless dedication and imagination, not under any deterministic pressure of cause and effect, but not by chance or by accident, either. As we read this history of UNESCO we are struck by the 'internal logic' of events, a logic that has presided over the creation and development of the Organization, its growing role in the contemporary world and the crises that have accompanied every change, in rhythm with the heartbeat - and at times the convulsions - of world history itself.

Let it be said again that this work is a general history and not an essay and as such is based strictly on documentary archive and library sources. Of course, documentary sources can make somewhat dry reading, depending on the way you approach them. On the face of it, without any record of the experience and the enthusiasm that made them what they are, the only merits of resolutions, speeches and budgetary items are their 'archaeological' interest and a claim to objectivity which the narrow-minded scholar will brandish as the ultimate argument.

But a history of UNESCO is not meant to be the labour of an antiquarian or a bald, punctilious record of facts and figures. It must be the mirror-image of a

living organism exercising an influence over, and being influenced by, the concerns of the times in which it lives, the diverse and successive trends which constitute the continuum of Heraclitus' principle that 'all things are in constant flux' in this 'river of time and history', in whose ever-changing waters we are all immersed.

No document - still less the documentary sources of an organization like UNESCO - is devoid of meaning, or 'innocent'. One needs to know how to read them in order to sense their inner meaning, how to select and classify them and see beyond the inevitable abridgements and rearrangements dictated by present-day reality, and beyond the power of abstraction that all writing has.

What emerges from the documents selected for this work and used in it is the force and power of memory as it conditions the future and, above all, the hope and vision of all the men and women, from the most senior decision-makers to the most humble of their subordinates, international civil servants, representatives of Member States or delegates to meetings and conferences who, whether in the public eye or anonymously, have helped to make a reality of what to start with were no more than the ideas or dreams of private individuals.

The purpose of this history is to retrace the whole development of an organization with a universal mission, in which the past informs the present, acting as a vital force injecting into it the emotion and drive that spurred its inception, its expansion, the experience of its mature years and the reflection on its role in a changing world that it has necessarily had to undertake.

This history must not be 'our history'. It is not an 'in-house' document, published in isolation from the rest of the world, but to tell the world about the diverse and far-reaching implications of UNESCO's work. It will give researchers wanting to know more about the life of the Organization a working tool, a guide and a starting-point for their research. A 'vademecum', as the classical authors used to call it.

A few years ago, William Sombart wrote: 'When we are left without the practical bearings that have always guided us through the vicissitudes of life, it is as though we were drowning in an ocean of facts until such time as we find a new foothold or learn to swim.'

Quite apart from the essential documents upon which it is based, this history of UNESCO not only gives us a foothold in a world that has lost its bearings, but also teaches us how to 'swim' in the 'ocean of facts' that is in danger of overwhelming us and - even more importantly - transmits to our children the heritage of a past that will enable them to build a shared future where there will be more justice, freedom and solidarity.

FEDERICO MAYOR
Director-General of UNESCO
Paris, July 1995

Contents

Foreword xxv

I. Historical background

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation (1926–1946)	1
<i>Background and establishment</i>	1
<i>Activities</i>	4
<i>Education</i>	4
<i>Social sciences</i>	7
<i>Natural sciences</i>	10
<i>Cinema, libraries and archives</i>	12
<i>Arts and letters</i>	14
<i>Scientific property and copyright</i>	16
<i>The national intellectual co-operation committees</i>	17
<i>The end of an era</i>	18

II. The birth of UNESCO and the first General Conference

The Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME)	19
The Conference for the Establishment of the International Agency	21
The Preparatory Commission	26
The First General Conference: 20 November to 10 December 1946	28

III. The end of the 1940s

1947	33
<i>The first steps</i>	33
<i>Reconstruction in the field of education, science and culture</i>	34
<i>Fundamental education</i>	34
<i>Other activities in the field of education</i>	35
<i>Libraries</i>	35

<i>Natural sciences</i>	36
<i>Social sciences</i>	37
<i>Philosophy and humanistic studies, arts and letters</i>	37
<i>Mass communications</i>	38
<i>External relations</i>	38
Member States	39
<i>Visits by the Director-General</i>	39
<i>The second General Conference</i>	39
<i>Reconstruction</i>	40
<i>Communication</i>	41
<i>Education</i>	41
<i>Cultural and artistic exchanges</i>	42
<i>Human and social relations</i>	44
<i>Natural sciences</i>	44
<i>Other issues</i>	45
<i>The budget</i>	45
1948	45
<i>Reconstruction</i>	45
<i>Communications</i>	46
<i>Education</i>	47
<i>Cultural and artistic exchanges</i>	48
<i>Social and human sciences</i>	48
<i>Natural sciences</i>	49
<i>Other activities</i>	49
<i>The Executive Board</i>	50
<i>Member States</i>	50
<i>The third General Conference</i>	50
<i>Reconstruction</i>	51
<i>Education</i>	51
<i>Natural sciences</i>	52
<i>Social sciences</i>	52
<i>Philosophy and humanistic studies</i>	52
<i>Cultural activities</i>	52
<i>Other issues</i>	54
<i>The budget</i>	54
<i>Fourth and fifth sessions of the General Conference</i>	54
<i>National Commissions</i>	54
1949	55
<i>Reconstruction</i>	55
<i>Education</i>	56
<i>Natural sciences</i>	56
<i>Social sciences</i>	57
<i>Cultural activities</i>	57

<i>Exchange of persons</i>	58
<i>Mass communication</i>	58
<i>Privileges and immunities</i>	59
<i>The Executive Board</i>	59
<i>Member States</i>	59
<i>The National Commissions</i>	59
<i>The fourth General Conference</i>	59
<i>Reconstruction</i>	60
<i>Education</i>	60
<i>Natural sciences</i>	61
<i>Social sciences</i>	61
<i>Philosophy and humanistic studies</i>	62
<i>Cultural activities</i>	62
<i>Free flow of communication</i>	63
<i>Other issues</i>	63
<i>Technical assistance</i>	63
<i>The budget</i>	63

IV. The early 1950s

1950	65
<i>The Secretariat</i>	65
<i>NGOs</i>	65
<i>Education</i>	66
<i>Natural sciences</i>	67
<i>Social sciences</i>	68
<i>Cultural activities</i>	68
<i>Member States</i>	70
<i>The fifth General Conference</i>	70
<i>Education</i>	71
<i>Natural sciences</i>	71
<i>Social sciences</i>	72
<i>Philosophy and humanistic studies</i>	72
<i>Cultural activities</i>	72
<i>Other issues</i>	73
1951	73
<i>Education</i>	73
<i>Natural sciences</i>	75
<i>Social sciences</i>	76
<i>Cultural activities</i>	76
<i>Other activities</i>	78
<i>Member States</i>	78
<i>National Commissions</i>	78
<i>The sixth General Conference</i>	79

<i>Education</i>	80	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	80	
<i>Social sciences</i>	81	
<i>Cultural activities</i>	81	
<i>Exchange of persons, mass communication and rehabilitation service</i>	81	
<i>The budget</i>	82	
1952	82	
<i>The Secretariat</i>	82	
<i>Education</i>	82	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	84	
<i>Social sciences</i>	84	
<i>Cultural activities</i>	85	
<i>Member States</i>	86	
<i>The seventh General Conference</i>	86	
<i>Education</i>	87	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	87	
<i>Social sciences</i>	87	
<i>Cultural activities</i>	88	
<i>Mass communication</i>	88	
<i>Resignation of the Director-General</i>	88	
<i>Headquarters</i>	89	

V. 1953–1956

The biennium 1953–1954	91	
<i>Extraordinary session of the General Conference and new Director-General</i>	91	
<i>Programme development</i>	92	
<i>Education</i>	92	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	94	
<i>Social sciences</i>	95	
<i>Cultural activities</i>	96	
<i>Mass communication</i>	98	
<i>Other activities</i>	98	
<i>Member States</i>	98	
<i>Headquarters</i>	99	
<i>The eighth General Conference</i>	99	
<i>Education</i>	100	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	100	
<i>Social sciences</i>	101	
<i>Cultural activities</i>	101	
<i>Mass communication</i>	101	
<i>Other issues</i>	102	

The biennium 1955–1956	103
<i>The Secretariat</i>	103
<i>Education</i>	104
<i>Natural sciences</i>	105
<i>Social sciences</i>	106
<i>Cultural activities</i>	106
<i>Mass communication</i>	107
<i>The Château du Bois-du-Rocher</i>	108
<i>Member States</i>	108
<i>Headquarters</i>	108
<i>The ninth General Conference</i>	109
<i>Education</i>	110
<i>Natural sciences</i>	112
<i>Social sciences</i>	112
<i>Cultural activities</i>	113
<i>Mass communication</i>	113
<i>The Headquarters building</i>	114
<i>Other decisions</i>	114
VI. 1957–1960	
The biennium 1957–1958	115
<i>Headquarters</i>	115
<i>Education</i>	115
<i>Natural sciences</i>	116
<i>Social sciences</i>	117
<i>Cultural activities</i>	117
<i>Mass communication</i>	118
<i>Member States</i>	118
<i>The UNESCO Headquarters at Fontenoy</i>	119
<i>UNESCO month in Paris</i>	122
<i>The tenth General Conference</i>	123
<i>Education</i>	124
<i>Natural sciences</i>	125
<i>Social sciences</i>	125
<i>Cultural activities</i>	125
<i>Mass communication</i>	126
<i>Appointment of the Director-General</i>	126
<i>Other decisions</i>	127
The biennium 1959–1960	127
<i>The Office of the Director-General</i>	128
<i>Education</i>	128
<i>Natural sciences</i>	129
<i>Social sciences</i>	130
<i>Cultural activities</i>	132

<i>Mass communication</i>	132
<i>Member States</i>	133
<i>The eleventh General Conference</i>	133
<i>Education</i>	135
<i>Natural sciences</i>	135
<i>Social sciences</i>	136
<i>Cultural activities</i>	136
<i>Communication</i>	137
<i>Tribute to Mr. Jean Thomas</i>	137
<i>Other decisions</i>	138

VII. 1961–1964

The biennium 1961–1962	139
<i>The Office of the Director-General</i>	139
<i>Education</i>	139
<i>Natural sciences</i>	141
<i>Social sciences</i>	141
<i>Cultural activities</i>	142
<i>Mass communication</i>	143
<i>Other activities</i>	143
<i>Member States</i>	144
<i>The twelfth General Conference</i>	144
<i>Education</i>	146
<i>Natural sciences</i>	146
<i>Social sciences</i>	148
<i>Cultural activities</i>	148
<i>Mass communication</i>	149
<i>Headquarters</i>	149
<i>Appointment of the Director-General</i>	149
<i>Other decisions</i>	149
The biennium 1963–1964	150
<i>The Secretariat</i>	150
<i>Education</i>	151
<i>Natural sciences</i>	153
<i>Social sciences</i>	153
<i>Cultural activities</i>	154
<i>Mass communication</i>	155
<i>The United Nations Development Decade</i>	155
<i>Member States</i>	155
<i>The thirteenth General Conference</i>	156
<i>Education</i>	158
<i>Natural sciences</i>	159
<i>Social sciences</i>	159
<i>Cultural activities</i>	160

<i>Communication</i>	161
<i>Headquarters</i>	161
<i>Other decisions</i>	161

VIII. 1965–1968

The biennium 1965–1966	163
<i>The Secretariat</i>	163
<i>Education</i>	163
<i>Natural sciences</i>	165
<i>Social sciences</i>	166
<i>Cultural activities</i>	166
<i>Communications</i>	167
<i>Other activities</i>	168
<i>Member States</i>	168
<i>Headquarters</i>	168
<i>The fourteenth General Conference</i>	168
<i>Education</i>	170
<i>Natural sciences</i>	170
<i>Social sciences</i>	172
<i>Culture</i>	172
<i>Communication</i>	173
<i>Headquarters</i>	174
<i>Other decisions</i>	174
<i>The twentieth anniversary of UNESCO</i>	174
The biennium 1967–1968	176
<i>The Secretariat</i>	176
<i>Education</i>	177
<i>Natural sciences</i>	179
<i>Social sciences</i>	180
<i>Culture</i>	180
<i>Communication</i>	181
<i>Headquarters</i>	182
<i>Member States</i>	182
<i>The fifteenth General Conference</i>	182
<i>Education</i>	185
<i>Natural sciences</i>	185
<i>Social sciences</i>	186
<i>Culture</i>	186
<i>Communication</i>	187
<i>Appointment of the Director-General</i>	188
<i>The Executive Board</i>	188
<i>Headquarters</i>	188
<i>Other decisions</i>	188

IX. 1969–1972

The biennium 1969–1970	191
<i>The Secretariat</i>	191
<i>Education</i>	191
<i>Natural sciences</i>	193
<i>Social sciences</i>	193
<i>Culture</i>	194
<i>Communication</i>	195
<i>Headquarters</i>	195
<i>The sixteenth General Conference</i>	196
<i>Education</i>	197
<i>Natural sciences</i>	198
<i>Social sciences</i>	200
<i>Culture</i>	200
<i>Communication</i>	201
<i>Other decisions</i>	201
The biennium 1971–1972	202
<i>The Secretariat</i>	202
<i>Education</i>	203
<i>Natural sciences</i>	204
<i>Social sciences</i>	205
<i>Culture</i>	205
<i>Communication</i>	206
<i>Headquarters</i>	208
<i>Member States</i>	208
<i>The twenty-fifth anniversary of UNESCO</i>	208
<i>The seventeenth General Conference</i>	209
<i>Education</i>	210
<i>Natural sciences</i>	211
<i>Social sciences</i>	212
<i>Culture</i>	212
<i>Communication</i>	213
<i>Other decisions</i>	213

X. 1973–1976

The biennium 1973–1974	215
<i>The Secretariat</i>	215
<i>Education</i>	216
<i>Natural sciences</i>	217
<i>Social sciences and humanities</i>	218
<i>Culture</i>	219
<i>Communication</i>	220
<i>Headquarters</i>	220

<i>Member States</i>	221
<i>The United Nations University</i>	221
<i>The third Extraordinary General Conference</i>	221
<i>The eighteenth General Conference</i>	222
<i>Education</i>	224
<i>Natural sciences</i>	224
<i>Social sciences and humanistic studies</i>	225
<i>Culture</i>	225
<i>Communication</i>	226
<i>Headquarters</i>	226
<i>Appointment of the Director-General</i>	226
<i>The Executive Board</i>	228
<i>Other decisions</i>	228
<i>The biennium 1975–1976</i>	229
<i>The Secretariat</i>	229
<i>Education</i>	230
<i>Natural sciences</i>	231
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	231
<i>Culture</i>	232
<i>Communication</i>	233
<i>Headquarters</i>	233
<i>Member States</i>	233
<i>Other issues</i>	234
<i>The nineteenth General Conference</i>	234
<i>The Medium-Term Plan for 1977–1982</i>	236
<i>Education</i>	236
<i>Natural sciences</i>	238
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	238
<i>Culture</i>	239
<i>Communication</i>	239
<i>The Executive Board</i>	240
<i>Other decisions</i>	240
<i>The spirit of Nairobi</i>	241
<i>The thirtieth anniversary of UNESCO</i>	241

XI. 1977–1980

<i>The biennium 1977–1978</i>	245
<i>The Secretariat</i>	245
<i>Education</i>	246
<i>Natural sciences</i>	246
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	248
<i>Culture</i>	248
<i>Communication</i>	249
<i>Headquarters</i>	250

<i>Member States</i>	250	
<i>Regional offices</i>	250	
<i>Other issues</i>	250	
<i>The twentieth General Conference</i>	252	
<i>Education</i>	253	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	253	
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	254	
<i>Culture</i>	255	
<i>Communication</i>	255	
<i>Headquarters</i>	256	
<i>Other decisions</i>	256	
<i>The biennium 1979–1980</i>	257	
<i>The Secretariat</i>	257	
<i>Education</i>	257	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	259	
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	260	
<i>Culture</i>	260	
<i>Communication</i>	262	
<i>Headquarters</i>	263	
<i>Member States</i>	263	
<i>Other issues</i>	263	
<i>The twenty-first General Conference</i>	263	
<i>The Medium-Term Plan</i>	265	
<i>Education</i>	265	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	266	
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	266	
<i>Culture</i>	266	
<i>Communication</i>	267	
<i>Headquarters</i>	267	
<i>The Executive Board</i>	268	
<i>Election of the Director-General</i>	268	
<i>Other decisions</i>	268	

XII. 1981–1983

<i>The triennium 1981–1983</i>	269	
<i>The Secretariat</i>	269	
<i>Education</i>	270	
<i>Natural sciences</i>	272	
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	273	
<i>Culture</i>	274	
<i>Communication</i>	276	
<i>Member States</i>	277	
<i>UNESCO clubs and associations</i>	277	

<i>The fourth Extraordinary General Conference</i>	277
<i>The twenty-second General Conference</i>	278
<i>Education</i>	282
<i>Natural sciences</i>	282
<i>Social sciences</i>	283
<i>Culture</i>	284
<i>Communication</i>	285
<i>Headquarters</i>	285
<i>The Executive Board</i>	286
<i>Other decisions</i>	286

XIII. 1984–1987

The biennium 1984–1985	287
<i>The Secretariat</i>	287
<i>Education</i>	288
<i>Natural sciences</i>	289
<i>Social sciences</i>	290
<i>Culture</i>	291
<i>Communication</i>	292
<i>Headquarters</i>	294
<i>Member States</i>	294
<i>Other issues</i>	294
<i>The twenty-third General Conference</i>	295
<i>Education</i>	297
<i>Natural sciences</i>	298
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	299
<i>Culture</i>	300
<i>Communication</i>	300
<i>The Executive Board</i>	301
<i>Other decisions</i>	301
The biennium 1986–1987	303
<i>The Secretariat</i>	303
<i>Education</i>	304
<i>Natural sciences</i>	305
<i>Social sciences</i>	306
<i>Culture</i>	307
<i>Communication</i>	308
<i>The fortieth anniversary of UNESCO</i>	310
<i>Member States</i>	311
<i>Candidate for the post of Director-General</i>	311
<i>The twenty-fourth General Conference</i>	311
<i>Education</i>	313
<i>Natural sciences</i>	315
<i>Social sciences and their applications</i>	316

<i>Culture</i>	317
<i>Communication</i>	318
<i>Tribute to Mr. M'Bow</i>	318
<i>Appointment of the Director-General</i>	319
<i>The Executive Board</i>	319
<i>Other decisions</i>	319

XIV. 1988–1991

The biennium 1988–1989	321
<i>The Secretariat</i>	321
<i>Education</i>	322
<i>Natural sciences</i>	324
<i>Social sciences</i>	325
<i>Culture</i>	327
<i>Communication</i>	329
<i>Member States</i>	330
<i>The Medium-Term Plan for 1990–1995</i>	330
<i>The Five-Hundredth Anniversary</i>	331
<i>The twenty-fifth General Conference</i>	331
<i>Education</i>	334
<i>Natural sciences</i>	336
<i>Social sciences</i>	337
<i>Culture</i>	338
<i>Communication</i>	339
<i>The Executive Board</i>	340
<i>Other decisions</i>	340
The biennium 1990–1991	341
<i>The Secretariat</i>	341
<i>Education</i>	342
<i>Natural sciences</i>	344
<i>Social and human sciences</i>	346
<i>Culture</i>	348
<i>Communication</i>	350
<i>Member States</i>	351
<i>The twenty-sixth General Conference</i>	351
<i>Education</i>	355
<i>Natural sciences</i>	357
<i>Social and human sciences</i>	358
<i>Culture</i>	359
<i>Communication</i>	361
<i>The Executive Board</i>	362
<i>Other decisions</i>	362
<i>Opinion of the Director-General regarding the General Conference</i>	362

XV. 1992–1993

The biennium 1992–1993	365
<i>The Secretariat</i>	365
<i>Education</i>	367
<i>Natural sciences</i>	369
<i>Social and human sciences</i>	370
<i>Culture</i>	372
<i>Communication</i>	374
<i>Member States</i>	377
<i>Associated Schools</i>	377
<i>Other issues</i>	377
<i>The twenty-seventh General Conference</i>	377
<i>Education</i>	382
<i>Natural sciences</i>	383
<i>Social and human sciences</i>	386
<i>Culture</i>	387
<i>Communication</i>	389
<i>Appointment of the Director-General</i>	390
<i>The Executive Board</i>	390
<i>Other decisions</i>	390

Annexes

- I. Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization 395
- II. Countries that have signed UNESCO's Constitution (up to November 1995) with the date of signature 407
- III. Address by Mr Federico Mayor, Director-General, on the occasion of his installation (16 November 1987) 413
- IV. Address by Mr Federico Mayor, Director-General, on the occasion of his re-election (8 November 1993) 423

Bibliography of works consulted 437

Biographical note on the author 441

Index of names 443

Index of subjects 449

Index of publications 459

Foreword

I wish to express my deep gratitude to the Director-General of UNESCO, Federico Mayor Zaragoza, for having done me the honour of asking me to write this brief history of the Organization.

As I was drafting the plan for this book, I reminded myself that UNESCO did not just appear out of the blue, but was built on a foundation of earlier work which very largely inspired its action during its early years.

The 47 years that elapsed between its inception and the end of 1993 are to be regarded less as a long, finite period than in terms of a profusion of activities. To describe them in detail would have required a far larger book, and I was compelled, for want of space, to forgo that idea.

This has meant that I have had to gloss over many programmes, projects, meetings and other aspects of the major task accomplished, and their absence will not escape the notice of informed readers. I have confined myself to what seemed to me most important in the Organization's various sectors of activity - education, the exact and natural sciences, the social and human sciences, and culture and communication, together with a brief description of General Conference proceedings.

I must make it clear that this choice was not an easy one.

The prolific activity of the Regional Offices, in particular, has not been given the coverage it deserves. To describe the work of but one of them would unfortunately have taken up too much space, as would even mentioning the names of all those who, in one way or another, have helped to make UNESCO's ideals a reality over all these years.

In compiling this work, I have opted for a chronological order of events, focusing on their historical significance. This will enable readers interested in a particular topic or aspect to see how it has evolved over the years.

I earnestly hope that UNESCO specialists will bear with me and forgive the omissions they are sure to notice, and that the lay reader's overall impression will be a positive one.

I have only to add that I am pleased to have been able to acquaint people with the work that UNESCO has accomplished, despite present and past difficulties, during the period covered by this modest work.

FERNANDO VALDERRAMA M.

Historical background

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation (1926–1946)

BACKGROUND AND ESTABLISHMENT

With the ending of the 1914–1918 war, multilateral intellectual co-operation came to be seen as one of the aspects of international organization.

Thus the first session of the League of Nations, in November 1920, discussed the need to institute intellectual co-operation alongside the political activity of Governments. At successive meetings and sessions, it became obvious that any Covenant of the League of Nations would have to draw the very well-springs of its existence from intellectual co-operation. Mr. Hymans, representative of Belgium at the Peace Conference, was the first to present intellectual co-operation as an important element in the work of the League of Nations and to propose that a section of the Covenant should deal with international intellectual relations.

There was an obvious need for the existence, alongside the political function envisaged for the League of Nations, of a technical body in which all countries would participate and which would approach much closer to universality than the League itself. At the Assembly held by the League in November-December 1920, a proposal on the international co-ordination of intellectual work, submitted by Mr. Pouillet (Belgium), Mr. Negulesco (Romania) and Mr. Ferraris (Italy), was referred for consideration by Committee No. II. Following the debate, the Assembly approved a resolution calling for continued efforts in the international organization of technical work and for the presentation of a report on the desirability of creating a technical organization for intellectual work.

On 2 September 1921 the Council approved the report by the representative of France, Mr. Léon Bourgeois, in which he proposed the nomination of a

Committee to examine questions regarding intellectual and education co-operation.¹

On the basis of this report, the Council decided on 14 January 1922 to establish the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, to which it assigned the status of an advisory organ of the Council. The membership of this Committee comprised eminent persons who did not represent their respective countries and were not subject to national instructions.

The Committee, comprising 12 members, met for the first time in Geneva on 1 August 1922, and elected the French philosopher Henri Bergson as its Chairman. The term of office of members was five years renewable.²

Thus the League of Nations acquired its International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, which met in Geneva in July each year. One of its first activities was to renew the links between academies and specialists that had been severed by the war. There was also a need to establish co-ordination between the various national activities, and the desirability of establishing National Committees for Intellectual Co-operation soon became apparent. From January 1923 onwards, many countries established National Committees for the primary purpose of organizing internal co-operation and maintaining relations between the countries themselves and the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

On 24 July 1924, a new chapter in the life of the Committee and in the history of intellectual co-operation was opened when the French Government offered to establish in Paris an International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation and undertook to provide it with a budget.

During the session held by the League of Nations in Rome in December 1924, the relevant agreements for the establishment of the Institute and its official installation in the Palais Royal in Paris were signed.

The Institute was opened on 16 January 1926, when Mr. Daladier was Minister of Public Education of France.

With the establishment of the Institute, the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation came to constitute the Governing Body of the new organization, the first Director of which was Mr. Julien Luchaire.

The Institute established six sections covering its various activities. They were named General Business Section, University Relations Section, Scientific Information and Scientific Relations Section, Legal Section, Artistic and Literary Relations Section, and Information Section.

1. The Fifth Committee of the Assembly deleted the word 'education' in order to avoid the problems that might arise at the national level.
2. The number of members rose to 14 in 1924 and 15 in 1926.

News of the establishment of the Institute and of the new horizons its activities opened up for international intellectual co-operation soon spread, and many institutions requested the presence of delegates or representatives at its meetings, which in this way came to be situated under the international umbrella of the League of Nations. A number of international associations engaging in intellectual activities established relations with the Institute, where the Secretariat of the Committee of Understanding of the Major International Associations was set up.

This gave rise to a rapid expansion of intellectual co-operation, to the point where in 1927 the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation felt the need to review its work plan, and Professor G. De Reynold was assigned to draft a report, which he submitted on 23 July 1927. After considering the report, which was extremely detailed, the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation decided at its 1928 session to include in the agenda for the next meeting a review of its work and of the organization of intellectual co-operation on the basis of the experience gained and the results achieved to date, with a view to studying the very concept of 'intellectual co-operation'.

Pursuant to this decision, the plenary session in July 1929 considered the topic and appointed an ad hoc committee charged with studying the modalities of 'intellectual co-operation'.

As a result of the work of this ad hoc committee, it was concluded that, as the International Committee could not be a super-Ministry of Education or a super-academy, its true mission should be summed up in a single word: 'service' – service to intellectual activity in all its forms, including scientific ideas, which were becoming increasingly important.

It must be recognized that this first phase and this first experience of international intellectual co-operation had overall been promising, despite the difficulties that had been encountered en route.

The Intellectual Co-operation Organization was then set up, and its existence was formally recognized by a resolution of the Assembly of the League of Nations adopted on 24 September 1931. The report of the Study Committee that had been submitted to the meeting stated that the purpose of intellectual co-operation was 'international collaboration to ensure the advancement of civilization in general and of human knowledge, particularly the development of the dissemination of the sciences, letters and the arts'. It also served the purpose of 'creating a state of mind conducive to the peaceful settlement of international problems within the framework of the League of Nations'. This report dealt with the programme, methods and plan of work of the Organization and of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, as the supreme organ of such co-operation which directed the work and monitored the activity. The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the technical body for this whole area of activity, was a working instrument of the Committee.

The Institute had a permanent staff and maintained constant relations with the Committee on Letters and Arts and the Advisory Committee on Education of the League of Nations. When necessary, it drew directly on the services of the members of the Steering Committee of the International Office of Museums, the International Commission on Popular Arts, the Committee of Library Experts and others. In addition, the Institute contacted the delegates of States when necessary.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation waged an effective campaign against the obstacles intellectual life was facing, through better international understanding and efforts to avoid the political or trade disputes which set peoples against one another and increased the difficulties caused by changing living conditions and adaptation to new situations.

Some of the activities outlined for the attainment of these objectives consisted in the provision of facilities for study travel, the drafting of many bilateral intellectual agreements, the award of fellowships and study grants, and the exchange of professors and workers. There was general agreement, however, that the true remedy could be found only in a transformation of the overall conditions of international life and relations.

ACTIVITIES

A brief analysis will now be given of the work carried out during these years by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the body which executed the decisions of the Committee and the driving force of this co-operation. For the purpose, this work will be divided into a number of sectors.

Education

Although the word 'education' did not appear in the text establishing the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation in 1922, concern for this activity was certainly ever present, and found expression in concrete action, since it was very difficult in practice to eliminate the educational aspect from the Institute's programme. How, for example, was it possible to speak of the equivalency of degrees and diplomas without referring to national education systems and their corresponding curricula? In any event, so as not to wound national susceptibilities with respect to education, the Institute never took up an issue which had not been submitted to it by a national or international organization.

In the 14 years of the Institute's activities,³ three periods may be distinguished where education is concerned:

3. Its activities may be said to have extended barely into 1940, because of the Second World War.

1. From 1926 to 1930: Evaluation of the means available, compilation and arrangement of documentation and establishment of relations;
2. From 1930 to 1936: The Institute studied means of combating the intellectual exclusion of young people and concerned itself with the co-ordination of secondary education;
3. From 1936 onwards it concerned itself with adult education, the role of the radio and cinema in rural education, civic instruction and, especially, education for peace.

For higher education, the International Centre for University Documentation was established, and its work was periodically reflected in the university news reported in the *Bulletin of the Institute*.

For school education, an Information Centre was established with two branches, one in Paris and the other in Geneva. Both concerned themselves initially with teaching the objectives of the League of Nations, but soon extended their activities to the comparative study of the major problems of secondary education. From 1935 onwards, an international pedagogical bibliography was regularly published.

Eighteen countries established national educational documentation centres. The number increased to forty by 1938. A register of those centres provided a brief note on each of them, as well as a list of the main pedagogical journals published in 27 countries.

Periodical publications on education were the *Bulletin of University Relations* (1924–1926), the *Bulletin of the Institute* (from 1928), *Vacation Courses in Europe* (1928–1939), *Students Abroad* (from 1931) and *International Pedagogical Bibliography*, published annually from 1935 onwards.

Between 1926 and 1940, the Institute established a number of centres and committees, dealing primarily with the following topics:

1. The organization of higher education;
2. The terms of admission to higher education;
3. The equivalence of degrees and diplomas;
4. University exchanges (professors, students, fellowships);
5. Vacation courses in Europe;
6. Unemployment among university graduates;
7. The Universal International Sanatorium (specially reserved for tubercular students);
8. Student press;
9. Co-ordination of secondary education;
10. Adult education;
11. Public libraries;
12. The cinema, radio and press;
13. Surveys of national education systems;
14. Revision of geography and history textbooks.

These topics are of singular interest in that, through them, the foundations were laid on which were built some of the programmes that are being carried out today.

As the space available precludes devoting to each of them the attention it deserves, we shall confine ourselves to the last mentioned, one of the most important and one of those which are most consistent with the spirit of true international intellectual co-operation, to the point where, some years before the establishment of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, in September 1920, to be precise, the Secretariat of the League of Nations had received communications from a number of associations in France and Japan requesting the establishment of a working group which would concern itself with 'school books' in order to correct the errors and unacceptable expressions each country's textbooks contained on the subject of other countries and ensure that education did not incite hatred among peoples.

A wealth of proposals was forthcoming, and among them it is worth singling out the one by Mr. Casarès, which recommended that the teaching of history should be conducted in full freedom at the national level, but stripped of incorrect assessments and errors that might disfigure the true physiognomy of other peoples.

It was agreed that each National Committee should communicate to others what in its view should be corrected in their textbooks, and a number of countries responded rapidly and positively.

In 1930 this task was assigned to the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation; the Institute drew up a report which was published at the beginning of 1932, after being approved by the International Committee in July of the previous year.

The Institute sent the text of the report to some 100 newspapers and journals and some 50 individuals interested in the subject. In addition, issue No. 20–21 (September–October 1932) of the *Bulletin of the Institute* initiated a section dealing with the revision of school textbooks.

In December 1933 the Institute embarked upon the task of compiling passages in school textbooks from different countries that were drafted objectively, and publishing them in order to serve as an example. The aim was not only to do away with inappropriate paragraphs, but to demonstrate 'the best way of teaching history'.

In 1935 the Institute drew up a draft bilateral agreement for the establishment of a procedure designed to ensure the disappearance, or at least the narrowing, of the differences apparent because of the interpretation of certain historical events as they were described in school textbooks.

In 1938 the Institute submitted to the International Congress of Historical Sciences, meeting in Zurich in August, a report summarizing its activities in this respect. The same year, the Institute published a book entitled *Recueil des Ac-*

cords Intellectuals, covering everything that had been done in this area since 1919.

Looking back now, in the light of events, to the ending of the First World War and to the years 1919 and 1920, we can realize how the world, and especially Europe, had deluded themselves into believing that peoples, exhausted by the terrible armed conflict, wanted nothing more than to ensure peace as a common aspiration. Nevertheless, the differences were greater than before: the number of independent countries in Europe had increased, European civilization had fallen apart, and the political problems were becoming greater. The year 1939 gave the tragic response to this situation.

Social sciences

In May 1926, a project for the establishment of an International University of Political and Social Sciences was submitted to the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation. The Committee transformed the project into a more modest one, a federation of institutions in different countries engaged in teaching about the modern world and international relations.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation was the body assigned to give shape to this project, through its University Relations Section, and the first step was to establish the Conference of Higher International Studies, which was to be the standing body for co-operation, liaison and co-ordination between national institutions whose task was the scientific study of international affairs.

The Conference of Higher International Studies was officially established in 1928, and its organizational structure consisted of plenary meetings, an Executive Committee and the Administrative Services, which were those of the Institute. Its establishment constituted a response to the need that was increasingly being felt to set up a study and documentation centre for use by politicians, diplomats, journalists and anyone else wishing to keep in contact with international life.

The Conference convened in Berlin in 1928 an international expert meeting attended by representatives from six countries and a number of international organizations. The principal topic studied were the situation of scientific research into contemporary international problems and how to provide assistance to specialists in international affairs.

Meanwhile, the Institute had prepared a number of publications, among which mention may be made of the *Handbook of Institutions for the Scientific Study of International Relations* (in three languages) and *Centres of Reference for International Affairs* (also in three languages).

The second session of the Conference took place in London in 1929 (11–14 March), and dealt above all with practical co-operation projects.

The third and fourth sessions were held respectively in Paris and Copenha-

gen, the latter on the basis of a report written by Professor Arnold G. Toynbee of the Royal Institute for Foreign Affairs. They were held in 1930 and 1931.

The fifth session took place in Milan from 23 to 27 May 1932, and the main topic discussed was 'The State and economic life, especially from the standpoint of international economic and political relations'. The Institute published the reports of the this fifth session of the Conference in English and French.

London was the location of the sixth session, which took place from 29 May to 3 June 1933 and continued discussion of the topic dealt with at the previous session.

The seventh session took place in Paris from 24 to 26 May 1934. The topic was 'Collective security', and the preliminary work was conducted under the leadership of Professor Maurice Bourquin of the University Institute of Higher International Studies, Geneva.

The proceedings of the fifth and sixth sessions had been published in English and French in a volume entitled *The State and Economic Life*.

The eighth session was held in London from 3 to 8 June 1935, and was devoted to study of the achievements and consequences of the preceding sessions on the State and economic life and collective security.

Madrid was the location of the ninth session of the Conference, which took place from 26 to 30 May 1936⁴ and dealt with methods of peaceful settlement with regard to colonies, population, markets and raw materials. At the closing ceremony, Professor Salvador de Madariaga spoke on behalf of the Intellectual Co-operation Organization.

In 1937, the tenth session of the Conference was held in Paris (28 June–3 July) in the context of 'Intellectual Co-operation Month'. This session closed the cycle of studies dealing with procedures for peaceful change.

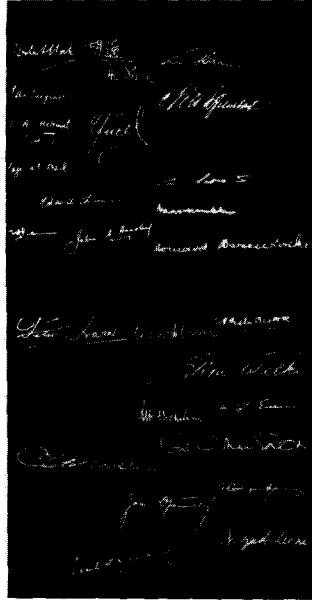
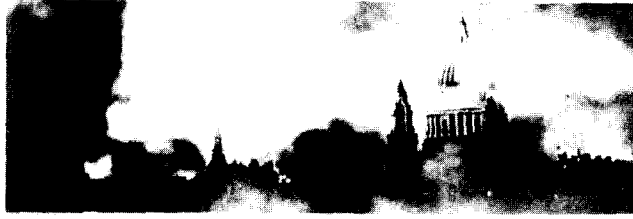
The eleventh session took place in Prague from 23 to 27 May 1938, and dealt entirely with the university teaching of international relations.

By then, three reports had been published in English and French compiling the proceedings of previous sessions, under the titles *International Agreements on Raw Materials*, by W. Walid, *Markets and the Problem of Peaceful Change*, by J. B. Condliffe, and *The Synthetic Optimum of Population*, by Imre Ferenczi.

The twelfth session was held in Bergen (Norway) from 27 August to 2 September 1939, in distressing circumstances for the world which made it advisable to do away with the opening and closing ceremonies.⁵ The participants concerned themselves above all with the economic policy of Germany and Poland, specifically with the port of Danzig.

4. Approximately a month and a half before the start of the Civil War in Spain (18 July 1936).

5. On 1 September Poland had been invaded by the Germans, and on 3 September France and the United Kingdom declared war on Germany. This was the start of the Second World War.



Miscellaneous No. 16 (1945)

FINAL ACT
OF THE
**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EDUCATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANISATION**

[SEVEN RELATED DOCUMENTS]
LONDON, 16th NOVEMBER, 1945

*Presented to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
in Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
REFERENCE 827

Cmd. 5711

The UNESCO Constitution.



A session of the Preparatory Commission, London, February 1946.

Independently of the above sessions of the Conference on Higher International Studies, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation had agreed in 1928 to add the field of the social sciences to its overall work programme, and a very important step was the preparation of an international survey of the problem of automation, conducted in collaboration with the International Labour Office. Its title was 'The Adaptation of Mechanization to the Conditions of Human Work'.

The Institute proposed to publish a series of volumes on the state of social science teaching and research. Some of them were issued: in June 1937 the book *Les Sciences Sociales en France: Éducation et Recherche* appeared in France under the direction of Professor Bouglé. Czechoslovakia, Italy, Japan and Norway were other countries in which works on the same topic were published or initiated.

Natural sciences

When the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation was established, an invitation was issued to a group of prominent scientists to collaborate with it. They were Professor Lorentz, who was already the second Chairman of the Committee, Mme. Curie-Sklodowska, Miss Bonnevie, Professor of Zoology at the University of Oslo, Dr. Millikan, Vice-Chairman of the National Research Council of the United States, Professor Einstein of the Berlin Academy of Sciences, Professor Paul Painlevé of the University of Paris, Professor De Castro of the Faculty of Medicine in Rio de Janeiro, and Professor Torres Quevedo of the Academy of Sciences in Madrid.

The work embarked on by the Institute was aimed primarily at strengthening international scientific collaboration, the difficulty of which was clearly expressed in the following words by Mme. Curie-Sklodowska: 'International work is a very difficult task, but nevertheless it is essential to learn how to do it, at the cost of much effort and in a real spirit of sacrifice. Imperfect as it may be, the work of intellectual co-operation has a grandeur that needs to be maintained'.

Initially, the Scientific Information and Scientific Relations Section of the Institute dealt not only with the natural sciences, but also with the historical, philological and moral sciences, as well as with libraries and bibliography. Subsequently, the Section confined itself exclusively to the scientific field, in which it conducted the following activities: assistance to the countries devastated by the First World War in relation to scientific publications; dissemination of scientific works published in languages that were not widely utilized, preparation of bibliographies of the mathematical, biological and physical sciences, standardization of scientific nomenclature, standardization of the formats of scientific publications and surveys of the financial resources for science.

In 1931 a Scientific Advisory Committee was established under the chairmanship of Mme. Curie-Sklodowska, its membership consisting of Professors

Blas Cabrera of the University of Madrid, Henry Hallet Dale of the National Medical Research Institute, London, Fritz Haber of Friedrich-Wilhelm University, Paul Langevin of the Collège de France and Francesco Severi of the University of Rome.

The Advisory Committee drew up standards relating to the preparation of all types of abstracts and publications, and recommended the establishment of national centres for the primary and immediate purpose of compiling each country's scientific bibliography.

Among other issues of great interest was the co-ordination of scientific terminologies, which was the subject of meetings held in Paris (18–19 March 1932) and Madrid (4–5 May 1933).

In the light of the reports prepared by these meetings, the Committee for the Co-ordination of Scientific Terminologies recommended that vocabulary or nomenclature commissions should be established in each international scientific union to give their opinion on the acceptance of neologisms, and also that publishers of scientific journals should take their advice into account.

Other scientific recommendations related to concentration, reaction equilibria and velocities, abolition of the term 'cryohydrate', limited application of the term 'amorphous', the meaning of the rotatory optical power, the use of the terms 'asymmetry', 'dissymmetry', 'isotropy' and 'anisotropy', specific and molecular rotation and atomic weight.

On 14 and 15 July 1932 an advisory committee met in Geneva to draw up a report on collaboration between science museums. The report prepared by this committee recommended essentially that the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation should establish an Information and Documentation Centre on all issues relating to science museums, museums of the history of civilization, technical museums, zoos, botanical gardens, etc., that travel and exchange of curators and specialists should be facilitated, that co-operation between science museums should be developed, and that an information bulletin should be published and distributed.

As a result of these recommendations, the organization of an Information and Documentation Centre was initiated, with materials coming for the most part from the United States of America and Japan. In addition, publication of a monthly information bulletin *Science Museums* was initiated, and it appeared regularly until 1939.

On 9 July 1937 an agreement was signed between the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the International Council of Scientific Unions (formerly the International Research Council). A Committee to conduct the necessary negotiations had previously been appointed under the chairmanship of Professor Blas Cabrera.

From 1937 onwards, the Institute organized nine study meetings, the subject of which was selected in each case by the Scientific Advisory Committee.

The meetings were:

1. Study committee on phytohormones (Paris, 1–2 October 1937);
2. Small committee on the publication of ancient scientific manuscripts (Prague, 3–4 December 1937);
3. Study meeting on methods of physical chemical determination of the atomic and molecular weights of gases (Neuchâtel, 17–18 December 1937);
4. Study meeting on the new theories of physics (Warsaw, 30 May–3 June 1938);
5. Study meeting on the foundations and methods of the mathematical sciences (Zurich, 6–9 December 1938);
6. Study meeting on magnetism (Strasbourg, 21–25 May 1939);
7. Study meeting on measurement of ionizing radiation (Groeningen, 30 May – 1 June 1939);
8. Study meeting on the application of probability calculus (Geneva, 12–15 July 1939);
9. Study meeting on the nomenclature and terminology of genetics and cytology (London, 14–15 August 1939). This ninth meeting was the last to be organized by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in the field of the natural sciences.

Cinema, libraries and archives

From the very beginning of its activities, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation had included the cinema in its programme, as a medium for university teaching and scientific studies. The programme was conducted by the Swiss Student Federation, to which the Institute assigned the task of drawing up the draft constitution of the International Commission for the University Teaching of Cinematography, as well as a catalogue of the films on science produced up until that time.

The programme was soon extended to educational cinema at the primary and secondary levels, a quite difficult and complex task given that the little that existed was the result of private initiatives, and was not based on a systematic and organized methodology.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation recommended the convening of an International Cinema Congress, which took place in Paris, in the Institute, from 27 September to 3 October 1926 and was attended by 432 participants from 32 countries and 12 major international associations. It should be added that the Institute already had a Cinematographic Studies Service.

Some of the recommendations of this pioneering Congress related to: improvement of film production from the intellectual, artistic and moral standpoints; instructional and social education films; professional issues (contracts for actors and technicians, trade unions, mutual benefit societies, etc.); the role of the press, the relationship of the cinema to the other arts, and study of the role of an international cinema office.

A year later, the International Educational Cinematographic Institute was established in Rome under the leadership of Alfredo Rocco, who had attended the Congress as a delegate of Italy.

The Governing Council of the Institute consisted of three members of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and eight leading figures in the film world from different countries. Its sessions were attended by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and the Directors of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture.

Article 2 of the Rome Institute's Statutes defined its main function, namely 'to promote the production, dissemination and exchange between the various countries of educational films on education, art, industry, agriculture, trade, hygiene, etc.'. Article 14 assigned to the Institute the task of organizing an international film library and keeping up to date a general catalogue of educational films.

The Institute launched the publication of an *International Educational Film Review*, which appeared up until 1934 in five editions – English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

The *Review* published the results of an important survey conducted by the Institute on cinema-related legislation in various countries, dealing especially with the customs and tax regime and with censorship standards. This survey gave rise to a large volume of work on film-related legislation, which could not be published for lack of funds.

When the *Review* ceased publication in 1934, it was replaced by *Intercine*, another journal dealing more with technical issues, which published a special issue on television. *Intercine* lasted for only one year.

An outcome of the survey mentioned above was the text of the Convention for facilitating the International Circulation of Films of an Educational Character, which by 1937 had been ratified or acceded to by 23 countries, while 40 British and 11 Italian films had secured free circulation.

In that same year, unfortunately, the International Educational Cinematographic Institute ceased to exist. The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation took over its functions and was able to raise the number of signatory countries to the Convention to 28.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation regarded the topic of libraries and archives as of vital importance, and conducted surveys on the role and training of librarians, their social and intellectual function, public libraries and workers' free time.

The results of these surveys were published, and afforded a basis for subsequent studies, together with others relating to classification, methodology, bibliography, the international register of translations, international co-ordination between librarians, exchanges, loans and free circulation of printed matter.

A Standing Committee of Library Experts was established, and met annu-

ally in the Institute to discuss pending issues and outline the programme of work for the coming year. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, the Institute published each year an account of the most important works that had appeared in the various countries. Likewise, in 1931, the *Guide to National Loan and International Exchange Services* appeared in 1931; it sold out, and had to be reissued in 1932. Other publications by the Institute were the *Index Bibliographicus*, the *Code of Titles of Periodical Publications* and, above all, the *Index Translationum*, an international catalogue of translations that had appeared in the majority of countries. Such was its success that it still continues to be published by UNESCO.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation established a Committee of Archivists, the main task of which was the preparation of an *International Guide to Archives*, the first part of which, relating to Europe, was published in 1934. Two years later, in 1936, preparation of another volume, on the non-European countries, was initiated. The volume of material received from America was so large that it was decided to devote a special volume to that continent, with another for Asia, Africa and Oceania. The project, like so many others, was curtailed by the war.

Arts and letters

In 1931, the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation established the Standing Committee on Letters and Arts of the League of Nations. While education, the natural sciences, the social sciences, cinema, libraries and archives, among other activities, had merited the attention of the International Committee, it could not continue to neglect the broad field of letters and the arts. Thus began what, years later, within UNESCO, came to be known as the Culture Sector.

Initially, the Committee comprised 19 members under the chairmanship of Jules Destrée, former Minister for Sciences and Arts of Belgium. It initiated its work on the basis of an old project drawn up by the Abbé Grégoire in 1815 for the organization of annual meetings of scholars and artists.

Thereafter meetings, which the political and military situation limited to eight in number, were organized on the following topics:

1. In Frankfurt, on the topic 'Goethe'. This meeting was held from 12 to 14 May 1932, on the occasion of the celebrations in honour of Goethe. The following are the titles of some of the papers: 'How I see Goethe', by Paul Valéry, 'Goethe and the vocation of the writer', by Thomas Mann, 'Faust and the spiritual Europeans', by Salvador de Madariaga, 'Goethe and Hellenism', by Gilbert Murray, 'Goethe and architecture', by Ragnar Ostberg, and 'Goethe in Rome', by Roberto Paribeni.
2. In Madrid, on the topic 'The future of culture'. The meeting, held in the Ciudad Universitaria in October 1932, was chaired by Mme. Curie-Sklodowska, and attended by such personalities as Paul Langevin, Jules

- Romains, Otto Lehman, Miguel de Unamuno and Manuel Garcia Morente. Of the resolutions (or rather thoughts and advice) adopted, the following are noteworthy: 'The future of civilization is closely subject to the maintenance of peace'; 'The future of culture is associated with the development of its universal elements, which in turn depend on the organization of mankind as a moral and legal unit'; 'A national culture cannot be conceived of other than in relation to the neighbouring national cultures and to the universal culture, which subsumes them'; 'As the future of culture is associated with the selection of the most highly gifted individuals, it is extremely important to study the best means of selecting young people destined for culture with a view to better ensuring the discovery and development of natural talents';
3. In Paris, on the topic 'The future of the European spirit'. The meeting was held in the Palais Royal from 16 to 18 October 1933 under the chairmanship of Paul Valéry, and was attended *inter alia* by Jules Romains, Salvador de Madariaga, Aldous Huxley and Émile Borel. The meeting was characterized by a clash of ideas which made apparent the various political and social trends of that difficult time in Europe, despite which agreement was reached on the existence of a 'European spirit', leading to the establishment in Paris of a Society of European Studies;
 4. In Venice, on the topic 'Art and reality. Art and the State'. The meeting took place in the Palazzo Ducale under the chairmanship of Jules Destrée from 25 to 28 July 1934. It was attended by more than fifty leading figures, among them the Nobel Prize winner Thomas Mann, the writers Gonzalo Zaldumbide (Ecuador), Lajos Zilahy (Hungary) and Ernesto Giménez Caballero (Spain), the philosopher Giovanni Gentile (Italy) and the architect Charles-Édouard Le Corbusier (France). Some of the most striking statements made at this meeting are the following: 'The public plays a very important role in the work of art'; 'The day a supranational civilization exists, we shall find ourselves in a great era, but this era will not come before the emergence of a collective civilization and great geniuses'; 'With regard to art, the State has not rights, but rather duties, which may take various forms: conservation of the works of the past, preparation of coming generations, protection of artists and assistance to the disinherited';
 5. In Nice, on the topic 'The formation of modern man'. The meeting took place from 1 to 8 April 1935 at the Centre for Mediterranean Studies. It dealt with the natural gifts of adolescents, the role of educators in developing the sense of responsibility in their pupils and ensuring the dominance of intelligence over impulses and instincts, adult education and the shaping of public opinion in support of international co-operation;
 6. In Budapest, on the topic 'Towards a new humanism'. The meeting, held from 8 to 11 June 1936 under the chairmanship of Paul Valéry, was attended by 32 participants. The titles of the papers presented were 'The definition of

- the humanities', 'Man in Greco-Roman civilization', 'The historical role of the classical humanities', 'The still-living elements of the classical humanities', 'The role of literature and languages', 'The role of the sciences' and 'The possibilities for contemporary humanism';
7. In Buenos Aires, on the topic 'Europe-Latin America'. The meeting took place in September 1936 at the Argentine PEN Club. The basic topic was 'Current relations between European and American cultures', focusing on mutual relations. The meeting was not very successful, and Stefan Zweig summed it up as follows: 'To have the full value of reality, a meeting always involves knowledge of the subject, and we must openly admit that we Europeans are the weak side here, because we do not know enough about things in Latin America';
 8. In Paris, on the topic 'The future fate of letters'. The meeting was held from 20 to 23 July 1937 in the context of Intellectual Co-operation Month. There were fifteen participants in this last meeting, and from the resolution it adopted the following sentences may be singled out: 'The Committee proclaims the need for the literary arts as one of the ultimate purposes of society and one of the forms of human activity whose creations are most useful to everyday life through the promulgation of values without which action would have neither a foundation nor a meaning'; 'The Committee finds that the future fate of letters is associated with the freedom of expression and with the moral and economic independence of creative spirits'.

Plans had been drawn up for a ninth meeting to take place in 1939, but war broke out before the scheduled date. The topic was to have been 'Status and life'.

The Standing Committee for Letters and Arts published, in four volumes in English and French, a correspondence between representatives of higher intellectual activity. The titles were *Towards a Society of Minds*, *Why War?*, *Mind, Ethics and War* and *Civilizations*. These volumes contained letters written by Einstein, Freud, Bojer, Huizinga, A. Huxley, André Maurois, G. Murray and Rabindranath Tagore, among others. The volume *Why War?* was translated and published by a Dutch company under the title *Waarom oorlog?*

The Committee published in French a Japanese collection and some of the best works of Ibero-American literature.

Scientific property and copyright

One of the issues which merited the greatest attention on the part of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation was the survey on the status of intellectual work and the measures that should be taken to remedy the dangers threatening intellectual circles in some countries, as well as the protection of intellectual rights. The Committee and then the Institute, as the executing agency, made a notable effort in this area.

One of the ideas most strongly defended was that of instituting, through a

convention, a new right: that of the inventor to the economic exploitation of his discovery.

In agreement with the International Chamber of Commerce, a questionnaire was drawn up summarizing the various aspects of the problem, and was sent to industrialists and scientific groups, and particularly to the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

The questionnaire made apparent some differences of views both in the theoretical sphere and in practice, and led to a tripartite meeting of men of science, manufacturers' representatives and persons acquainted with the views of their governments convened in Paris in December 1927 and presided over by the Secretary of the Spanish Royal Academy, Julio Casares. After three days of deliberations, the meeting unanimously adopted a 20-article text, the main points of which related to the proper protection of every scientific discovery, the rules governing the duration of such protection, which was set at thirty years from the date of registration, and remuneration of the author of the discovery, which was to be determined by agreement between authors and users. However, the diplomatic conference which was to give the international imprimatur to inventors' rights could not be held because of the resistance offered by the leaders of the main forces in the economy.

Copyright, for its part, was a concept alien to national legislation, and was not covered under the 1886 Berne Convention.

The review of that Convention in 1928 afforded an opportunity for the Institute to have this issue included in the agenda of the Rome Diplomatic Conference, held in that same year, which approved by acclamation the principle of international protection of the author's moral right.

The Institute's activity extended to other aspects of copyright, for example copyright on oral works (courses, lectures, sermons, songs) with respect to their recording.

The protection of copyright was intended to be international in nature, and accordingly the Institute drew up a draft recommendation with a view to all States concerned agreeing on the objective of achieving 'world-wide unification of the laws protecting creations of the mind'.

A few weeks later, this recommendation was submitted to the ninth Assembly of the League of Nations, where it met with a very favourable response. Years later, UNESCO was to take up this painstaking and complex experiment in order to incorporate it in one of its areas of activity.

The national intellectual co-operation committees

The European countries had barely emerged from the First World War when the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation held its first session in August 1922. At the session, the desirability was raised of taking stock of the losses sustained in intellectual life and of its immediate needs in each country.

Thus the National Committees were established for the specific purpose of drawing up a plan of the needs of scientific institutions in the various countries.

In these first years, all of the Committees performed the function assigned to them, namely that of responding to the relevant questionnaires.

The foundation of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation facilitated the establishment and development of the National Committees, the number of which rose from 30 in 1928 to 49 in 1938.

Thirteen National Committees met for the first time in 1923 and discussed, among other issues, the exchange of scientists, students and publications, as well as the establishment of an international bibliographical office.

In 1927 the International Commission on Intellectual Co-operation suggested that the National Committees should represent 'all leading intellectual activities in their countries' and 'send one or more delegates to meetings that could ensure better co-ordination of efforts'.

The second meeting took place in Geneva in 1929, under the name First General Conference, and was attended by 26 National Committees.

The third of these meetings was held in Paris in 1937, the year of the International Exhibition of Arts and Technology. The fourth was to have been held, also in Paris, in 1940, but the war interrupted the preparations that were being made for its organization.

These National Committees exhibited a great variety in their composition. The number of their members ranged from six (Poland) to 80 (France). Analysis of the structure of the National Committees reveals that they all included representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education, scientific and artistic associations and universities. They all had an Executive Committee and a Permanent Secretariat. Almost all of them were subsidized by the government and by private institutions.

The end of an era

Once the Second World War (1939–1945) was over, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation set about the task of reviewing its depleted and damaged archives and handing over to UNESCO, when the latter was established, the materials that would ensure the continuity of its work.

When UNESCO inherited these materials, the headway it was enabled to make in this international endeavour served as a very sound basis for its initial programme.

The birth of UNESCO and the first General Conference

The Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME)

As was indicated earlier, from 1940 onwards the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation was unable to continue its activities because of the Second World War, but the spirit of co-operation on which they were based remained latent while the tragic armed conflict was under way, and was manifested when, on 28 October 1942, the President of the Board of Education of England and Wales, Richard A. Butler, acting on an initiative by the Chairman of the British Council, Sir Malcolm Robertson, sent a letter to his colleagues from the allied governments which were in exile in London, inviting them to a meeting on 16 November.

On that date, the Ministers of Education (or their representatives) of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Holland, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia, along with Professor René Cassin,¹ Commissioner of Justice and Education of General de Gaulle's Free French Committee, gathered together amid the ruins and debris left by the bombing raids.

What subsequently became known as the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME) continued its meetings, and the third session, on 25 May 1943, was attended by a representative of Luxembourg.

As recorded by Denis Mylonas,² in May 1943, during the fourth session of CAME, an *ad hoc* committee was appointed to study a report drawn up jointly by the London International Assembly and the Council for Education in World Citizenship. This report proposed, among other things, the creation as soon as possible of an international organization for education.

1. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1968.

2. 'La Genèse de l'UNESCO: La Conférence des Ministres Alliés de l'Éducation (1942–1945)'.

A month later, at the next session of CAME, delegates were of the view that their own Conference contained the seed of an international educational organization.

Towards the end of 1943, with world interest in the activities of CAME continuing to grow, the delegates decided that the time had come to enlarge the Conference by giving full delegate status to those countries until then represented by observers. The idea of setting up an international organization was by now generally accepted.

A letter was sent to the Government of the United States of America in which CAME indicated that 'the objective of the reconstituted Conference would be to consider plans for the formation of a permanent organization . . . on an international basis with the objective of promoting co-operation in educational matters in the post-war period'. The United States Government accepted this proposal, and in its reply acknowledged 'the important preliminary work done by the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education', recognizing it as 'a useful agency for the further emergency development of international co-operation in educational and cultural reconstruction'.

In February 1944 the delegate of France, René Cassin, drew the attention of the Conference to the need to draw up plans for an international education organization. On the basis of this initiative by Cassin, the Executive Committee of CAME requested three of its members (Paul Vaucher, Professor of Literature at the Sorbonne, Alf Sommerfelt, an official of the Ministry of Education in his country, Norway, and Stefan Glaser, Professor of Law at the University of Wilno, Poland), to analyse three important documents relating to the establishment of an international organization which had been drawn up outside the Conference.

By April 1944, the main work of the Conference on the preparation of planning for reconstruction was well advanced.

The ninth session, on 6 April 1944, was attended by a five-member United States delegation chaired by Congressman J. William Fulbright, and made up of John Studebaker, Commissioner for Education, Grayson N. Kefauver, Dean of the Faculty of Education at Stanford University, Mildred Thompson, Dean of Vassar College and Archibald MacLeish, from the Library of Congress.

In May 1944 the United States Government invited the United Kingdom, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and China to consider the framework of an international security organization, and contacts were initiated at Dumbarton Oaks, close to Washington, in August. In October the draft of a charter for a new intergovernmental organization to be known as the United Nations was published, and a vast operation continued thereafter, culminating in the historic San Francisco Conference in April 1945.³

3. Prior to that Conference, the term 'United Nations' referred only to the countries that had signed the Declaration by United Nations on 1 January 1942.

In January 1945, CAME established a committee to consider possible relations between the proposed United Nations Organization, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation and the International Bureau of Education in Geneva.⁴

The draft was considered at a plenary session of the Conference, which adopted an amendment submitted by the Chairman of CAME, Richard Butler, proposing the addition to a paragraph concerning the exchange of information on problems of education and culture of the words 'including scientific research'.

A pause then ensued which concluded with the establishment of the United Nations, the Conference on which opened in San Francisco (United States) on 25 April 1945. When it closed two months later, it had approved not only the Charter of the United Nations, which came into force on 24 October 1945, but also a French recommendation that governments should convene within the next few months a conference to draw up the statute of an international organization on cultural co-operation. The Government of the United Kingdom was requested to convene such a conference.

The Conference for the Establishment of the International Agency

The Conference took place in London, at the Institute of Civil Engineers, from 1 to 16 November 1945, and was presided over by Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Minister of Education of Great Britain. Its purpose was 'the establishment of a United Nations Educational and Cultural Organization'.

The Conference was attended by delegates and advisers from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Chile, China, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Philippines, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Holland, India, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (represented by an observer) and Yugoslavia – a total of 43 countries.

The following organizations sent observers to the Conference: the International Labour Organisation, the Secretariat of the League of Nations, the League of Nations Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, the International Institute of

4. The International Bureau of Education had been founded in Geneva in 1925 as an international non-governmental agency, and was transformed into an intergovernmental organization in 1929. Its principal inspiration came from Professor Piaget and his colleague Pedro Roselló.

Intellectual Co-operation, the Pan-American Union, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and the International Bureau of Education.

Sir Alfred Zimmern, who had been Deputy Director of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, was the first Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission of UNESCO.

The agenda of the Conference covered deciding on the name of the new organization, drafting the preamble of its constitution and defining its objectives and main functions.

The following five commissions were set up:

- I: 'Title, preamble, purposes and principal functions of the Organization'. Chairman: Jaime Torres Bodet (Mexico);
- II: 'General structure of the Organization'. Chairman: A. Sommerfelt (Norway);
- III: 'The Executive Board and Secretariat'. Chairman: Léon Blum (France);
- IV: 'Relations with international organizations and seat of the Organization'. Chairman: Jan Opocensky (Czechoslovakia);
- V: 'The Interim Commission'. Chairman: L. Marquard (Union of South Africa).

Where the name of the organization is concerned, it should be noted that the first letter of invitation from the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME) referred solely to educational issues, but the Ministers soon expanded their debates to cover cultural topics. When the United States became part of CAME, its delegation came to the meeting with a plan for the establishment of a United Nations Educational and Cultural Reconstruction Organization (UNECREC), but in January 1945 the State Department was already referring to the creation of a United Nations Educational and Cultural Organization (UNECO), and it was an agency with that provisional title that the November 1945 Conference was intended to set up. A number of scientists were pressing for inclusion of science both in the title of the organization and in its programme of activities, and in the forefront of this effort were Joseph Needham, Head of the British Scientific Mission to China, and Julian Huxley, a British scientist, philosopher and educator.

Decisive support for this already justified campaign was afforded by the dropping of the atom bomb on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August of that same year, 1945, which had made science and scientific research a highly topical issue. For this reason, Miss Ellen Wilkinson included in her statement at the Conference the following passage:

'Though Science was not included in the original title of the Organization, the British delegation will put forward a proposal that it be included, so that the title would run 'Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.' In these days, when we are all wondering, perhaps apprehensively, what the scientists will do to us next, it is important that they should be linked closely with the humanities and should feel that they have a responsibility to mankind for the result of their

labours. I do not believe that any scientists will have survived the world catastrophe, who will still say that they are utterly uninterested in the social implications of their discoveries.'

And as this was in fact a concern that was felt by all delegates, at the third meeting of the Conference, on 6 November, science was included in the name of what would henceforth be known as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the 'S' was added to the abbreviation, which became UNESCO.

The draft produced by the Allied Ministers specified the functions of the new Organization as follows:

- (a) To facilitate consultations among leaders in the educational and cultural life of all peace-loving countries;
- (b) To assist the free flow of ideas and information among the peoples of the world through schools, universities and other educational and research institutions, libraries, publications and the press, the radio and the motion picture, international conferences and the exchange of students, teachers and all other representatives of educational and cultural life, with special attention to the exchange of information on major educational and cultural developments, including advances in scientific knowledge;
- (c) To foster the growth within each country and in its relations with other countries, of educational and cultural programmes which give support to international peace and security;
- (d) To develop and make available educational and cultural plans and materials for such consideration and use as each country may deem appropriate;
- (e) To conduct and encourage research and studies on educational and cultural problems related to the maintenance of peace and the advancement of human welfare;
- (f) To assist countries that need and request help in developing their educational and cultural activities.

In the discussion of functions, stress was placed on the fact that UNESCO should exercise a stronger and more far-reaching influence than its predecessor, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and that it should be an association of peoples, not of governments.

The National Commissions, for their part, were already mentioned in the draft, which dealt with them in article VIII, where this term (which prevailed) was proposed.

It was agreed that the structure of UNESCO would comprise the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Secretariat, the first being composed of the States Members of the Organization, and the Board of 18 members elected by the General Conference from the delegates appointed by Member States.

From the outset, the issue of the representative capacity of the members of the Executive Board was raised, in terms of whether they should be elected from

among the delegates attending the general Conference as representatives of the Member States or in their capacity as eminent figures in education, science or culture.

With respect to the secretariat, the Programme Sections (Education, Libraries, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Philosophy and Humanities, Mass Media, Arts, Archives and Museums) and the projects under the General Programme (Fundamental Education, International Understanding and Reconstruction and Rehabilitation) were outlined, as well as the services in the Office of the Director-General and the administrative services.

When it came to deciding on the site of UNESCO, the delegation of the United Kingdom proposed Paris. All delegates associated themselves with this proposal, and great praise was heard for 'the effort made by France in the cultural sphere', for the 'universality of the French spirit', and of France as 'the birthplace of democracy'.

The Fifth Commission or Interim Commission had as its main function that of organizing the first General Conference, which was to be held in Paris from 20 November to 10 December 1946.

Apart from assuming responsibility for that function, the Interim Commission received the mandate of studying the urgent needs for reconstruction with respect to education, science and culture in the territories devastated by the war. It was agreed that the Commission would hold its meetings in London to work on these tasks, and that it would cease to exist once the Director-General of UNESCO had been appointed by the first General Conference.

The Conference approved the constitution of UNESCO.⁵ We wish to draw special attention here to the declaration at the beginning of this document: 'that since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed'. This inspiring sentence is the work of a statesman and a poet: Clement Attlee, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, and the United States poet and Librarian of Congress, Archibald MacLeish. The Constitution of UNESCO was deposited in London.

At 3 p.m. on 16 November 1945, the tenth and last plenary meeting of the Conference was held. Miss Ellen Wilkinson closed the meeting with a moving statement whose closing words, after recalling the intellectuals who had lost their lives in the war, were:

We who are carrying on their work and who are starting this night to carry on their work are doing it in the hope that we shall carry on the flame of their souls and spirits in the children and young people who are committed to our care. Also at this solemn moment we say to the teachers of the world that those who fight in the

5. This document is annexed to the present publication.

struggle against ignorance and illiteracy do not fight alone; they fight with us behind them, with this great international Organization for them to appeal to.

She continued:

Let us stand now in silence together for one moment. . . . Thank you. I now have to ask the heads of delegations to come to the signing table, in the alphabetical order stated in the Final Act which you have in your hands. In addition to the Final Act, I am asked to say that the Instrument and Constitution will also be available for signing for those who are authorized to sign them.

Once the signing was completed, the President continued:

I think those are all the signatures. Will delegates just take their seats for one moment? We have thanked the Council for Intellectual Co-operation but I regret to say we have forgotten to thank the body that was responsible for all the details of this Conference, and which started two years before the United Nations Organization came into being. That is the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education convened by the Minister of Education in this country, which was initiated and carried through by my predecessor in the Ministry of Education in this country, Mr. Butler.⁶ 'It is a regrettable fact that there is not yet an anthem of the United Nations which we could at this moment sing as we end our Conference. I hope some genius in the Musicians' section of our educational international will provide us with one. In the absence of that anthem may I just simply draw this great Conference to a close by thanking you all for your attendance and wishing us all God speed in the work that we have to do. The Conference is now closed.

Thus UNESCO was established to promote peace and security through the application of education, science and culture to international understanding and human welfare.

The main concern of the founders was to promote and organize international co-operation through the dissemination of knowledge, the comparison of experience and the discussion of ideas, in collaboration with national non-governmental organizations and associations and international non-governmental federations in which many specialists were represented.

The new Organization was to conduct a crusade against illiteracy, which many delegates regarded as being incompatible with human dignity. For UNESCO, education, science and culture were not to be ends in themselves, but a means of engaging in a spiritual undertaking and a moral effort or mode of moral conduct. The ultimate objective, proclaimed in its Constitution, is peace founded upon the intellectual moral solidarity of mankind.

6. CAME was dissolved on 31 December 1945 after a formal meeting with the Executive Committee of UNESCO.

The Preparatory Commission

Once the Preparatory Conference was over, the Preparatory Commission, whose programme of work has already been mentioned, commenced its activities.

The Commission was presided over by Miss Ellen Wilkinson, and its first Executive Secretary was Sir Alfred Zimmern. It comprised 14 countries: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Canada, France, Greece, Holland, India, Mexico, Norway, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. A further seat (the fifteenth) was left vacant in the hope that the USSR would agree to occupy it, but this did not happen.

A few weeks after his appointment Sir Alfred Zimmern fell ill, and had to be replaced, Dr. Julian Huxley being nominated to the post of Executive Secretary in March 1946.⁷

In September of the same year, the Commission relocated to Paris, and took up occupancy of what had been the Hotel Majestic, 22 Avenue Kléber, close to the Arc de Triomphe.⁸

The Commission held its meetings there, and at one of them Dr. Huxley submitted a document entitled 'UNESCO, Its Purpose and Its Philosophy'; this gave rise to some controversy, to the point where it was circulated in the Committee as a document submitted in Dr. Huxley's personal capacity, and in no way an expression of the views of the Commission itself.

Under Huxley's leadership, the future Secretariat of UNESCO already had a staff of some 600 people working on the preparation of the programme which was to be submitted to the General Conference, along with a budget amounting to \$7,500,000; some members saw this as high, and it was reduced to \$6,950,000.

UNESCO had been established; but it could not exist officially as a specialized agency of the United Nations until 20 States had deposited their instruments of ratification with the Government of the United Kingdom in London in accordance with Article XV of the Constitution. The signature by the twentieth State (Greece) took place on 4 November 1946, and accordingly this is the date on which UNESCO officially came into existence as a specialized agency of the United Nations.

7. When Zimmern, recovered from his illness, joined the Commission, he was assigned a special mission.
8. This building, constructed in 1865 by Count Alexander Basilevsky, was occupied by Queen Isabel II, of Spain, who took up residence there after the Revolution in September 1868. It was known thereafter as the Palais de Castille, and the Queen died there on 9 April 1904. It was here that the Treaty of Versailles was drafted in 1919, and the building became, during the Second World War, the Headquarters of the German and then the American administration.



The first General Conference of UNESCO, Sorbonne University, Paris, 1946.



Julian Huxley, the first Director-General.

The last two meetings of the Commission were held on 14 and 15 November 1946. Its work had been very positive.

The list of the first 20 Member States of UNESCO, with the dates on which they ratified its Constitution, is given below:

1. United Kingdom	20 February
2. New Zealand	6 March
3. Saudi Arabia	30 April
4. Union of South Africa	3 June
5. Australia	11 June
6. India	12 June
7. Mexico	12 June
8. France	29 June
9. Dominican Republic	2 July
10. Turkey	6 July
11. Egypt	16 July
12. Norway	8 August
13. Canada	6 September
14. China	13 September
15. Denmark	20 September
16. United States of America	30 September
17. Czechoslovakia	5 October
18. Brazil	14 October
19. Lebanon	28 October
20. Greece	4 November

(All dates refer to 1946.)

The First General Conference: 20 November to 10 December 1946

On 19 November, France formally welcomed the new Organization. The ceremony took place at the Sorbonne, where delegates were received and greeted by Mr. Marcel A. Naegelon, Minister of Education of France, and Mr. Gustave Roussy, Rector of the University of Paris. Miss Ellen Wilkinson, President of the Preparatory Commission, was unable to be present because of illness, and she was represented by Mr. David Hardman, Minister of Education of Great Britain, who headed the British delegation to the first six sessions of the General Conference.

The President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, Mr. Georges Bidault, delivered the closing address.

The first General Conference of UNESCO opened on 20 November, pre-

sided over by Mr. Léon Blum, an eminent statesman.⁹ It was attended by delegates from 48 countries of which only 24 (those which had joined the organization by 20 November) had the right to vote.

All the meetings were held at the building on Avenue Kléber, the seat of the Organization.

The following passage from Mr. Blum's statement at the opening ceremony is worthy of note:

The United Nations Organization and the institutions gathered around it constitute a whole which is devised for the achievement of one specific purpose, namely, the realization of peace between peoples and the achievement of human progress; and in this task as a whole the part to be played by UNESCO is not the least important, as it is not the least noble, since it does consist in creating those intellectual, moral and sentimental conditions upon which the operation of the whole system rests.

At the Conference, it was agreed that the staff who had already been working with the Preparatory Conference and the Preparatory Commission would be incorporated into the UNESCO Secretariat.

On 6 December Mr. Julian Huxley, a prominent British biologist, was elected as the first Director-General of UNESCO; at his own request, his term of office was two years instead of the six specified in Article VI of the Constitution.

The budget submitted for 1947, which included some expenditures already incurred and amounted to \$6,950,000, was approved.

It was requested that each Member State, apart from paying its contribution to the UNESCO budget as provided for in Article IX of the Constitution, should co-operate through its specialized services in the work of the Organization.

The Conference adopted provisional guidelines on relations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The Executive Board of 18 members, half of whom had participated in the work of the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education or the Preparatory Conference, was established, by election, to provide guidance for the Secretariat between sessions of the General Conference. The Board met at Headquarters on 26 November, and its first Chairman was the Canadian, Victor Doré.

The needs of the peoples who had suffered most directly from the impact of the war which had only recently ended figured prominently in the report submitted to the General Conference. At the top of the list came the equipment and assistance required so that the children of those countries could continue their studies, artists, researchers and scholars could return to their work, libraries could be rebuilt and well supplied with books, and all the equipment needed for scientific research could be replaced.

9. Mr. Léon Blum was appointed President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic on 18 December, or eight days after the General Conference ended.

The projects were approved with a view to gradually attaining the main objective of UNESCO, namely 'to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture', and bearing in mind that one of the Organization's concerns was 'the common welfare of mankind', all within the framework of the original idea that guided and still guides the work of UNESCO – that of peace, a peace which is something more than the mere absence of declared hostilities, a peace involving solidarity, concord and a concerted effort by free men to achieve security and happiness, the aim being to make war impossible by instituting truly human relations among all peoples of the world and to vanquish its causes through the social, material and moral progress of mankind.

Thus the intention was to secure a single, coherent programme that linked all the projects together on the basis of these underlying ideas.

UNESCO would contribute to peace and security if it was able to promote co-operation among nations by improving men's knowledge of one another, of others and of the world in which they lived, and by disseminating that knowledge through education and information. The terrible events which had taken place had made it clearly apparent that ignorance could be a cause of war, and that a collaborative and objective study was called for, conducted with the fruitful understanding that can be brought to bear by those who truly love mankind and have faith in its abilities.

While UNESCO could do little for the material reconstruction of all that had been destroyed, it could foster in all minds an awareness of the urgency of reconstruction of the devastated world, and the idea of keeping the peace through mutual understanding. What was expected of the first General Conference was that UNESCO would offer the world a programme which would enable all to perceive clearly how and to what extent UNESCO accepted the responsibility placed on it by its Constitution and by what means it proposed to translate that responsibility into action and practical results.

At the head of the programme approved came the projects relating to dissemination of knowledge through education and mass information. This programme had two main projects, the first of them being on fundamental education designed to establish a minimum level of instruction and contribute to combating illiteracy, in that 'the current inequality between nations in education constitutes a threat to world peace'. A programme of this nature would employ new forms of education, especially for adults, in the field of culture, health and civic instruction, and would involve a team of experts assisted by the core staff of UNESCO to collect books and materials, resolve language difficulties and make available books, films and radio programmes to serve the purposes of the programme, without neglecting aids such as libraries and the social sciences.

A second project aimed at carrying out an in-depth review of textbooks and other school books, for which purpose UNESCO established a Clearing House

and Information Centre and set itself the objective of drawing to the world's attention the misuse of certain textbooks, which constituted a threat to peace.

With a view to making technical progress and culture available world-wide, UNESCO planned to establish a world-wide radio broadcasting and reception network, while at the same time initiating a survey of the press, cinema and the whole range of telecommunications and postal services in order to examine whether all of those means of communication among men were well adapted to the world's needs.

To enable all peoples to contact one another freely in order to understand each other better, there was also a need to do away with the existing barriers in the field of libraries, museums, arts and letters, and accordingly it was desirable to initiate a study of differential charges and rates, bureaucratic customs formalities, excessive postage rates and other obstacles of the same kind that impeded the circulation of books and other information materials.

At the same time, a resolution was adopted designed to promote the freedom of artists and their living and working conditions.

In the scientific field, consideration was given to the urgent and vital problem of the conservation of knowledge by replacing scientific and technical equipment, especially in the devastated regions of the world, and also by promoting exchanges of specialists and the award of fellowships.

The project on the establishment of an acceptable way of life in the equatorial forest region was felt to be of great interest, and in addition, in collaboration with other United Nations agencies, a study was to be carried out of the scientific problems encountered in the regions of the world where the majority of the population was undernourished.

The programme of the Social Sciences Section comprised projects which were all aimed at the principal task of ensuring peace, and would begin with a study of the tensions that lead to war.

With respect to nationalism and internationalism, the three main objectives were: to determine the characteristic features of each country's culture and ideals; to help develop in each country sympathy and respect for other countries and for the aspirations of others; and to study and recommend the most appropriate measures for creating closer co-operation between nations fully respecting their ideals and their culture.

The philosophical problems of the time, which involved identifying common ground for the various philosophies and the different religions, were not discussed; rather, plans were made for a conference of philosophers to be held in 1947.

As described above, this programme may appear a modest one. That was precisely what was appropriate when UNESCO was taking its first steps, and if the content of the programme is carefully examined, the wealth of ideas which at first may seem simple becomes apparent; the fact that some of them have still

not become a genuine reality, despite the time that has elapsed and the efforts that have been made, is the best demonstration of their complexity and of the difficulty involved in giving life to the great ideas of the first thinkers and teachers of UNESCO.¹⁰

Reading the documents of this first General Conference today, one has the impression that the UNESCO of that time was convinced that it had before it a great mission and unlimited possibilities, while at the same time being aware of the immediate urgency of its task.

Four days after this General Conference, on 14 December, the United Nations General Assembly approved the Agreement with UNESCO which in Article I provides that UNESCO is recognized by United Nations as a Specialized Agency responsible for taking such action as may be appropriate under its Constitution.

10. The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the predecessor of UNESCO, decided on 9 November 1946 to cease its activities on 31 December of that year.

The end of the 1940s

1947

THE FIRST STEPS

The year 1947 was the first in the Organization's life during which it would have to develop the programme approved by a General Conference.

The first four months were devoted to reformulating the projects approved, planning and putting into operation a satisfactory organizational structure through the creation of new organs such as the Bureau of Administrative Planning and Budget and the remodelling of others such as the Bureau of the Comptroller, the Bureau of Personnel and the General Services, working out the best means of co-operation between the Executive Board and its committees on the one hand and the Secretariat on the other, and replacing the staff of the Preparatory Commission by a Secretariat for the definitive Organization working under a new set of regulations and rules.

From 10 to 15 April, the Executive Board held its second session under the chairmanship of Mr. Victor Doré, and approved the revised programme and the detailed budget so that the Secretariat could, from then onwards, really begin active operations. The Board considered the possibility of designating UNESCO delegates to the various continents, but this project was not put into effect until later. Rather, it was Member States which began accrediting permanent delegates to UNESCO.¹

1. The Board held its third session in Paris from 24 to 29 July, and its fourth and fifth sessions in Mexico from 1 to 15 November and 25 November to 2 December respectively. At the end of November 1947, seven Member States had appointed permanent delegates with offices at UNESCO Headquarters: Brazil, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Mexico, Poland and the United States of America.

RECONSTRUCTION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND CULTURE

In May and June missions were sent to Austria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Italy, Poland and Yugoslavia to carry out inquiries into the most immediate needs arising out of the losses suffered by those countries during the Second World War in areas which were of concern to UNESCO. In addition, a large amount of material was compiled on the needs of schools and universities in 14 countries and on losses suffered by libraries, the press, radio and the cinema.

From 13 to 15 February a Conference of international voluntary organizations was held at UNESCO Headquarters which concerned itself with relief in education and allied fields and drew up a draft constitution for an Emergency Council; the draft was revised at an expert meeting held at the same location on 18 April, which agreed to name the new body the Temporary International Council for Educational Reconstruction. Its functions would be to provide a framework for the better conduct of the efforts of non-governmental organizations and provide a centre for co-ordination of national efforts with UNESCO's international reconstruction campaign. Two further meetings (10 July and 23 September) led to the establishment of National Councils.

The pamphlet *The Teacher and the Post-war Child* was published, with financing from a grant by the Greek Government, and subsequently translated into German, Italian, Hebrew and Romanian. Another publication of interest was *Teaching Science without Equipment*. Both this and the other publications were issued by UNESCO in French, English and Spanish.

Projects conducted in this field included the supply of war-surplus equipment to laboratories in devastated countries, the organization of youth service camps, the restoration of libraries, the publication of the *UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries* and reconstruction in relation to museums, the arts and letters.

FUNDAMENTAL EDUCATION

During the year, plans for a world-wide campaign to combat illiteracy were completed, as the starting point for a broader fundamental education project, and a study titled *Fundamental Education: Common Ground for All Peoples*, put together by a special committee, was published. In an attempt to resolve the problem posed for literacy campaigns by the multiplicity of languages in some regions, two meetings were held in Paris under UNESCO auspices, and in addition the programme of activities included two Regional Study Conferences on Fundamental Education; the first took place at Nanking in September, with the participation of representatives of 12 countries and some members of the UNESCO Secretariat, including the Director of the Education Section, Dr. Kuo Yu-Shou, while the second was held in Mexico from 3 to 8 November.

Three pilot projects in fundamental education were launched, in Haiti, China and East Africa (Nyasaland and Tanganyika).²

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Efforts were directed towards the organization in 1948 of an International Conference of Leaders in Adult Education, for which purpose contacts were established with experts in various countries and information on methods and techniques was compiled.

Special attention was also paid to educational statistics, the Committee on which met for the first time from 13 March to 1 April under the chairmanship of Dr. Philip Idenburg, Director of the Central Statistical Office at the Hague.

The Tenth International Conference on Public Instruction was held in Geneva from 14 to 19 July, convened jointly by UNESCO and the International Bureau of Education and attended by representatives from 42 countries.

Other prominent activities were the study of the possibility of a Teacher's Charter, the publication of a booklet entitled *The Care of War-Handicapped Children* and co-operation with international private organizations. The close co-operation established with the International Bureau of Education under the agreement signed at UNESCO Headquarters on 28 February 1947 is worthy of note. The Joint Committee of the two organizations enabled UNESCO to make use of the documents and information that had been in the possession of the Office since its establishment in 1925, to the contribution of which the great Spanish teacher Pedro Roselló had over the course of many years made a major contribution.

The Joint Committee made the preparations for the Tenth International Conference on Public Instruction, which was held in Geneva from 14 to 19 July 1947 and was attended by representatives of 42 countries. UNESCO was represented by its Deputy Director-General, Mr. Jean Thomas.

LIBRARIES

UNESCO paid special attention to libraries not only in terms of their reconstruction following the damage sustained during the war, but in relation to their organization and improvement. Mr. Emerson Greenaway from the Enoch Pratt Library in Baltimore worked as an adviser for two months with the library staff of UNESCO and drew up a programme of action for 1948 which was to be presented as a separate report to the General Conference.

2. UNESCO's presence in the field took the form of short-term missions of expert or consultant teams sent to Member States at their request.

A programme for exchanges of librarians was worked out, and preparations were made for an international seminar for librarians to be held in 1948 and for a survey of existing library schools, their curricula and their degrees and diplomas. A project was also drawn up for the completion in 1948 of a multilingual dictionary of librarianship which had been in preparation before the war under the auspices of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation. The Institute and the representatives of the editor, the late Henri Lemaître, had handed over all the relevant materials to UNESCO.

An appeal was addressed to all countries inviting them to publish selected national bibliographies, and a report was drawn up on the international aspects of the inter-library loan service.

The *UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries*³ made its appearance, and the third issue saw the publication of the Book Coupon Scheme, established for the purpose of enabling nationals of countries which were short of foreign currency to purchase books from abroad.

This broad programme was complemented by the setting up at UNESCO Headquarters of a small exhibition of microfilm reading equipment, by collaboration with the Council for Education in World Citizenship, in the United Kingdom, on a scheme for the supply of film-strip projectors to schools in war-damaged countries, and by the appointment of Mr. Herbert Brayer, State Archivist of Colorado, as consultant in archives.

In addition, with the appointment of the Head of the Documentation, Library and Statistical Services of UNESCO, progress was made in the organization of these activities. The Central Information Service and the Statistical Service were established, and the stock of the UNESCO library rose to 3,000 books and pamphlets and 250 collections of journals. The acquisition and cataloguing of the extensive collection of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation was a complex and important task.

NATURAL SCIENCES

In 1947 the Section of Natural Sciences served as a world liaison and co-ordination centre, receiving requests for advice and suggestions from a large number of countries.

Four field science co-operation offices were established, one for Latin America based in Rio de Janeiro, another for the Middle East based in Cairo, another in Nanking for East Asia and a fourth in New Delhi for South Asia.⁴

3. From 1979 to 1983, this was published under the title *UNESCO Journal of Information Science, Librarianship and Archives Administration*, and was then discontinued for financial reasons.

4. The Latin American office transferred to Montevideo in 1948.

Under an agreement with the International Council of Scientific Unions,⁵ an Office of the Council was established in UNESCO House, Unions were formed for Crystallography, Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and History and Philosophy of Science, and preparations were made for the formation of Unions of geology, mathematics, nutritional science and physiology. It was also agreed that the sum of \$231,319 would be shared out among various scientific institutions in the form of grants to international scientific conferences and symposia, travel grants, publication grants, aid to international bureaux, collections and stock-rooms and aid to international laboratories.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The project to which the most attention was devoted in this field was entitled 'Tensions affecting international understanding'. Dr. Edward A. Shils of the Universities of London and Chicago drew up a preliminary outline of the project, and on this basis the Secretariat worked out a plan of research which was distributed in French, English and Spanish to 2,146 research workers in 29 countries.

A group of experts prepared a survey on education for international understanding in schools and higher educational institutions of Member States, and a seminar under the same title was held in Sèvres (France), which focused on two main issues: (a) The study of international relations and of procedures for improving the teaching of international relations in the educational systems of Member States; and (b) The study of the influence of social and cultural environment upon individual growth and adjustment during the years of adolescence.

Other projects in the field of the social sciences were: international understanding among adults; international relations clubs; the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials as aids in developing international understanding; a survey of exchange programmes; comparative law; and a world inventory of research personnel and resources.

PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANISTIC STUDIES, ARTS AND LETTERS

The Section of Philosophy and Humanistic Studies sent a questionnaire to leading philosophers in a large number of countries, and to the Governments of Member States. The aim was to consider humanistic studies in their international aspects and in relation to the part they might play in international exchanges and understanding. In the replies, there was general insistence on integration of culture around the axis of philosophy and history and on mutual comparison of cultures and its usefulness for international understanding and peace.

5. The Council had been established in 1919.

A questionnaire was also sent to 200 philosophers and thinkers and to the Governments of Member States on the philosophical principles underlying the Rights of Man. On the basis of the replies received, a report was prepared which was transmitted to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

In response to a request by the Economic and Social Council and a decision of the General Conference at its first session, UNESCO established an inter-secretarial Translation Bureau to translate the classics (scientific and philosophical as well as literary) and contemporary literature. The UNESCO Translation Unit considered the re-establishment and possible enlargement of the Index Translationum Unit previously published by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation.

Other projects of special interest were the study of the role of the arts in general education, the establishment of the International Theatre Institute, the inauguration of the International Pool of Literature, musical and visual reproduction techniques and the anthology of creative writing under Axis occupation.

Lastly, the museums programme gained in importance with the appointment of Dr. Grace Morley as head of the relevant Section. There was an increase in professional contact, directly or through the International Council of Museums. UNESCO thus became an active international centre for information and advice in this field.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Specific projects in this field were: the recording of a series of 12 radio talks given by distinguished artists, men of letters and scientists on the bearing of their work on the everyday life of the people; the recording of music programmes on the theme 'The influence of folklore on national composers'; the possibility of establishing a United Nations radio network; the production of films serving UNESCO's purposes; and the establishment of international professional and technical organizations.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Among other activities in this field, the following are worthy of mention:

- (a) The Provisional Agreement with the French Government on the privileges and immunities of members of the Executive Board, delegates of Member States and members of the Secretariat;
- (b) Negotiations with Member States for the granting by them of privileges and immunities to UNESCO representatives and officials;
- (c) An amendment to Article XI of the Agreement between the United Nations and UNESCO, which had entered into force on 14 December 1946, giving

- UNESCO direct access to the International Court of Justice on any issue relating to the Organization;
- (d) The establishment of the UNESCO Office at the United Nations in New York, headed until the end of March by Mr. Valère Darchambeau and then by Mr. Solomon V. Arnaldo;
 - (e) Contacts and negotiations to prepare for co-ordination, under formal agreements, with the International Labour Office, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, the Universal Postal Union, the International Refugee Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the International Civil Aviation Organization;
 - (f) Acquisition of the equipment, furniture, library, archives and stock of publications of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, whose activity, initiated in 1924, had come to an end on 31 December 1946;
 - (g) Contacts with intergovernmental organizations such as the Pan-American Union, the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Work, and the International Union of Telecommunications;
 - (h) Contacts with international non-governmental organizations in conformity with the provisional directive approved by the First General Conference.

Member States

A further 12 countries had joined UNESCO as Member States since 21 November 1946, as a result of which the total at the end of 1947 was 36.

VISITS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Dr. Julian Huxley visited the United Kingdom in April. This was his first journey away from Headquarters. Thereafter, he visited the United States and ten Latin American countries over a five-week period. These missions were and would continue to be an effective means of promoting the ideals of UNESCO in Member States through personal contacts and negotiations with governments and various specialized organizations.⁶

THE SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE

The second session of the General Conference took place in Mexico City from 6 November to 3 December 1947, and was held in the Escuela Normal, the con-

6. The Deputy Director-General, Mr. Walter C. Laves (United States of America), appointed on 11 January 1947, also travelled a number of times.

struction work on which had ended precisely on the eve of the opening of the Conference. For this reason, at the nineteenth plenary meeting, it was agreed to affix to the wall of the building a commemorative tablet bearing an inscription in Spanish which in translation reads as follows: 'The Second Session of the General Conference of Unesco met here November 6th–December 3rd, 1947, under the beneficent influence of Benito Juárez, whose words were: "Peace is founded on respect for the rights of others".'

The session was attended by delegates from 36 Member States and observers from 27 non-governmental international organizations.

The inaugural meeting was held in the Palace of Fine Arts, and attendance numbered more than 2,500, made up of delegates, observers, UNESCO staff and special guests.

Welcoming all participants, the President of Mexico, Mr. Miguel Alemán, said that UNESCO had been assigned 'that specific task, which, in the long run, may prove to be the most important task of the international rally: the creation of a mind for peace that shall be like a second nature in all men'. He added that scientific progress could not serve as a basis for the philosophy which saw war as the sole source of progress. The capacity of the human species must be directed 'towards undertakings which, instead of destroying mankind, shall destroy whatever is a menace for it, whatever imperils the civilization it has reached'.

In accordance with the recommendations made by the Nominations Committee, the General Committee of the Conference comprised Mr. Manuel Gual Vidal (Mexico) as President, with seven Vice-Presidents drawn from the following countries: Belgium, Brazil, India, Lebanon, Peru, Poland and the United States of America.

The following committees were set up: Programme and Budget, Credentials, Administration and External Relations, Nominations and Rules of Procedure.

The Executive Board held two meetings and elected seven members, one of whom, Dr. E. Walker (Australia), was designated Chairman of the Board.

From this session of the General Conference in Mexico City, there emerged six components of the programme: Reconstruction; Communication; Education; Cultural and Artistic Exchanges; Human and Social Relations and Natural Sciences.

Reconstruction

It was recommended that contacts with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and with the Economic Commissions for Europe and the Far East should continue in order that proper attention should be paid in the reconstruction plans to the needs of education, science and culture.

Recommendations were also made regarding the formation in all Member States of National Committees of Non-governmental Organizations to assist in the work of reconstruction in the war-devastated countries; co-operation with the

International Children's Emergency Fund (ICEF) and the Temporary International Council for Educational Reconstruction (TICER); the adoption of measures for duty-free entry of the necessary educational materials; assistance to teachers, librarians and museum professionals in the solution of educational problems arising from war, and special attention to war-handicapped children; the dissemination, at meetings and in youth camps, of ideas conducive to international understanding; the maintenance of Clearing House activities in UNESCO and of national book exchange and distribution centres, and the reduction or elimination of import duties on books destined for those centres.

Communication

The continuation of a programme for the exchange of persons was approved; to that end it would be necessary in 1948 to compile, analyse and publish information on the subject, to study the barriers which impeded such interchange and encourage it through bilateral or multilateral conventions, to co-ordinate the award of fellowships in order to avoid duplication, to co-ordinate as well the movement of young persons between certain countries and to ensure that the efforts of the Director-General were specially concerned with mature persons such as research workers, technicians, teachers, artists, etc.

With regard to mass communication, the Director-General was instructed to intensify his efforts to remove existing obstacles to the free flow of ideas by word and image; to transmit to Member States and other States the draft International Convention to Facilitate International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of an Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character to continue to collaborate with the Universal Postal Union and the International Telecommunication Union; to create at once within the Organization a production unit to initiate production on UNESCO subjects in press, film and radio; to convene various expert meetings; and to encourage the creation of an International Institute of the Press and Information.

Broad coverage was given to the issue of libraries, books and publications; agreement was reached on the holding of summer schools for librarians, the improvement and translation of manuals of library techniques, and the completion and publication of a multilingual dictionary of librarianship; the supply of books at the lowest possible cost; the publication of national bibliographies; the standardization of terms and classification systems; the development of archives; a book coupon scheme; the bibliography of writing under axis occupations and the preparation of a questionnaire on copyright.

Education

The Conference adopted a proposal to assist Member States that so wished in ensuring that the population as a whole received a minimum level of fundamental education. The secretariat was accordingly requested to provide a more pre-

cise definition of this 'minimum Fundamental Education', an interesting and complex task.

While initially fundamental education had been viewed as world campaign against illiteracy, it very quickly became apparent that the ability to read and write was nothing more than a means of attaining the broader objective, which was 'to enable men and women to live a fuller and happier life in adjustment with a changing environment', develop the best elements of their national cultures, and facilitate their access to a higher economic and social level which would put them in a position to play an active role in the modern world. Thus fundamental education programmes should be integrated into national education plans, linking education closely with economic development plans through appropriate co-ordination between the ministries concerned.

Another issue considered was adult education, with recommendations on the dissemination of information on new techniques and methods, the production of materials and the convening of an expert conference.

In relation to universities, emphasis was placed on the problem of equivalencies of degrees, education in international relations and co-operation between universities and UNESCO.

Other topics which were the subject of resolutions were the teaching of international understanding, the improvement of textbooks and teaching material, the Teacher's Charter, the Educational Charter for Youth, the arts and science in general education, and language teaching.

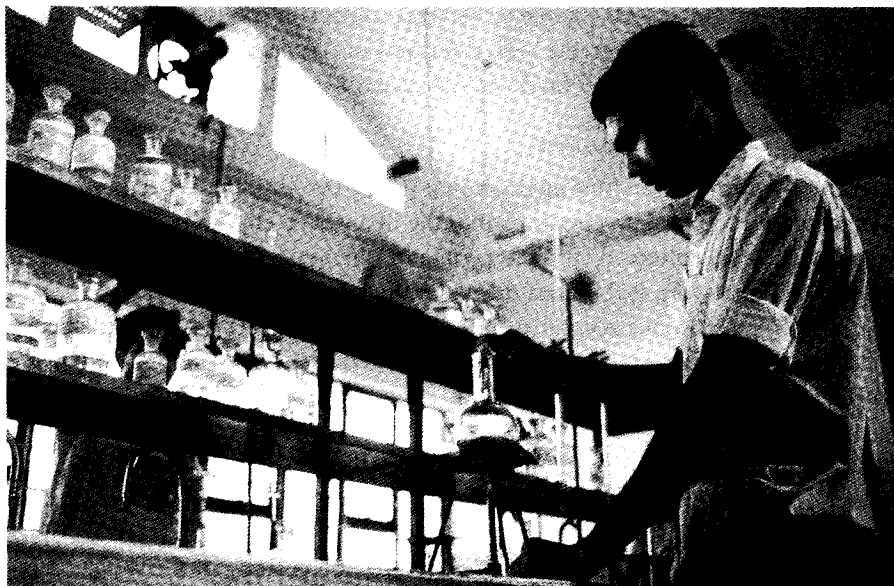
Cultural and artistic exchanges

The Director-General was given specific assignments to support the establishment of an International Theatre Institute and an International Music Institute, as well as to support the expansion of the International Pool of Literature to cover the supply of material to journals and reviews.

Resolutions were adopted on the colour reproduction of works of art and the publication of lists of documentary films on art and of institutions possessing photographic archives, and of a catalogue of world music. All of these activities were to be promoted by steps designed to bring about a reduction in customs restrictions.

As a continuation of the work of the Conference of Ministers of Allied Education, it was recommended that a plan for translations of classics be drawn up after study of the lists to be prepared by the National Commissions.

An issue which received special attention was museums, in relation to which measures were requested to secure a good exchange of information, the organization of exhibitions of contemporary works of art; and the Director-General was to investigate the proposal for the exchange of professionals, students, and books and other materials, and to report thereon to the General Conference at its next session.



The Indian National Institute of Technology.



Conserving and restoring the world's literary heritage.

Consideration was also given to the organization of round table discussions on philosophy, research into the native cultures of Africa, the possible establishment of regional centres and facilities for access to archaeological sites.

Human and social relations

Regarding tensions affecting international understanding, the Director-General was requested to promote enquiries into the distinctive character of the various cultures, the conceptions which the people of one nation entertain of their own and other nations, the techniques developed in education, political science and psychology for changing mental attitudes, and the influences which predisposed to international understanding on the one hand and aggressive nationalism on the other.

Agreement was reached to undertake in 1948 an enquiry into the humanistic aspects of cultures from the point of view of their mutual relations and their subjective valuations; the results of the enquiry were to be submitted for discussion by a group of experts.

The Director-General was instructed to promote a study of the subject matter and problems treated by political scientists, a report on which was to be submitted to Member States through the National Commissions.

Guidelines were drawn up for the production of books on the scientific and cultural aspects of the history of mankind and for the drafting of the world register of workers, institutes, activities and resources in selected fields of education, science and culture.

Natural sciences

Approval was given to the organization of a conference on the best way in which the development of science in Latin America could be assisted, and to the establishment in 1948 of an International Institute of the Hylean Amazon for the purpose of co-ordinating scientific research and social development in the region.

Agreement was reached to convene in Paris a conference of expert delegates from Member States, international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations to study the effects of high altitude on life and the physical phenomena observable only at high altitudes. A recommendation was also made to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene a similar meeting on cartographic science in order to stimulate and co-ordinate activities in that field leading to the preparation of charts or maps.

Other issues which merited the attention of the General Conference in this field were: support for the regional Science Co-operation Offices established by UNESCO; promotion of co-operation with and among non-governmental organizations; continuation of the activities for the establishment of a World Centre of Scientific Liaison; and protection of nature, with special reference to the Preservation of the flora and fauna of the Galápagos Islands (Ecuador).

Other issues

Pursuant to a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly of 8 November against war propaganda, the General Conference issued a solemn appeal against the idea that war was inevitable, addressed to the entire world and especially to educationists, scientists, artists, writers and journalists.

In addition, the General Conference requested the Director-General to contact the allied authorities with a view to promoting the objectives of UNESCO in Germany and Japan.

It is worth drawing attention to some words uttered during this General Conference by the head of the French delegation, the outstanding philosopher Jacques Maritain, who said:

‘We meet at an extremely grave moment in world history . . . the anguish of the peoples breaks all bounds. . . . What is required of human intelligence is to recognize that we have entered a crucial era in our history in which, on pain of death, the enormous powers afforded by the dominion of science over matter must be governed by reason.’

The budget

The General Conference approved the budget for 1948, amounting to \$7,682,637, with the requirement that the Director-General should transmit to the Executive Board, and to Member States before 1 February 1948, a detailed table setting out specific information concerning proposed expenditure on individual projects, in accordance with Article 3 of the Financial Regulations.

1948

The year 1948 was marked by a great deal of activity, in that, independently of other activities, the decisions taken by the General Conference at its second session had to be implemented. All of this work is summarized in the following paragraphs.

RECONSTRUCTION

The International Refugee Organization investigated, in consultation with UNESCO, the educational needs of displaced persons in Germany, Austria and Italy, and submitted the completed study to UNESCO.

In addition, the United Nations Economic Commissions for Europe and for Asia and the Far East were requested to include education, science and culture in their plans for the economic recovery of war-devastated countries. For its part, UNESCO provided assistance to the International Children’s Emergency Fund for its Seminar for Social Welfare Officers, Psychologists and Pediatricians.

A major effort was made to respond to the United Nations Appeal for Children; for example, the United Kingdom donated £60,000, and Canada and Norway contributed \$1,000,000 and \$100,000 respectively for the purpose of alleviating needs in the field of education.

A Conference of Directors of Children's Villages was held at Pestalozzi Village in Trogen (Switzerland) from 4 to 11 July, and studied both problems of administration and content and methods of education in children's villages.

The Secretariat, which in 1947 had prepared a first volume (in English) entitled *The book of needs*, prepared a second towards the end of 1948. Other documents which served as inputs to this campaign were, apart from the monthly *Reconstruction Newsletter*, *Universities in Need*, *The Teacher and the Post-War Child* and *Going to School in War-Devastated Countries*. This information was supplemented by a film on the reconstruction of universities and by a series of radio broadcasts.

COMMUNICATIONS

After a detailed survey, a report on international fellowships and the opportunities for the exchange of persons was produced for the information of the interested public. UNESCO, for its part, was in a position to provide 60 fellowships directly and 125 in collaboration with donor agencies. These fellowships were to be awarded to research workers, professors, officials, teachers, artists, writers and experts in the mass media. A meeting on the subject took place in March, in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Social Affairs.

With regard to the freedom and free flow of information, all the resolutions of the General Conference on the subject were studied, and contacts continued with the Sub-Commission established in 1947 by the United Nations Economic and Social Council to prepare for the Conference on Freedom of Information and of the Press which took place in Geneva from 21 March to 22 April. The Conference adopted four resolutions referring to UNESCO's work in this field.

A Projects Division was established in the Department of Mass Communication for the purpose of stimulating the production and distribution of articles, films and broadcasts on educational, scientific and cultural subjects, with peace as their common focus of interest.

In relation to libraries, a summer school for public librarians was organized in Manchester and London, and was attended by representatives of 20 countries; studies were conducted of union cataloguing, national bibliography, classification systems and the revision of the Universal Decimal System of Classification, establishment of an International Council on Archives, low-price book publishing and a book coupon scheme.

In relation to publications, mention should be made of the volume of essays on the philosophic principles of human rights, the introduction to which was

written by the outstanding philosopher Jacques Maritain; the Bibliography of Creative Writing under Axis Occupation; the appearance of the journal *Museum* (in English and French) from July onwards, and the appearance also of the *UNESCO Courier* (in French, English and Spanish), a monthly publication aimed initially at Member States and the National Commissions.⁷ Another publication launched in 1948 was the information bulletin on copyright, *Copyright Bulletin*.

EDUCATION

In accordance with the instructions given during the second session of the General Conference, all education-related activities were combined under a single department to which, on 1 April, Mr. C. E. Beeby (New Zealand) was appointed as Deputy Director-General.

The organization of fundamental education presented major problems, above all because of the shortage of specialists in the subject. A group of them met in Paris in April and formulated useful recommendations. The pilot projects initiated in Haiti, China and East Africa continued, and another was begun in the Cuzco-Ampuno region (Peru). The book *Fundamental Education: Common Ground for all Peoples*, continued to arouse interest, as did the document *Fundamental Education: Definition and Programme*, a revised edition of which was prepared.

With respect to adult education, an expert meeting was held in Paris in February, and suggested the holding of a world conference on the subject in 1949, as well as the publication of a pamphlet entitled 'UNESCO and Adult Education' and an International Directory of Adult Education.

In relation to universities, a meeting was organized at Utrecht (Netherlands) from 2 to 13 August which studied the changing role of universities, university education and international understanding, means of continuing international co-operation between universities and the possible establishment of an International Association of Universities.

Other issues on which UNESCO worked more or less intensively, in the light of the possibilities, were the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials, the Draft Convention for International Understanding through Education; the role of the arts in general education; science in general education; language teaching; vocational guidance and technical education; and educational opportunities for women.

7. Publication of the *UNESCO Monitor* had started on 1 August 1947; as from February 1948, its title was changed to the *UNESCO Courier*. Its format was that of a newsletter. In 1954 it became a monthly magazine.

CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC EXCHANGES

Mention must first be made of the establishment of the International Theatre Institute and the negotiations for the founding of an International Music Institute. Work also continued on the organization of the International Pool of Literature which had been begun in 1947. In addition, in conformity with the plan drawn up by the General Conference, some countries began to submit lists of works by their national artists, and a start was thus made on the publication of the first three collections: European painting from 1862 to the present day, Italian Renaissance painting and Persian art.

In the field of philosophy, three meetings were held in Amsterdam in August on 'Philosophic Basis of Humanism', 'The Basis of Freedom' and 'Philosophic Bases of the various Concepts of Democracy'. Six major European philosophical journals published special issues in this connection.

With the co-operation of various non-governmental organizations, the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies was established, and preparations were made for its first meeting to take place in January 1949.

UNESCO's activities concerning museums related to co-ordination of professional activity in all forms and to application of technologies under projects such as 'Social implications of science', 'Pilot projects in fundamental education' and 'Education for international understanding'.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

The most important project in this field, recommended by the General Conference, related to studies and enquiries on tensions affecting international understanding. A standard questionnaire was drawn up and distributed to Member States and some organizations on the conceptions which the people of one country entertain of their own and other nations, and a pilot content analysis was completed on conceptions of other nations as they appear in films.

In July, eight experts from different countries met in Paris to draw up a report on the influences which, throughout life, predispose a person towards international understanding or towards aggressive nationalism.

The project on the philosophical analysis of ideological conflict resulted in the drawing up of a list of 150 works on ideological concepts. This bibliography was to serve as a basis for defining the meaning of the terms 'democracy' and 'freedom' and illustrating their practical application in different regions of the world.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The Field Science Co-operation Offices established in Latin America (Rio de Janeiro), the Middle East (Cairo), South Asia (New Delhi) and East Asia (Nanking) dealt directly with regional issues or referred them to Headquarters, a practice which already constituted the beginnings of decentralization.

In September, the Latin American Conference on the Development of Science took place in Montevideo, with the participation of 30 experts from 11 countries. The Conference recommended that a regional scientific co-operation unit should be based in Montevideo, and that UNESCO should organize, in co-operation with interested governments, two symposiums, one on physiological conditions at high altitudes and the other on the physics, chemistry and biology of the Latin American soil.

From 30 April to 10 May, a meeting convened by UNESCO and by the Governments of Brazil and Peru was held in Iquitos (Peru) in connection with the establishment of the International Institute of the Hylean Amazon. It was attended, apart from the countries of the region concerned, by representatives of the United States, France, Italy and the Netherlands. The United Kingdom and Switzerland sent observers.

The role of UNESCO as a World Centre of Scientific Liaison was advanced *inter alia* by proposals for the establishment of new international scientific unions; for the publication of new scientific journals; for the production of new indexes of mathematical tables, vitamins and chemical compounds; for the standardization of scientific apparatus and scientific nomenclature; for the adoption of auxiliary international scientific languages; for the publication of multilingual technical dictionaries; and for new cartographic methods.

In co-operation with the French Government, UNESCO organized at Fontainebleau from 30 September to 7 October a conference on the protection of nature.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- (a) On 17 July a new internal organizational structure for the Secretariat came into effect, with the sections being transformed into programme departments and administrative offices;
- (b) On 15 September, an extraordinary session of the General Conference was held which decided that the third regular conference should take place in Beirut (Lebanon) as originally envisaged, despite the disturbances in the Middle East.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Board met eight times in the course of the year, the first six sessions being held in Paris, the seventh in Istanbul (11 and 12 November) and Beirut (16 to 30 November), and the eighth in Beirut during the General Conference.

MEMBER STATES

Eight countries joined UNESCO as Member States in the course of the year, bringing the total number to 44.

THE THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE

The third session of the General Conference was held in Beirut from 17 November to 11 December 1948. It was attended by delegates from 30 Member States and 10 non-Member States, representatives of the United Nations, the International Refugee Organization and the International Labour Organisation and observers from the International Bureau of Education, the Cultural Commission of the Arab League and 35 international non-governmental organizations.

The inaugural meeting took place on 17 November, with an address by the head of the Mexican delegation, Dr. Francisco del Río y Canedo, followed by another by the President of the Republic of Lebanon, Sheikh Bechara el-Juri, and a statement by the Lebanese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Education, Hamid Bey Frangié. The meetings took place at UNESCO House in Beirut.

The General Committee of the Conference comprised Mr. Hamid Bey Frangié, mentioned above, as President, and, as Vice-Presidents, delegates from the following seven countries: Argentina, Canada, China, France, Italy, Turkey and the United States of America.

The following committees were established: Credentials, Procedure, Programme and Budget, Official and External Relations and Administrative.

At the proposal of the Executive Board, on 26 November, the General Conference elected Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mexico, as Director-General for a six-year period, and he took office on 10 December.⁸

The Executive Board held two meetings and elected seven members for a three-year period, one of whom, Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (India), was elected Chairman.

8. As already noted, at the first General Conference, Dr. Huxley had accepted his appointment as Director-General only for a two-year period. Dr. Torres Bodet, Minister of Education from 1945 to 1946, headed the Mexican delegation in London in 1945 and was a signatory of the UNESCO Constitution.

A summary of the issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference appears below.

Reconstruction

As part of his responsibility for promoting and co-ordinating assistance to the war-devastated countries in the fields of education, science and culture, the Director-General was instructed to stimulate the development of programmes and campaigns; to attend to the needs of institutions and agencies concerned with the education of adults; to obtain reports from donor organizations on the activities carried out by them; and to prepare and publish a report on the effectiveness of UNESCO's programme in the field of reconstruction.

It was recommended that Member States should co-operate in this field by all possible means; that they should contribute to the work of the Temporary International Council for Educational Reconstruction (TICER); that they should co-ordinate at the national level the campaigns of UNESCO and the United Nations Appeal for Children (UNAC); that they should arrange for duty-free entry of contributed educational materials; that they should provide suitable employment for refugee intellectuals; that they should issue stamps with a surcharge for the UNESCO Reconstruction Fund; and that priority should be assigned to the reconstruction of destroyed universities and schools.

Education

The Director-General was instructed to maintain a clearing house on education; to this end, missions would be sent to Member States, on their request, for the purpose of educational improvement, particularly in war-devastated areas, an agreement would be established with the International Bureau of Education, and printed materials, including lists of films, recordings and other educational aids, would be collected.

The following decisions were also taken: to sponsor in 1949 a seminar on education, preferably in the Far East, and to assist another on adult literacy in Latin America; to prepare in 1949 for two seminars in 1950, on the teaching of geography and on the revision of history textbooks; to recommend to Member States that they provide fundamental education for all their people in conformity with Article I, paragraph 2 (b) of the UNESCO Constitution, make free primary education compulsory and universal and institute appropriate adult education; to develop a system of associated projects and agencies in fundamental education and to co-operate with Member States which sought assistance with pilot projects that so wished; to promote education for international understanding in collaboration with the competent agencies of the United Nations and through dissemination of appropriate information; to collaborate with the International Labour Organisation in developing vocational guidance and technical education; to promote enquiries into educational opportunities open to

women; and to compile information on the educational problems of war-handicapped children.

Natural sciences

Issues of special concern in this sector were the maintenance of the Field Science Co-operation Offices in the Middle East, East Asia, Latin America and South Asia; the organization in 1949 in the latter region of a Symposium on High Altitude Biology; and the continuation of the activities of UNESCO as a World Centre of Scientific Liaison.

Other issues in this field related to the standardization of scientific terminology; the development of scientific information; the conservation of natural resources; the investigation of proposals for an International Institute of the Arid Zone; the possibility of establishing an International Computation Centre; and the popularization of science by means of radio, film, pamphlets, competitions, book clubs, etc.

Social sciences

In this field, the main issue was the study of tensions and the promotion of international understanding; the distinctive character of each culture, the ideas which the people of each nation hold concerning their own and other nations, the influences which make for international understanding or aggressive nationalism, population problems and the influence of modern technology on attitudes.

Other points to which delegates paid attention and on which recommendations were made were education in statistics; financial help to the International Statistical Institute; the appointment of an expert to initiate a study of international standards in political science; and the preparation of a comparative study of cultures.

Philosophy and humanistic studies

In this field, seen as complementary to the social sciences, decisions were taken on co-operation with non-governmental organizations; on the publication of a volume of studies on the philosophic principles of human rights; and the conduct of a survey to analyse and define the main connotations of liberty, democracy, law and equality which had emerged in the history of political and legal philosophy in order to determine the current practical influence of those concepts.

Cultural activities

In the field of the arts, it was agreed to provide financial assistance to the International Theatre Institute; to continue enquiries about the feasibility of an international organization for music; to publish and distribute collections of fine colour reproductions of works of art, as well as a list of documentary films on art; to prepare a catalogue of world music; to promote artistic freedom; and to institute UNESCO awards in the field of the arts.



Director-General Jaime Torres Bodet.



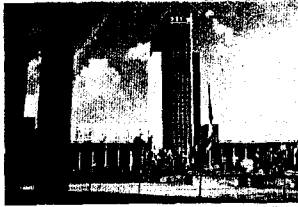
EL CORREO

PREMIER DE LA GOVERNACION DE LA REPUBLICA FEDERATIVA DEL MEXICO LA PAZ Y LA CULTURA

MEXICO, C. A. N. 1. 19 de febrero de 1948. 10 centavos. No. 100. 1948. 10 centavos. No. 100. 1948.

Se aprobó el programa de 1948

DELEGADOS DE TODO EL MUNDO REUNIDOS EN LA CAPITAL MEXICANA



El programa de 1948 fue aprobado por los delegados de todo el mundo reunidos en la capital mexicana. El programa incluye la realización de conferencias, estudios y trabajos de campo en el campo de la cultura y la educación.

Bienvenida de México a la Unesco

El día de hoy, 19 de febrero de 1948, México se incorpora a la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (Unesco).

El Presidente Alvarado El Lic. Gual Valad

El presidente Alvarado Quesada y el Lic. Gual Valad han expresado su satisfacción por la incorporación de México a la Unesco. El Lic. Gual Valad ha sido nombrado representante mexicano en el Consejo de la Unesco.

Moritzin Pike Unidad de Acción

Moritzin Pike, representante de la Unidad de Acción, ha expresado su esperanza de que el programa de 1948 sea exitoso y contribuya al desarrollo cultural de México.

Presupuesto total: 7,682,637 dólares

El presupuesto total para el programa de 1948 asciende a 7,682,637 dólares. Este presupuesto cubre los gastos de conferencias, estudios y trabajos de campo en el campo de la cultura y la educación.

Al Lector

Este número del 'El Correo' contiene información sobre el programa de 1948 y la incorporación de México a la Unesco. Se espera que sea de gran interés para los lectores.

LLAMAMIENTO DE LA UNESCO

La UNESCO llama a la atención de los gobiernos y el público en general sobre el programa de 1948. Se invita a todos a participar activamente en el programa y contribuir al desarrollo cultural de México.

The first number of the UNESCO Courier in Spanish.

It was decided to resume publication of the *Index Translationum* and to continue that of the review *Museum*. In relation to museums, the Director-General was instructed to draw up a plan for travelling UNESCO exhibitions of contemporary works of art, the catalogues for which would be drawn up by Member States, the National Commissions and appropriate professional organizations. A study was also to be made, in co-operation with the International Council of Museums, of the establishment of an Expert Committee to co-operate with Member States in the preservation of monuments and sites of historical value.

Other issues

The General Conference decided to stimulate in every possible way the dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.⁹

The Conference approved the International Convention to Facilitate International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character.

The budget

A budget of \$7,780,000 was approved for 1949, an increase of \$97,363 over the budget for 1948.

Fourth and fifth sessions of the General Conference

On the basis of a report by the Executive Board, it was decided that the fourth session would be held in Paris in the early autumn of 1949 and the fifth in Florence during the spring of 1950, with a view to adjusting the future timetable of General Conferences to that established by the United Nations for the conferences of its specialized agencies.

National Commissions

On 15, 16 and 25 November, i.e., during the holding of the General Conference, 27 representatives of National Commissions and national co-operation agencies met pursuant to a resolution approved at the second session of the General Conference (Mexico, 1947).

This might be termed the first official meeting of the National Commissions.¹⁰ It was presided over by Mr. Milton S. Eisenhower, Chairman of the National Commission of the United States of America. Mr. Joseph Nayyar (Lebanon) and Mr. P. N. Kirpal (India) served respectively as Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

9. The Declaration had been adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, meeting at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris, on 10 December 1948.

10. At the time, 32 National Commissions had been established.

At the meeting, reports on the activities of the various National Commissions were submitted, and their relationships with the respective governments and with the UNESCO Secretariat, as well as ways in which the Commissions would participate in the programme for 1949, were studied.

It was agreed to continue publication of the National Commissions Newsletter in French, English and Spanish; to prepare for the publication in 1949 of the National Commissions Handbook; that the Secretariat would send staff to assist in the organization and launching of a number of Commissions that required support; and that closer contacts would be established between Commissions in order to achieve a unity which would be beneficial both to them and to the programme and objectives of UNESCO.

1949

The programme for 1949 could be viewed as being grouped into three classes of project: (a) those involving a special effort during the course of the year; (b) those on which normal work should be carried out; (c) those whose execution would be deferred until 1950 by reason of the very early dates set for the holding of the fourth session of the General Conference (15 September–4 October).

RECONSTRUCTION

The Department of Reconstruction continued its activities aimed at co-ordinating the efforts of the organizations dealing with the war-devastated countries. In order to attract the attention of international public opinion, 23 sets of photographs dealing with child war victims in Europe were prepared and sent to various countries to form part of special exhibitions. In addition, in March the Book of Needs was published with a print run of 10,000.

On 7 and 8 March, the Conference of TICER met in Paris, and its Permanent Committee held a meeting in June. The most important agreement reached at these meetings was to extend the activity of the Council to the under-developed countries, rather than confining it to those devastated by the war.

The Emergency Relief Fund provided for in the UNESCO budget for 1949 was \$175,000, divided as follows: \$5,000 for Spanish students in exile, \$15,000 for refugees in the Middle East, the balance (\$155,000) being divided among 11 countries in the percentages laid down by the Executive Board: Austria, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Philippines and Poland.

EDUCATION

The modest level of consultant missions continued. The recipient countries were the Philippines, Thailand and Afghanistan, in which expert groups worked for several months to assist the authorities in their general education programmes, and more particularly with adult literacy. The experience gained from these missions made UNESCO aware of the need to organize them on a longer-term basis, in that there was a need for a previous period of acquaintance with the country and its conditions before embarking on the actual work of the mission.

The International Conference on Adult Education was held at Helsingør (Denmark) from 7 to 25 June. This extremely important meeting has always served as a reference point for subsequent gatherings. It was attended by representatives of 27 countries (19 of them Member States of UNESCO) and 21 international organizations. For the first time, German representatives attended a UNESCO conference. The Conference had a major impact, and its recommendations were the subject of meticulous study. It gave rise to the idea of publishing the *International Directory of Adult Education* and to the organization in 1950 of a study course on adult education in relation to international understanding. The Conference focused attention on the fact that, in a world in which the right to education had been ranked among the basic human rights, half of mankind did not know how to read or write.

In March, a meeting of the International Union of Child Welfare (IUCW) was held in Amsterdam to discuss the education of delinquent or socially maladjusted children. The meeting was attended by representatives of UNESCO, which provided support for the Union.

The first two issues of the *Quarterly Bulletin of Fundamental Education* and the first four of the monthly publication *Abstracts and Bibliography* made their appearance in the course of the year, all in French, English and Spanish.

Because of the events in China, the Nanking pilot project had to be suspended and the project offices transferred to Peh-Pei, Sechuan province.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Activities continued in relation to the establishment of the International Institute of the Hylean Amazon, and another series of consultations was initiated on the creation of the International Institute of the Arid Zone.

UNESCO provided grants amounting to \$200,000 to the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and its ten federated unions, directed primarily towards the revival of international co-operation in the field of the exact and natural sciences after the war.

Other important activities in this sector were: an International Conference on Science Abstracting, held at UNESCO Headquarters from 20 to 25 June; the initiation of preparations for a three-volume work on inventories of the equip-

ment and supplies for the teaching of science a Conference at Lake Success, from 22 August to 1 September on the Protection of Nature; and exhibitions in Beirut and Egypt on science popularization, involving the preparation and distribution of new pamphlets.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The first issue of the *International Social Science Bulletin*¹¹ appeared, and the book *Survey of Political Science*, comprising 50 papers and essays written by 48 experts from 21 countries, was published.

Studies were carried out on tensions, social communities and attitude change, topics which can readily be interrelated with one another and are always topical.

UNESCO initiated a study of the administrative problems raised by the participation of governments in the work of international organizations, particularly the United Nations and its specialized agencies. The study was initiated under a contract with the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS).

Another study, on the technique of international conferences, was assigned to a group of international officials, jurists, social psychologists and experts in international relations.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

On 18 January, the first Plenary Assembly of the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS) opened in Brussels. UNESCO submitted three projects to the Assembly.

The Director-General had requested various writers to produce pamphlets on human rights, and four of these were published in 1949.

From 3 to 7 May, an Expert Committee studied at UNESCO Headquarters the results of the survey of the concept of democracy conducted in 1948. The Committee's report was extremely positive, to the point where much of the material collected was subsequently drawn on for the project for a scientific and cultural history of mankind.

In the field of the arts and letters, mention should be made of the second Congress of the International Theatre Institute, held in Zurich from 27 June to 1 July; the meetings aimed at establishing the International Music Council, the publication of a catalogue of the works of Frederic Chopin and the commemoration of the centenary of his death; the publication of two catalogues of reproductions of original paintings for use by educational institutions; the appearance of the first volume of *Arts and Education*; a plan for the translation of great works

11. In 1959, its title was changed to *International Social Science Journal*.

of world literature; the preparations for the commemoration of the second century of the birth of Goethe, and the survey on the status and artistic freedom.

In addition to publishing the quarterly *Museum*, UNESCO continued to develop the project for the preservation of antiquities, historic sites and monuments constituting the cultural heritage of mankind.

The publication of the *Bulletin for Libraries* continued, with a monthly print run of 6,500 copies, and advice continued to be provided to Member States on the establishment of centres for the exchange of books and publications.

The study of copyright problems compiled 15,000 cards, and the *Copyright Bulletin* continued to appear regularly.

It is worthy of note that on 31 December 1948 the Director-General issued an appeal to all Member States to commemorate 10 December each year as Human Rights Day. The first country to indicate its decision to do so was Ecuador, on 25 January 1949, followed by France on 3 February.

EXCHANGE OF PERSONS

The publication *Study Abroad* an international handbook of fellowships, scholarships and educational exchange, appeared in January, with a supplement in April. This publication had involved a careful survey of Member States, and was intended to be supplemented on an annual basis.

In this same field, there was a need to maintain close contact with all United Nations institutions offering fellowships. This was done, and these contacts resulted, at the administrative level, in the establishment of a technical study group which was to report to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination of the United Nations.

MASS COMMUNICATION

The survey of the needs of the press, radio and film conducted in 14 countries was completed in the course of the year.

From 25 April to 4 May, the Preparatory Conference on Wood Pulp Products was held in Montreal, attended by two members of the UNESCO Secretariat. The issue was an important one, in that wood pulp was the source of 90 per cent of current world supply of newsprint, and a period of paper shortage was being experienced. The Conference accepted the need to produce paper in sufficient quantities for the normal requirements of education and information.

July saw the launching of the bimonthly publication *UNESCO Features*, which contained a variety of articles and was distributed to newspapers in many countries.¹²

12. In 1986, when 818 issues had been published, it was discontinued for financial reasons and was replaced by articles.

PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

The Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, adopted on 21 November 1947, became applicable to UNESCO on 7 February 1949, and pending the ratification of the Convention by Member States, an agreement was concluded with the United Nations to allow UNESCO officials to use the United Nations laissez-passer.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, elected at the third session of the General Conference, the Executive Board held four sessions in Paris in the course of the year, three before the fourth session of the General Conference and one after.

MEMBER STATES

In 1949 seven new countries joined UNESCO as Member States after signing the Constitution, bringing the total number at the end of the year to 49.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

The first edition of the *Handbook of National Commissions* was published in 1949; at the time there were 38 such Commissions, established in as many countries. A special case was that of Sweden, which, although it had not yet become a Member State, established a 15-member National Commission with a Permanent Secretariat.

THE FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

Paris hosted the fourth session of the General Conference, held from 19 September to 5 October 1949 after several months of intensive preparation in the course of which the points approved at the third session of the General Conference had been reviewed and studied, and action had been taken to implement the principal resolutions.

The session was attended by delegates from 47 Member States, 9 observers from non-Member States, an observer from the Vatican and another from the Supreme Command of the Allied Powers, representatives of 6 specialized agencies, and observers from 8 intergovernmental organizations and 53 international quasi-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The inaugural meeting took place on 19 September, with a statement by the Head of the Lebanese delegation, Mr. Ahmed Bey Dauk, in which he referred to

Paris as a city of freedom and noble ideas, the direct spiritual descendant of Athens and Rome and 'a magnet that attracts lovers of freedom and culture from all parts of the world, who find in her a second home', and emphasized that 'the cause of peace, which is our goal, may depend on the success of UNESCO'.

The General Committee of the Conference comprised Dr. E. Ronald Walker (Australia)¹³ as President and one delegate from each of the following seven countries as Vice Presidents: Ecuador, Egypt, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Italy and the United Kingdom.

The Conference established the Programme and Budget Commission, the Administrative Commission, and the Credentials, Procedure, Nominations and Official and External Relations Committees.

After the submission of the report of the Nominations Committee and the election of the General Committee, Dr. Ronald Walker made his statement as President, in which, after thanking all present for the honour they had done him by electing him, he said that the Conference was to be a working meeting, and that he would set an example by refraining from making a long speech. He was as good as his word, focusing in his remarks predominantly on the preceding three sessions of the General Conference.

The Executive Board held a meeting at which it elected six members to fill vacancies, and elected Sir John Maud (United Kingdom) as Chairman.

The issues dealt with at this General Conference may be summarized as follows.

Reconstruction

The subject continued to be a primary focus of the Organization's concerns, and at this session the Director-General was instructed to promote and co-ordinate the provision of assistance to war-devastated countries in the fields of education, science and culture.

It was essential to provide the victims of the war with the assistance they needed in those fields, by ensuring the purchase of books, educational material and scientific and technical equipment, assisting teachers, librarians, museum curators and sponsors of youth camps and co-operating with the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

Education

It was decided that a study should be conducted in 1950, jointly with the International Bureau of Education, of the problems involved in making free compulsory primary education more nearly universal and of longer duration.

13. It was the turn of the head of the French delegation to occupy the Presidency, but he withdrew in favour of the head of the Australian delegation.

After stressing the need to establish contact and enter into agreements for co-operation with the Clearing House, the Conference instructed the Director-General to organize in 1950 international seminars on the teaching of geography and its contribution to international understanding and on the improvement of textbooks, with special reference to history manuals. In addition, there was to be a Seminar on Primary Education in Latin America, sponsored by the Government of Uruguay, and other practical studies in the Middle East on the production of materials for literacy campaigns.

Topics covered in the resolutions on education included adult education, in which connection the organization of national voluntary associations was to be fostered; vocational guidance and technical education; enquiries into educational opportunities open to women; the improvement of the status of teachers; and, in particular, the Principles concerning Education, designed to avoid inculcating in pupils by word or implication the belief that lands, peoples and customs other than one's own are necessarily inferior, or are otherwise unworthy of understanding and sympathy, and to ensure due regard for those principles in the selection, analysis or preparation of textbooks for use in schools.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was instructed to maintain the Field Science Co-operation Offices in the Middle East, East Asia, Latin America and South Asia; to encourage the exchange of scientific information and of personnel as well as of information on films about scientific research; to compile a world register of scientific institutions and scientists; and to maintain an information service on scientific apparatus.

He was also instructed to promote the standardization of scientific terminology, the preparation of multilingual dictionaries and the development of the indexing and abstracting of scientific literature, and to provide assistance to specialized international organizations.

An agreement was to be entered into with the International Institute of the Hylean Amazon to assure close co-operation between the Institute and UNESCO, and great importance was attached to the establishment of an International Institute of the Arid Zone and an International Computation Centre.

Social sciences

The importance of the social sciences was continuing to increase, and the Director-General was instructed to promote co-operation in them, including law, by aiding in the establishment of an international organization or organizations, and also to assist education in statistics by providing financial help to the International Statistical Institute.

The need was felt to conduct surveys on the distinctive character of the various national cultures, ideals and legal systems; on the ideas which the people of

one nation hold concerning their own and other nations; on the influences which make for international understanding or for aggressive nationalism; and on the influence of modern technology upon the attitudes and mutual relationship of peoples.

Philosophy and humanistic studies

Closer co-operation was requested with the International Council of Philosophy and Humanistic Studies, to which financial assistance was to be provided for the purpose of encouraging the creation of international organizations in branches of humanistic studies where such organizations did not yet exist. There was also a need to promote bibliographical work within each subject field, as well as to obtain the help of international organizations and specialists in humanistic studies.

There was in addition a need for philosophical and cultural journals to devote special numbers to philosophical concepts of special concern for UNESCO's purposes and for the publication of a volume of essays on the philosophical principles of human rights.

The Director-General was instructed to secure the collaboration of competent international organizations in order to carry on the comparative study of cultures, to report to the General Conference on research which should be undertaken on native cultures in Africa, and to assist the United Nations in its study of the situation of aboriginal populations and other social groups in countries of the continent of America, collaborating in that work with the *Instituto Indigenista Interamericano* and interested States.

Cultural activities

The issues to which special interest was paid in this broad sphere of activities related to the International Theatre Institute, the International Music Council, reproductions in visual arts and of recorded music, the reproduction of material of cultural importance, promotion of the artistic freedom and the establishment of annual UNESCO prizes to be awarded for the best artistic and literary works.

It was agreed to promote translations of classical works, to resume publication of the *Index Translationum*, to exchange information on museums, with continued publication in 1950 of the journal *Museum* in English and French, and to encourage the protection, preservation and restoration of antiquities, monuments and historic sites.

The Director-General was instructed to promote the development of public libraries and to organize an international seminar for professional librarians on the role of public and school libraries in adult education; to promote bibliographical and documentation services; to assist the preparation and publication of a new edition of the *Index Bibliographicus*, published before the war under the auspices of the League of Nations; and to promote the reproduction of out-of-print periodicals in selected fields of education, science and culture.

Free flow of communication

Separate resolutions were approved on the exchange of persons, covering the establishment and administration of fellowships; on the technical needs of press, radio and films and on action through radio, films and press; on the removal of obstacles to the free flow of information; on exchange of information; on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and on the participation of youth.

Other issues

Other resolutions related to the China Reconstruction Fund, relief to Greek refugee children, relief to refugees in the Middle East and aid to victims of the earthquake in Ecuador.

Technical assistance

The General Conference adopted an important resolution designed to associate UNESCO with the technical assistance programme launched by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and authorized the Director-General to recruit such staff as he judged necessary to participate in that programme, which was designed to contribute to the economic development of under-developed countries, taking into account in the first place the quality of the work and the competence of the personnel contracted, the participation of requesting governments and the proper selection of projects.¹⁴

The budget

It was agreed to approve for 1950 a sum of \$8,000,000, or an increase of \$250,000 over the budget for 1949.

14. It has already been noted above that UNESCO had sent consultants to the Philippines, Thailand and Afghanistan, in anticipation of the implementation of this United Nations technical assistance programme.

The early 1950s

1950

THE SECRETARIAT

The new activities and the stepping up of ongoing activities necessitated an increase in the number of staff, from 717 on 1 September 1949 to 810 on 1 March 1950. The Director-General regretted that he had to set aside 56 per cent of the budget for salaries, allowances and miscellaneous payments to the staff, but that had to be done in order to be able to implement the programme assigned to the various departments of the Secretariat by the Beirut and Paris General Conferences. The same pattern was to continue in succeeding years.

On 30 June Mr. Walter H. C. Laves (United States of America) resigned as Deputy Director-General, and on 28 December his compatriot Mr. John W. Taylor was appointed to the post.

With a view to achieving better recruitment, the number of two- to three-year contracts was increased, thus offering greater stability of employment and making it more attractive to work for the Organization. From this time date the appointments of Professor Jean Piaget (Switzerland) as Assistant Director-General and Head of the Department of Education on an interim basis, replacing Mr. Beeby, of Mr. Émile Delavenay (France) as Head of the Documents and Publications Service, Dr. Liu (China) as Head of the Statistical Service, Mr. H. Saba (Egypt) as Legal Adviser, and Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah (India) as head of a section to prepare for the implementation of the technical assistance scheme.

NGOs

On 23 May the first conference of representatives of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative status with UNESCO was held. The meeting took place in Florence.

EDUCATION

The work initiated in 1949 on the establishment and operation of a Clearing House continued, and the centre was established with three sections dealing with general documentation, surveys and investigations and circulation of information.

The missions to the Philippines, Thailand and Afghanistan continued in 1950. Three further countries, Bolivia, Burma and India, requested the sending of missions. The Bolivia mission was prepared for locally, on behalf of the Director-General, by Professor Pedro Rossello (Spain), Deputy Director of the International Bureau of Education.

The International Universities Bureau had been operating at UNESCO Headquarters since June 1949 under the leadership of Professor Jacques Lambert (France). It organized the General Conference of Universities held at Nice from 4 to 12 December 1950, which established the International Association of Universities, one of whose first tasks would be to study the complicated problem of equivalence of university degrees and conditions for matriculation, which was one of the great obstacles to exchanges of students.

In the field of fundamental education, work continued on the organization and conduct of the Marbial pilot project (Haiti), which resulted in the preparation of teaching materials in Creole.

1950 also saw the initiation of the programme conducted in Egypt and Iraq (with the collaboration of the World Health Organization) by a team of experts responsible for preparing audiovisual materials for a seminar on methods and materials for fundamental education in the Middle East to be held in 1951.¹

The project at Pehpei (China) ended in March after producing a large amount of audiovisual material. In addition, thirteen Member States offered to take part in the conduct of projects or activities in various parts of the world.

On 11 September, agreements were signed between UNESCO and the Organization of American States and between UNESCO and the Mexican Government on the establishment in Mexico of a training and production centre for fundamental education. Professor Lucas Ortiz (Mexico) was placed in charge of the centre, and visited seven countries in the region to select the first students.

Adult education also received attention through the holding at Salzburg (Austria) of the Seminar on Methods and Techniques of Adult Education, which took place in July and was in fact a continuation of the 1949 Helsingør Conference referred to above. Later, from 11 to 15 December, the Consultative Committee on Adult Education met in Paris to consider the results of the Seminar.

In the context of work with youth, UNESCO participated in the General

1. The leading British film specialist Alexander Shaw, who subsequently performed other missions in various countries, formed part of this team.

Assembly of the International Student Service (Bombay, 11–24 August), the meeting of the World Committee of YMCAs (Nyborg, Denmark, 17–25 August), the XXI World Congress of Pax Romana (Amsterdam, 19–27 August), the Conference of the International Youth Hostel Federation (Ashridge Park, England, 21–27 August) and the International Conference of the Association of Young Christian Workers (Brussels, 3–10 September).

NATURAL SCIENCES

When UNESCO was established, the International Council of Scientific Unions was already in existence. Close relations were established with it, and subsequently UNESCO itself promoted and advised on the formation of three new associations of the same type: the International Union for the Protection of Nature, the Council for the Co-ordination of International Congresses of Medical Sciences and the Union of International Engineering Organizations, the latter being founded in 1950.

As part of its function of promoting international relations among scientists, UNESCO contributed to the construction of the International High Altitude Research Laboratory and the organization of the International Congress of Mathematicians, held at Cambridge, Massachusetts (United States of America) from 30 August to 6 September.

In addition, support was provided for the Conference of International Engineering Organizations, held at UNESCO Headquarters from 9 to 13 October, the World Power Conference, the International Conference of Research and Testing Laboratories for Materials and Constructions, and the International Commission on Large Dams for the publication of the Technical Dictionary on Dams.

On 25 October, UNESCO assigned its first expert under the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme. The expert was the Norwegian mathematician Mr. Karl Borch, and his country of assignment was Iran.²

The study of arid zones was an ongoing topic and the International Council on the subject met at UNESCO House from 20 to 23 November, with the participation of FAO and WHO.

The Field Science Co-operation Offices for South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East and Latin America continued their activities. The latter, headed by Mr. Angel Establier (Spain), organized a number of meetings and prepared two interesting publications on scientific institutions and studies.

An Indian industrialist, Mr. B. Patnaik, offered UNESCO a gift of 1000 pounds sterling a year to establish the Kalinga Prize to be awarded for achieve-

2. From then up until the present time, UNESCO has assigned thousands of experts and consultants under the Programme.

ment in the popularization of science. The Prize was to be administered by UNESCO, with the winner being elected by the International Council of Scientific Unions.

The journal *Impact of Science on Society* appeared for the first time in April, in English and French, in the form of fascicles and an information bulletin.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The aims of UNESCO in this field during 1950 were to seek to develop international organizations suited to carrying out studies of social problems at an international level, and to encourage the use of social science methods for the practical solution of a number of those problems.

The first issue of the *International Social Science Bulletin* had appeared in September 1949, and the second in December of that same year. In 1950 two separate editions were published, one in French and the other in English. The editors endeavoured to select a central theme for each issue, and as a result the book *Contemporary Political Science* was published, first in French and then in English.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

In the sphere of philosophy and humanistic studies, UNESCO sponsored three important congresses. The Ninth International Congress on Historical Sciences and the First International Congress on Classical Studies were held simultaneously in Paris in late August and early September. In the latter month, the Fourth International Congress on the History of Religion was held in Amsterdam, its central theme being 'The Social and Ritual Factors in Religion'. In addition to other meetings and commemorative events, it is important to highlight the progress of the project organized by the Inter-American Indian Institute under a contract from UNESCO to bring about a change in the mentality of certain native peoples in the Mezquital Valley (Mexico).

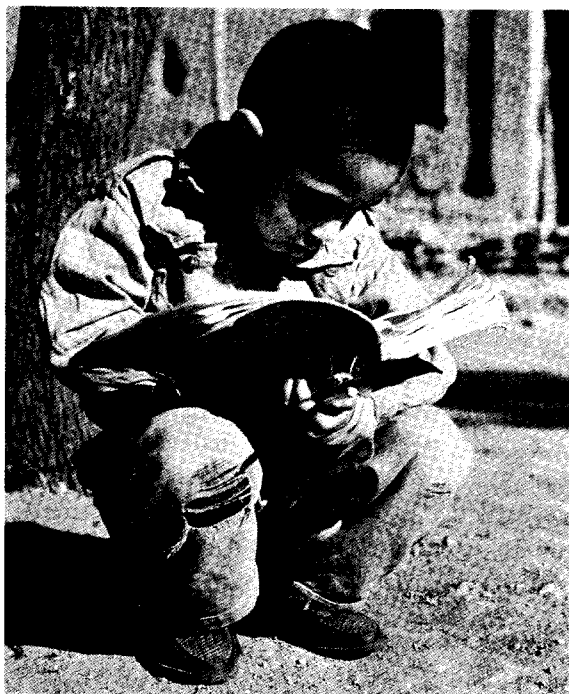
The International Theatre Institute already comprised 26 international centres, and held its third International Congress in Paris from 22 to 29 June. During the Congress, for the first time, architects and theatre people were able to meet and compare their views. Publication of the journal *World Theatre* was embarked upon, and two issues were published.

The International Council of Museums already had 37 national committees, and continued publishing the bi-monthly bulletin *ICOM News*. The quarterly *Museum* also continued to appear, and was very well received.

Protection of writers and artists, education in the arts, literature, and libraries and documentation were activities that received special attention. The following publications, among other examples, afford evidence of this: a second



The Pakistan Forest Institute, a project of the United Nations Special Fund.



The book: an important tool for education and the spread of culture.

Catalogue of Colour Reproductions of Paintings prior to 1860, the first volume of the new series of *Index Translationum*, translations of Aristotle's *Politics*, Descartes' *Discourse on Method* and the first part of *Don Quixote*, by Cervantes, and the publication of the *UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries* (French and English). Mention should also be made of the International Seminar on the Role of Libraries in Adult Education, held at Malmö (Sweden), and of the establishment of the commission for the project on the publication of a scientific and cultural history of mankind.

MEMBER STATES

In 1950 eight countries signed the Constitution and thus became Members of UNESCO, bringing the number of Member States to 59.

The number of National Commissions established in Member States rose in 1950 to 49.

THE FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The fifth session of the General Conference was held in Florence from 22 May to 17 June 1950, in the Palazzo Pitti, built in 1440.

It was attended by representatives of 56 Member States, five observers from the same number of non-Member States, an observer from the Vatican, one from the Supreme Command of the Allied Powers and another from the Allied High Commission in Germany. There were also five observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, six from inter-governmental organizations and 61 from international semi-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Count Stefano Jacini (Italy) as President, and one representative of each of the following seven countries as Vice-Presidents: Brazil, Egypt, France, Pakistan, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela.

The following committees and commissions were established: Credentials Committee, Nominations Committee, Procedure Committee, Programme and Budget Commission, Official and External Relations Commission and Administrative Commission.

The inaugural meeting took place on 22 May. The first speaker was the head of the Australian delegation, Sir Ronald Walker, who thanked the Italian Government for its kind invitation to hold the seventh General Conference of UNESCO in Florence, and praised the Head of the Italian State for his contributions as an eminent economist.

Thereafter the President of the Republic of Italy, Mr. Luigi Einaudi, thanked Sir Ronald Walker for his kind words and referred to Florence as the city in

which, more than six centuries previously, the most illustrious of its sons, Dante Alighieri, had said that men were born 'to seek truth and knowledge'.

After statements by Mr. Gonella, head of the Italian delegation, and Mr. Fabiani, the Mayor of Florence, the Credentials Committee and the Nominations Committee were established, the rules of procedure of the General Conference were approved and the agenda was adopted.

The Executive Board elected six members for a three-year period, and designated Count Stefano Jacini as Chairman. By the end of 1950 the Board had held six sessions, four in Paris and two in Florence.

There follows a summary of the main issues discussed at this session of the General Conference.

Education

The General Conference invited Member States to contribute to the improvement of education by exchanging information and by collecting the necessary documentary material for the purpose. It also authorized the Director-General to send to Member States, at their request, educational missions or technical advisers for the purpose of considering certain educational problems and proposing suitable solutions.

The Director-General was also authorized to collect material for a travelling exhibition for educationalists, to develop teaching in indigenous languages, to prepare an appropriate programme for handicapped children, to hold an international seminar on the teaching of history, to encourage the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials, to draw up a list of the university professorships dealing with international relations, to produce publications designed to promote liaison between UNESCO and the various youth movements and to make available to Member States expressing a wish for it a report on the educational aspects of youth camps and their respect for human rights.

Natural sciences

Special consideration was given to the following activities: preparation of two multilingual dictionaries, on electronics and power plants; promotion of the Field Science Co-operation Offices in Latin America, East Asia, South Asia and the Middle East; organization of regional research centres and laboratories in order to increase and make more fruitful the international collaboration of scientists; examination of the project for the establishment of an International Computation Centre; assistance to the International Arid Zone Research Council; the organization in Israel of a symposium on 'The Conquest of the Desert'; and increased collaboration with the International High Altitude Research Station, the International Zoological Station in Naples and the Oceanographic Institute in Monaco.

In addition, the Director-General was authorized to help associations for the advancement of science in war-devastated areas, to supply material illustrating

the application of science to the solution of urgent problems, to stimulate and facilitate, with special attention to the general public, the organization of science exhibitions, and to prepare popular scientific articles and radio and television scripts.

Social sciences

Member States were invited to co-operate in this field by collecting documentary material and organizing co-operation between specialists. To that end, teaching in the social sciences should be developed and data disseminated to the public. In addition, the Director-General was authorized to encourage the International Sociology Association, the International Political Science Association, the International Comparative Law Association, the International Statistical Institute and the International Studies Conference.

Approval was given for the organization in Brazil of a pilot investigation of contacts between races or ethnic groups, as well as for the initiation of a study of possible means of relieving tensions caused by the introduction of modern techniques in non-industrialized countries and those in the process of industrialization, to which end there would be a need to study methods for developing countries' educational systems to meet their technological needs.

Philosophy and humanistic studies

The Director-General was authorized to help the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies and to involve it in the implementation of the UNESCO programme, to which end there was a need to broaden the geographical basis of the federations, associations and international centres constituting it; to launch certain activities such as oriental studies, the study of prehistory and modern philology; and to stimulate the publication of reviews in the fields of philosophy, archaeology and history.

He was also authorized to arrange for a discussion between thinkers and philosophers of different countries about the cultural and philosophical relations between the East and West, to organize an inquiry into the place of the teaching of philosophy in the several educational systems, and to proceed with the project for a *Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind*.

Cultural activities

Special attention was paid to the conduct of the activities of the International Theatre Institute, to the project for associating the International Council of Music with the execution of UNESCO's programme, and to the preparation and publication under the title of Archives of Recorded Music of catalogues of Chinese music and folk music; the project was subsequently expanded, under the title UNESCO Anthology, to a collection of records of musical works of recognized worth, and of works of which there were as yet no commercial recordings.

In the field of the visual arts, the Director-General was authorized to publish albums of reproductions of works of art and a supplementary edition of the *International Directory of Photographic Archives of Works of Art*.

Attention was also paid to literature, and approval was given to the collaboration of writers from all over the world in the activities of UNESCO, particularly in maintaining close relations with the International PEN Club, and to the continued publication of the *Index Translationum*. Member States were also invited to collect and forward information about foreign works recently translated.

Agreement was also reached to involve the International Council of Museums in the execution of UNESCO's programme, to promote the organization of conferences and expert committees, to continue the publication of *Museum*, to set up an international committee on the conservation, protection and restoration of monuments, to prepare a draft international convention for the protection, in case of war, of monuments and other objects of cultural value, and to publish a new and revised edition of the *Index Bibliographicus*.

Other issues

It was agreed that Spanish would be a working language of the General Conference.³

The Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials and the annexed protocol were approved.

The General Conference agreed that its sixth session should be held in Paris and should be a short one dealing with current issues.

The budget approved for 1951 was \$8,200,000.

1951

After the 1950 General Conference, a change of perspective took place for 1951. An over-all concept made it possible to co-ordinate projects and focus efforts more effectively, and this approach was increasingly taken in subsequent programmes. In 1951, the activities were grouped in line with the Organization's main objectives, making apparent the ordered diversity of disciplines and techniques within each group.

EDUCATION

There was a substantial increase in the activities of the Clearing House in the Department of Education: 418 books were requested, 394 were analysed, 2,300 cards were drawn up and classified and 300 periodicals were analysed.

3. Until then, only French and English had been working languages.

Among the many publications that appeared in the course of the year were the *International Directory of Adult Education, Fundamental and Adult Education* (quarterly), *Educational Abstracts*, *the Healthy Village*, *Raising the School-Leaving Age*, *Child Labour in Relation to Compulsory Education*, *The Universities and Adult Education*, *Making a Living in the Marbial Valley (Haiti)*, *Health Education: A Selected Bibliography and Universal, Free and Compulsory Education*.

Special attention was paid to fundamental education, and various steps were taken to make its nature and the importance of the problems it sought to resolve better known. Radio, the press and the cinema played a vital role in this activity.

On 9 May the Regional Fundamental Education Centre for Latin America⁴ at Pátzcuaro (Michoacán, Mexico) was opened. Its Director was Professor Lucas Ortiz, from Mexico, and it has since trained many batches of specialists in this area of education.

In the broad field of primary, secondary and vocational education, UNESCO provided technical assistance in various countries, in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and convened, jointly with the International Bureau of Education, the fourteenth International Conference on Public Education, held at Geneva in July 1951.

That same year, UNESCO's activities relating to workers' education were initiated, and the establishment of the International Centre on the subject was studied.

At the fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held at Lake Success from 30 April to 14 May, UNESCO submitted a statistical table on the education of girls and women in 69 countries and territories. The Commission adopted a resolution requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue to collaborate with UNESCO in endeavouring to increase educational opportunities for women.

The three institutes in the Federal Republic of Germany – the Youth Institute (Gauting/Munich), the Educational Institute (Hamburg) and the Social Science Institute (Cologne)⁵ – initiated their activities in 1951.

Educational assistance to Arab refugee children continued, and UNESCO's contribution to educational reconstruction in Korea was begun.

From 15 November to 5 December a meeting of experts to study the use of vernacular languages in education was held in Paris. The project on UNESCO university courses was launched, designed to offer certain universities the aid of a party of foreign professors, who would also be scholars who could guide re-

4. Referred to in the 'Education' section for 1950.

5. This Institute was succeeded by the Political Science Institute of the University of Cologne.

search in the centres to which they went to teach. The University of Dacca (Pakistan) was the first to benefit from the programme.

Under the technical assistance programme, experts in fundamental education were sent to Afghanistan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Libya, Peru, Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syria and Venezuela. Other experts in audio-visual techniques conducted missions to China, Colombia, Iran, Iraq and Liberia.

An expert in audio-visual media was also sent to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).⁶

NATURAL SCIENCES

UNESCO launched a world survey of institutions and research laboratories in the natural sciences, and another on research institutions in the field of the social sciences.

Direct assistance to research was not neglected, and an expert committee was established to draw up a report on the desirability and possibility of establishing an international institute of brain research. Among the international research centres whose establishment was initiated were the International Computation Centre and the European Centre for Nuclear Research.

Technical assistance in the field of higher education and scientific research was provided to Afghanistan, Brazil, Ecuador, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Science education took two forms, one involving systematic teaching in schools and the other comprising dissemination work among adults. To this end, special attention was paid to materials and methods, and a number of publications appeared, including *Inventories of Apparatus and Materials for Teaching Science*, the *Handbook for Instructors Who Train Primary School Teachers in the Field of Nature Study*, *The Teaching of General Science*, *The Teaching of Health Science, Including Nutrition*, and *The Teaching of Household Subjects, Including Home Management, Mothercraft and Nursing*. Various reports were prepared on the role of the sciences in education, and special attention was paid to the training of teaching staff.

With regard to dissemination of the sciences, three travelling exhibitions of great educational value were organized and visited a number of countries in Asia and Latin America, publication of the review *Impact of Science on Society* was continued, contacts with scientific journalism were cultivated and the establish-

6. The expert was Mr. Alexander Shaw (United Kingdom), who was mentioned in the education section for 1950.

ment of associations for the advancement of science and of science clubs was encouraged.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

In this broad field, UNESCO paid special attention to the study of states of social tension, the formation of social attitudes, the study of communities and of fascism and national socialism, social activities for youth, the social consequences of industrialization and technological developments, the cultural assimilation of immigrants, the cultural contributions of immigrants and ethnic minorities, the measures taken against racial discrimination in some countries, the rights of women in political life, cultural funds for international solidarity,⁷ teaching for coexistence in a world community and teaching about the United Nations.

In support of this broad programme, study travel abroad and the fellowships sponsored by UNESCO or instituted under the Technical Assistance Programme were promoted.

Within the Secretariat, statistical activities were included in the Department of Social Sciences.

With a view to decentralization, some officials dealing with social sciences were assigned to the Field Science Co-operation Offices in Cairo and New Delhi.

Lastly, studies were drawn up for the establishment of an International Social Science Research Centre.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

In the culture sector, the topics of arts in education and the visual arts continued to receive the attention they deserved. The International Music Council made preparations for the holding of an international conference the following year, while the International Theatre Institute, during the holding of its Congress in Oslo in June 1951, continued the study of the role of the theatre in the education of young people and adults. The International Council of Museums continued its close co-operation with UNESCO, and publication of the review *Museum* also continued.

The visual arts, exhibitions, photographic archives, films on art, the translation of great works (among them the first part of *Don Quixote*), libraries (with the holding of the Conference which took place in Sao Paulo in October), bibliography and documentation services and the international circulation of books were other issues which received attention from UNESCO.⁸

7. Symposium in New Delhi from 13 to 20 December 1951.

8. As the culmination of a UNESCO pilot project, in 1951 the first public library in New Delhi was opened by the Prime Minister of India.



Communication in the service of all.

The Secretariat initiated preparations for an International Conference of Artists to study the practical conditions required to ensure the freedom of the artist, and to seek means of associating artists with UNESCO's work.

Expert missions were sent to Lebanon, Peru, Syria and Yugoslavia, the establishment of the International Fund for the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property and the draft International Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict were studied, and the preparation of an information handbook was initiated.

As an outcome of previous studies and meetings, on 15 August the text of the draft Universal Copyright Convention was sent to Member States in the hope that replies would be received before a meeting to be convened by the Government of Switzerland in 1952 to draw up the final text. At the same time, the *Copyright Bulletin* continued to be published.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

In collaboration with the United Nations Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press, projects on the press, radio, films and television were prepared for implementation in 1952.

This collaboration extended to the regional economic commissions of the United Nations for Europe, Latin America, and Asia and the Far East, as well as to the specialized agencies of the United Nations, in particular FAO, the Universal Postal Union and the International Telecommunication Union.

A UNESCO Coupon Scheme was put into operation, aimed at overcoming foreign exchange obstacles to the purchase abroad of publications, educational films and scientific equipment.

Alongside this Scheme, there were also the UNESCO Gift Coupon and Travel Coupon Schemes, the latter being the subject of a draft plan which was to be discussed and approved.

MEMBER STATES

During 1951 five further countries signed the Constitution, bringing the number of Member States to 64.

NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

These institutions were already UNESCO's main base at the national level, while at the same time participating in the implementation of the Organization's programme. Their number had risen to 61. A second edition of the *Directory of National Commissions* was published in 1951.

THE SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The sixth session of the General Conference took place in Paris from 18 June to 11 July 1951 after a year of activity since the preceding General Conference during which, according to the Director-General's report, UNESCO had progressively been emerging from the initial phase of its life, in which the essential problems had related to organization and working methods. Henceforth, the Director-General said, what would be important was not so much to know how UNESCO should operate as what UNESCO would be able to do; in other words, the aim was to enter upon a phase of more clearly defined action.

Participation in the meeting involved delegates from 58 Member States, 17 representatives of non-Member States and of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, six observers from inter-governmental organizations and 65 from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference comprised Mr. Howland Sargeant (United States of America) as President, with one delegate from each of the following seven countries as Vice-Presidents: Egypt, France, India, Iran, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

The following committees and commissions were established: the Programme Committee, the Official and External Relations Committee, the Joint Programme and External Relations Committee, the Administrative Commission, the Nominations Committee, the Procedure Committee, the Credentials Committee, the Committee on Reports of Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting took place on 18 June. The first speaker was Count Stefano Jacini, head of the Italian delegation, who, speaking as President of the General Conference at its fifth session, outlined the brief history of UNESCO through its meetings or General Conferences up until the sixth such Conference, which was being held at the Headquarters of the Organization.

The next speaker was Mr. Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations, attending a UNESCO General Conference for the first time; his statement focused on the parts of the Organization's programme that were most closely related to the United Nations.

Next to speak was Dr. Dorolle, Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization. He was followed by Mr. Morellet, Deputy Director-General of the International Labour Organisation, and Mr. Mulatier, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union.

After the submission of the Nominations Committee's report, the commissions and committees were established and the Director-General introduced his report.

The Executive Board elected six members for a three-year term and designated Professor Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro (Brazil) as Chairman. In the course of 1951 it held four meetings, all in Paris.

At the proposal of the Executive Board, the General Conference studied the invitation by the Government of Uruguay to hold the seventh session in Montevideo. However, in view of the fact that the travel costs to the Organization would be considerable, it decided to hold its seventh session in Paris and to place on record its deep gratitude for the generous invitation by Uruguay to hold the eighth session in Montevideo.

A summary of the issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference appears below.

Education

In the light of the great importance the General Conference attached to fundamental education, The Director-General was authorized to give, on request, technical aid to Member States in relation to methods of combating illiteracy, the use of the vernacular language, the use of audio-visual aids, the training of qualified educators and the preparation of educational materials for adults who had recently learned to read and write.

It was agreed to continue collaboration with the Government of Haiti and with FAO for the conduct of the Marbial pilot project, to organize national or regional seminars on adult education and to prepare for a conference on education in the Middle East in 1953.

The General Conference also devoted attention to the preparation of suggestions relating to the education of women for citizenship, education and the special problems of children, programmes, methods, textbooks and teaching materials for education in international understanding, teaching about the United Nations and the specialized agencies, education and human rights and issues relating to youth movements and organizations.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was authorized to develop the activities of the field offices in Latin America, South Asia, East Asia and the Middle East, as well as to initiate a world survey of research institutes and laboratories with a view to studying their contribution to the solution of the most important scientific problems.⁹

He was authorized to organize and establish the International Computation Centre and to provide financial assistance to institutions designated by the Advisory Committee on Arid Zone Research.

Special attention was paid to the dissemination of science, and it was agreed to continue publication of *Impact*.

9. The field centre for South-East Asia was transferred from Nanking to Manila in 1951, and subsequently to Djakarta (Indonesia).

Social sciences

The Director-General was authorized to maintain a clearing house for the collection, circulation and exchange of information, as well as to continue publication of the *International Social Science Bulletin*. It was also felt that the time had come to formulate the results of the inquiry into the teaching of the social sciences, so that Member States would have access to broad information on the subject.

Consideration was, as always, given to studies of states of tension in social change, special attention being paid to information on collective attitudes likely to assist in reducing such tension. It was also agreed that the study of the cultural and social aspects of migrations should continue, that existing knowledge on harmonizing the introduction of modern technology should be brought together and made available and assistance provided to United Nations action for the maintenance of peace in areas where conflicts were liable to arise or for the restoration of the normal life of national communities in areas subject to such conflicts.

Cultural activities

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to provide assistance to international organizations active in this field, and to publish the *Index Translationum*, *Museum*, the *Copyright Bulletin* and the *UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries*, and the results of inquiries, studies and symposia previously undertaken.

Special attention was also paid to the preservation of the cultural heritage of mankind and to the protection of writers and artists.

The Director-General was authorized to invite the International Council of Museums to create and operate a clearing house for the collection and distribution of information on exhibition methods and techniques and on the international exchange of exhibitions.

He was also authorized to conclude arrangements with Member States for the translation of a selection of classical and contemporary works into and from the Arabic and Persian, as well as from Italian literature and the literature of Latin America, with a view to their publication.

Exchange of persons, mass communication and rehabilitation service

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to maintain a centre for the collection and exchange of information concerning programmes for the international exchange of persons and the facilities for study abroad. It also authorized continued publication of *Study Abroad: International Handbook of Fellowships, Scholarships and Educational Exchange* and *Travel Abroad: Frontier Formalities and Facilities for Educational Travel*.

In the field of mass communication, the General Conference approved greater collaboration with Member States and appropriate international organizations in the collection, circulation and exchange of information on questions in relation to which UNESCO was active, publication of the results of surveys and studies previously undertaken and the granting of a subvention to the World Braille Council to assist it in its first year's work.

With regard to the use of the means of communication, news items and articles were to be produced and distributed in several languages, particularly through the *Courier* and *UNESCO Features* service.

With respect to the Rehabilitation Service, the Conference approved a concentration of UNESCO efforts in 1952 on the following activities: giving assistance in the sphere of education, science and culture to the populations of Member States to which the United Nations decided to give direct assistance, and providing, in a small number of selected cases, money, supplies or services to Member States whose resources did not permit them to carry out certain projects.

The budget

The General Conference approved for 1952 a budget of \$8,718,000, or an increase of \$518,000 over that for 1951.

1952

THE SECRETARIAT

The administrative structure of the Secretariat in 1952 was: Office of the Director-General, Bureau of Personnel, Bureau of the Comptroller, Bureau of Conference Planning and General Services, Education Department, Natural Sciences Department, Social Sciences Department, Cultural Activities Department, Mass Information Department, Exchange of Persons Service, External Relations Service, Documents and Publications Service and Statistical Service.

EDUCATION

Fundamental education continued to occupy a prominent place in this sector, given the continuing high illiteracy rate, and a broad programme was launched involving participation of the mass media (radio, press and cinema), the establishment of national committees and the improvement of auxiliary aids, particularly those for the teaching of reading and writing.

In many Member States, the campaign against illiteracy was complicated by a multiplicity of local languages and dialects, many of them never committed to writing. In one territory in Africa, there were more than 500 different lan-

guages, only four of which had been written down. Accordingly, it was essential to establish a yardstick and a method. Twenty countries had requested technical assistance from UNESCO in that field.

From 30 June to 4 July, the preparatory meeting for the Seminar on Visual Aids and Fundamental Education was held in Paris, while the meeting of the Consultative Committee on Adult Education took place from 15 to 19 December, also in Paris.

Literacy, however, is closely associated with primary education, in that if this is not available or is discontinued it may lead to illiteracy, and it was thus felt that there was an urgent need to pay great attention to primary education, which ideally should be universal, compulsory and free.

In some countries there was a need to organize the entire educational system starting with the establishment of a Ministry of Education, a clear indication of the situation in which they found themselves and of the need for assistance from UNESCO.

Another concern was secondary and vocational education, and in this connection the fourteenth International Conference on Public Education, held in Geneva in 1951, had in agreement with UNESCO prepared a study, to which 47 countries contributed, entitled *Primary Education and the Extension of School Attendance*.

UNESCO's activities in relation to the extracurricular education of workers, initiated in 1951, underwent a major expansion in 1952 with the establishment of the International Centre for Workers' Education, opened at the Château de La Brévière, near Compiègne (France), under the direction of Mr. Charles A. Orr (United States of America).

At its sixth session, the General Conference had decided that the issue of women's access to education would be the main topic of the fifteenth International Conference on Public Education, held in Geneva from 7 to 16 July 1952 with the participation of 102 delegates, including 31 women. The Conference, presided over by Mrs. Margaret Clapp (United States of America), adopted Recommendation 34, addressed to Ministries of Education, emphasizing the need for studies of the various aspects of women's access to the various levels and types of education.

Other aspects of the General Education Programme in 1952 related to educational assistance to Arab refugee children,¹⁰ UNESCO's contribution to educational reconstruction in Korea, and surveys of the equivalence of university degrees.

10. Under an agreement concluded (from 25 to 29 August) between UNESCO and UNRWA for the establishment of offices in Beirut (Lebanon) and Amman (Jordan).

NATURAL SCIENCES

With a view to achieving greater effectiveness with direct assistance to research, a Standing Committee was established to co-ordinate the programme, and in April it organized in Ankara a symposium on arid zone hydrology. Likewise, the Research Council of Israel, in co-operation with UNESCO, organized another symposium in Jerusalem.

Organizations of great scientific importance created as a means of direct assistance to research were the International Computation Centre and the European Centre for Nuclear Research.

The Field Science Co-operation Offices contributed to the development of research institutes located in their respective regions. The Office for Latin America conducted the preparatory work for the establishment in Morococha (Peru) of an international laboratory for high altitude physics research. The South Asia Office undertook a survey in order to compile an inventory of scientific materials. The East Asia Office assisted the Observatory of Manila in its study of the ionosphere, and the Manila branch office made an enquiry into the state of science teaching in the Philippines. Assistance in this field was provided to 15 countries.

With regard to science teaching, publication of the *Inventory of Apparatus and Materials for Teaching Science* and of the handbooks for science teachers continued. Publication of the review *Impact* also continued, and many articles were published in scientific journals, while a number of associations for the advancement of science were established.

The Kalinga Prize, instituted in 1950, was awarded for the first time in 1952, to Professor Louis de Broglie, Permanent Secretary of the Academy of Sciences in Paris and winner of the Nobel Prize for physics in 1929.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The study of states of social tension was the primary topic in this area, and a number of articles were published in the collection 'Way of Life' showing the nationals of certain countries as they saw themselves. Publication of the *International Social Science Bulletin* also continued, with highly interesting studies on infant sociability and relations between information and activities in the international sphere.

From 3 to 20 August, a seminar took place at Woudschoten (Netherlands) on education for world citizenship with special reference to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

From 6 to 9 April, the meeting of the Advisory Assembly of the Provisional International Social Science Council, the establishment of which had been considered at the sixth General Conference, was held in Paris.

From 7 to 28 October a seminar on education for living in a world commu-

nity, for youth leaders, was held in Rangoon (Burma), while from 27 to 29 November an expert committee met in Brussels to discuss the legal, sociological and administrative problems of the newly independent countries; this was a continuation of the meeting held in Paris on 10 February.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

As approved by the General Conference at its sixth session, the arts and literature received attention in the programme for the culture sector. A seminar on the visual arts took place in Bristol (United Kingdom), and a meeting on music in Philadelphia (United States of America) in February.

The International Theatre Institute continued its study of the role of the theatre in the education of young people and adults.

The review *Museum* continued to publish very interesting articles, and activity in the field of the visual arts and exhibitions also continued. By the end of July, 27 countries had had the benefit of art exhibitions and their respective catalogues. The Arabic translation of Descartes' *Discourse on Method* went to the press, as did the revised Arabic versions of Aristotle's *Politics* and the first part of Cervantes' *Don Quixote*. The review *Diogenes*, publication of which had been initiated in 1949, began to be issued in 1952, under the same title, as the *International Social Science Bulletin*.

Particular attention was paid to public libraries; a number of meetings were held, and a new volume in the collection *UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries* was published.

On 21 May the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials, approved by the General Conference at its fifth session, entered into force. In the course of 1952, 29 countries signed this Agreement.

In March, Member States received a draft of the UNESCO Travel Coupon Scheme, which was to serve as a basis for the preparation of a programme for subsequent years.

From 21 to 24 August, an expert committee met in Paris to prepare a draft international convention for the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict.

On 6 September, a conference held at Geneva adopted the Universal Copyright Convention, together with its three annexed protocols. The symbol © was created to indicate that a work was protected by copyright.

At its sixth session, the General Conference had approved the project for publication of a *Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind*, the commission on which was presided over by Professor Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro (Brazil) with Dr. Julian Huxley, the first Director-General of UNESCO, as its First Vice-President. In 1952, more than 80 corresponding members in 39 countries were already assisting in this endeavour.

MEMBER STATES

In 1952, one more country signed the Constitution, bringing the number of Member States to 65.

On 5 December, the Government of Poland submitted a document announcing its decision to withdraw from UNESCO, and a similar statement was made on 30 December by the Government of Hungary.

The reason given in both cases was that some of UNESCO's resolutions had supported the situation created in Korea.

THE SEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

This session of the General Conference was held in Paris, in 1952, from 12 November to 11 December, and the most notable events at it included the resignation of the Director-General and the decision that General Conferences would be held every two years rather than annually as in the past, except when there was a need to convene an extraordinary session.

Delegates from 65 Member States, 11 representatives of non-Member States and of the United Nations and specialized agencies, eight observers from inter-governmental organizations and 78 observers from international non-governmental organizations took part in this session of the General Conference.

The General Committee of the Conference comprised Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (India) as President and one delegate from each of the following 10 countries as Vice-Presidents: Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Italy, Liberia, Mexico, Pakistan, United Kingdom and Syria.

The following committees and commissions were established: Programme Committee, Administrative Commission, Credentials Committee, Nominations Committee, Budget Committee, Rules of Procedure Committee (and subsequently the Legal Committee) and Committee on Reports of Member States.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Howland Sargeant in his capacity as President of the General Conference at its sixth session; after greeting all present, he stated that the General Conference would be extremely important, in that some of the problems the sixth Conference had sought to resolve had become more acute; he was nevertheless confident in the future of international co-operation, as evidenced by the number of Member States, which had risen from 48 at the first General Conference to 65, with National Commissions established in 61 countries.

He recalled the words of Léon Blum, President of the General Conference at its first session, who had said that he foresaw two types of activity for UNESCO: 'On the one part initiative, precise, methodical and progressive in a certain number of technical spheres is essential; on the other hand there is a general combined action affecting what I may well call the spiritual condition of peoples and individuals'.

After considering the report of the Nominations Committee, the General Conference elected eight members of the Executive Board for the period up until the end of its ninth regular session. It was agreed that members would be elected for four years instead of three as in the past, with the possibility of immediate re-election for a second term, thus amending Article V, paragraph A.3, of the Constitution. Mr. Ronald Adam (United Kingdom) was elected Chairman. In the course of 1952 the Board held four meetings, all in Paris.

As already envisaged at the sixth session of the General Conference, and in response to the new invitation by the Government of Uruguay (letter of 14 March 1952), it was decided that the eighth session of the General Conference would be held in Montevideo, and that thereafter the sessions would take place every two years.

There follows a summary of the issues discussed at this session of the General Conference.

Education

The Director-General was authorized to assist Member States to extend and improve fundamental education and adult education in their own countries and in the territories under their administration, in association with the United Nations, the other specialized agencies and appropriate international organizations, as well as to assist in the progressive development of educational systems in the same geographical areas, including technical and vocational education.

Other issues to which attention was paid in this sector were education for women, education for living in a world community and exchange of persons through a broad programme of fellowships.

Natural sciences

Special attention was paid to the development of international scientific co-operation, focusing especially on living conditions, the teaching and dissemination of science and the activity of the Science Co-operation Offices in Latin America, South Asia, East Asia and the Middle East.

It was agreed to initiate studies of the possibility of establishing a training centre for the development of the arid zone under the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

Social sciences

The Conference authorized the Director-General to arrange for the exchange of information on the social science problems included in the Organization's programme; to contribute towards the improvement of documentation, to encourage social science teaching in secondary schools and universities; to make a general survey of research into tensions between groups; to advise Member States on the adaptation of national juridical and administrative systems to current develop-

ments in the international community; and to encourage studies of the application of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and evaluate international co-operation programmes.

Following the approval of the incorporation of the Statistical Service into the Department of Social Sciences, consideration was given to the analysis of statistical data on illiteracy and on education at all levels.

Cultural activities

It was agreed to make arrangements, by contract with the Commission set up for the purpose, for the preparation of a *Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind*, and in addition to pursue the conduct of a programme of philosophical, historical and cultural studies and publications likely to promote the understanding and promotion of human rights in different regions of the world.

The draft International Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the draft Regulations for its Execution were discussed, and it was agreed that Member States should be invited to make known any comments and any amendments they might wish to put forward.

Other issues discussed were the protection of writers, artists and scientists, the dissemination of culture, the translation of representative works of all countries and the development of bibliographical services, research libraries and archives.

Mass communication

The Director-General was authorized to maintain a clearing house for the collection of information on questions pertaining to the improvement of the means and techniques of communication, and Member States were invited to develop the use of television for educational and cultural purposes, to take measures to reduce obstacles to the free flow of information and to make better use of the means of communication.

Resignation of the Director-General

When the first biennial budget was voted upon, the General Conference approved an amount lower not only than what had been requested, but than what would have been required simply to maintain the status quo.¹¹ The Director-General interpreted this vote as a reproach for the efforts he had been making, and referred to UNESCO 'settling down to our limitations'. In his statement¹² he indicated that the situation left him with only one option, that of resignation. His resignation was accepted at the 19th plenary meeting, on 1 December. Thus

11. The budget approved for the biennium 1953–1954 amounted to \$18,712,964.

12. Made in Spanish, which was already a working language of General Conferences.

Mr. Torres Bodet's mandate terminated prior to the scheduled date. As an interim measure the Deputy Director-General, Mr. John W. Taylor, was designated to replace him.

Headquarters

Regarding the construction of the building for UNESCO Headquarters, the General Conference took note of the fact that the offer of the site located between Porte Maillot and Porte Dauphine had been withdrawn, and that instead the French Government was offering the site known as Quartier de Fontenoy for a term of 99 years renewable. The total cost of construction was not to exceed the sum of \$6,000,000.

1953–1956

The biennium 1953–1954

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AND NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL

The year 1953 began under the interim stewardship of Mr. John W. Taylor, elected by the General Conference on 2 December of the previous year until the appointment of a new Director-General. This appointment took place at the extraordinary session of the General Conference held in Paris from 1 to 4 July 1953 under the presidency of Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (India), which was attended by delegates from 59 Member States, with representatives of three non-Member States, four specialized agencies and 51 international non-governmental organizations as observers.

It was at the second plenary meeting, held on 1 July, that the vote took place on the Executive Board's nomination of Mr. Luther H. Evans (United States of America) as Director-General of UNESCO. The nomination was approved.¹

This extraordinary session of the General Conference also took the following decisions:

To take note of the decision of the Governments of Hungary and Czechoslovakia to withdraw from the Organization and to invite those Governments, as well as that of Poland, to reconsider that decision.²

To request the Director-General to submit to the General Conference at its eighth session a report on the UNESCO Headquarters project.

1. Mr. Evans had been Director of the Library of Congress in his country since 1945, and a member of the UNESCO Executive Board since 1949.
2. Poland had withdrawn from UNESCO on 5 December 1952 and Hungary on 30 December of the same year, as indicated above. Czechoslovakia announced its withdrawal on 29 January 1953, citing the same reasons.

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

1953 was the first year in which the Organization's activities were developed in conformity with a biennial programme and budget; as the reports of the period indicate, the experiment proved satisfactory, in that it allowed greater flexibility of funds and projects, which were readily transferable from one year to another within the biennium.

The new Director-General was also of the view that Member States should be closely associated with all phases of the cycle of preparation and implementation of the UNESCO programme, and accordingly had informed the General Conference of his intention to travel extensively in Member States in order to establish more comprehensive relations between their governments and peoples and the Secretariat. After a year and a half in office, he had officially visited 32 of the 72 Member States, nine of them more than once.

This greater concern for improving relations with Member States led to the establishment, on 23 July 1954, of the post of Assistant Director-General. Mr. René Maheu (France), already a member of the Secretariat,³ was appointed to this post, and the post of Deputy Director-General vacated by Mr. John W. Taylor on 31 December 1953 was not filled.

During this biennium, the relations between UNESCO and the other agencies of the United Nations system became closer with a view to increasing their effectiveness and making their results more positive. Relations with the Organization of American States and with international non-governmental organizations were also strengthened.

EDUCATION

Two over-all trends are apparent in the development of activities in this sector: the desire for a closer relationship between the various aspects of the programme and for a better balance between the activities of the Secretariat and those of national or regional organizations.

The services of the Clearing House covered the entire programme of the Department, with attention being paid to the compilation, analysis and utilization of documentation and the preparation of studies and reports on education by means of publications.

In the field of fundamental education, particular mention must be made of the opening in January 1953 of the Fundamental Education Centre for the Arab States (ASFEC), located at Sirs-el-Layyan, a district of Menoufia 60 kilometres

3. A member of the Secretariat of the Provisional Commission, he had entered the Organization in September 1946 as chief of the Division of Free Flow of Information, and in 1949 had been appointed Senior Executive Officer in the Office of the Director-General Torres Bodet.

from Cairo. The opening took place with 50 students from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syria. The UNESCO Executive Board and then the Government of Egypt authorized the admission of Arab refugee students.

The parallel centre in Latin America, known as CREFAL, admitted in April 1953 55 new students from Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru.

Fundamental education continued to be one of the main centres of attention; a closer relationship was established between it and school education, and its links with adult education and youth training were also strengthened.

A UNESCO publication of special interest was the book by Mr. William Scott Gray of the United States of America incorporating his study of the different methods used to teach children and adults to read and write. The book, originally published in English, was entitled *Preliminary Survey on Methods of Teaching Reading and Writing*.

Attention was also given in this field to audio-visual aids, language problems (especially in Africa), training of experts, assistance to the regional seminars in Gardone (Italy) in February and Trujillo City (Dominican Republic), both in April 1953, and the organization of seminars fully financed under the UNESCO budget. This broad programme of action culminated in the fifth meeting of the Consultative Committee on Adult Education, which took place at La Brévière (France) in August of the same year.

The experimental programme of education on the United Nations and human rights, which had been launched in 1953 and involved the participation of more than 50 schools in 20 countries, continued satisfactorily.

Publication of *Education Abstracts* continued, with each issue being devoted to a topic under the programme, and various monographs were also published on fundamental education, compulsory education, education missions and general educational problems. The quarterly *Fundamental and Adult Education* also continued to be published.

The UNESCO Institute of Education in Hamburg expanded its activities on the two topics initially selected by its Governing Board, adult education and pre-school education.

November 1953 saw the birth of the Associated Schools, educational institutions which included in their general curriculum a special programme on education for peace and international co-operation.

That same year, UNESCO had drawn up a programme for the unification of Braille, the beginning of a whole series of activities for the blind. One of its first results was the publication of *World Braille Usage*.

Mention should also be made, among other activities in this sector, of the holding in Geneva of the seventeenth International Conference on Education, convened by UNESCO and the International Bureau of Education (5-13 July 1954); the preparations for the Seminar on Secondary Education in Latin America,

which began in Santiago, Chile, on 27 December 1954; the submission to the Commission on the Status of Women of a report on the access of women to education; and the collaboration with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. In November 1954, 208 UNESCO-UNRWA primary schools were in operation in Egypt (Gaza strip), Jordan, Libya and Syria.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The theme of work in the course of the biennium was 'science must be in the service of man', and under this slogan UNESCO provided assistance to various organizations, including the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences and the Union of International Engineering Organizations.

There were many science associations world-wide, with the result that on occasion the efforts, work and achievements of some received no follow-up or were insufficiently known by others. Accordingly, UNESCO sought to establish co-ordination, which it felt to be necessary and urgent, and these efforts gave rise to the International Advisory Committee on Scientific Research, the establishment of which was approved by the Executive Board at its meeting in November 1953. The experience of the Advisory Committee on Arid Zone Research, established in 1951, was already available. Also with UNESCO assistance, the European Council for Nuclear Research established in Geneva the European Organization on the same subject.

The International Advisory Committee on Scientific Research in the Natural Sciences was established; its members, selected on the basis of broad geographical representation, advised the Secretariat monthly in writing on projects for the improvement of bibliography, terminology, lexicography and scientific translations.

Independently of its participation in conferences organized by centres in various countries, UNESCO prepared for the following symposiums and regional training courses in 1953: the Training Course on the Utilization of Radioactive Isotopes in Biology (Sao Paulo, Brazil, 14 January–28 February), the Training Course on Electrophoresis (Santiago, Chile, 20 April–9 May), the Symposium on Bromatology (Santiago, Chile, 5–11 September), the Symposium on Reinforced Concrete in India Today (Roorkee, 11–13 November) and the Symposium on the Study of Indigenous Medicinal Plants (Manila, 23–24 November).

The Advisory Committee on Scientific Research in the Natural Sciences met from 15 to 17 February 1954, and the USSR Academy of Sciences was invited to send a representative to the next meeting.⁴

4. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics entered UNESCO as a Member State three months later (on 21 April 1954).

The Advisory Committee on Arid Zone Research held sessions in 1954 in Paris (4-7 May), New Delhi (19-21 October) and Bombay (2 November), and recommended to the Director-General of UNESCO that he continue developing the project in the next biennium.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The biennium was characterized by close collaboration between specialists in this field. A contribution to this objective was made by the establishment in December 1952 of the Provisional International Social Science Council, which began its activities in January 1953. In December of that same year, the Council held a General Assembly in Paris and agreed to delete the word 'Provisional' from its title.

The UNESCO Institute for Social Sciences (Cologne) carried out a study of the integration of the individual and his relationship with such social institutions as the family, local clubs, the church and political parties. It also drew up a report on the integration of foreign ethnic groups resident in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Publication of the *International Social Science Bulletin* continued, and Volume IV, No. 4 was devoted to area studies.

Compilation of statistical data was also stepped up, and in March 1953 a course was held in Beirut under the auspices of the International Statistical Institute, an organization which was financed by UNESCO, with additional contributions from the Governments of France, Lebanon, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The International Social Science Council held at UNESCO House two meetings (June and December 1954) which dealt with the preparation of documents, classification methods and the structure and functions of national social science committees.

Other meetings in 1954 which were organized or sponsored by UNESCO, or at least held with its assistance and co-operation, were: a meeting of experts in Paris to study the fertility rate of the various groups in society and the development of intelligence in new generations (1-4 February); a regional seminar on the teaching of the social sciences in South Asia (16-20 February); a meeting of experts, held in Paris, on the terminology of social sciences (5-7 May); a round-table conference in San José, Costa Rica, on the teaching of the social sciences in Latin America (15-23 July); and another in Damascus on the teaching of the social sciences in the Middle East (22-30 August).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

In the course of the biennium, the development of these activities focused on the four issues defined by the General Conference: international cultural co-operation, preservation and utilization of the cultural heritage of mankind, protection of writers, artists and scientists, and dissemination of culture.

Mention should be made of the publication of the review *Diogenes* in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, which gave the public at large access to the broad range of humanistic studies.

UNESCO sponsored a number of congresses and meetings, among them the International Congress on Religious History (Paris, May 1953), the International Theatre Congress (The Hague, June 1953), the symposium of specialists in the study of Turkish culture, organized by the International Union of Orientalists (Paris, September 1953), the meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Plastic Arts (UNESCO House, March 1954), the meeting of the International Music Council (Edinburgh, August 1954) and the meeting of the International Association of Art Critics (Istanbul, September 1954).

Special mention must be made of the International Conference on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, held at The Hague from 12–21 March 1954. The Convention on the subject had been signed by 50 States by the end of that year.⁵

From 15 to 22 February 1954, the International Commission for the Writing of the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind met at UNESCO House, presided over by Professor Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro. Since 1953, the Commission had been publishing the *Journal of World History*, a quarterly review.

Two international meetings organized by UNESCO took place in 1954 on cultural relations between the old world and the new, the first at São Paulo from 16 to 21 August and the second at Geneva from 1 to 11 September.

The International Council of Museums organized a number of meetings with the co-operation of UNESCO and continued to publish its journal *ICOM News*.

UNESCO initiated in co-operation with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies a survey of means and procedures for expanding teaching of humanistic studies with a view to securing a more balanced view of the great civilizations of the world.

Other issues to which special attention was paid in the course of the biennium were librarianship, archives and documentation, dissemination of contemporary works and promotion of knowledge of the arts and translations. In December of each year, the fifth and sixth volumes of the *Index Translationum* appeared, and new titles were added to the UNESCO collection of representative literary works.

5. The first State to request the inclusion of a monument in the Register was the Holy See.



Television as an aid in adult education, Dakar (Senegal).



Recording a folk festival for radio transmission, Conakry (Guinea).

MASS COMMUNICATION

As a result of the world survey of the press, cinema and radio conducted between 1947 and 1951, UNESCO embarked on a new course in 1953, with a programme aimed at disseminating the techniques needed to use the information media for educational and cultural purposes. Attention began to be paid to television, and a project was drawn up for the organization of an experiment on collective reception and its use in adult education. In January 1954 the format of the *UNESCO Courier* was changed to the one it still retains, initiating its publication as a colour illustrated monthly magazine. The number of subscribers, 8,000 at the beginning of 1954, had risen to 25,000 by the end of the year.

Special attention was paid to production of films (including *World Without End*), to the distribution of recorded UNESCO radio programmes in various languages, and to the UNESCO coupon schemes for books, films, scientific material and travel. Extensive use was made of the projection room and the film library.

A noteworthy event was the first International Conference of Educational Television Producers, organized in London by UNESCO and the British Broadcasting Corporation from 5 to 24 July 1954. The Conference provided a unique encounter for the exchange of knowledge and experience in a medium of great importance to education. Mention must also be made of the conference sponsored by UNESCO on the production and distribution of children's films (Locarno, Switzerland, 4–10 July 1954).

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mention should be made among other things of the publication of the seventh volume of *Study Abroad*, the exchange of workers on collective study tours, the exchange of instructors for courses abroad, the award of fellowships (57 in all, benefiting 24 countries), and the technical assistance provided to various projects, numbering 125 in all, in 36 countries.

The number of staff at Headquarters was 910 as at 31 December 1954.

MEMBER STATES

Four countries signed the Constitution in 1953, and three in 1954, bringing the total number of Member States to 72. Hungary and Poland rejoined UNESCO as Member States on 1 and 18 June 1954 respectively, and Czechoslovakia did so on 9 September of the same year.

HEADQUARTERS

1 June 1954 saw the establishment of the Headquarters Office, a new administrative unit to deal with the administration of the Headquarters project and supervise its execution, headed by Mr. E. H. Callison (United States of America). On 25 June the Director-General signed the lease for the Fontenoy site, and the Secretariat conducted negotiations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Reconstruction and Housing and the Military Authorities with a view to clearing the site of most of the existing buildings and making it ready for construction to begin.

THE EIGHTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

This first regular biennial session of the General Conference (the seventh session had been held in 1952) took place in Montevideo from 12 November to 10 December 1954.

Delegates from 69 Member States, ten representatives of non-Member States and of the United Nations and specialized agencies, six observers from inter-governmental organizations and 56 observers from international non-governmental organizations took part in its work.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Justino Zavala Muniz (Uruguay) as President, and as Vice-Presidents one delegate from each of the following ten countries: Chile, France, Italy, Japan, Pakistan, Spain, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The General Conference set up the Programme and Budget Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Advisory Committee on Programme and Budget, the Legal Committee, the Committee on Reports of Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in his capacity as President of the General Conference at its seventh session. After thanking the Government and people of Uruguay for their valuable co-operation and their support for the organization of the General Conference in Montevideo, he said:

‘The world, once divided by oceans and continents, is today physically united, but there is still suspicion and misunderstanding. It is essential for us not to live apart but to live together, understanding each other, knowing each other’s fears and anxieties, aspirations and thoughts. We have all subscribed to the United Nations Charter – that Charter which affirms faith in fundamental human rights and in the dignity and worth of the human person.’

The representatives of the Government of Uruguay, Mr. Martinez Trueba,

President of the National Council of Government, Mr. Zavala Muniz, Minister of Public Education and Social Welfare, and Mr. Amando Malet, Mayor of Montevideo, then took the floor. Thereafter, the Credentials Committee was established.

The Executive Board had, since its establishment, been composed of members acting in their personal capacity, but at this eighth session of the General Conference it was decided that in addition each member should represent the country of which he or she was a national.

It was also agreed that the Board should consist of 22 members, and that its term of office would end at the closure of the eighth General Conference, in the course of which the 22 new members would be elected, with the term of office of 11 of them, drawn by lot, to end at the conclusion of the ninth session of the General Conference. Only delegates proposed by the Governments of their respective countries could be candidates for the Executive Board.

Mr. Arcot Mudaliar (India) was elected Chairman of the Executive Board.

The General Conference accepted the offer of the Government of India, made in a letter of 20 August, to hold the ninth session (1956) in New Delhi.

The following is a summary of the main issues dealt with at the eighth session of the General Conference.

Education

The Director-General was authorized to continue assistance to Palestine refugees in collaboration with UNRWA and to continue the development of the programme for educational reconstruction in the Republic of Korea.

Member States were invited to take measures, where necessary, for extending free schooling, particularly at the primary stage, and for developing and improving the organization of education in their metropolitan territories and in the non-self-ruling territories under their jurisdiction, bearing in mind the cultural individuality of each country or territory; to encourage the teaching of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of human rights in schools and other educational institutions, in accordance with the Universal Declaration approved and proclaimed on 10 December 1948; to initiate studies and experiments on various aspects of fundamental education; to encourage adult education, including workers' and women's education; and to develop youth education and education for international understanding.

Natural sciences

Special attention was paid, both in the documents submitted and in the statements made, to co-operation with international scientific organizations, contribution to research particularly for the improvement of economic and social conditions, assistance to scientific research, the teaching and dissemination of science and the development of the Science Co-operation Offices established by UNESCO in Latin America, South Asia, East Asia and the Middle East.

Social sciences

The main issues dealt with in resolutions were the constitution of social science committees, assistance, by means of subventions and services, to the International Social Science Council and the UNESCO Social Science Institute in Cologne, exchange of information and consultancies, improvement of documentation and terminology, compilation of statistics on the fields of UNESCO activity, the desirability of establishing an international centre or institute to promote a common basic training for international civil servants, the use of the social sciences to resolve or alleviate problems of international understanding and tensions, discrimination on account of race, sex, religion and national origin, application of the social sciences to the study of the economic, social and political circumstances militating against the establishment of the rule of law, and objective evaluation of the effectiveness of programmes carried out by UNESCO.

Cultural activities

The General Conference consulted the documents of the Intergovernmental Conference on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the Final Act of which had been signed at The Hague on 14 May 1954 and which had approved, as its first positive outcome, a Convention and a Protocol, and endorsed a resolution of the Conference which expressed the hope that the competent organs of the United Nations would decide, in the event of military action being taken in implementation of the Charter, to ensure application of the provisions of the Convention by the armed forces taking part in such action.

Other issues discussed were the preservation of the cultural heritage of mankind, the role of the humanities in education and the development of cultural life, the development of libraries and museums, the preparation of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind*, the dissemination of the visual arts and music, the translation of representative works from all countries, the development of the use of Esperanto in education, science and culture and issue of a publication to commemorate the Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz on the occasion of the centenary of his death.

Mass communication

Member States were invited to facilitate and encourage the use of the information media for the development of international understanding through education, science and culture in support of the purposes of the United Nations, and also to reduce obstacles to the free flow of information and ideas. It was felt desirable that Member States should co-operate with the clearing house of the Department of Mass Communication by providing it with information on the progress made in their countries in relation to the above-mentioned issues.

There was also discussion of the use of the means of communication for

fundamental and workers' education, the administration of fellowships and the promotion of exchange of persons for international understanding.

Other issues

The most important other issues discussed at this session of the General Conference were:

1. The approval of the UNESCO emblem and its use as the official seal of the Organization. The emblem represents the facade of the Parthenon, with the letters of UNESCO as its columns.⁶ This emblem had been in use since 1947 on some UNESCO publications, but until 1954 the emblem of the Organization had been a map of the world seen from the North Pole, surrounded by a wreath of olive leaves, with 'UNESCO' written above it and 'Paris 1946' below it;⁷
2. Approval of the use of Spanish as a working language of the Executive Board (it had been a working language of the General Conference since 1950) and of Russian for meetings of the General Conference and the Executive Board;
3. Amendment of Article II of the Constitution by the addition of the following paragraph: '6. Any Member State or Associate Member of the Organization may withdraw from the Organization by notice addressed to the Director-General. Such notice shall take effect on 31 December of the year following that during which the notice was given. No such withdrawal shall affect the financial obligations owed to the Organization on the date the withdrawal takes effect. Notice of withdrawal by an Associate Member shall be given on its behalf by the Member State or other authority having responsibility for its international relations.';
4. Amendment of the Staff Regulations so that Assistant Directors-General, staff members in the Principal Officer and Director category and officials of equivalent status would be appointed for an initial period not exceeding five years, renewable for periods no one of which should exceed five years. Likewise, other staff members were to be appointed for an initial period of not less than one nor more than three years, renewable without time limit or for further fixed periods of not less than one year up to a maximum period of service of five years. Staff members appointed before 1952 were to be deemed to have been appointed on that date, without prejudice to their rights in other respects;

6.



7.



5. Member States and National Commissions were invited to mark the centenaries of 'men of genius', and the Director-General was authorized to commemorate the memory of such great men. The list would later be known as the 'Calendar of great personalities and historical events';
6. Member States were also invited to establish, under the auspices of their National Commissions, Clubs of Friends of UNESCO to make the Organization's work known to the public at large;
7. The budget for the biennium 1955-1956 was approved, amounting to \$21,629,330.

The biennium 1955-1956

THE SECRETARIAT

As a result of the experience acquired by the Secretariat and by Member States in the implementation of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, by the end of 1955 requests had reached the Secretariat from 65 countries and territories, covering 162 experts, 267 fellowships and considerable quantities of equipment, while 126 projects had been approved totalling \$994,216 and providing for 81 experts, 79 fellowships and \$78,855 worth of equipment.

A characteristic feature of the Secretariat during 1955, both in the implementation of the programme for that year and in the preparation of that for the following year, was the intensive development of collaboration between departments in order to achieve better co-ordination of activities.

In the course of the year the Director-General visited 28 Member States, 19 of them for the first time.

The Programme of Participation in the Activities of Member States, financed by means of limited allocations under the Regular Programme, entered into force in this biennium, and 106 requests were received totalling \$2,000,000.

On 1 January 1956, Mr. René Maheu was assigned to the New York Office as Representative of UNESCO to the United Nations, retaining his rank of Assistant Director-General, and was replaced by Mr. Jean Thomas (France) who until then had been Director of the Department of Cultural Activities.

Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah (India), who had been dealing in the Secretariat with UNESCO technical assistance to the various countries, was also appointed Assistant Director-General. In that new post, he became responsible, in addition to technical assistance, for UNESCO's relations with the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

EDUCATION

During the biennium, the programme of the UNESCO Institute for Education, Hamburg, became more clearly defined, and in January 1955 it began publishing a trilingual quarterly journal (in English, French and German).

Several papers were prepared for the United Nations, the annual reports of States administering Trust Territories were analysed, and comments on educational progress were prepared for transmission by the Executive Board to the Trusteeship Council.

Many UNESCO publications were issued, among them the quarterly *Fundamental and Adult Education* (in French and English), *Education Abstracts* (in English, French and Spanish) and the tenth in the series *Monographs on Fundamental Education*, which also included the French text of the book by William Scott Gray on the teaching of reading and writing which has already been referred to.

In August 1955 the International Institute of Child Study officially opened in Bangkok, as the result of work in 1953 and 1954. In November Professor Ernst Boesch (Switzerland) was appointed to head the Institute.

Particularly noteworthy was the collaboration with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), in which connection UNESCO assumed technical responsibility for the planning and execution of the educational programme for the refugees, while UNRWA dealt with the administration. In 1956 enrolment in the UNESCO-UNRWA schools was 104,418 pupils.

In continuation of the collaboration with the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency, a plan for the establishment of a national fundamental education and training centre, drawn up by a specialist provided by UNESCO, was approved.

The Latin American Regional Fundamental Education Centre (CREFAL) continued to carry out its programme (rural economy, literacy, health education, home economics and popular arts); it was attended by 125 trainees, 45 of them women, from 18 Member States. A total of 43 students, twelve of them women, graduated from the Arab States Fundamental Education Centre (ASFEC), and before returning to their respective countries, made a study tour in July of Italy, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

The Consultative Committee on Adult Education met in Paris at UNESCO Headquarters from 29 August to 2 September 1955. The Consultative Committee on Youth Work, set up by the Director-General of UNESCO to advise him on the execution of the programme in that field, also met in the same location from 2 to 5 November.

Meetings of special interest in 1956 were the meeting on school reform at the secondary level (Hamburg, 9–14 January), the meeting of the Consultative

Committee on Adult Education (Paris, 19-23 March), the UNESCO-OAS Regional Conference on Free and Compulsory Education in Latin America (Lima, 23 April-5 May), the expert meeting on production of reading materials for new literates (Murree, Pakistan, 11-18 June) and the meeting of the UNESCO-United Nations working party to discuss the possibility of closer co-operation in teaching about the United Nations (1-4 October).

NATURAL SCIENCES

Of the 14 most important books and reviews published by UNESCO in this sector mention may be made, apart from the journal *Impact*, of the *Bibliographie cartographique internationale 1953* and *Silicon, Sulphur, Phosphates*.

Publication of the *Report on Scientific Technical Production and Related Problems* was authorized, bearing in mind the comments submitted by 219 experts in 21 countries to whom a preliminary draft of the report had been sent.

The International Council of Scientific Unions organized 35 meetings with UNESCO financial assistance. Those on solar energy held in the United States of America, in Tucson from 31 October to 1 November and in Phoenix from 1 to 5 November 1955, were of special interest. A special meeting was devoted to the study of radiation.

UNESCO's scientific participation in the International Conference on the Peaceful Utilization of Atomic Energy, held in Geneva in August 1955, took the form of the submission of two reports, one on the training of research staff and the other on research reactors.

From 17-22 October 1955 the Conference on the Public Understanding of Science was organized at Madrid, with UNESCO co-operation. It comprised various types of activity: a travelling science exhibition entitled *Man Measures the Universe*, an exhibition of UNESCO publications, the screening of films on the popularization of science (24 films from nine countries) and a series of lectures given by distinguished scientists from the 13 participating countries.

The regional offices continued their activities both in Latin America (Montevideo) and in the Middle East (Cairo), South Asia (New Delhi) and East Asia (Jakarta).

Of the meetings held in 1956, mention may be made of: a preparatory meeting of specialists on humid tropics research (Colombo, 22-24 March), the eleventh session of the Advisory Committee on Arid Zone Research (Canberra and Melbourne, 13, 16 and 25 October), the first session of the International Advisory Committee in Marine Sciences (Lima, 22-24 October), preceded by a round-table discussion of problems confronting biological and physical oceanography, and the symposium on pharmaceutical botany (Havana, 12-17 November).

SOCIAL SCIENCES

In 1955, a subvention of \$18,000 was granted to the International Social Science Council for the organization of meetings and for administrative expenses. The Council held its Second General Assembly at UNESCO House from 26 to 29 June 1955.

A subvention of \$9,000 was also granted to the International Committee for Social Science Documentation, and the amount of the grant to the UNESCO Institute for Social Sciences in Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany) was \$30,000.

Four issues of Volume VII of the *International Social Science Bulletin* appeared in 1955, as did the *International Register of Current Team Research* (in French and English).

In the field of teaching of the social sciences, apart from promotion of interest in this activity in Member States, a pamphlet by Professor Robson (United Kingdom) was published (in French and English), entitled *The University Teaching of Social Sciences. Political Science*.

Among the meetings held in 1956, mention may be made of the following: the Regional Round Table on the Teaching of Social Sciences in Latin America (Rio de Janeiro, 5–14 March), the Conference of Organizers of International Voluntary Work Camps (Chamonix, France, 6–9 March) and the Advisory Committee of the Research Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization in Southern Asia (New Delhi, 9–28 November).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

In 1955, UNESCO granted the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies a subvention of \$100,000 for assistance to its activities. The Council held a General Assembly at UNESCO House in September.

Publication of the review *Diogenes* continued in six separate editions, in Arabic, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

The International Advisory Committee on Bibliography held a meeting at UNESCO House from 13 to 17 June 1955 which was attended by eleven members from nine countries.

On 16 September 1955, three months after the deposit of the instrument of ratification by Monaco, the Universal Copyright Convention entered into force. Sixteen States were parties to the Convention by 31 December. On 7 May of the same year, a contract was signed between UNESCO and the Government of Egypt to determine the apportionment of the expenses involved in the establishment of the Documentation and Study Centre for the History of the Art and Civilization of Ancient Egypt.

Other issues which received attention from UNESCO in the course of this

biennium were the cultural aspects of the use of radio and television, the development of libraries and museums, and the dissemination of the visual arts and music.

The International Commission assigned responsibility by UNESCO for writing the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind made substantial progress during the biennium in the drafting of the six volumes.

In 1956 the following meetings took place: one of the International Committee on Monuments, Artistic and Historical Sites, and Archaeological Excavations (Paris, 3-7 April), the UNESCO-International Music Council Symposium on the international dissemination of works by contemporary composers (Paris, 4-13 May), the Bureau of the International Advisory Committee on Bibliography (Paris, 24-26 May) and the working party to select colour reproductions of paintings from 1860 to 1957 (Paris, 17-19 October).

Volume VII of the *Index Translationum* was published in February 1956.

MASS COMMUNICATION

This was a biennium of full-scale reorganization of the Department of Mass Communication, in that during it the divisions were strengthened, activities were better distributed and new guidelines for its activities were established.

The success of the *Courier* continued to be confirmed, with sales rising from 25,000 to 60,000 by the end of the biennium. Publication of a Japanese edition in reduced form as part of *UNESCO Sinbun* (*UNESCO News*), published by the Japanese Federation of UNESCO Associations, began in May 1955.

The combination of the former *Official Bulletin* and *UNESCO Newsletter* to form the new publication *UNESCO Chronicle*, which took place in July 1955, also met with general approval. Another fusion was that of *UNESCO Features* and *UNESCO World Review*, retaining the former title.

In the course of the year, the Film Library received 120 films, either given or lent on a long-term basis by various bodies in different countries. The photograph library was reorganized, and to meet the increasingly numerous requests 37,000 photographs were distributed.

Exhibition materials were sent to 23 countries and territories, particularly on the topics *UNESCO in Action*, the *Arid Zone Programme*, *Fundamental Education*, *World Community* and *Horizons of the Cinema*.

The UNESCO Coupon Scheme for study and travel continued to be a success, with more than 40 countries participating. The Gift Coupon Programme had more than 20 participating countries.

The Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials (fifth General Conference, Florence, June 1950) was being applied at the end of 1955 by 21 countries. A further 12 had signed it but had not yet ratified it or put it into effect.

The following were some of the meetings held in the course of the biennium: the Expert Meeting on the Co-operation of Film and Television (Tangier, Morocco, September 1955), the Meeting of Experts on the International Exchange of Publications (Paris, 6–10 February 1956) and the Seminar for Editors of Youth Periodicals (Gauting, Federal Republic of Germany, 2–28 June 1956).

THE CHÂTEAU DU BOIS-DU-ROCHER

In 1956 Mr. and Mrs. Olof Aschberg, a Swedish couple resident in France, donated to UNESCO the Château du Bois-du-Rocher, fully furnished and containing valuable paintings, located at Jouy-en-Josas, near Versailles, on condition that it should be used for meetings and other cultural activities. The Château had 11 hectares of grounds.

MEMBER STATES

During the biennium 1955–1956, eight countries signed the Constitution, bringing the number of Member States to 80.

On 5 April 1955 the Director-General received a communication from the Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa in Paris indicating the decision of his Government that South Africa would withdraw from the Organization with effect from 31 December 1956 on the grounds of UNESCO's interference in South Africa's racial problems.

HEADQUARTERS

The demolition of the buildings and installations at the Place de Fontenoy site continued. Thanks to the close co-operation of the French Government, and of the French delegation to UNESCO, all the military services and personnel of the Quartier de Fontenoy had been evacuated by 15 March 1955, and on 14 April excavations for the foundations began.

On 23 November the ceremonial laying of the foundation stone of the Headquarters building took place in the presence of Mr. Jean Chamant, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and representative of the French Government, as well as representatives of other departments of the Government, the city of Paris and the Seine Department, the Chairman and members of the Executive Board, Mr. Jaime Torres Bodet, former Director-General of UNESCO, permanent representatives and other guests, as well as the Director-General of the Organization, Mr. Luther Evans, and other senior Secretariat officials. On the same day, the instruments of ratification of the final agreement between France and UNESCO on the permanent headquarters were exchanged. Ten years and one day had elapsed since the signature of the Convention in London.

THE NINTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

This session of the General Conference was held in New Delhi from 5 November to 5 December 1956. Its main achievement was the approval of three Major Projects.

It was attended by delegations from 72 Member States, 12 representatives of non-Member States and of the United Nations and specialized agencies, 5 representatives of inter-governmental organizations and 68 representatives of international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (India) as President and one delegate of each of the following ten countries as Vice-Presidents: Brazil, Ecuador, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Indonesia, Iran, Liberia, Pakistan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America.

The Conference established the Programme Commission, the Administrative Commission, the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Advisory Committee on Programme and Budget, the Legal Committee, the Committee on Reports of Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by the head of the delegation of Uruguay, who conveyed greetings to the Government and people of India on behalf of the delegates and invoked the spirit of Gandhi as a guide to the deliberations of the General Conference.

In view of the fact that the ninth session of the General Conference coincided with the tenth anniversary of UNESCO, the Temporary President outlined the Organization's achievements over that period in the various fields of its activity, and expressed regret that while he was referring to those cultural activities, the clamour of war and threats to the liberties of some peoples were echoing through the world.

Next to speak was the Indian Minister of Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who welcomed all participants. He referred to the invidious wall of hostility that had existed between the Western world and the East, and had still not yet fully disappeared. He then reviewed the first decade of UNESCO's life, referring to fundamental education as the most important of its activities, and concluded by stating that UNESCO should become the sensitive conscience of mankind, or it would fail to function as a dynamic force for the good of the human race.

The next speaker was Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, who welcomed all those present and, after analysing the UNESCO Constitution, expressed regret that at the time when the ninth General Conference was being held, the tramp of armies on the march and the sound of destructive bombs were to be heard.⁸ He said that men and women of great wisdom and prudence were

8. He was referring to the situations in Hungary and Egypt.

attending the session, and that much could be expected from them for the greater success of the Conference.

Taking the floor next, the Director-General read out the messages sent by the former Directors-General, Mr. Julian Huxley and Mr. Jaime Torres Bodet, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of UNESCO, and went on to refer to the work performed by the Organization in the course of those first ten years. He praised the work of his predecessors, expressed his satisfaction with the structure of the Secretariat and referred to the programme of action being submitted for consideration by the Conference. He said that while in the beginning UNESCO had stood very much on its own it was now deeply committed to joint efforts as a member of the United Nations family of agencies, and concluded by expressing deep gratitude to the Government and people of India for the efforts made in relation to the organization of the General Conference in New Delhi.

The Executive Board elected 13 members and designated as its Chairman Mr. Vittorino Veronese (Italy).⁹

In accordance with the report of the Director-General and the recommendation of the Executive Board it was decided that the tenth session of the General Conference would take place at the Organization's Headquarters in Paris in early November 1958.

Some of the main issues discussed at this General Conference were the following.

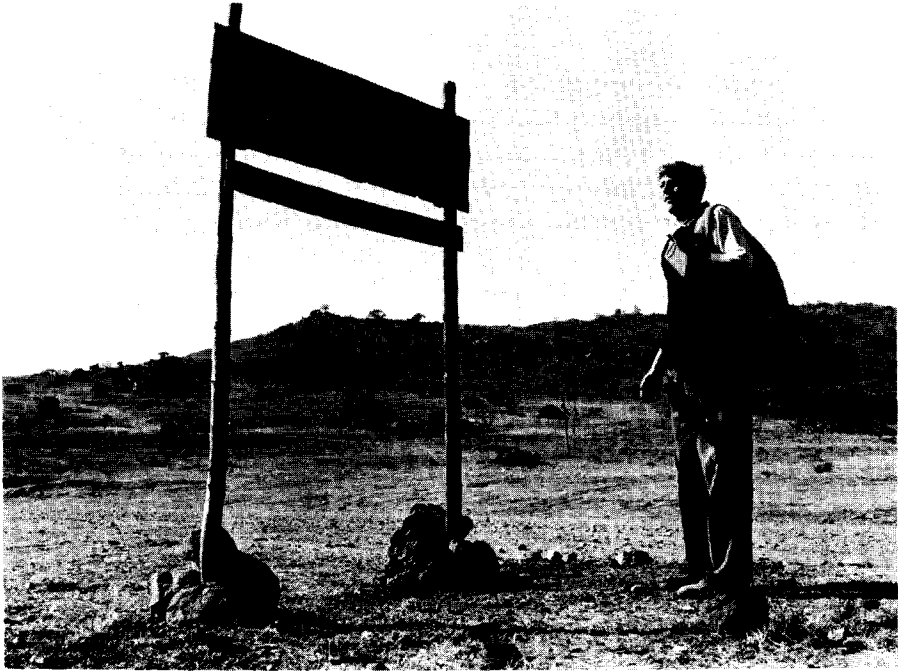
Education

Member States were invited to further the work of UNESCO in relation to education at all levels by collaborating with the appropriate international organizations and institutions.

The General Conference considered that there was every reason for extending emergency educational assistance in respect of school buildings, teaching materials and general equipment, to children and young people who had been the victims of the recent events in Hungary and Egypt. To that end, the Director-General was instructed to ensure, in close collaboration with the governments of those countries and with other governments concerned, the United Nations and the appropriate specialized agencies, that education proceeded uninterruptedly, under satisfactory conditions. A maximum of \$200,000 from the Working Capital Fund was to be used for the purpose.

An especially significant decision was the establishment of the Major Project on the Extension of Primary Education in Latin America (Teacher Training).

9. He did not complete his term of office, because at the tenth General Conference he was elected Director-General of UNESCO. He was then replaced by Mr. Gholam Ali Raadi (Iran).



A UNESCO volunteer work camp in the United States.



In Niger, there are only three months during which it rains.

This project had emerged from a recommendation by the Regional Conference on Free and Compulsory Education in Latin America, held at Lima in April-May 1956, to the effect that free and compulsory education for a minimum of six years should be made available to every child regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, economic or social status or place of residence, whether in rural or urban areas.

On that basis, the General Conference decided to approve, for a period of 10 years, the establishment of a major project with the above content, by the end of which it was expected that primary education would have been provided to almost all children of primary school-going age. The Director-General was authorized to conclude an agreement between UNESCO and the co-operating States for the implementation of the project.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was authorized to advise and encourage international organizations concerned with the development and improvement of scientific documentation, the standardization of terminology, the compilation of multilingual dictionaries and the improvement of scientific translations.

He was also authorized to promote understanding, at the international level, of the methods and achievements of the natural sciences. There was also agreement to continue the work of the regional Science Co-operation Offices, promote scientific progress and associate specialists more closely with that endeavour. It was also agreed that publication of *Impact* should continue.

Particularly noteworthy is the decision to establish a Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands. The project was to last for 10 years and its objectives would be to collect and circulate information concerning research on arid zone problems, advise on the development and expansion of arid zone research and co-operate with Member States, international non-governmental organizations and foundations and institutes wishing to take part in the project.

Social sciences

In this sector, Member States were invited to promote the affiliation with international organizations of national associations and societies in the various spheres of the social sciences; to co-operate with UNESCO in promoting the exchange of information and documentation on the social sciences and to circulate such information in their countries; to collect statistical information on their activities and institutions in the various fields of UNESCO activity and to forward such statistics periodically to the Director-General; to encourage, develop and improve the teaching of the social sciences; and to take all possible measures to eradicate discrimination.

The Director-General was authorized to assist the National Commissions and international organizations to improve social science documentation and ter-

minology and to encourage the publication of multilingual social science dictionaries, to draw up international regulations for the standardization of educational statistics and to participate, at the request of the Government of Chile, in the organization and operation of a Latin American Centre of Social Sciences to be established at Santiago.¹⁰

Cultural activities

The General Conference invited Member States to become parties to the Universal Copyright Convention and the Convention and Protocol on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, to co-operate in programmes designed to raise the cultural level of community life in such a way as to enable everyone to take part in cultural life, and to encourage and facilitate the preparation of reading material intended for new literates.

The Director-General was authorized to convene, jointly with the Director-General of the International Labour Organisation and the Director of the Bureau of the Berne Union, an international conference on the protection of the interests of performers, record manufacturers and broadcasters.

The General Conference decided to establish an International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, to be located in Rome, where it would be able to profit from the assistance of the Istituto Centrale del Restauro and other specialized institutes.

The General Conference also, considering that John Amos Comenius had been one of the first men to propagate the ideas which UNESCO took for its guidance at the time of its establishment, and that 1957 would mark the three-hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the publication of Comenius' complete works (in the Netherlands in 1657), requested the Director-General to take measures to commemorate that anniversary and to arrange for the publication of miscellanies of selections from his works.

The General Conference decided to implement a Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values for a 10-year period starting from 1 January 1957, in the recognition that understanding between peoples could only be built on a full knowledge and appreciation of one another's cultures. Member States were invited to participate in the execution of that project by disseminating and implementing it.

Mass communication

Issues that were studied and considered in this sector included the free flow of information, the promotion, by the means of communication, of international understanding, co-operation of Member States with the Clearing House and the

10. This Centre subsequently became the Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO).

encouragement of the production of mass media programmes on educational, scientific and cultural themes.

The Director-General was authorized to give National Commissions any assistance needed in order to facilitate and improve their functioning as bodies for co-operation between Member States and the Organization, by affording the secretaries of National Commissions an opportunity of visiting Headquarters and sending members of the UNESCO staff on mission to the Commissions, among other measures.

Lastly, the General Conference, recalling the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, drew special attention to the sanctity and sacredness of the Monastery of St. Catherine in Sinai, 'which contains manuscripts and treasures of great historical and artistic interest, which has always enjoyed complete protection in time of war and peace, and which must not be touched or tampered with in any way whatsoever'.

The Headquarters building

In view of the fact that the offices available in the buildings authorized by the General Conference at its second extraordinary session would not be sufficient to meet a possible expansion of the needs of the Secretariat, the Director-General was authorized to negotiate and agree with the relevant French authorities on a loan for financing the construction of an additional building, for a sum not to exceed \$930,000.

Other decisions

1. It was decided to invite Member States to report to the General Conference on the way in which the conventions and recommendations adopted by the General Conference had been submitted to the competent national authorities. Member States which wished to do so should then ratify and implement them.
2. The budget approved for the biennium 1957–1958 was \$23,849,355.

1957–1960

The biennium 1957–1958

HEADQUARTERS

The major event of this biennium was the inauguration of the UNESCO Headquarters building at the Place de Fontenoy in Paris. This will be dealt with at length below, and accordingly less extensive coverage will be given to the other activities that took place during the biennium.

EDUCATION

In January 1957 a first working paper was prepared which was submitted to the Executive Board, and served as the basis for the first meeting for the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee of the Major Project on the Extension of Primary Education in Latin America approved by the General Conference at its ninth session. The meeting took place in Havana from 18 to 21 February. It was attended by thirteen Member States in the Americas, and by representatives of the Organization of American States, the Ibero-American Bureau of Education, France, Italy and Spain, and by observers of the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession and the World Union of Catholic Teachers. The meeting was also attended by the Director-General of UNESCO and officers of the Havana Regional Office.¹

The report of the meeting was submitted to the Executive Board, and the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee prepared a document for its meeting in Havana from 17 to 20 March 1958.

1. The Office had been established on 24 February 1950 as the UNESCO Regional Office in the Western Hemisphere.

In March 1958 the Instituto Piloto de Educación Rural de Pamplona (Colombia), the Escuela Normal Rural de San Pablo del Lago (Ecuador) and the Escuela Normal Rural de El Carrisal (Honduras) began their activities as Associated Normal Schools participating in the Major Project.²

Also in 1958, the National University of Chile and the University of São Paulo were associated with the activities of the Major Project, with the participation of UNESCO, which appointed two professors in each of them.

Mr. Oscar Vera (Chile) was designated Co-ordinator of the Major Project, assigned to the UNESCO Regional Office in the Western Hemisphere (Havana).

An expert in educational statistics was assigned to the Office, and the Government of Spain organized a course on educational statistics following a meeting with Secretariat officials at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

The UNESCO publication *World Illiteracy at Mid-Century; A Statistical Study*, issued in English and French, was very well received. The main centres of activity in relation to illiteracy away from Headquarters were the two regional fundamental education centres (CREFAL and ASFEC). In 1957 intensive short-term courses in fundamental education were organized for the first time for teacher-training experts and teaching staff with a certain experience of that type of education.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The Advisory Committee of the Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands drew up a plan of work which the Executive Board of UNESCO approved in 1957. Letters were sent to the Governments of Afghanistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey, inviting them to consider the possibility of establishing national co-operation committees. Some of these countries then began arrangements for the establishment of such committees.

The Secretariat concluded contracts with Professor H. Franz of Vienna for a study of soil microbiology in the Lake Chad region, with the Société Grenobloise d'Études et d'Applications Hydrauliques for the translation from Russian into French of a book by Professor G. Bogomolov on the classification of underground water resources, and with the Director of the Institute of Botany of the University of Ankara to assist him in his travel to European research centres for the determination of his collection of Anatolian arid zone plant species.

Missions were sent to Israel and Turkey; a number of study and research fellowships were awarded, including one on the problems involved in the sedentarization of nomads, and a number of publications were issued.

2. The Escuela Normal Rural in Honduras began major project operations in 1959.

Subventions were provided to six international scientific organizations, and everything possible was done to promote better development and improvement of scientific documentation, standardization of terminology, and preparation of multilingual dictionaries and scientific translations.

From 9 to 20 September 1957, the International Conference on Radio-Isotopes in Scientific Research, organized by UNESCO, took place in Paris. It was attended by 1,200 specialists from 61 countries and 25 international organizations.

On 14 October 1958 the General Assembly of the United Nations established the Special Fund, designed to 'provide systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development of the less developed countries'. UNESCO was the United Nations agency placed in charge of the first Special Fund project, on participation in the establishment in Ankara of the Technical University of the Middle East, the purpose of which was to train engineers.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The International Social Science Council held a session of its General Assembly on 8 and 9 January 1957. Special consideration was given at this meeting to: the preparation of two dictionaries (in English and French) of general social science terminology, a task which was assigned to a number of working groups in various countries; recapitulation by the Statistical Division of the data on primary education for publication in the second edition of the *World Survey of Education*, the first edition of which contained data on 200 countries and territories for the years 1950-1954; and social sciences and the problems relating to human rights and minorities.

In a continuation of earlier negotiations, the Latin American Social Science Conference, held in Rio de Janeiro in April 1957, established the Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO), based in Santiago, Chile. The Faculty was subsequently expanded to include new disciplines relating to political sciences and public administration.

A social science attaché for the Middle East was appointed in 1957, assigned to the Social Science Co-operation Office in the Middle East (Cairo).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

An interdepartmental committee was established at Headquarters to examine questions of fundamental importance concerning the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, the Advisory Committee for which held a number of meetings in 1957 and 1958 to draw up the work plan. The plan was communicated to Member States, 18 of which had established

special committees by the end of 1957. The second Regional Conference of European National Commissions, held at Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia) from 1 to 6 October 1957, recommended that the National Commissions should participate actively in the Major Project in co-operation with their respective governments.

Other activities in these first two years were, briefly: the twenty-ninth Congress of the International PEN Club, held in Tokyo from 1 to 7 September 1957 on the subject 'The Reciprocal Influences of the Orient and the Occident on Contemporary Literature, Aesthetic Values and Conception of Life'; the preparation by the Advisory Committee of a list of existing works which would be useful to specialists or the general public; consultations with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies on the possibility of producing an encyclopaedia of Asia, a history of Asia and a history of Islamic art; the award of study and travel grants under the Major Project; publicizing of the Project in all mass communication media; lecture series; translations of certain works; and dissemination of the visual arts and music.

Under other aspects of UNESCO's general programme, subventions were provided to the International Theatre Institute, the International Music Council, the International Union of Architects and the International Council of Museums, among other organizations; the development and improvement of technical and legal measures for the protection, preservation and restoration of cultural property continued, and work was conducted on the development of libraries and museums.

The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, established in Rome by decision of the General Conference at its ninth session and financed by UNESCO with the assistance of the Italian Government, began its activities in 1958.

MASS COMMUNICATION

During these two years, the number of copies of the *UNESCO Courier* surpassed 100,000 for the three editions (English, French and Spanish) taken together, and 20,000 copies in Russian were printed in Moscow.

The film *Ten Years of UNESCO* was issued and widely distributed.

An important development was the establishment, with the assistance of UNESCO and the French Government, of the first regional centre for training in journalism, which opened at the University of Strasbourg under the title International Centre for Higher Education in Journalism.

MEMBER STATES

Three countries signed the Constitution in 1958, bringing the number of Member States to 83.

In February 1957, the Bureau of Relations with Member States was established within the Secretariat, thus relieving the Office of the Director-General of part of its duties, which were becoming increasingly extensive and numerous.

THE UNESCO HEADQUARTERS AT FONTENOY

The inauguration of the UNESCO Headquarters buildings, built on the three-hectare site previously occupied by the Cavalry Barracks at Fontenoy, behind the *École Militaire*, took place on 3 November 1958.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by the President of the French Republic, members of the Government and national and local authorities, the Director-General of UNESCO and senior officials of the Organization, the former Directors-General and representatives of Member States and international organizations.

Since its foundation 13 years previously, UNESCO had gone from a small flat in Grosvenor Square and two adjoining houses in Belgrave Square, London, to the Hotel Majestic in Paris. While in November 1945, in London, the Constitution of UNESCO had been opened for signature, on 3 November 1958, when the official Headquarters was inaugurated, the flags of 81 Member States³ were flying from as many masts.

The complex consisted of three buildings: the Secretariat building, the Conference building and the building for Permanent Delegations, completing the semicircle of the Place de Fontenoy outlined by the architect Jacques Gabriel, who had built the *École Militaire* in 1752.

In the final months of its construction, UNESCO came to be known as the 'house of glass', since the Secretariat building alone had 1,068 windows. The glass surfaces on the three buildings making up the complex had a total area of one hectare, the weight of the glass amounting to 175 tons. The Secretariat building has eight floors (including the ground floor), and the unit formed by it and the Conference building has facades overlooking Avenue de Suffren,⁴ Avenue de Ségur and Avenue Lowendal.

The Secretariat building was designed in the form of a three-pointed star, with the intention that it should be absolutely functional, in that this arrangement ensured greater ease of communication within each department and between departments. The building had 650 offices. It is linked to the Conference building by a large lobby. Outstanding among the rooms in this building is No. 1 (the plenary meeting room), with an area of 1,000 square metres and 477 seats for delegates, 359 for the public and 42 for the press.

3. Although the number of Member States had reached 83, South Africa had withdrawn on 31 December 1956, and on 21 February 1958 Egypt and Syria had combined to form the United Arab Republic.

4. The Secretariat building's longest facade, on the Avenue de Suffren, is 148 metres long.

The canopy over the Avenue de Suffren entrance came to be known as the 'nun's headdress' because of its characteristic shape. It is almost 15 metres long, in other words approximately a tenth of the over-all length of the facade.

The plans for the three buildings were prepared jointly by three architects, Marcel Breuer of the United States, Pier Luigi Nervi of Italy and Bernard Zehrfuss of France, and approved by an international panel of five members: Lucio Costa (Brazil), Walter Gropius (United States of America), Charles Le Corbusier (France), Sven Markelius (Sweden) and Ernesto Rogers (Italy). The United States architect Eero Saarinen was also consulted.

In the grounds are a statue by Henry Moore (United Kingdom), *Reclining Figure*, and a mobile by Alexander Calder (United States of America), *Spirale*. A bas-relief by Jean Arp (France) decorates the end wall of the library; two ceramic mosaics, painted by Joan Miró with the collaboration of the ceramist Llorens Artigas (both from Spain)⁵ covered two walls between the Secretariat building and the Conference building⁶, while beside the building for the Permanent Delegations is a garden designed by Isamo Noguchi (Japan) and laid out by Japanese gardeners under his direction. It is known as the 'Japanese Garden', and 80 tons of rocks and 60 tree saplings were placed in it. A mosaic designed by the French painter Jean Bazaine was awaiting installation; this was placed on the wall of the building for Permanent Delegations⁷ overlooking the Japanese Garden.

The selection of the works of art decorating the buildings was carried out by an International Committee of Art Advisers consisting of the Permanent Delegate of Venezuela to UNESCO, Mr. Caracciolo Parra Pérez, as Chairman, and of Georges Salles (France), Shahid Suhrawady (Pakistan) and Herbert Read (United Kingdom). The architects who drew up the plans for the new buildings were represented on this Committee by Mr. Bernard Zehrfuss (France), and the International Association of Consultant Architects by Ernesto Rogers (Italy).

On the recommendation of this Committee, Afro Basaldella (Italy), Karel Appel (Netherlands) and Roberto Matta (Chile) were commissioned to produce paintings for the seventh floor, where there is also a photomontage by Brassai (a Frenchman of Hungarian origin). Pablo Picasso (Spain) and Ruffino Tamayo (Mexico) painted two murals: the first, on wood, dominates the delegates' hall, and the second is a fresco painted directly on the wall of the main commission room of the Conference building.⁸

5. Joan Miró won the 1958 International Art Prize of the Guggenheim Foundation for his two murals.

6. Today they are inside the Secretariat.

7. Today occupied by Secretariat services.

8. Its title is *Prometheus Bringing Fire to Man*.



Eleanor Roosevelt inspecting a model of the future Headquarters of UNESCO, Paris, 1955.



UNESCO's Headquarters in 1994.

Picasso painted the mural at his residence in Cannes on forty small wood panels placed on an 80-square-metre wall. It is said to be the work that has aroused the most comment and discussion, and Georges Salles (Honorary Director of the Museums of France) described it as follows: 'At the entrance to the main conference room, a composition by Picasso represents [. . .] what? Bathers on the beach? If a symbol is wanted, this painting may be seen as depicting the struggle between the forces of good and evil, and what I have called the fall of an Icarus of darkness'.

Among other outstanding works of art, mention may be made of the murals by Afro Basaldella, *The Garden of Hope*, on the seventh floor, and by Karel Appel in the restaurant.

Another international note in both the construction and the decoration of these buildings is introduced by the committee rooms, furnished and decorated by France, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland and the Federal Republic of Germany. The Executive Board Room was furnished and decorated by the United States.

Other gifts were: the Non-governmental Organizations Room (Czechoslovakia), the library (with 370 metres of shelving) donated by Sweden, the UNESCO Information Office by Canada, the Gift Shop by Norway, and the Office of the Chairman of the Executive Board by the United Kingdom. The Office of the Director-General was furnished thanks to a donation from Belgium, and the hall furniture on each floor was a gift from Finland.

UNESCO MONTH IN PARIS

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Headquarters buildings, and coinciding with the tenth session of the General Conference, which was held in the new Headquarters, a series of cultural, artistic and scientific events took place in Paris during the month of November, organized in honour of the delegations of the 81 Member States by the French National Commission and given the collective title UNESCO Month.

Probably the most important was the Round-Table on Man and Scientific and Technical Progress, which was broadcast and televised in many countries. It was held in the main conference room of UNESCO from 19 to 21 November, with the participation of eight leading scientists, five of them Nobel Prize winners.

Other events were the *Semaine Musicale de Paris*, a series of concerts of exceptional quality, the performance of *Les Caprices de Marianne*, by Alfred de Musset, in the Théâtre National Populaire, the gala function in the Comédie Française at which the play by Molière *Les Fourberies de Scapin* was performed and the screening in the same theatre of the film of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* by the same author. Two exhibitions were also held in the Cernuschi and Guimet Museums, both relating to the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values.

There was an art exhibition given by the British Council (particularly sculpture and painting), and another organized by the Institut Pédagogique National entitled *How French Youth Sees the World*. Other exhibitions were one devoted to 238 water colours, pastels and gouaches by French artists since 1860, the retrospective of the painter André Lhote and *Portraits and Discoveries in 60 Years of Photographic Art*.

THE TENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The day following the inauguration ceremony of the UNESCO Headquarters buildings at Place de Fontenoy, the tenth session of the General Conference opened. It was thus the first to be held in the new Headquarters, and its work extended from 4 November to 5 December 1958.

This session of the General Conference was attended by delegates from 78 Member States and six Associate Members, two observers from non-Member States (Ireland and the Holy See), nine representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, eight observers from intergovernmental organizations and 109 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Jean Berthoin (France) as President, and one delegate of each of the following twelve countries as Vice-Presidents: Argentina, Federal Republic of Germany, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Morocco, Pakistan, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Committee on Reports of Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

Owing to the death on 22 February that year of Mr. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who had been President of the previous General Conference, held in New Delhi, the session was opened by Mr. Radhakrishnan (India). He praised the late President's advocacy of fuller interchange of ideas between East and West, as manifested in his introduction to the *History of Eastern and Western Philosophy*.

He also referred to the inauguration of the new buildings the previous day, and expressed his hope that those meeting in them to study problems relating to education, science and culture would remain firmly devoted to the ideals of peace, understanding and happiness.

Next to speak was the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Gholam Ali Raadi (Iran), who said that although this was not the first time the General Conference was meeting in Paris, it was its first meeting in premises newly and specially built for the Headquarters, the inauguration of which the previous day had been honoured by the presence of the President of the French Republic.

The Director-General, Mr. Luther Evans, spoke next. He spoke of

Mr. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Minister of Education of India and President of the General Conference at its ninth session, and then referred to the new Headquarters buildings, expressing his confidence that the work of UNESCO would improve in that new setting. He commended the assistance received from France, 'a country', he said, 'which is not only host to UNESCO but a true and fervent believer in its destiny'.

He paid tribute to Ambassador Eligio Reale, Chairman of the Italian National Commission, who had died suddenly while on the way to Paris to attend the General Conference, and concluded his statement by presenting Mr. Radhakrishnan with a copy of the book on the thought of Mahatma Gandhi which had just been published.

The Conference elected 12 members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, electing Sir Ben Bowen Thomas (United Kingdom) to that office to replace Mr. Gholam Ali Raadi (Iran).

It was agreed that the eleventh session of the General Conference would be held in Paris in early November 1960, and the General Conference took note of the offer made by Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro for the holding of a forthcoming session, the twelfth or the thirteenth, in Brazil.

Some of the main issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference were the following.

Education

In September 1958, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) had requested the Executive Director to study the possibility of UNICEF aid to primary education, and the General Conference welcomed that initiative and approved in principle co-operation between UNESCO and UNICEF in that area of education.

It also approved assistance to Member States in carrying out experimental activities in adult literacy, the production of reading materials and the development of out-of-school education with particular reference to the exercise of social responsibilities and to international understanding.

The activities of the Major Project for the Expansion of Primary Education in Latin America were analysed; the Conference noted with satisfaction the progress made during the biennium 1957–1958 and decided to continue the project in the following biennium. The Member States of Latin America were invited to participate actively in the project in order to provide free and compulsory education for the largest possible number of children of school age, and the Conference approved assistance to the Member States of that region in improving the training of teachers at various levels.

Natural sciences

The General Conference considered the Argentine proposal for the establishment of a Regional Centre for Mathematics, and recommended that the Director-General should adopt the necessary measures, in co-operation with the Argentine Government, for the establishment of the centre.

It was agreed that a conference on oceanographic research should be organized in 1960 in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Council of Scientific Unions.

Regarding the Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands, the General Conference, considering that the improvement of living conditions of those Member States which had extensive arid areas depended in great part upon the application of the results of scientific research, authorized the Director-General to continue work on the major project in co-operation with the specialized agencies of the United Nations and with the Advisory Committee on Arid Zone Research, to encourage the creation of national or local committees, to collect and disseminate information concerning research on arid zone problems, to assist specialists and institutions in their research work and to prepare studies of sociological problems relating to arid zone development.

Social sciences

Member States were invited to co-operate with UNESCO in promoting the extension and development of social science teaching and research, and to participate at the request of the Government of Chile in the development of the Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO); the General Conference also noted with satisfaction the work done by the Consultative Assembly of that Faculty (based in Santiago, Chile) and the Regional Research Centre in Rio de Janeiro, which had held a meeting at UNESCO Headquarters on 6 November, during the General Conference. In this connection, the Director-General was authorized to receive the Latin American Member States' contributions to the two Centres and to divide the amount equally between the two of them.

Member States were also invited to develop co-operation for international understanding and the promotion of human rights.

Cultural activities

The General Conference invited Member States to take steps for the safeguarding of the beauty and character of the landscape, and the Director-General was requested to prepare, in consultation with the International Council of Museums, and to submit to the General Conference at its eleventh session, a draft recommendation on the most effective means of rendering museums accessible to everyone.

The Director-General was authorized to make the necessary arrangements with the relevant International Commission to complete the activities relating to

the publication of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind*.

With regard to the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, Member States were invited to participate actively in the Project by providing appropriate financing and establishing committees within the National Commissions, while the Director-General was authorized to assist in the production of school textbooks and reading materials and to continue the translation of representative works, the dissemination of music and exhibitions on works of art and the exchange of information and ideas between East and West.

Mass communication

Member States were invited to make proposals to the Director-General for the celebration of anniversaries of great personalities and events in the fields of education, science and culture, and to organize such celebrations at the national and international levels.

The Director-General was authorized to seek, in conformity with the UNESCO Constitution, to eliminate the obstacles to the free flow of information and ideas.

Appointment of the Director-General

Bearing in mind the wish expressed by Mr. Luther Evans to leave his post as Director-General of UNESCO at the tenth session of the General Conference, action to designate his replacement was taken at the eighteenth plenary meeting, on 22 November.

The candidate nominated by the Executive Board was Mr. Vittorino Veronese (Italy), Professor at the Social Science Institute of the Ateneo Angelicum and Vice-President of the Bank of Rome.⁹ A vote took place, and Mr. Veronese was elected for a six-year term.

At the last plenary meeting (5 December), the General Conference paid tribute to Mr. Luther Evans, statements being made by the President of the General Conference, the Chairman of the Executive Board, and a number of delegates. Mr. Evans took the floor and, after expressing his satisfaction with the time during which he had exercised his responsibilities and regretting the reasons which had compelled him to submit his resignation, warmly praised Mr. Veronese and wished him every success.

Lastly, the new Director-General made a statement which began as follows:

9. Within UNESCO, Mr. Veronese had already been a member of the Executive Board (1952–1958), then Vice-Chairman of the Board (1955–1956) and, lastly, Chairman during the biennium 1956–1958, for the forty-sixth to fiftieth sessions.

‘When I entered this imposing room for the first time, I had the impression of being lost and alone in front of these bare and severe walls which look like cliffs sculptured by the waves and the wind. I then felt strongly the contrast between the small size of the individual and this bold structure in which no element, not even this podium, softens the austere purity of technology. Today I no longer feel alone because all of you are with me [. . .] resolved to contribute once and for all, through education, science and culture, to world peace and the well-being of mankind’. After dealing at length with other issues and affectionately recalling his predecessors Julian Huxley, Jaime Torres Bodet and Luther H. Evans, he quoted the words of Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan at the inauguration of the buildings – ‘Peace, peace, peace, santih, santih, santih’, and concluded as follows: ‘I would reply to him in Petrarch’s words ‘Io vo gridando pace, pace, pace’. From the bottom of my heart, I would add the lines of the psalmist: ‘Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul; O my God, I trust in Thee; all the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth’.

Other decisions

Mention may be made among others of the following:

1. Amendment of Article IV C, paragraph 8 (a) of the Constitution through the addition of the words ‘or of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference’ after the words ‘of the present Constitution’;
2. Adoption of the Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications;
3. Adoption of the Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States;
4. Adoption of the Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics;
5. Study in consultation with the French authorities of the possible construction of an underground garage;
6. Approval of the budget for the biennium 1959–1960, amounting to \$27,185,124.

The biennium 1959–1960

During this biennium, the year 1960 saw the entry of 18 countries as Member States of UNESCO, 17 of them African countries which had gained their independence. A larger volume of resources thus became available to the Organization, both under the regular budget and under extra-budgetary programmes. In addition, the World Bank decided that long-term loans could be made available for education.

THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Owing to the illness of the Director-General, Mr. Vittorino Veronese, the post was temporarily occupied¹⁰ by the Assistant Director-General, Mr. René Maheu, who had returned to Headquarters on 30 November 1958 from his post as UNESCO Representative to the United Nations in New York.

Mr. Veronese re-established the post of Deputy Director-General, which had not existed since 1952, and Mr. René Maheu was appointed to fill it.¹¹

The Director-General visited 22 countries in the course of the biennium, some of them new Member States, for the purpose of making direct contact with the respective governments and strengthening or establishing links of co-operation.

EDUCATION

The education system and scientific establishments in the former Belgian Congo, which had gained its independence on 30 June 1960, were deteriorating, primarily because of the withdrawal of Belgian personnel, and the government applied for assistance to the United Nations, where the Security Council adopted a resolution on 22 July. On this basis, the government addressed a request to UNESCO for a number of secondary and technical teachers from 15 September onwards, a study of the situation of primary education and an adviser to the Ministry of Education. This was the beginning, under an agreement between UNESCO and the government, of what UNESCO termed 'Operation Congo'.

The Major Project on the Extension of Primary Education in Latin America had been highly influential in all countries of the region, in that in almost all of them enrolment in primary schools and teacher-training schools had substantially increased. In view of the actual scope of the Project after three years of operation, the Advisory Committee, at its third session, held in Mexico City in March 1960, recommended that the title should be modified to Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America.

The World Conference on Adult Education, which was the second such conference, the first having been held at Helsingør (Denmark) in 1949, took place at McGill University, Montreal, from 22 to 31 August 1960. Since the first conference, changes had taken place which made it desirable to formulate new definitions and apply improved techniques. The Conference considered the substantial increase in leisure time that had taken place in recent years, the distractions offered by the mass media, which could lead to idleness, passivity and even delinquency, and approved a declaration which referred to the problems discussed.

10. From 5 June to 6 September 1959.

11. On 1 December 1959.

In the opening months of 1960, conferences of Member States of the Arab region, Asia and Africa were held respectively in Beirut, Karachi and Addis Ababa. They were attended by Ministers of Education and Directors of Department, and studied the needs relating to education and the desirability of integrating education into all economic and social development plans. The Karachi conference adopted a plan for attaining compulsory education in all Asian countries by 1980. This programme, known as the Karachi Plan, was the first attempt by UNESCO to draw up a long-term educational development plan at the regional level.

The Regional Education Centres for Community Development for Latin America (CREFAL) and for the Arab States (ASFEC) continued to conduct their programmes with the co-operation of the Governments of both host countries (Mexico and the United Arab Republic) and of the United Nations, ILO, FAO and WHO, as well as of OAS in the case of CREFAL.

UNESCO continued to co-operate with UNRWA in providing education for Arab refugee children from Palestine in Jordan, Lebanon and the United Arab Republic.

By the end of 1959, the Associated Schools Project in Education for International Understanding, launched in November 1953 with 33 secondary schools in 15 countries, had expanded to cover 143 secondary schools and 63 teacher training institutions in 42 countries. By the end of 1960, it included 242 educational institutions in 45 countries.

With regard to technical and vocational education, UNESCO had 16 projects, assigned to it by the Special Fund, under way during the biennium; half of them were fully under way by the end of the second year.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Considerable progress in the natural sciences programme was achieved in the course of the biennium, particularly with respect to aiding the development of science by international means. A 10-year plan was drawn up which established policies and priorities as a framework for the future UNESCO programmes in this field, and greater co-operation took place between the Organization and the other specialized agencies of the United Nations in the field of science.

UNESCO's co-operation with scientific non-governmental organizations also increased, especially with the International Council of Scientific Unions, with which a co-ordinating committee had been established. Assistance to the Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Services continued in connection with International Geophysical Year. Likewise, as a result of the commemoration of the centenary of the publication of Darwin's theory of evolution and the establishment of an international biological station in the Galápagos Islands (Ecuador), UNESCO's support for the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources was increased.

Links were strengthened with the International Federation of Astronautics for research into outer space, and as a result of the international conference held at UNESCO Headquarters, the International Federation of Information Processing Societies was established.

From 11 to 18 May 1960, a symposium was held to evaluate the work done by and future programme for the Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands. In North Africa, the Near and Middle East and South Asia, the countries which had already initiated research on arid lands continued it, and others, such as Iraq, Iran and Turkey, began to prepare plans and projects in this area of activity.

In addition, countries located outside the area covered by the Major Project, such as Australia, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, established national committees and offered their assistance. The publication of *Nouvelles de la Zone Aride – Arid Zone Newsletter* by the Secretariat was of great assistance.

The Intergovernmental Conference on Oceanographic Research was held from 11 to 16 July 1960 in Copenhagen, and recommended the establishment of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the establishment in UNESCO of an Office of Oceanography to serve as the Executive Secretariat of the Commission.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The activities of the Department during the biennium fell into five main groups: co-operation with international social science associations; documentation; collection and publication of statistics on education, science and culture; promotion of social science teaching and research; and application of the social sciences to the study of problems of special importance.

There was an increase in the application of the social sciences to major world problems such as the social implications of industrialization and technological change; a meeting held on this subject in Chicago in September 1959 identified the sectors in which current knowledge was inadequate.

The fourth World Congress of Sociology, attended by more than a thousand persons from 37 countries, took place in Milan and Stresa (Italy) from 8 to 15 September 1959. The Director-General of UNESCO was present at the opening meeting.

In 1959, the *International Social Science Bulletin* changed its title to the *International Social Science Journal*, and the first edition of the *Manual of Educational Statistics* was printed in 1960.

That same year, the UNESCO Social Science Institute in Cologne was replaced by the Political Science Institute of Cologne University.

The study written by Dr. Bibby (United Kingdom) entitled *Race, Prejudice and Education* was published in English in May 1960 and in German in November, and a translation into Hindi was in the course of preparation.



Computers for all.



Restoration workshop of the Palazzo Davanzatti, Florence (Italy).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Department continued its work of increasing the international exchange of cultural information, improving international regulations, co-operating in the preservation of the cultural heritage of mankind and in the community development, and contributing to international understanding.

The Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values began to bear fruit in 1959. There was a substantial increase in the activities conducted by National Commissions under the Major Project, and international organizations responded most sympathetically to UNESCO's appeal by including relevant activities in their programmes.

Many courses, exhibitions, round-tables and radio and television broadcasts were organized; a number of volumes of translations of representative works were published in the Arabic, Persian, Indian literature, Chinese, Japanese, and other Oriental literatures series, and contracts were concluded with a number of National Commissions for the translation of Western works into their respective languages; the programme of grants continued, and there was a 50 per cent increase in the Project's budget over the budget for the previous biennium, thanks to the Participation and Technical Assistance programmes.

In 1959 the United Arab Republic (UAR) requested UNESCO's assistance in saving the monuments of Nubia, which were threatened with submersion as a result of the construction of the Aswan High Dam. The Government of Sudan also associated itself with this request.

In July of that year, UNESCO sent a mission to the UAR and organized a number of meetings on the subject. In December, the Executive Board agreed that an appeal should be launched to save the monuments, and recommended the organization of an international campaign for the purpose.

On 8 March 1960 the Director-General launched the appeal which was to open the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia.

An organization was set up with a Committee of Patrons, under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Gustav VI Adolf of Sweden, comprising over 40 world-famous personalities, and National Committees were established in more than 20 Member States. By the end of the year, it was believed that the action undertaken would be successful and that the monuments would be protected.

MASS COMMUNICATION

During the biennium, greater interest was taken in UNESCO at all levels, starting locally, with frequent and numerous visits to the new buildings. At the world level, the project for protection of the monuments of Nubia, together with the three Major Projects, which were becoming increasingly better-known, aroused enthusiastic interest.

The Secretariat provided copious documentation on UNESCO either directly or through the National Commissions and United Nations Information Centres. Non-governmental organizations were provided with a total of 850,000 documents (printed and visual material).

At its fourteenth session, the General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, and the Director-General decided that this should be one of the main issues to be publicized in 1960.

The General Assembly had also approved at that session a resolution which stated *inter alia* its desire 'to put an end completely and forever to the armaments race' and 'to promote the creation of relations of trust and peaceful co-operation between States'. The Executive Board considered this resolution and requested the Director-General, as soon as the United Nations reached agreement on those issues, to submit to the Board a report on the measures UNESCO could take to implement it in the fields of education, science and culture. To improve the information services provided by journalists, a Regional Centre for Higher Studies in Journalism was established in Quito (Ecuador) in October 1959, and held its first seminar in April 1960.

That same year, two new editions of the *UNESCO Courier* appeared, in Arabic and German. In December, the total print run of the six editions (Arabic, English, French, German, Spanish and Russian) was 261,750 copies.

At the end of 1958 *Link-Lien-Enlace* (targeted to experts on mission), the *Bulletin of UNESCO Fellowship Holders* and *Nouvelles du Secrétariat/UNESCO House News* ceased to appear. The *UNESCO Chronicle*, a monthly bulletin published in English, French and Spanish, began to publish the information that had previously appeared in the three discontinued publications.

MEMBER STATES

Eighteen countries signed the Constitution in 1960, bringing the number of Member States to 101.

The Singapore/British Borneo Group ceased to be an Associate Member on 31 December 1959, on which date Singapore assumed the rights and obligations of an Associate Member.

When the Republic of Somalia achieved independence on 1 July 1960, the Trust Territory of Somalia under Italian administration ceased to be an Associate Member, and when Kuwait joined as a Member State on 18 November, it too ceased to be an Associate Member.

THE ELEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The eleventh session of the General Conference took place at Headquarters in Paris from 14 November to 15 December 1960.

It was attended by delegates from 94 Member States and six Associate Members, four observers from non-Member States, 10 observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 12 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 99 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Akale-Work Abte-Wold (Ethiopia) as President, and one delegate from each of the following 14 countries as Vice-Presidents: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, India, Mexico, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Venezuela.

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Legal Committee, the Committee on Reports of Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

The session was opened by Mr. Jean Berthoin (France), President of the General Conference at its tenth session. His first words were to report the sudden death four days previously, in the middle of an Executive Board meeting, of the delegate of Mexico, Mr. Pedro de Alba, and the death in an accident the previous day of the delegate of France, Mr. Gaston Berger, who collapsed while driving his car, which crashed into an obstacle on the road. After expressing regret on behalf of all those present at the loss those deaths meant to UNESCO, he said that he was going to speak 'as one citizen of the world to his brothers in the human family'. He added: 'I should like to express something which is, I am sure, in all our hearts and minds at this time – the feeling of disquiet, if not alarm, which must weigh on every thinking and feeling person today [. . .]'. 'Can a man be really happy living under a constant threat – a threat which is even harder to endure when he realizes that those he loves are in danger too? . . . For my part, I can affirm that, since I have held this signal office, I have never before been more conscious of the need, the urgent need, for the nations to recognize their underlying unity.'

The next speaker was Sir Ben Bowen Thomas (United Kingdom), Chairman of the Executive Board. He was followed by the Director-General, who welcomed all present, and in particular the representatives of the Member States which had joined the Organization since the previous session of the General Conference. He expressed his gratitude for the support he had received from Member States over the past two years, and also thanked the Executive Board for its assistance.

The Conference then elected 12 members of the Executive Board, and designated its Chairman, Mr. Mohammed Awad (Egypt) being elected to that office.

It was decided that the twelfth session of the General Conference would take place in Paris at the beginning of November 1962.

The following were among the main issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference.

Education

A resolution on the role of education in economic and social development was adopted, and the Director-General was instructed to secure the greatest possible support of international financing organizations for assistance to education in the least developed countries.

The Director-General was authorized to provide assistance to the UNESCO Institute for Education in Hamburg and the International Institute of Child Study (Bangkok), to promote international co-operation for the development and improvement of higher education institutions, to expand UNESCO activities for the cause of women, to continue co-operation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East in the field of education, to set up a UNESCO International Committee for the Advancement of Adult Education, to continue the operations of the two Regional Fundamental Education Centres for Community Development (CREFAL and ASFEC), to give financial and technical assistance to the UNESCO Youth Institute in Gauting (Federal Republic of Germany) and to launch the programme of UNESCO aid to the Republic of the Congo (Leopoldville) within the framework of the civilian operations of the United Nations in the Congo (ONUC).

The General Conference noted the findings of the inquiry conducted by the Director-General in 1959 on the needs and problems of the African and Asian countries in the fields of primary and secondary education, and consequently invited the Member States in both regions to put into effect all possible measures to provide attention to the development of the different aspects of education.

It was decided to continue the activities of the Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America in 1961 and 1962, and to enlarge the composition of the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee to include representatives of the following 21 countries of the region: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela, as well as Spain.

Natural sciences

Special attention was devoted to the development of the international exchange of scientific information and the publication of the review *Impact of Science on Society*, and Member States were invited to accede to the international convention establishing an International Computing Centre in Rome.

In relation to the promotion of studies and research relating to marine sciences, the General Conference, having taken note of the report of the Intergovernmental Conference on Oceanographic Research held in Copenhagen from 11 to 16 July 1960, decided to establish within UNESCO an Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission whose purpose would be to promote scientific

investigation with a view to learning more about the nature and resources of the oceans, through the concerted action of its members. The text of its regulations, comprising ten articles, was approved.

The Director-General was authorized to establish a post of science co-operation officer in Africa and to arrange for the co-ordinated operation of the four Science Co-operation Offices in Montevideo, Cairo, New Delhi and Djakarta.

With respect to the Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands, the Conference expressed its deep satisfaction with the results obtained to date, and invited Member States in the zone extending from North Africa to South Asia (through the Near and Middle East) to maintain and develop their efforts.

Social sciences

Issues discussed included co-operation with international organizations, improvement of social science documentation, continuation of the quarterly publication of the *International Social Science Journal*, statistics relating to education, science, culture and mass communication, contribution to teaching and basic research in the social sciences, promotion and improvement of the operation of national and regional social science centres, including the Latin American Social Science Faculty in Santiago, Chile, application of the social sciences to problems of economic and social development, promotion of human rights, and scientific and objective study of the means of promoting international understanding and peaceful co-operation, in accordance with the aims set forth in the Constitution of UNESCO.

The Director-General was authorized to maintain social science field officers for Cairo and Addis Ababa in order to facilitate contact with Member States in the respective regions and with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Cultural activities

The Director-General was authorized to encourage the study of cultures in South and South-East Asia and in Africa, and to draw up a similar programme, to be undertaken in 1963 and 1964, for the study of Arab culture; to promote the international dissemination of masterpieces of world art through, in particular, the publication of *Catalogues of Colour Reproductions of Paintings* and of albums in the *UNESCO World Art Series*; to continue publishing *Index Translationum*; to promote, in collaboration with the Governments of Burma, Ceylon, India, Iran and Pakistan and appropriate agencies, a better provision of reading materials in the languages of the area; to assist the International Council of Museums; to continue publishing the review *Museum*; and to submit to the General Conference at its twelfth session a draft recommendation to Member States concerning the safeguarding of the beauty and character of the landscape.

With regard to the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia,

Member States were invited to intensify their efforts to encourage both individuals and public and private institutions to take part in that work of international co-operation, and the Director-General was authorized to set up, in consultation with the International Action Committee, an Executive Committee to advise and comment on the allocation and employment of the moneys collected.

Special attention was paid to the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values; the General Conference authorized the Director-General to continue implementing it, taking into account the extensive changes which had taken place, during the past years, in the economic, social and cultural life of the countries of the Orient.

Communication

Points of special interest were the promotion of the free flow of information; the development of information media; documentation and research in mass communication; and the promotion of international understanding. In relation to this latter point, the General Conference strongly condemned, in accordance with resolution 110 (II) of the United Nations General Assembly, propaganda under any form aimed at war, enmity and hatred between peoples, considering such propaganda to be a crime against humanity, and requested the Director-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that UNESCO activities in the field of information were directed towards peace, international co-operation and understanding.

The Director-General was authorized to produce and distribute press material, periodicals, including the *UNESCO Courier* and the *UNESCO Chronicle*, as well as booklets for the general public and specialized audiences designed to increase knowledge about UNESCO.

Member States were invited to submit before 1 July each year proposals for the commemoration of anniversaries of great personalities and historic events of universal significance in the fields of education, science and culture, limiting themselves in the case of personalities to the centenaries of their birth.

Tribute to Mr. Jean Thomas

At its closing meeting, on 15 December, the General Conference paid tribute to Mr. Jean Thomas (France), Assistant Director-General of the Organization,¹² on the occasion of his retirement.

In his statement, the Director-General outlined the biography of Mr. Thomas, whose life in UNESCO had begun as Deputy Executive Secretary of the Pre-

12. He occupied this post from 6 December 1946 to 16 January 1950 and from 1 January 1956 to 31 December 1960. In the interval, he had served as Director of the Department of Cultural Activities.

paratory Commission in 1946. 'From that point on', Mr. Veronese said, 'Jean Thomas' biography is wholly bound up with the history of UNESCO'. The Director-General concluded with these words: 'My dear colleague and my good friend, on behalf of UNESCO and the Secretariat, I wish to thank you for all that you have contributed throughout these fifteen years of reflection and toil to the greatness of our Organization. [. . .] And for my own part, at a time when I am appealing to a number of distinguished people throughout the world to help me, as members of the International Action Committee, to give impetus to the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, I am happy to announce that I have chosen you to occupy the important position of Chairman of that Committee. I am not therefore saying "good-bye" to you but a most affectionate and cordial "au revoir".'

Other decisions

Mention may be made among others of the following:

1. Establishment at the Château du Bois-du-Rocher of a residential centre for briefing experts appointed to field assignments;
2. Taking of the necessary measures to ensure the use of Arabic at regional conferences held in Arabic-speaking countries and the translation of the main UNESCO publications and documents by the Secretariat itself and through co-operation with National Commissions and regional centres in the Arab world;
3. Study of the procedure whereby specialists chosen for their personal competence and not their nationality could be invited to meetings of a technical character organized by UNESCO;
4. Approval of the directives concerning UNESCO's relations with international non-governmental organizations;
5. Extension of the mandate of the Headquarters Committee and increase in the number of its members to fifteen;
6. Representations to the French Government regarding the possibility of the construction of a fourth building and an underground garage for 400 vehicles;
7. Adoption of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education;
8. Adoption of the Recommendation concerning the Most Effective Means of Rendering Museums Accessible to Everyone;
9. Approval of the budget for the biennium 1961–1962, amounting to \$31,597,628.

1961–1964

The biennium 1961–1962

THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

In the course of 1961, Mr. Veronese began experiencing sudden pains, and on 14 October he wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Executive Board requesting to be relieved from his duties on health grounds. His request was accepted, and on 2 November the Executive Board designated the Deputy Director-General, Mr. René Maheu, as Acting Director-General up until the twelfth session of the General Conference.

In 1961 there were three Assistant Directors-General: Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah (India), Mr. Alvin Roseman (United States of America) and Mr. Pavel I. Erchov (USSR), the first being responsible for UNESCO's co-operation with financing agencies, the Department of Education and the Department of Social Sciences, the second for administrative affairs and the construction of the Headquarters and for the Departments of Natural Sciences and Mass Communication, and the third for the Department of Cultural Activities and for relations with international organizations.

The Acting Director-General, apart from exercising over-all co-ordination, kept personal charge for the time being of the activities in Congo (Leopoldville) and of the Nubia Campaign.

EDUCATION

In April 1961, Member States were sent a questionnaire designed to study the planning, organization and implementation of campaigns for the eradication of illiteracy. A year later, replies had been received from 67 Member States and Associate Members, and these were studied by a committee of 14 experts which met at Headquarters from 18 to 28 June. It thus became apparent that there were

more than 700 million illiterates in the world, in other words two fifths of the total adult population of men and women aged over fifteen. In Asia, Africa and Latin America, the level of illiteracy was 70, 80 or even 90 per cent of the total population. There were countries in which the female population was totally illiterate, and the estimated over-all annual increase in the number of illiterates was between 20 and 25 million people.

Pursuant to a recommendation of the second World Conference on Adult Education (Montreal, 1960), the International Committee for the Advancement of Adult Education was established, and met for the first time at UNESCO Headquarters from 19 to 27 June 1961.

By 1962, educational planning was one of the priority sectors in UNESCO's activities, and mention must be made here of the International Conference on Public Education held jointly by UNESCO and the International Bureau of Education at Geneva in July of that year, which in recommendation 54 defined the framework within which educational planning should be conducted.

From 15 to 25 May 1961, a Conference of African States on the Development of Education in Africa, organized by UNESCO with the collaboration of the Economic Commission for Africa, was held in Addis Ababa. It was attended by the Director-General, Mr. Veronese, and defined the region's priority needs where education was concerned. The Addis Ababa Plan, the first of its kind in Africa, was a document of considerable importance.

The Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America was making increasingly apparent the relationship between education and economic and social development, and this relationship was the subject of a conference held in Santiago, Chile, in March 1962 under the auspices of UNESCO, the Economic Commission for Latin America, ILO and FAO.

Following the conference, the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee on the Major Project met in Santiago, and a Co-ordination Office for the project was established, also in Santiago.

Operation Congo continued with the funds made available by the United Nations, and 556 teachers were sent from various countries – Argentina, Canada, China, Greece, Haiti, Italy, Lebanon, Mexico, Norway and Spain – to meet the most urgent needs of the Congolese schools.

The Karachi Plan drawn up by the Conference of Asian Member States in 1960 was studied and considered by the Meeting of Ministers of Education of Asian Member States held in Tokyo in 1962.

Particularly noteworthy were the Regional Conference on Adult Education (Hamburg, 28 August–4 September 1962) and the African Training Course in Adult Education for Women (Dakar, 20–30 November 1962).

In the course of this biennium, the following regional institutions were established: the Regional Bureau of Educational Research and Information in Accra (Ghana), the Regional Centre for the Advanced Training of Senior Educational

Personnel in the Arab States, in Beirut, opened by the Acting Director-General on 17 April 1962;¹ the Regional Education and Information Bureau in Asia (Bangkok, Thailand), the UNESCO School Construction Bureau for Africa (Khartoum, Sudan),² and the Asian Regional Institute for School Building Research (Bandung, Indonesia).³

The Regional Centre in Havana continued to operate normally, as did the others already established in the various regions.

Technical assistance to the Arab refugees in Palestine continued, as did the implementation of the Associated Schools Project, with a considerable increase in the number of such schools. The UNESCO-UNICEF co-operation programme in the field of education began in 1961.

NATURAL SCIENCES

On 22 June 1962, the International Cell Research Organization (ICRO) was established as a non-governmental organization based at UNESCO Headquarters. Its Statutes were adopted at a meeting held there.

The Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands continued, and there was an expansion of UNESCO activities in this field. Among them, mention may be made of the preparations for the launching of a programme in Latin America in connection with the Regional Scientific Conference scheduled to be held in Buenos Aires in 1963.

On 26 March 1962, an international conference was held in Rio de Janeiro to approve the establishment of the Latin American Physics Centre to engage in research and train physicists for the universities in the region.

A regional seminar on water resources development took place in Bangkok from 24 April to 8 May 1962 in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. In the same year, UNESCO began to draw up the programme for the International Hydrological Decade.

In the same year, the International Computation Centre established at Rome began its activities.⁴

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Activities in the course of the biennium were directed to promoting teaching and research in the social sciences, improving documentation in the field and apply-

1. The Centre was transferred to Paris in 1981.
2. The Bureau continued to exist until 1972.
3. Until 1964. Subsequently it was located in Bangkok (Thailand) in 1965 and 1966, and thereafter in Colombo (Sri Lanka).
4. In 1974 the Centre became the International Bureau for Informatics.

ing the social sciences to the study of certain major problems of the modern world, particularly those arising out of economic and social development in relation to education, science and culture.

Two important developments took place in the field of documentation: the publication of four international bibliographies on the social sciences was assigned by the International Committee for Social Sciences Documentation to a financially viable commercial publishing house, at a lower cost to the Organization, and the new series 'Confluence' appeared, in response to the desires expressed by specialists for better information regarding research trends, especially at the interdisciplinary level.

Four issues of Volume XIII of the *International Social Science Journal* appeared in 1961.

The UNESCO Research Centre in South Asia (New Delhi) was merged, under a new agreement with the Government of India, with the Institute of Economic Growth of the University of Delhi.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

This biennium was a turning point in the development of the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, following the completion of its first four years, with an increasing focus on lasting achievements on the three levels of studies and research, school and out-of-school education and programmes for the general public.

The commemoration of the centenary of the birth of Rabindranath Tagore, the philosopher, educator, novelist, poet and painter who died in Calcutta on 7 August 1941, aroused greater interest in many of the programmes under this project, and the Director-General of UNESCO himself issued a message in tribute to him. In addition, a round-table discussion in honour of Tagore was held in New Delhi, with financial support from UNESCO, from 11 to 14 November 1961.

The same year, from 6 to 12 April, the Congress on the Preservation of Traditional Forms of Classical and Popular Music in the countries of East and West had been held in Teheran.

In the context of the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, the International Action Committee met for the second time at Headquarters from 26 to 28 June 1961 under the chairmanship of Mr. Jean Thomas. On 4 August 1961 the Director-General issued an appeal to Member States seeking contributions of \$67 million to save the two monumental temples of Abu Simbel. As at 31 December 1962 contributions had been received from 25 Member States and 22 countries had sent missions to Nubia to assist in the work. The Government had, for its part, dismantled the Taffeh, Debod, Qartassi, Dakka, Dendur and Marraqah temples.

Publication of volume I of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* was authorized, and the English edition was issued in 1963, simultaneously in London and New York.

The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, established in Rome in 1958, was financed by UNESCO up until 1961 and thereafter by the 50 Member States that were benefiting from its work.

In October 1961 the Conference for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations was held in Rome under the auspices of UNESCO and ILO. On 16 October, it approved a Convention, the first on the subject.

MASS COMMUNICATION

In April 1961, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations approved a report by the Director-General of UNESCO which indicated that about 70 per cent of the world's population lacked information facilities, and invited all governments, the Technical Assistance Board, the Special Fund, the specialized agencies and other public and private bodies to take an active part in the establishment or expansion of national news agencies, newspapers and periodicals, radio broadcasting, film and television, in all countries engaged in development programmes.

From 19 to 22 December 1961, an expert meeting on the development of news agencies in Asia was held in Bangkok, in addition to a meeting in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) from 31 July to 5 August to formulate an Asian co-operative action programme, a conference in Moshi (Tanganyika) from 11 to 16 September to promote educational broadcasting in Africa, an international seminar on educational television held at Purdue University (Indiana) from 8 to 18 October (all in 1961) and a regional training course held in New Delhi in December 1961 and January 1962 on the production of low-cost visual aids.

In 1961 a contract was signed with the National Commission of Japan for the publication of a new edition of the *UNESCO Courier*, bringing the total number to seven: Arabic, English, French, German, Japanese, Russian and Spanish.

Assistance was provided to the Latin American Educational Film Institute (ILCE), which increased its production of materials for use in primary education; an educational adviser was sent to the Institute under the Technical Assistance Programme, and six fellowships were awarded.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The programme of the Briefing Centre for International Experts (Château du Bois-du-Rocher) went into operation in the second half of 1961, and by the end

of the year 160 experts from UNESCO, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) had attended the briefing programme, which lasted approximately three days. The content of the course comprised information on the organization by which the expert was employed and his or her specific mission.

In 1961, Chiefs of Mission and Chief Experts began to be appointed in countries where the number of UNESCO activities, and in some cases their complexity, made it necessary or desirable to do so. During the biennium, eight such appointments were made in various African, Asian and Latin American countries.

In 1961 UNESCO received the legacy of the Nessim Habif Fund, amounting to \$70,800, which he had willed to the Organization. The Fund was to be used for further study fellowships and other grants to persons engaged in scientific and literary activities related to UNESCO's objectives.

On 19 September 1961, UNESCO paid tribute at Headquarters to the memory of Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld,⁵ with the participation of the President of the General Conference at its eleventh session, Mr. Akale-Work Abte Wold, the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Mohammed Awad, and the Deputy Director-General, Mr. René Maheu.

MEMBER STATES

In 1961 two more countries signed the Constitution, and in 1962 there were 11 signatories, bringing the number of Member States to 114.

THE TWELFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twelfth session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters in Paris from 9 November to 12 December 1962.

It was attended by representatives of 109 Member States and two Associate Members, two observers from non-Member States, six observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 15 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 95 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro as President and one representative of each of the following 15 countries as Vice-Presidents: Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Greece, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America and Uruguay.

5. Who had died the previous day in an aircraft accident in the then Congo (Leopoldville).

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Committee on Reports by Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Akale-Work Abte-Wold (Ethiopia), President of the General Conference at its eleventh session, who referred to the death of Mr. Massaquoi of Liberia, a distinguished collaborator of UNESCO and member of the Executive Board between 1953 and 1956. He also referred to the death of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who had been the delegate of the United States of America at the first General Assembly of the United Nations and President of the Human Rights Commission of the Economic and Social Council. He requested a minute's silence in their honour.

He then praised, among other things, what were known as the 'operational programmes' of UNESCO, an organization which was showing itself to be 'an increasingly effective instrument of intervention and achievement in the field'. 'It must be emphasized', he continued, 'that it is planned to devote to this activity in the field 50 per cent of the regular resources of the Organization and 73 per cent of the total resources it will have to administer.' He concluded by expressing the hope that all present would be prepared to assist, by all the means provided for in our Charter, in the realization of the great ideals of concord and international understanding to which all countries can make their irreplaceable contribution'.

The next speaker was Mr. Mohammed Awad, Chairman of the Executive Board, who expressed regret at the resignation of Mr. Vittorino Veronese as Director-General for health reasons, and congratulated Mr. René Maheu on his work as Acting Director-General since that time.

Mr. René Maheu then took the floor. After welcoming all those present, thanking the Chairman of the Executive Board for his co-operation and praising Mr. Veronese, he gave a brief review of the situation, from which the following sentences are taken:

'Each session of the General Conference brings to the history of UNESCO the stamp of its own individuality, its colour, so to speak, and its spirit. So much so that the advancement of the Organization is determined in the light of this succession of phases constituted by the General Conferences of these past fifteen years. We approach this new phase strengthened by the new energy and aspirations brought to us by the Member States which have recently joined the Organization [. . .] and inspired by the example and the memory of the great individuals who have participated in our work, and I should like to take this opportunity to associate the Secretariat with the tribute just paid to the great memory of Eleanor Roosevelt, who was a friend of UNESCO because she was a friend of human rights'.

The next business was the election of 18 members of the Executive Board

and the designation of its Chairman, to which office Mr. C. Edward Beeby (New Zealand) was elected.

The following, among others, were the main issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference.

Education

The General Conference agreed to present to the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, a review of the question of the elimination of mass illiteracy throughout the world, in response to the request made by the Assembly in resolution 1677 (XVI). To that end, it decided to send to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the document that had been prepared, along with the draft appeal to be distributed at the beginning of the World Campaign for Universal Literacy. With regard to over-all educational planning and administration, the General Conference approved the establishment in Paris of the International Institute for Educational Planning, whose Statutes, consisting of nine articles, were also approved.

On the regional level, the Member States of Africa were invited to continue the implementation of the Plan for African Educational Development adopted in May 1961 by the Addis Ababa Conference, and the Member States in other regions were invited to offer their financial and technical aid for the execution of the Plan. The Director-General was also authorized to provide the services necessary for the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African countries participating in the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan in the running of its sessions, and to continue the operations of the Regional Bureau of Educational Research and Information in Africa, established at Accra, to which the Organization's assistance under the regular budget would end in 1972.

Where Asia was concerned, the Director-General was authorized to continue the operations of the various regional centres established there, on the understanding that UNESCO's assistance to them would end in 1972.

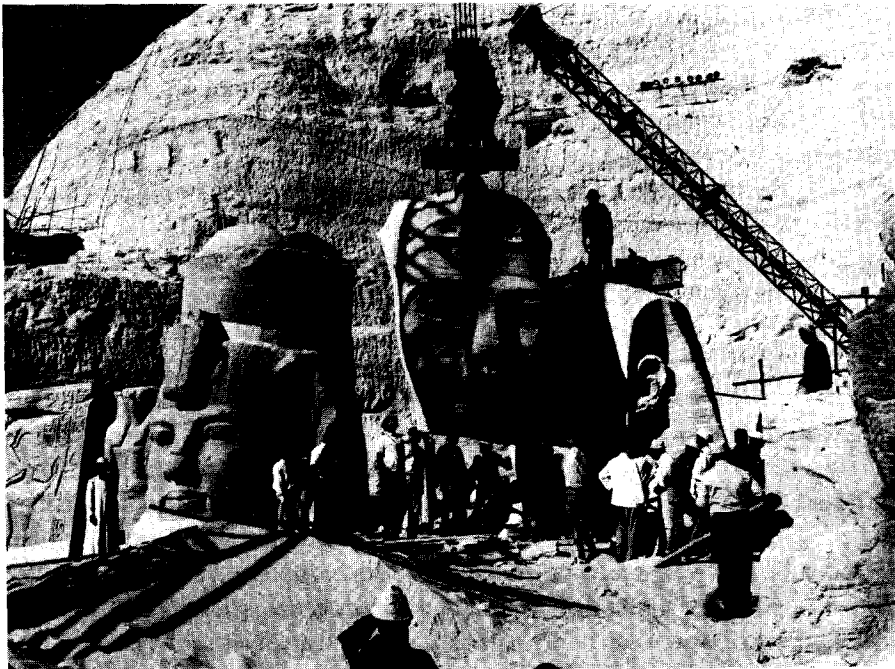
The Member States of Latin America were invited to continue the implementation of the Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in that region, and to make the fullest use of the services of the Regional Centre for Adult Education and Functional Literacy for Latin America (CREFAL). They were also invited to implement the recommendations on educational planning adopted by the Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development in Latin America, held in Santiago, Chile, in March 1962.

Natural sciences

The issues studied included international co-operation for the advancement of scientific research, co-ordination of research in the earth sciences and natural resources at the international and regional levels, marine sciences, information on the science policy of Member States and aid to technological research.



René Maheu.



The international campaign for safeguarding the monuments of Nubia.

Member States were invited to take all appropriate measures to participate in the long-term programme in scientific hydrology, to promote from 1963 onwards studies under that activity, and to train appropriate personnel in that field.

All Member States, particularly the developing countries, were urged to pay due attention to the conservation, restoration and enrichment of their natural resources, flora and fauna.

The Director-General was authorized to undertake survey missions and to call an intergovernmental meeting on seismology with a view to the improvement of observatory networks and warning systems. He was also authorized to continue the operation of the regional Science Co-operation Offices established in Montevideo, Cairo, New Delhi and Djakarta.

Social sciences

Member States were invited, in co-operation with the Secretariat, to establish or expand national clearing houses in the social sciences, to supply periodically to the Director-General statistical information related to their institutions and activities in the fields of education, science, culture and mass communication, to co-operate actively in the promotion of human rights and racial equality and to promote the application of the social sciences to problems of international relations.

The Director-General was authorized to collaborate with international non-governmental organizations and to grant subventions up to a total of \$209,000, to provide a \$135,000 subvention to the Latin American Social Science Faculty, to which UNESCO assistance was expected to continue until 1967, and to collect the payments made by the Latin American States as their contribution to the operation of the Faculty.

The Member States of Southern Asia and Latin America were specially invited to co-operate respectively with the Research Centre on Social and Economic Development in Southern Asia (New Delhi) and with the Latin American Social Science Research Centre (Rio de Janeiro).

Cultural activities

Member States were invited to collaborate with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies, to support the development of institutes for African studies in Africa itself, in order to stimulate the study of its cultures, to become parties, if they had not already done so, to the conventions and recommendations approved, to become members of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, established at Rome, to foster the development of museums, especially as educational, scientific and cultural centres, and to develop and improve their library and archives services.

It was decided that UNESCO must continue international action to save the monuments of Nubia, and that the Executive Committee of the Campaign should

consist of 15 members. Appreciation was also expressed to the governments, institutions, organizations and individuals who had contributed to the Campaign.

With regard to the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, Member States were invited to pursue and develop their participation in its implementation.

Mass communication

The issues studied included the free flow of information and the development of mass communication techniques, promoting wider adherence to the Agreement to Facilitate the International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character and the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific or Cultural Materials, the use of mass communication techniques in education, dissemination of information on the development and improvement of mass communication media and on their use for furthering the objectives of UNESCO, promotion of international understanding through appropriate utilization of all mass communication means, and public liaison with a view to increasing knowledge of the aims and activities of UNESCO.

Headquarters

The General Conference took note of the negotiations conducted with the Government of the French Republic, which had given its approval to the erection of a fifth building, although not at Place de Fontenoy but on a site with an area of 2,000-2,500 m² in a redevelopment belt in the XV^e arrondissement (corner of Boulevard Garibaldi and Rue Miollis), less than 300 metres away from Headquarters; the site would be made available to the Organization, unencumbered of any building, within approximately two years. Meanwhile, as an interim solution, a fourth building would be built adjacent to those already in existence, to be used for the Executive Board Chamber and conference rooms. The architect placed in charge of the project was Mr. Zehrfuss.

Appointment of the Director-General

At the meeting on 14 November, the nomination for Director-General submitted by the Executive Board was put to the vote. The candidate was Mr. René Maheu, Deputy Director-General from 1 December 1959 to 2 November 1961, on which date he had been appointed Acting Director-General following the resignation of Mr. Vittorino Veronese. Mr. René Maheu was elected Director-General for a term of six years.

Other decisions

Other decisions taken at this General Conference include the following:

1. Encouragement of the establishment of National Commissions and assistance to them by the Secretariat;

2. Participation in the United Nations Development Decade (1961–1970), declared by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sixteenth session;
3. Amendment of Article V of the Constitution by the replacement in paragraph 1 of the words ‘twenty-four’ by the word ‘thirty’, and the rewording of paragraph 13 to read ‘At the twelfth session of the General Conference, eighteen members shall be elected to the Executive Board pursuant to the provisions of this Article. Three of them shall retire at the close of the thirteenth session of the General Conference, the retiring members being chosen by the drawing of lots. Thereafter, fifteen members shall be elected at each ordinary session of the General Conference’;
4. Amendment of the procedure for admission to UNESCO of States not members of the United Nations through the inclusion of the following wording: ‘Applications by States not members of the United Nations for membership of Unesco shall, upon recommendation of the Executive Board, be dealt with by the General Conference in accordance with the provisions of Article II, paragraph 2, of the Constitution.’;
5. Giving of priority, when recruiting for vacant posts subject to geographical distribution, to candidates who were nationals of non-represented or under-represented Member States;
6. Adoption of the Protocol instituting a Conciliation and Good Offices Commission to be responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes which may arise between States Parties to the Convention Against Discrimination in Education;
7. Adoption of the Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education;
8. Adoption of the Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding of the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites;
9. Approval of the budget for the biennium 1963–1964, totalling \$39,000,000.

The biennium 1963–1964

THE SECRETARIAT

This was, in the words of the Director-General, a biennium in the course of which the role of UNESCO in the modern, developing world had been more sharply defined and its work more efficient, owing to its programme priorities and the structure of its Secretariat having become more closely attuned to the needs of its Member States.

On 1 July 1963 Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah, Assistant Director-General since 1955, was appointed Deputy Director-General.

The Education Sector and the Sciences Sector were established, and Mr. Gabriel Betancur Majía (Colombia) and Mr. Alexei Matveyev (USSR), respectively, were appointed to them as Assistant Directors-General, the first on 15 September 1963 and the second on 7 September 1964.

On 1 March 1964 Mr. John E. Fobes (United States of America) took up his duties as Assistant Director-General for Administration.

That same year, the Bureau of Relations with Member States was reorganized, with its operational functions being transferred to the departments responsible for programme implementation, and liaison with the Special Fund to the Office of the Director-General. The Bureau was to be responsible for issues relating to over-all co-operation between each Member State and UNESCO. Mr. Pavel I. Erchov left UNESCO's service on 15 September 1964.

In the course of the biennium, the Director-General visited 22 countries, thus establishing more direct relations with Member States in the interests of the development of the programme and of co-operation.

EDUCATION

In this biennium, special attention was paid to educational planning. Educationists and economists agreed on the need to plan educational development on a long-term basis, and there was a need for a broad study to be conducted, particularly in the less developed countries.

The International Institute for Educational Planning, established in Paris by a decision of the General Conference at its twelfth session, began its activities in May 1963. The Institute was provisionally accommodated at UNESCO Headquarters,⁶ and its first Director was Mr. Philip H. Coombs (United States of America). Its purpose, apart from studies and research, was to organize courses and seminars for senior officials from Member States, educational planners and managerial and executive staff. There was a need to train specialists, for this was a field in which they were in short supply.

In September 1964 the Director-General created within the Department of Education an Office of Educational Planning comprising a Division of Educational Planning and Administration and an Educational Financing Division.

Another issue of major importance was literacy, as had been indicated at the twelfth General Conference, the conclusions of which were transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the title 'World Campaign for Universal Literacy'. The Council referred them to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session, where they were submitted by the Director-General of UNESCO

6. It was later transferred to the building made available by the Government of the French Republic at 7 and 9 rue Eugène Delacroix.

on 18 October 1963, and at the end of that same year the United Nations Secretary-General took the necessary measures for the conduct of the campaign from 1964 onwards, the main responsibility for the exercise being assigned to UNESCO.

At a plenary meeting on 11 December 1963, the General Assembly of the United Nations unanimously approved resolution 1937 (XVIII), which invited Member States in whose territory illiteracy was still widespread to accord appropriate priority to the eradication of illiteracy within their over-all development plans.

The International Committee of Experts on Literacy held a meeting at UNESCO Headquarters from 1 to 10 April 1964, attended by representatives of the United Nations, ILO, FAO and UNICEF. Among the Committee's recommendations was the general outline of an experimental literacy programme, to be implemented in phases, and designed to prepare for an eventual World Literacy Campaign.

The Regional Conference on the Planning and Organization of Literacy Programmes in Africa took place in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) from 9 to 14 March 1964, attended by more than 50 senior officials from 35 African countries and a number of representatives of United Nations agencies. The Conference adopted a series of recommendations which were submitted to the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Countries, meeting in the same city a few days later (17–24 March), which was attended by the Director-General of UNESCO. The Conference of Ministers discussed literacy, among other educational issues, and endorsed the recommendations of the Regional Conference.

With a view to ensuring closer co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa, UNESCO appointed a liaison officer, based in Addis Ababa, to deal specifically with educational development programmes in Africa.

From 10 to 18 October 1964, the Regional Conference on the Planning and Organization of Literacy Programmes in the Arab States took place in Alexandria. It invited all Arab States to consider adult literacy as an integral part of their plans for economic and social development .

New impetus was given to the out-of-school education of youth, and the International Conference on Youth held in Grenoble from 23 August to 1 September 1964 studied means of involving youth in economic and social progress and drew up a long-term programme to be initiated by UNESCO in 1965.

The Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America continued to make progress through the publication of handbooks and monographs, the holding of literacy courses and the training of specialists in education, and the provision of fellowships and technical assistance services.

UNESCO organized a training programme for primary teachers under the programme of aid to the Congo (Leopoldville) and covered the costs of 100 posts

of educational experts. With the phasing out of the United Nations Congo Fund, a considerable part of the programme would henceforth be financed from other sources.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The most important event in this sector in 1963 was the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas, held in Geneva, in collaboration with UNESCO, from 4 to 20 February with the participation of nearly 1,700 scientists from all parts of the world. It was attended by the Director-General of UNESCO.

Close relations were maintained between UNESCO and international scientific organizations, and in this connection mention must be made of UNESCO's assistance to the International Brain Research Organization, established on the initiative of UNESCO itself, and to the International Cell Research Organization; the assistance comprised fellowships, help in organizing courses and symposia, the publication of a bulletin and the international exchange of scientists.

From 25 September to 1 October 1963, the fourteenth International Astronautical Congress was held at UNESCO Headquarters; in the course of it, the astronaut Yuri Gagarin, who on 12 April 1961 had made the first flight outside the earth's atmosphere, made a statement.

The Advisory Committee on Arid Lands Research held its twentieth and final session. The session, held in Jodhpur (India) in December 1964, coincided with the opening of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute of India, established under the Major Project for the Arid Lands.

In April 1964, an intergovernmental expert meeting was held at UNESCO Headquarters in preparation for the International Hydrological Decade, attended by 140 delegates from 57 Member States.

21 January of the same year had seen the opening of the Charles Darwin Research Station, established in the Galapagos Islands (Ecuador) by the Charles Darwin Foundation with the assistance and sponsorship of UNESCO.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The programme for this biennium was characterized by a strengthening of two aspects which had formed part of the activities from the outset: helping to improve knowledge of man in a rapidly changing society, and contributing to UNESCO's practical action on behalf of development.

Collaboration between Europe's best qualified institutions and leading specialists in comparative research was established, under the auspices of the European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences. The Centre was officially opened in Vienna on 20 April 1964, in the presence of

the Director-General of UNESCO, and it was to receive an initial subvention of \$30,000.

On 12 May 1964, an agreement was signed between UNESCO and the Moroccan Government for the establishment in Tangier of the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD). Part of its staff was appointed in that year, with a view to the commencement of its operations in 1965.

The Statistical Division completed the first *UNESCO Statistical Yearbook*, which was henceforth to replace the publication *Basic Facts and Figures*.

The *International Social Science Journal* continued to appear every quarter, along with the review *Diogenes* in English, French and Spanish.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values entered the eighth year of its implementation, and special consideration was given to strengthening the Associated Institutions for the study and presentation of cultures, the development of oriental studies in Latin America, the reform of curricula and textbooks, translations of Oriental literary masterpieces, travelling exhibitions, and the opportunities offered by gramophone records, radio, television and films.

Three international round-table discussions were held under this Project in 1963: the first (March and April) in Freiburg-im-Breisgau (Federal Republic of Germany) on 'The Role of the Universities in the Dissemination of Knowledge about Oriental Civilizations in the West', the second (November) in Tokyo on 'New Experiences of Contemporary Theatre in the East and the West and their Reciprocal Influences' and the third (December) in Singapore (Malaysia) on 'Formation of Leadership and Authority in Traditional and Modern Societies'.

The Regional Centre in the Western Hemisphere (Havana) continued to cooperate with Member States in the region, particularly in relation to cultural activities. It printed and distributed in Spanish the *UNESCO Chronicle* and the *Orient-Occident* bulletin, as well as the *Bulletin* of its Documentation Centre.

The support of leading figures in the world of the arts and letters was requested to prepare for the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Kierkegaard and the fourth centenary of the birth of Shakespeare.

In 1963 a solution was found to the financial problem of moving the Abu Simbel temples thanks to large contributions from some Member States as part of the Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia.

Nearly 40 countries issued or planned to issue stamps in connection with the Campaign, and some of them donated a quantity of the stamps for sale by UNESCO, the proceeds to be used for the benefit of the Campaign.

On 2 June 1964 the Director-General officially opened the International

Campaign for Historical Monuments, which was scheduled to close in November. In support of this campaign, the film *Timeless Treasure*, on the dangers threatening monuments, was produced in English, French, Spanish and Russian.

With a view to preparing a *General History of Africa*, contacts were established with the International Council of Africanists, which held a meeting at Ibadan (Nigeria) in April 1964 and made preparations for its second congress in 1966.

MASS COMMUNICATION

In April 1963, a meeting of experts from news agencies and other information services in 29 African countries and representatives of 14 international organizations was held in Tunis. As a result, the Union of African News Agencies was established; it held its first General Assembly in Algiers in December, and drew up long-term plans.

UNESCO's activities in the new field of space communication began in 1963, in co-operation with the International Telecommunication Union.

Increased use was made of mass communication techniques in both school and out-of-school education, and in this connection UNESCO organized in Senegal, in December 1964, a six-year pilot project on the use of audiovisual media and materials for adult education. In June, a seminar on educational television in Latin America was organized at the Latin American Educational Film Institute in Mexico.

The *UNESCO Courier* appeared regularly in the English, French and Spanish editions published at Headquarters, and in Arabic, German, Italian, Japanese and Russian editions under contracts with the respective National Commissions. The total print run was 360,000 copies, of which 90 per cent were sold.

THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE

The General Conference had concerned itself at its twelfth session with the possible contribution of UNESCO to the Decade, and in this connection 1964 saw the implementation by UNESCO of many activities under the Special Fund.

MEMBER STATES

Four countries signed the Constitution during the biennium (all of them in 1964), bringing the number of Member States to 118.

As a result of the Union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar on 26 April 1964, a new State was formed known as the United Republic of Tanzania.

THE THIRTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The thirteenth session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters in Paris from 20 October to 20 November 1964.

It was attended by representatives of 116 Member States and three Associate Members, two observers from non-Member States, seven observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 16 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 106 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference comprised Mr. Norair Martirossovitch Sissakian (USSR) as President, with one representative of each of the following 15 countries as Vice-Presidents: Brazil, Cameroon, France, Greece, Honduras, India, Italy, Japan, Pakistan, Poland, Senegal, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela.

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Committee on Reports of Member States and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro (Brazil), President of the General Conference at its twelfth session. His opening remarks were dedicated to the memory of three men associated with the life of UNESCO who had died in the past two years: Charles Ammoum, Permanent Representative of Lebanon to UNESCO and representative of his country at almost all sessions of the General Conference, Tudor Vianu (Romania), a member of the Executive Board, and Caracciolo Parra Pérez (Venezuela), who had been a member of the Executive Board and Chairman of the Headquarters Committee. He then referred to three leading public figures of the century who had also died in the same period: Pope John XXIII, John F. Kennedy, President of the United States of America, and Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India. He gave a brief eulogy of each of them, highlighting important events in their lives, and requested a minute's silence.

He then expressed his concern at the apparent remoteness and elusiveness of the peace UNESCO had made its main objective, and proposed the establishment, to study the problems of peace, of a non-governmental and purely advisory committee made up of philosophers, sociologists and educators with a world reputation, winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, heads or representatives of major religious movements, rectors and deans of universities and leading representatives of the press. He concluded with the following words: 'Everything must be done to ensure that our Organization is prepared to meet, without further delay, these legitimate and urgent aspirations. Let us assign to the problem of peace the high priority placed on it in our Constitution. This is UNESCO's true Major Project!'



A UNESCO television programme devoted to Oriental and Western mime.

The next speaker was the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Rodolfo Barón Castro (El Salvador), who welcomed all participants with a greeting which, he said, was being made for the first time in Spanish,⁷ and added that at the thirteenth session of the General Conference the Organization would continue under the sign of growth, in that, as it developed, its activities expanded and its vision broadened, its ambitions were growing and its boldness increasing.

Next to speak was the Director-General, Mr. René Maheu, whose statement included the following noteworthy paragraph:

The vocation of UNESCO is not utilitarian, but ethical. For UNESCO, education, science, culture and information are not ends in themselves, but merely the ways and means of a spiritual undertaking and a moral effort that constitute its true mission and were in the forefront of the concerns of the founders of the Organization, as is clearly evidenced by its Constitution.

The Conference elected 15 members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Mohammed el Fasi (Morocco) being elected to that office.

The issues dealt with at the Conference include those described below:

Education

Member States were invited to strengthen their action in the implementation of the Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America, to make the fullest use of the services of the regional centres in Latin America (CREFAL) and the Arab States (ASFEC), and to continue the implementation of the Plan approved in 1960 (at the Karachi Conference) for the expansion of primary education.

On the basis of the declaration by the World Conference on Adult Education (Montreal, 1960), the Director-General was requested to continue strengthening the adult education programme.

The General Conference decided to extend by all possible means the aid given to Member States for the elimination of adult illiteracy, and to initiate in 1966 a five-year Experimental World Literacy Programme designed to pave the way for an eventual world literacy campaign. Thus it decided to organize and convene in Teheran, during the biennium 1965–1966, a World Congress on the Eradication of Illiteracy, and requested the Director-General to so inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations so that he in turn could bring it to the attention of the General Assembly at its nineteenth session.

On the same subject the General Conference approved, on 19 November, a declaration entitled 'Eradication of Illiteracy in the United Nations Development

7. Mr. Barón Castro was the first Spanish-speaking Chairman of the Executive Board. He had replaced Mr. C. Edward Beeby during the biennium (in 1964).

Decade – An appeal to the nations’; it comprised nine points, the eighth of which began as follows: ‘The main responsibility for this task rests on the governments of Member States in which the incidence of illiteracy is acute’.

The Director-General was authorized to promote training in and research on educational planning through assistance to the institutes and centres established by UNESCO and by the Economic Commissions of the United Nations, to co-operate with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in operational activities in the field of education, to promote the establishment and functioning of regional educational building centres, with particular reference to those already established, and to prepare a conference of Ministers of Education of the European Member States, to be held in 1966 on the topic of higher education.

Natural sciences

A very important development at this General Conference was the decision that, in UNESCO’s programmes for 1965–1966, natural sciences and technology would be accorded an importance similar to that given to education.

Another development of special interest was the declaration of the International Hydrological Decade for the period 1965–1975, a subject on which an expert meeting had been held at Headquarters in April 1964.

The Conference decided to establish a Co-ordinating Council for the Decade, comprising 21 countries, and its Statutes were approved.

Member States were invited to formulate and implement national science policies with a view to increasing their scientific and technological potential, to improve science teaching at all levels and to co-operate in the scientific investigation of the oceans through participation in the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission established by the General Conference at its eleventh session.

The Director-General was authorized to undertake studies on the long-term consequences of disarmament on scientific and technological research, to undertake activities for the development and improvement of science teaching at all levels and to take the necessary measures to establish a Multidisciplinary Scientific Research Centre in Asia, to which assistance was to be provided for up to six years following its establishment.

Social sciences

Member States were invited to encourage the study of the sociocultural and economic factors of development, to establish, in co-operation with UNESCO, national social science clearing houses, to promote the development of higher teaching of the social sciences, to propagate respect for the human rights defined in the Universal Declaration of 1948, to encourage studies in the social and human sciences on economic, social, cultural and psychological problems of newly-in-

dependent countries, to facilitate studies relating to the economic and social consequences of disarmament and peace research, to submit periodically to the Director-General statistics on the various fields of activity of UNESCO, and to co-operate with their respective regional centres.

The Director-General was authorized to co-operate with the African Member States, and in particular with the Government of Morocco, for the establishment of the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD); to undertake, with the necessary collaboration, the first part of the study on the main trends of research in the social and human sciences; and to conduct, on the basis of statistical data, a quantitative assessment of human resources in co-operation with the International Labour Organisation and other interested organizations, in order to analyse their implications for planning in education, science and technology, culture and mass communication.

Cultural activities

Member States were invited to preserve and restore cultural property, to protect the beauty and character of landscapes, to become parties to the conventions approved to date, to make known through the various communication media the manifestations of their artistic and literary culture, drawing on UNESCO co-operation when considered appropriate, to foster the development of their museums as educational, scientific and cultural centres and to develop and improve their library and archive services.

The Director-General was authorized to carry out between 1965 and 1968 a survey of the situation, trends and possibilities of artistic creation and to offer technical co-operation to the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Rome) and the Documentation and Study Centre for the History of the Art and Civilization of Ancient Egypt (Cairo); financial assistance was to be extended to the two centres up until 1966 and 1974 respectively.

The General Conference expressed its gratitude to the Member States and Associate Members that had contributed in one way or another to the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, authorized the Executive Director to continue the campaign, and invited Member States which had not yet done so to make a financial contribution.

With regard to the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, the General Conference recommended that an international meeting of eminent thinkers from the East and the West should be convened to assess and evaluate the work done so far and give thought to the direction it should take. The Director-General was also authorized to organize the sixth and last session of the Advisory Committee.

Other decisions by the General Conference in this area were to authorize the Director-General to prepare and publish over the period 1965–1975 a *General*

History of Africa and to conclude the arrangements necessary for completion of the publication of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind*.

Communication

The General Conference approved a report of the Executive Board on directives concerning the content of UNESCO publications, the text of which was divided into two parts, 'General considerations' and 'Criteria', and instructed the Director-General to apply the directives in order to improve the quality and effectiveness of the Organization's publications.

Noting that the twentieth anniversary of UNESCO would occur during the fourteenth session of the General Conference, the Conference recommended to Member States and national and international non-governmental organizations that they should carry out an assessment of the work performed by UNESCO, and the Director-General was authorized to make the twentieth anniversary of the Organization a central theme for the activities of the Department of Mass Communication.

Other issues of special interest were research and studies on mass communication, promotion of the free flow of information and the use of space communication, training of mass communication personnel, promotion of international understanding, assistance to the communication media (press, radio and visual information) and commemoration of anniversaries of great personalities and events.

Headquarters

Considering that the capacity of the permanent buildings at Headquarters currently in use would be inadequate in the short term, the General Conference authorized the Director-General to accelerate the construction of the fourth building so that in 1965 an area of approximately 500 square metres would be available for office space. He was also authorized to maintain until the completion of the fifth building the prefabricated offices on the Headquarters site, and to extend during the same period the lease of the offices occupied in the rue Franklin building. The General Conference also agreed to request the French Government to grant a building permit for the construction of the fifth building on the Garibaldi-Miollis site, so that work could begin in July 1966.

Other decisions

Other decisions taken at this session of the General Conference included the following:

1. Holding of the fourteenth session of the General Conference at Headquarters in Paris from 25 October 1966;

2. Approval of the Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics Relating to Book Production and Periodicals;
3. Approval of the Recommendation on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Export, Import and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;
4. Approval of the budget for the biennium 1965–1966, for a total of \$50,276,000.

1965–1968

The biennium 1965–1966

THE SECRETARIAT

On 1 July 1966 two new Assistant Directors-General took up their duties, Mr. Tor Gjesdal (Norway) for Mass Communications and Mr. Mahdi Elmandjara (Morocco) for Social Sciences, Human Sciences and Culture.

On 1 August 1966 Mr. Gabriel Betancur Mejía (Colombia) resigned as Assistant Director-General for Education to take up the post of Minister of Education in his country. Mr. C. Flexa Ribeiro (Brazil) was appointed to replace him.

The Director-General visited 29 countries in the course of the biennium, and had direct contacts with the principal authorities regarding the Organization's activities.

Pursuant to resolution 2029 (XX) of the United Nations General Assembly, of 22 November 1965, the new programme known as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the product of a merger of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund, came into being on 1 January 1966. From 13 to 16 December 1966, a UNESCO-UNDP meeting was held at UNESCO House to adapt to the new system all ongoing projects and those being prepared.

EDUCATION

From 8 to 19 September 1965 the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy, organized by UNESCO, was held in Teheran. Attended by representatives of 88 countries, it unanimously approved all the recommendations submitted in support of the Experimental World Literacy Programme, which was then approved by the United Nations General Assembly in resolution 2043 (XX).

From 29 November to 8 December, the International Committee of Experts on Literacy met at UNESCO Headquarters and adopted a series of conclusions on the evaluation of experimental projects, the methods of literacy work and the need to co-ordinate national, bilateral and multilateral action in literacy. The meeting was attended, apart from the members of the Committee (whose membership had been increased from 18 to 24), by representatives of the Special Fund, ILO, FAO, the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States and the Ibero-American Education Bureau.

In 1966 the Experimental World Literacy Programme passed from the stage of designing principles and became operational. UNDP approved five projects, in Algeria, Ecuador, Iran, Mali and the United Republic of Tanzania. The Governments of Venezuela and Libya offered to submit experimental projects to be financed from national resources. The principal technical advisers to four of the projects were appointed, and seminars were held in Paris and (at the invitation of the Italian Government) in Oristano in Sardinia (1–22 December) for the national directors, chief technical advisers and experts of the four projects. In the course of 1966, 47 countries indicated their intention of participating in the Experimental Programme.

From 30 May to 4 June 1966 a Regional Conference on the Planning and Organization of Literacy Programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean was held at Caracas (Venezuela), attended by representatives of 20 Member States in the region and UNESCO officials. The report of the Regional Conference was considered by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Ministers Responsible for Economic Planning in Latin America and the Caribbean (Buenos Aires, 21–28 June), which endorsed the recommendations it contained.

The financial assistance to the Congo (Leopoldville) to support the 800 teachers serving there ended, in agreement with the government, on 29 July 1965, on which date the government assumed responsibility for the costs. Assistance under the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (and from 1966 onwards through UNDP) nevertheless continued.

The report of the evaluation committee on the Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America emphasized the importance of the progress made under the Major Project, in that enrolments had increased by 55 per cent between 1957 and 1965, and in addition it had been possible to train 250 specialists in educational planning, create 350,000 teaching posts, increase the size of education budgets, which had risen from 13.3 per cent in 1957 to 16.6 per cent in 1965, and secure effective action by universities and the teacher training institutions associated with the project.

A decision of great importance was that relating to the programme of activities of the Latin American Educational Film Institute (ILCE), taken in agreement with the Institute and the Mexican Government, with a view to ensuring that ILCE would henceforth focus its major efforts not on television but on teaching

materials designed in the light of the curriculum; accordingly, the television expert was to be replaced by an expert in school curricula.

The meeting of the International Committee for the Advancement of Adult Education (December 1965) made a number of recommendations, relating in particular to what was beginning to be called 'continuing education', a concept that was being developed through successive meetings and programmes.

NATURAL SCIENCES

So as to be able to give effect to the new orientation approved for the Sector at the thirteenth General Conference, the departments received increased budgetary allocations and their reorganization was embarked upon. The same was done in the case of the regional structures, which were strengthened with the opening in Nairobi (Kenya), in May 1965, of the Regional Centre for Science and Technology in Africa.

The first of the conferences scheduled in order to assess the scientific and technological potential of given regions, the Regional Conference on the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Latin America (CASTALA), was held in Santiago (Chile) in September 1965, and its results were encouraging.

The programmes relating to the arid zone and the humid tropical zone ended, and were incorporated into a vast programme of natural resources research, one element of which was the International Hydrological Decade, the Co-ordinating Council of which met for the first time in May-June 1965.

In the biennium 1963-1964 an experimental project on the teaching of physics had been started at São Paulo (Brazil), and in 1965 it was extended to other Latin American countries (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela) which had sent participants to the project.

Another experimental project, this time on the teaching of chemistry, was initiated in Thailand in September 1965 at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, with 22 participants from various Asian countries.

A third experimental project was the one on biology teaching in Africa, which in the course of this biennium was in the preparatory phase.

UNESCO and the Government of Peru signed an agreement for the establishment in Lima of the Regional Seismological Centre for South America, to which UNESCO would provide assistance. In addition, from 12 to 14 December 1966, the Director of the Centre and a UNESCO representative attended a meeting in Brasilia to plan the establishment in that city of a high-sensitivity seismological array station.

In the same month the Central Council of the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) met at UNESCO Headquarters, while the survey of world resources and needs in brain research was conducted in laboratories in 21 countries.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

UNESCO maintained contacts with the United Nations for the preparation of a long-term programme aimed at promoting the teaching and dissemination of international public law, in accordance with a resolution approved by the United Nations General Assembly.

The Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO) continued its activities, and, in the light of the possibility that UNESCO assistance to FLACSO would end in 1969, negotiations were initiated on the preparation of a convention on a future Latin American organization for teaching and research in the social sciences, as well as any other institution that might be set up.

The African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development, set up in Tangier under an agreement signed between the Moroccan Government and UNESCO, was officially inaugurated on 25 March 1965 in the presence of the Director-General of UNESCO and the Minister of Education of Morocco, on the occasion of the first conference organized by this Centre, held on its premises from 23 to 27 March on the subject of the adaptation of public administration structures in Africa to development tasks.

Publication of the *International Social Science Journal* continued, and it was very well received in technical circles.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values entered its last stage. The Advisory Committee held its sixth session in December 1965 to appraise the project and consider ways and means of integrating it with UNESCO's future programme. Publication of the *Orient-Occident Bulletin* continued, and the partial evaluations of the project were published in it.

The Executive Committee of the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia met at UNESCO Headquarters on 17, 18 and 19 March 1965, and at The Hague on 24 and 25 September of the same year. Both sessions examined the progress made on the project and considered the steps to be taken to consolidate what had been done and continue the work. In 1965, among other activities, the Beit el-Wali temple in the Aswan region was reconstructed. The Executive Committee met in Paris from 15 to 17 March 1966 and in Madrid from 26 to 28 September of the same year. Its discussions focused in particular on the financing of the Abu Simbel project.

On 26, 27 and 28 October 1965, the seven-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Dante Alighieri was commemorated at UNESCO House by a round-table discussion which examined the influence of his work in different cultures.

From 3 to 16 December of the same year, a symposium was held, also at UNESCO House, under the title 'Science and synthesis of knowledge on man

and the universe', to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the deaths of Einstein and Teilhard de Chardin. It was attended by eminent scientists, among them Louis de Broglie, Werner Heisenberg, Robert Oppenheimer and Julian Huxley, who had been UNESCO's first Director-General. The symposium studied some issues relating to the future work of the Organization in the sphere of international co-operation.

In the field of relations between the protection of the cultural heritage and tourism, three countries (Iran, Peru and Turkey) requested UNESCO assistance in ensuring the preservation of their monuments.

The first six issues in the UNESCO Art Pocket Series appeared in November and December 1966 in English, French, Italian and Spanish: *Egyptian Sculptures*, *Etruscan Sculptures*, *Henry Moore*, *Goya*, *Modigliani* and *Toulouse-Lautrec*.

There was a great deal of activity in relation to libraries, both through international collaboration and through assistance to Member States. The regional centre for training librarians from French-speaking African Member States, established in Dakar (Senegal), continued to receive assistance and to organize training courses.

In May 1965 Volume II of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* was published in English, in three volumes, and in 1966 the two parts of Volume VI were issued.

COMMUNICATIONS

From 6 to 10 December 1965, a Meeting of Experts on the Use of Space Communication by the Mass Media was held at UNESCO Headquarters. A book summarizing the working papers of the meeting was prepared for publication.

Extensive information was made available on various issues covered by UNESCO's broad programme of activities, and in particular on the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy, held in Teheran. A brochure entitled *The ABC of Literacy* was also published.

In the field of public information, the year 1966 was marked by the major effort made in relation to the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of UNESCO. A very large amount of material was distributed to Member States, almost all of which gave the issue broad coverage in the various media. The material prepared by UNESCO included a double issue of the *UNESCO Courier*, a brochure entitled *UNESCO is 20 Years Old*, a set of posters with the same title, a film for television entitled *Looking Ahead* and a number of radio programmes sent in appropriate languages to radio stations in 150 countries.

From 16 to 23 May 1966, UNESCO organized in Bangkok a meeting on broadcasting in the service of education and development in Asia. The meeting formulated a new approach in the use of radio and television to meet the economic and social needs of Asian countries.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The World Food Programme, established by the United Nations and FAO in 1961, had begun co-operating with UNESCO in 1964, and in 1965 it collaborated on 16 projects related to educational development in 15 countries.

The first experimental long-term training course at Headquarters for staff of National Commissions began on 1 October 1965 and ended on 31 March 1966.

In July 1965 it was decided to publish a concise version of the *Directory of National Commissions*.

MEMBER STATES

In the course of the biennium, three countries signed the Constitution (all in 1965), bringing the number of Member States to 120.

By a letter dated 30 July 1966 the Government of Indonesia cancelled its withdrawal from UNESCO, of which it had given notice on 12 February 1965, but which had not yet taken effect.

HEADQUARTERS

After the French Government had made known, on 1 June 1965, that it would make available to the Organization a new 6,000 square metre plot in the same neighbourhood where the site previously offered was located, the Director-General commissioned the architect Bernard Zehrffuss to draw up the preliminary project and the budget for the construction of the fifth building.

THE FOURTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The fourteenth session of the General Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 25 October to 30 November 1966.

It was attended by representatives of 120 Member States and three Associate Members, two observers from non-Member States, seven observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 19 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 92 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference comprised Mr. Bedrettin Tuncel (Turkey) as President, and one representative of each of the following fifteen countries as Vice-Presidents: Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Guatemala, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Procedure Committee, the Legal Committee, the Reports Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. S. K. Romanovsky, head of the USSR delegation, owing to the death of the President of the General Conference at its thirteenth session, Mr. Norair Martirossovitch Sissakian, whose task it would have been to open the session.

Mr. Romanovsky referred to the special significance of the fourteenth session of the General Conference, in that it coincided with the twentieth anniversary of UNESCO. The past twenty years had been marked by the rapid progress of science and technology to heights which only yesterday had seemed unattainable, an instance of such progress being man's conquest of space. As examples of UNESCO's activities since the previous General Conference, he referred to the World Conference of Ministers of Education for the Eradication of Illiteracy (Teheran), and to some of the regional conferences.

The next speaker was Mr. Attilio dell'Oro Maini, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board, who took the floor in the absence for a few days, for personal reasons, of Mr. Mohammed el Fasi, Chairman of the Board. Mr. dell'Oro Maini thanked the Government of the United Kingdom for inviting the Board on an official visit to London on the eve of its 74th session, a visit which he described as 'a veritable pilgrimage to the birthplace of UNESCO'. He then referred to the founders and great leaders of the Organization, among whom, he said:

The Board is proud to include its members Julian Cain, William Benton and Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro, and the Head of the Secretariat, Mr. René Maheu, whose clear-sightedness and passionate zeal in the service of UNESCO during these twenty years provide an admirable example of tenacity.

Speaking next, the Director-General associated himself with the tribute paid to Mr. Sissakian, President of the Conference at its previous session.

He referred to the fact that the holding of the General Conference coincided with the twentieth anniversary of the Organization, and said that the ceremonies marking that anniversary should be an occasion for all concerned to examine their conscience. He believed that the Organization was on the right course; international intellectual co-operation was expanding from year to year, recent examples being the launching of the International Oceanographic Commission, the International Hydrological Decade and the Experimental Functional Literacy Programme.

He concluded his statement by expressing the wish that the fourteenth session of the General Conference would clearly show 'the strength of the spirit of harmony and collaboration which is the soul of UNESCO, and UNESCO is essentially soul'.

The Conference elected 15 members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Attilio dell'Oro Maini (Argentina) being elected to that office.

Issues dealt with at the Conference included, among others, the following.

Education

The Director-General was authorized to organize a regional conference to study the problems of education and scientific and technical training in Africa, to organize a regional conference in Europe on problems in the field of higher education, to assume technical responsibility for the educational programme for Arab refugees from Palestine and to organize in 1968 an international conference of experts in educational planning.

Where literacy was concerned, the General Conference took note of the recommendation approved at the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy that 8 September, the date of the opening of the Conference, should be proclaimed International Literacy Day and be observed by all countries. In that connection, the General Conference proclaimed 8 September as International Literacy Day and invited Member States to celebrate it every year by taking the appropriate measures at the national level, in the spirit of the Recommendation made by the Teheran Conference.

Another point of special importance was the authorization given to the Director-General to contribute to the study, clarification and dissemination of the concept of 'life-long education', particularly by convening a symposium of eminent specialists to study bases of the concept, its various elements and ways of applying it.

The Recommendation Concerning the Status of Teachers, the text of which had been drawn up at an intergovernmental conference held at UNESCO Headquarters from 21 September to 5 October 1966, was approved.

Natural sciences

Member States were invited to promote and sustain the advancement of science and its application to development, and to co-operate in the scientific investigation of the oceans through participation in the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission established by the General Conference at its eleventh session.

The Director-General was authorized to collect and make available to Member States information on the principles of technological development and to continue publication of the *Impact of Science on Society*, to take the necessary steps to facilitate women's access to careers in science and technology, to continue to promote international collaboration for the scientific study of the earth and particularly the preparation of the World Magnetic Survey, and to promote international co-operation for the study of earthquakes and of the means of protection against them.



Literacy class in an African rural centre.

A point of special importance was the development and improvement of agricultural education and the teaching of science for agricultural development, and the Director-General was authorized to establish close co-operation with FAO and appropriate governmental and non-governmental bodies in order to reach specific agreements, one of which would be to establish an international advisory committee on agricultural education and science.

It was agreed to allocate on an experimental basis UNESCO Coupons up to a maximum of \$200,000 in the biennium 1967–1968, accepting payment in local non-convertible currencies, for the acquisition of educational and scientific material necessary for technological development.

Social sciences

Member States were invited to promote social and human science studies applied to problems of education, science, technology, culture, information and international exchanges, to ensure the effective application of the rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which came within UNESCO's purview, and to promote and facilitate studies relating to the economic and social consequences of disarmament.

The Director-General was authorized to improve specialized social science documentation, to promote the development of university-level social science teaching, to co-operate with the Latin American Social Science Research Centre at Rio de Janeiro (CENTRO), to which UNESCO financial assistance was to continue until 1968, to continue co-operation with the European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences (Vienna) and to continue providing financial assistance to it until 1972, to pursue interdisciplinary activities relating to human rights and the economic, social and cultural problems of newly-independent countries, to study the economic and social consequences of disarmament and to continue peace research.

Culture

The Director-General was authorized to provide assistance to the International Commission for the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* with a view to completing the supplementary work (the publication of the *Journal of World History* and the distribution of selected articles from it in volume form), to extend in depth and in breadth the knowledge of Eastern cultures acquired under the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, and to encourage a better knowledge of Oriental cultures, especially in Latin America.

In the light of the documentation on the initial evaluation of that project, the General Conference recommended that the attempt to appraise the project should be continued in the next biennium and the results should be made known in a publication.

The Director-General was also authorized to continue until 1975 the preparation and publication of the *General History of Africa*; to undertake between 1967 and 1972 the study of Latin American cultures as expressed in their literature and art; to co-operate with the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Rome), and to assist the Documentation and Study Centre for the History of the Art and Civilization of Ancient Egypt (Cairo), but not beyond 1974; to continue, in co-operation with the Government of Nigeria, to operate the Regional Pilot Centre (Jos) for training of museum technicians from African countries; and to study the problem of the use of leisure.

The General Conference also authorized the Director-General to continue the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia in accordance with the directives of the Campaign's Executive Committee, and extended to the Italian people and Government its heartfelt sympathy at the loss of life and material damage caused by the recent floods, especially in the cities of Florence and Venice. The Director-General was requested to take the necessary action to carry out an international campaign to restore the cultural property of both cities which have been damaged.¹

Lastly, the Director-General was authorized to continue publication of the review *Museum* and of the *Index Translationum*, as well as to prepare a series of anthologies designed to show how literature could serve the cause of international peace and understanding.

Communication

The Director-General was authorized to promote the use of space communication to further UNESCO's aims, to undertake research and studies on the use of the information media in out-of-school education, in particular in the Experimental World Literacy Programme, to continue publishing the *UNESCO Courier* in English, French and Spanish and to arrange for its publication in Arabic, German, Italian, Japanese and Russian by means of contracts with National Commissions, to prepare a long-term plan for the publication of the *Courier* in other languages, to continue studies and research aimed at the improvement of documentation, libraries and archives, and to assist Member States in the development of those services.

The General Conference noted that on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of UNESCO the Sri Aurobindo Society in Pondicherry (India), a non-governmental organization affiliated with the Indian National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO, was proposing to set up a cultural township known as Auroville where people from different countries would live together in har-

1. The Campaign was officially opened at Headquarters on 2 December.

mony in one community and engage in cultural, educational, scientific and other pursuits. In that connection, the General Conference expressed the belief that the project would contribute to international understanding and peace, and commended it to those interested in UNESCO's ideals.

Headquarters

The General Conference thanked the French Government for its offer, made in a letter dated 16 October 1966, of two further plots adjacent to the Garibaldi-Miollis site in order to leave the north border of the site open. Regarding the long-term solution, the General Conference decided to postpone a decision until its fifteenth session, while nevertheless indicating its preference for a solution within Paris rather than in the suburbs, so that the Organization might continue to enjoy the benefits of the historical, intellectual and artistic amenities of the capital.

Other decisions

It was agreed *inter alia* to introduce for the fifteenth session of the General Conference simultaneous interpretation from and into Arabic at plenary meetings and in the Programme and Administrative Commissions, as well as translation into Arabic of the most important documents. It was also decided that the fifteenth session would be held at Headquarters in Paris from 15 October 1968, and a budget of \$61,506,140 for the biennium 1967–1968 was approved.

THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO

Commemoration of this anniversary began with a concert on 24 October (United Nations Day) organized in honour of UNESCO and broadcast and televised in many countries.

From 21 October to 3 November a round-table discussion was organized to which the former Presidents of the General Conference and Chairmen of the Executive Board, as well as the former Directors-General of UNESCO and winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, were invited. Mr. Philip Noel-Baker (United Kingdom), who had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1959, was elected Chairman of the round-table. The round-table considered a working paper drawn up at a meeting held at Bellagio (Italy) from 23 to 28 May, and an analysis of replies from Member States to a questionnaire in which they had been invited to make known their views on UNESCO's past and future contribution to peace. At the end of the meeting a declaration was adopted which was submitted to the plenary meeting of the General Conference on 4 November (document 14C/10).

On 3 November the Rector and Council of the Academy of Paris organized, in the main amphitheatre of the Sorbonne, a commemorative ceremony recalling the one held in the same amphitheatre on 19 November 1946, on the eve of the opening of the first General Conference. Statements were made by

Mr. Jean Roche, Rector of the Academy of Paris, Mr. Jaime Torres Bodet, former Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. Julien Cain, President of the French National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO, Mr. Bedrettin Tuncel, President of the ongoing General Conference and Mr. René Maheu, Director-General of UNESCO.

The day of 4 November was devoted to two formal plenary meetings. The first was attended by the President of the French Republic, General Charles de Gaulle, accompanied by his Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Culture, Education and Scientific Research.

The Director-General gave an outline of the history of the Organization from its foundation up until the present, and recalled the main objectives of its programme. 'The UNESCO of the 1960s is no longer that of the 1950s', he said. 'The ship has caught the tide and is being borne towards the open sea. The Organization has now reached a phase of critical reflection, the object of which is to ensure its growth through methodical regularization.' He concluded his statement with the following words: 'Man is a being of distances. He strives constantly towards his own horizon, and this impulsion, which history constantly renews, without ever exhausting it, is known as hope. May UNESCO never forget that its mission is to be an incarnation of hope – as Péguy said 'Petite fille Espérance', now twenty years old!'

The President of the General Conference referred to all those (States, organizations and individuals) who had contributed to the progress of UNESCO, and mentioned the Heads of State and Government who had sent a message on the occasion of the anniversary.

The next speaker was the President of the French Republic, who began his statement with these words: 'The past twenty years have shown how fortunate it is for the United Nations to be able to rely, where education, science and culture are concerned, on an organization distinct from the one which deals with political matters'. He then reaffirmed his country's faith in the ideals of UNESCO and its support for the Organization.

This solemn meeting was covered by radio and television broadcasts in a number of countries. Thousands of people visited the exhibition on the history and programme of the Organization at UNESCO Headquarters. The exhibition was to be available to Member States in 1967.

At the second meeting, held in the afternoon, the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Mohammed el Fasi, made a statement and read out messages from the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mr. Abdul Rahman Pazhawak, and from the Secretary-General, U Thant.

Subsequent speakers were Princess Ashraf Pahlavi, conveying the greetings of His Majesty the Shahinshah of Iran, and Mrs. Jeanne Chaton, Chairman of the Standing Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations.

On 15 November, at a concert organized by the French National Commis-

sion for Co-operation with UNESCO, a work by Darius Milhaud composed especially for the anniversary was performed.

On 18 November the 700-year old mummy donated by the Government of Peru on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary was placed on display in the Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle.

The biennium 1967–1968

THE SECRETARIAT

During this period the Director-General visited 27 countries, three of them for the purpose of participating in a specific ceremony: in Switzerland, on 5 April 1968, the laying of the foundation stone of the new wing of the Palais des Nations in Geneva in the presence of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant; in the United Arab Republic (21–23 September 1968), the completion of the operations for saving the Abu Simbel temples; and in Belgium (9–11 December 1968), to celebrate in Brussels the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Other than on such occasions, which were specific and on fixed dates, the Director-General's visits to Member States pursued the twin objective of allowing him to see at first hand the activities the Secretariat was carrying out away from Headquarters and offering him the opportunity for direct dialogue with Member States and better study of their situation and needs.

By the end of 1967, there were 13 centres and offices away from Headquarters which formed an integral part of the Secretariat: three for Africa, two for the Arab States, four for Asia and four for Latin America. Six of these dealt with education, five with the natural sciences, one with culture and one with liaison with National Commissions.

The Arab-Israeli conflict of June 1967 disrupted the provision of educational services by UNRWA, and its Commissioner, Mr. Michelmore, visited Paris to consider the situation with the Director-General of UNESCO. Complete agreement was reached, and the co-operation between the two Organizations, which had been going on for 15 years, emerged stronger and on a firm basis.

Also during this biennium, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution on the 'brain drain' and invited all its specialized agencies to improve the co-ordination of research and operational activities by the United Nations in that field. The UNESCO Secretariat echoed that invitation, which was brought to the attention of all departments.

EDUCATION

The event most worthy of mention is the Conference of Ministers of Education of European Member States on Access to Higher Education, held in Vienna from 20 to 25 November 1967. It was a success, and was described as historic for the atmosphere of mutual understanding and objective investigation in which it took place.

UNESCO had initiated its systematic action on behalf of educational planning in 1961. Such planning needed to be accorded its due place by economists and financiers, both in national enterprises and in external aid, and it could be claimed that since that year great success had been achieved.

From 4 to 16 August 1968 the International Conference on Educational Planning was held at Headquarters; it was attended by 264 participants from 95 countries, the United Nations, FAO, ILO, WHO, the World Bank, UNICEF and a number of non-governmental organizations. The Conference recommended that Member States, among other things, should regard educational planning as an integral part of over-all development planning. The International Institute for Educational Planning assisted the Secretariat in preparing for the Conference and published, among other works, the English, French and Italian versions of *The World Educational Crisis*, written by Mr. Philip H. Coombs, the Institute's first Director.²

The idea of adapting education to the demands of a changing world gave rise to the key concept of 'life-long education', which explained the real meaning of modern education and should inspire and sum up all efforts directed towards reform. For UNESCO, education was a process which extended throughout life. There was thus a need for 'life-long education' not to remain a mere slogan. It had to merge school and university education in a global system which would be comprehensive and would also include out-of-school education and adult education.

In 1968 UNESCO reacted to the aggravation of student unrest which had broken out in various parts of the world, and particularly in Western Europe. Hence a new policy was adopted with a view to broad, bold action *with* instead of *for* youth. More than a crisis of youth, this was a moral crisis of society, and the challenge to education was naturally central to that crisis.

The preparatory phase of the Experimental World Literacy Programme³ concluded in 1967, and eight pilot projects (in Algeria, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iran, Madagascar, Mali and the United Republic of Tanzania) entered the phase

2. The Spanish version was published in Madrid.

3. The terminology had been changing since the time of the first literacy programmes ('adult', 'basic', 'community development', 'fundamental education' and 'functional literacy').

of execution. A meeting of experts on the evaluation of experimental literacy projects took place at UNESCO Headquarters from 2 to 6 December 1968.

Fifty-three countries expressed the desire to participate in the Programme, and missions composed of an economist and a specialist in adult education were sent to 12 of them.

International Literacy Day, proclaimed at the fourteenth session of the General Conference, was celebrated for the first time on 8 September 1967, with events in a large number of countries.

On 30 and 31 August, the jury of the Mohammed Reza Pahlevi Prize, established by the Shah of Iran in recognition of meritorious literacy work, had met at UNESCO Headquarters. There were 16 candidates, and it was agreed to award the Prize to the girls of the Tabora Secondary School (United Republic of Tanzania).

The second International Literacy Day was celebrated on 8 September 1968 by a large number of Member States. The Director-General made a statement at Headquarters and the Mohammed Reza Pahlevi Prize was then awarded to the Brazilian Basic Education Movement, an organization reaching adults by radio in inaccessible areas of Brazil.⁴

At its twenty-second session, the General Assembly of the United Nations approved a resolution provisionally designating 1970 as International Education Year, and a letter was sent to UNESCO expressing the hope that it would assume primary responsibility for the preparation of the programme of activities. UNESCO was to co-ordinate the activities agreed upon by the various agencies of the United Nations in that field.

The decision had been taken in the light of the fact that between the end of the Second World War and 1968, there had been as many as 100 wars and armed conflicts in the world, in Europe, the Near and Middle East, North Africa, the Far East, South Asia, Africa and South America. In 1967, world expenditure on education was \$127,869 million, in other words 5.2 per cent of gross domestic product, while \$180,682 million, or 7.3 per cent of gross domestic product, was spent on armaments.

Other activities in the field of education during the biennium related to educational buildings, improvement of the status of teachers, studies of school curriculum at the international level, support for the conduct of educational programmes and the promotion of new techniques in education, and the signature of a new agreement with the Government of Mexico on the Latin American Educational Film Institute (ILCE).

4. The Prize was awarded for the last time in 1978.

NATURAL SCIENCES

From 1 January 1967 onwards, the training of teachers for technical education, which had come under the Science Sector, was transferred to the Education Sector.

The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations decided to draw up a world plan of action to strengthen the application of science and technology to development from the standpoint of human needs as a whole, and UNESCO consequently took this decision into account in its programme.

At the end of 1967, 27 Member States had agreed to participate in the biology pilot project in Africa. Meetings were held at Prague and in Ghana, and UNESCO provided material worth \$11,000.

The mathematics pilot project in the Arab States began in June 1967 with a survey of school mathematics in various Arab countries.

From 11 to 13 October 1967, the second meeting of the Consultative Committee on Seismology and Earthquake Engineering was held at UNESCO Headquarters. It reviewed the action taken since 1965, and put forward recommendations regarding the future activities of UNESCO.

The activities of the International Hydrological Decade, which had begun on 1 January 1965, continued, and some very commendable results were achieved. UNESCO also made a very active contribution to encouraging international oceanographic co-operation.

In August 1968 the first Conference of Ministers for the Application of Science and Technology to the Development of Asia (CASTASIA) was convened. The Conference took place at New Delhi.

From 4 to 13 September 1968 the Intergovernmental Conference of Experts on the Scientific Basis for Rational Use and Conservation of the Resources of the Biosphere was held at UNESCO Headquarters. It was attended by 238 scientists from various countries and 88 observers from different organizations. This conference may be seen as the starting point for the Man and the Biosphere programme.

In March of the same year, the Symposium on Brain Research and Human Behaviour was held at Headquarters; this was to be the beginning of a new research programme on the brain and its application to the behavioural sciences.

With respect to oceanography, a Marine Biological Centre for South-East Asia was established at the University of Singapore under an agreement signed on 18 March 1968 between UNESCO and the Government of Singapore.

From 9 to 13 December 1968, the International Conference on Trends in the Teaching and Training of Engineers took place at UNESCO Headquarters, with 280 participants. Previously (28 and 29 May), an expert meeting had been held at Lausanne (Switzerland) on trends in the teaching of engineering.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

An important activity during this biennium was the struggle against racism, which had occupied a prominent place in UNESCO's programme for the past 20 years. In September 1967, 18 specialists in the social sciences, genetics and law adopted an important Statement on Race and Racial Prejudice which reaffirmed, with added emphasis on social and economic factors, the more strictly biological declarations of earlier years.

It is important to note the publication of a book in English and French entitled *Apartheid: Its Effects on Education, Science, Culture and Communication*.

Other activities during this biennium were assistance to Member States in the development and improvement of their institutions for social science teaching, the teaching of international law, basic and applied research in the social sciences, human rights, the economic, social and cultural problems of newly-independent countries, the economic and social consequences of disarmament, peace research, the problem of the 'brain drain', and assistance through the regional co-operation centres.

CULTURE

UNESCO had in recent years been encouraging the idea of 'cultural policy', in other words action by governments which treated culture as part of the over-all life of society. In this respect, the results of the Round-Table on Cultural Policies in the Modern World, held in Monaco from 18 to 22 December 1967, were extremely encouraging.

Another approach which was rapidly gaining ground was 'cultural tourism', approved for the first time by the Executive Board at its 72nd session (Budapest, May 1966), which consisted in making the preservation of the cultural heritage part of development and aid to development through the medium of tourism.

In 1967 a new programme for the study of cultures was initiated, designed to continue the results of the Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values. The evaluation of the Project by the Secretariat was published in July 1968.

With regard to the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, which had been initiated by the Director-General's appeal of 8 March 1960, a considerable amount of work had been done with the assistance of international experts throughout the area which was to be submerged. The archaeological excavations were conducted by more than 40 missions sent by 20 countries, and 20 temples, some of them very important ones such as the one at Kalabcha, had been moved. The Abu Simbel temples, completely rebuilt, were opened on 22 September 1968. There remained Philae, to save which the Director-General again sought the generosity of Member States by issuing a new appeal on 6 November 1968.

With the opening of Arab-Israeli hostilities (5 June 1967), the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict was applied for the first time. Two Commissioners-General were appointed, one on either side, and everything proceeded in accordance with the terms of the Convention.

The work on the transcription of African languages continued, and by 1968 nine such languages had been transcribed: Bambara, Hausa, Kanuri, Kirundi, Fulani, Sango, Somali, Songhai-Djerma and Tamashek. A second phase was to be the study of African languages as vehicles of culture, and in April 1968 an expert meeting was held at UNESCO Headquarters to prepare grammars, dictionaries and reading material in these languages.

In 1968 the sixth and final volume (the 20th century) of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* appeared in English and French.

Among other cultural activities, mention may be made of the studies of the civilizations of the peoples of Central Asia, the development of Oriental studies in Latin America, the theatre and cinema in Arab culture, the preservation and presentation of cultural property, monuments and sites of artistic and historical interest, the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage in connection with the promotion of tourism, and translation of representative classical works and contemporary authors.

COMMUNICATION

Development of book production in the developing countries and promotion of the use of space communication to further UNESCO's aims⁵ were two issues to which special emphasis was given during the biennium.

With regard to the space programme, the book *Communication in the Space Age. The Use of Satellites by the Mass Media* and a study entitled *Communication Satellites for Education, Science and Culture* were published, both in English and French.

In June 1967 the fourth training course for librarians concluded at the Dakar Regional Centre, and direct financial assistance from UNESCO also came to an end on that date. In the future, specialists would be sent.

The ceremonial laying of the foundation stone of Auroville,⁶ of the construction of which the UNESCO General Conference had taken note at its fourteenth session (1966), took place on 28 February 1968, attended by representatives of 75 countries and an audience of more than 15,000.

5. Since 1968, 17 May has been International Telecommunication Day to commemorate the signature of the International Telegraph Convention by representatives of 20 European countries on 17 May 1865.
6. 'The City of Joy'. It took its name from the Indian philosopher Sri Aurobindo (15 August 1872-5 December 1950).

In July 1967, editions of the *UNESCO Courier* were launched in India in Hindi (produced in New Delhi) and in Tamil (in Madras), and in August 1968 publication of the Hebrew edition began in Israel, bringing the number of languages in which the review was published to 11: Arabic, English, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish and Tamil.⁷

The General Assembly of the United Nations had proclaimed 1968 as the International Year of Human Rights (20 years after the Universal Declaration), and a review of activity to promote those rights was called for. Where UNESCO was concerned, intellectual activity in 1968 took the form of an interesting expert meeting on the right to participate in the cultural life of the community, and of the publication, under the title *Birthright of Man*, of an anthology of texts drawn from different eras and countries which showed the perennial nature and universality of the great human aspirations of freedom, justice, social rights, the primacy of law, etc. The book had been prepared by the Secretariat under the leadership of Mrs. Jeanne Hersh, Director of the Division of Philosophy.

HEADQUARTERS

Work on the construction of the new building at the intersection of Boulevard Garibaldi and rue Miollis began on 1 July 1967. Consultations followed with the French Government concerning an additional building in the same area or the total reconstruction of the Headquarters on a prestige site located along the Seine (the Bercy renovation zone).

MEMBER STATES

Five countries signed the Constitution in the course of the biennium, two in 1967 and three in 1968, bringing the number of Member States to 125.

THE FIFTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

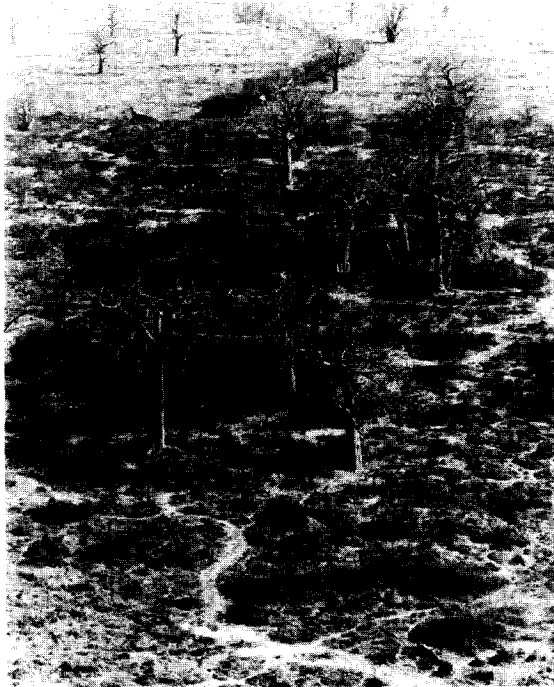
The fifteenth session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters in Paris from 15 October to 20 November 1968.

It was attended by representatives of 125 Member States and two Associate Members, three observers from non-Member States, seven observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 18 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 98 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

7. The English, French and Spanish editions were published at UNESCO Headquarters.



Scaffolding for the restoration of the Ponte Vecchio in Florence (Italy).



An ecological nightmare: desertification.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. William Eteki-Mboumoua (Cameroon) as President, with one representative of each of the following 15 countries as Vice- Presidents: Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ghana, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, New Zealand, Somalia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Reports Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Bedrettin Tuncel (Turkey) as President of the General Conference at its fourteenth session. He welcomed those present and made a moving statement in memory of some who had died, including Mr. Julien Kuypers, Head of the Belgian delegation at the session which had established UNESCO, in London in 1945, and member of the Executive Board for eight years, and Mr. Lourival Gomes Machado, who had died at Milan during a mission to Italy in connection with the UNESCO campaign for Florence and Venice.

He then referred to the award of the 1967 Gold Medal by the Ibero-American Education Bureau; the medal had been presented to the Director-General at Headquarters by the Board of Governors of the Office, the Secretary of which had since 1964 been Mr. Rodolfo Barón Castro, a former Chairman of the Executive Board of UNESCO. He also thanked the Finnish Government for the donation of a monument erected in the gardens of the fourth building at Headquarters in memory of the great composer Jean Sibelius and inaugurated on 21 September 1967.

He referred to a number of the Organization's programmes, emphasizing the Experimental World Literacy Programme, in which high hopes were placed, and welcomed the message from His Holiness Pope Paul VI relating to the celebration on 1 January 1968 of a Day of Peace throughout the world.

The next speaker was Mr. dell'Oro Maini, Chairman of the Executive Board; he remarked that while the fourteenth session had been devoted to the theme of the Organization's twentieth anniversary, the fifteenth session was being held in 1968, the year devoted to human rights. Just the week before, the Nobel Peace Prize had been awarded to Mr. René Cassin, author of the first draft of the Universal Declaration. 'Human rights which are', he said, 'unfortunately and all too frequently disregarded, if not actually violated and mocked'. He then referred to the documents the General Conference was called upon to consider, and expressed the hope that 'its work will receive a hearing beyond the walls of our austere meeting rooms'.

This session of the General Conference dealt, among other things, with the following issues.

Education

The Director-General was authorized to advise Member States with a view to the framing of a global strategy for education for the Second Development Decade, to undertake studies designed to define the content, significance and scope of the concept of life-long education; to intensify his efforts to eliminate legal or practical inequalities which obstructed the access of women to education at all levels and in all forms; to carry out a programme of studies on special education for handicapped children and young people, to provide educational services within United Nations programmes for refugees; to continue support for the Latin American Educational Film Institute (ILCE) in Mexico, with an indication that UNESCO assistance would not be extended beyond 1972; to continue activities to promote new methods and modern technology in education, especially in the use of programmed instruction and educational radio and television; to pursue the efforts of the Organization for the comparability and equivalence of degrees and diplomas, to extend the Associated Schools Project; to continue the operations of the Regional Centres ASFEC and CREFAL, with an indication that UNESCO assistance to both would not be extended beyond 1972; and to assist the International Literacy Methods Centre (Teheran), to which UNESCO assistance would continue until 1978; to continue to implement and extend the Experimental World Literacy Programme; and to provide assistance to Member States in educational planning and administration.

The General Conference decided to undertake new activities for and with youth in order to help analyse and explain youth problems and phenomena.

In addition, in view of the approval of the draft agreement for the transfer to UNESCO of the resources and functions of the International Bureau of Education, the Director-General was instructed to provide for the functioning of the Bureau in conformity with its Statutes, and to cover its expenditure, which should not exceed \$500,000 in the biennium 1969-1970.

Natural sciences

Member States were invited to establish and develop national and regional scientific and technical information services, to promote coherent national science policies, to develop national programmes for research and the training of specialists and technicians in the environmental sciences (geology, geophysics, geochemistry, soil sciences, geomorphology, ecology, hydrology and oceanography, for example) and to participate in international co-operative programmes such as the International Hydrological Decade.

The Director-General was authorized to assist Member States in the formulation of national scientific and technological policies, to continue co-operating with intergovernmental organizations active in the field of science and technology, especially those of the United Nations system, to encourage the access of

women to scientific and technological careers, to continue publishing the review *Impact of Science on Society*, to seek to increase the machinery which would enable developing countries to cope with the problem of the migration of qualified scientific personnel, to continue to promote international co-operation in scientific and technical documentation and information, to provide assistance to the regional centres established by UNESCO or with its assistance, to continue assisting IBRO and ICLO and to co-operate with the International Council of Scientific Unions within the framework of its International Biological Programme, to promote and improve higher technical and engineering education, to encourage the development of agricultural education with the assistance of the ILO/FAO/UNESCO Advisory Committee on Agricultural Education, Science and Training, and to accept the financial and material assets of the International Relief Union, which had been transferred to UNESCO.

Social sciences

Member States were invited to promote or strengthen learned societies concerned with philosophy, human sciences and social sciences, to encourage the development of those sciences, to assist the activities of regional social science training and research centres, to ensure the application of the rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to observe the period 2 October 1968–2 October 1969 as the Gandhi Centenary Year by arranging conferences and symposiums, publishing selected writings of Gandhi in their own languages and participating in the international Gandhi Darshan exhibition to be held in India from 2 October 1969 to 22 February 1970, to republish in English, in 1969, the selection of Gandhi's writings published by UNESCO in 1958 under the title *All Men are Brothers* and to assist its publication in 1969 in other languages.

The Director-General was authorized to continue to publish the *International Social Science Journal*, to promote the development of research in the social sciences, to undertake and encourage activities to counteract discrimination on grounds of race, sex, nationality, religion, language, cultural characteristics or economic or social conditions, and to examine man's role in changing his environment, within a new programme of studies on the theme of 'Man and his environment: design for living'.

Culture

Member States were invited to assist in the establishment or strengthening of national committees of international non-governmental organizations in the field of culture, particularly in the developing countries, to promote the development of art education at all educational levels, to ensure the protection and preservation of cultural property, to prohibit the purchase of objects recovered from unlawful excavations, to develop their museums as centres for documentation, research, conservation and cultural action, and to participate in the International

Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia and the International Campaign to Restore the Cultural Property Damaged by Floods in Florence and Venice.

The Director-General was authorized to continue or undertake various studies on Eastern cultures, to promote the conservation and development of cultural property, to stimulate the preservation of the cultural heritage as part of development, to promote the improvement of museums, to continue assistance to the Regional Pilot Centre in Jos for training museum technicians for African countries until the end of 1970 and to the Regional Latin American Centre for the Study of the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Mexico) until the end of 1976, and to continue the International Campaign for Florence and Venice and the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, making in the latter context a solemn appeal to Member States to save the monuments of the island of Philae.

Communication

Member States were invited to promote the free flow of information and international exchanges in line with the measures approved at recent General Conferences, to encourage research on the influence of mass communication media on the formation of public opinion in a spirit of peace and mutual understanding, to plan national documentation, library and archive services so as to develop an information system that could be integrated into the long-range plans for educational, scientific, cultural, social and economic development, and to supply the Director-General with statistics related to education, science, culture and information.

The Director-General was authorized to prepare reports and papers on the free flow of information and international exchanges; to publish *Study Abroad* and *Vacations Abroad, Courses and Study Tours*; to gather and circulate information and to promote studies and research on the use of space communication; to promote and undertake studies and research on the role, current state and effects of the media of mass communication in modern society and to stimulate and assist the development of national mass communication services in conformity with UNESCO's aims; to promote the development of book production and distribution, particularly in developing countries; to continue until the end of 1969 the pilot project for the production and testing of audio-visual materials and equipment for adult education, being conducted in co-operation with the Government of Senegal; to continue publishing the *UNESCO Courier* and *UNESCO Chronicle*; to publish in the form of a two-year calendar a list of the anniversaries of great personalities and events in the fields of education, science and culture reported by Member States; to operate or assist pilot projects in documentation, library and archive services; and to assist Member States in the training of documentation specialists, librarians and archivists.

The General Conference invited Member States and international non-

governmental organizations to participate in the development of Auroville as an international cultural township. It also invited the professional organizations and agencies concerned to introduce a code of ethics relating to the press, radio and television broadcasts and films designed for children.

Appointment of the Director-General

The appointment of the Director-General took place at the ninth plenary meeting (19 October), given that the term of office of Mr. René Maheu, elected at the twelfth session of the General Conference (1962) for a six-year period was ending on that date. After the requisite vote, Mr. Maheu was elected for a further six-year term.

The Executive Board

At its fifteenth session, the General Conference elected 19 members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Gian Franco Pompei (Italy) being elected to that office.

On an experimental basis, a system of five electoral groups was established into which Member States would be classified for purposes of elections to the Executive Board. The groups were: I: Western Europe and the United States of America, Canada, Australia and Israel, nine posts; II: Eastern Europe, three posts; III: Latin America and the Caribbean, six posts; IV: Asia, five posts; V: Africa and the Arab States: eleven posts.

Headquarters

The General Conference recalled the measures taken to date with a view to undertaking the construction of the fifth building, and invited the Director-General to continue with the execution of the project so that the new building could be brought into service in 1970. As an interim solution, it was agreed to accept the offer of the French Government to place at the Organization's disposal a plot of land in the vicinity of the fifth building in the Garibaldi-Miollis zone. As a long-term solution, it was decided to ask the French Government to provide, before 31 December 1969, information on the development plan for the Bercy zone and its surroundings.

Other decisions

The following decisions, among others, were taken:

1. To proceed with an analysis of the activities conducted in relation to the United Nations Development Decade;
2. To co-operate actively with the World Food Programme;
3. To increase the number of members of the Executive Board to 34 and change their term of office to a single six-year term without immediate re-eligibility;

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4. To expedite the progressive use of Arabic as a working language, as indicated and proposed at the fourteenth General Conference;
 5. To approve the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property endangered by Public or Private Works;
 6. To hold the next session in Paris from 12 October 1970;
 7. To approve for the biennium 1969-1970 a budget of \$77,413,500.

1969–1972

The biennium 1969–1970

THE SECRETARIAT

On 29 January 1970 Mr. Mahdi Elmandjara (Morocco) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for the Sector of Social Sciences, Human Sciences and Culture, and on 28 February Mr. Tor Gjesdal (Norway) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for the Communication Sector. Mr. Richard Hoggart (United Kingdom) and Mr. Alberto Obligado (Argentina), respectively, were appointed to replace them.

On 15 September 1969 Mr. Adriano Buzzati-Traverso (Italy) was appointed Assistant Director-General for the Sector of Natural Sciences and Their Application to Development, and on 1 April 1970 Mr. Vladimir Erofeev (USSR) was appointed Assistant Director-General for Administration. For the Education Sector, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow (Senegal) was appointed Assistant Director-General on 24 November 1970, on the departure of Mr. C. Flexa Ribeiro (Brazil).

On 31 December 1970 the Deputy Director-General, Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah (India), retired.

The Director-General visited 27 countries to attend high-level meetings or contact the respective Governments.

Within the Secretariat, the Director-General established a round table composed of staff members elected by their colleagues to study the management of the Secretariat, including human relations within the Organization.

EDUCATION

In 1970 the Experimental World Literacy Programme involved 19 countries, and included 11 projects supported by UNDP. The concept of functional literacy was gaining ground, asserting itself and obtaining support both from govern-

ments and from non-governmental quarters, more particularly in the private sector of the economy.

Nevertheless, project execution faced certain administrative, psychological or operational difficulties. Accordingly the Director-General called, at the beginning of December 1969, a meeting of national project directors, chief technical advisers, members of the Evaluation Panel, a number of experts and representatives of UNDP. The meeting made a series of recommendations for improving project execution.

As the agency responsible at the technical level for the UNRWA Education Programme, UNESCO supplied the schools in the Gaza Strip, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria with the administrative staff and teaching personnel they needed. In 1969 204,700 pupils (46 per cent of them girls) were attending the classes given in primary and preparatory schools by 5,790 teachers. In the same year 18,400 pupils were attending secondary schools supported by UNRWA, while 10,265 students of both sexes had obtained scholarships to continue their studies at universities and other higher educational institutions. The problem of textbooks was being satisfactorily resolved through the Director-General's negotiations with the governments concerned. The Director-General himself travelled in August 1969 to Jerusalem and Amman to determine how the recommendations of the Committee of Experts could be implemented.

From 12 to 20 January 1970 the third Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in the Arab States was held in Marrakech (Morocco). The principal topic discussed at the Conference was the expansion and democratization of education.

UNESCO received more requests than in previous years for assistance to projects for the education of women. An expert meeting was held in Kuwait in November 1969 on access by girls and women to technical and vocational education in the Arab States. Its recommendations were submitted to the Conference of Ministers mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

On 30 October 1970, a ceremony was held at UNESCO Headquarters in tribute to the memory of the outstanding Italian teacher Maria Montessori, on the occasion of the centenary of her birth.

1970 had been proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations as International Education Year, and UNESCO co-ordinated the activities of the various agencies while also carrying out its own broad programme of activities.

The basic objective of the Year was to provoke innovative thinking about education. The Director-General of UNESCO defined it as 'a promotion campaign – promotion of ideas, of activities and of standards'.

As at 31 December 1970, 114 countries had informed UNESCO of the programmes carried out. The number of projects amounted to 1,604, at all levels from adult literacy to university education. Emphasis should be placed on the importance attached to life-long education, which was the central objective of

many activities. UNESCO publications on the occasion of the International Year included the book by Paul Lengrand *An Introduction to Life-long Education*, and throughout the year the *International Education Year Bulletin* was published in English, French and Spanish.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The Intersecretariat Committee on Scientific Programmes Relating to Oceanography, composed of representatives of the United Nations, UNESCO, FAO, IMO and the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization, was established to co-ordinate the programmes of participating organizations. The first meeting took place at UNESCO Headquarters on 28 and 29 August 1969.

The International Oceanographic Commission (IOC) continued to sponsor scientific research and promote oceanographic services. The Integrated Global Ocean Station System had been established in collaboration with IMO.

IOC, the Secretariat of which was provided by UNESCO, was co-ordinating research programmes such as the Co-operative Investigations in the Mediterranean, which began in 1969, the Co-operative Investigations of the Tropical Atlantic in which 13 vessels from eight different countries had conducted 36 research cruises in 1963 and 1964, and the long-term study of the Kuroshio, a current which plays the same role in the Pacific as the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic.

From 8 to 16 December 1969, the Mid-decade conference of the International Hydrological Decade was held at UNESCO Headquarters to consider the practical and scientific results of the Decade since the establishment of the Co-ordinating Council in 1964.

From 8 to 16 December 1969, the first session of the Joint FAO/UNESCO/ILO Advisory Committee on Agricultural Education, Science and Training took place at UNESCO Headquarters, and reviewed the activities of the three organizations. Its final report gave guidance regarding the development and execution of their respective programmes, as well as the necessary co-ordination. From 2 to 5 September of the same year, UNESCO held at its Headquarters, in collaboration with the International Union for Quaternary Research, a symposium on the origin of *Homo sapiens*, attended by 150 scientists from 34 countries.

As they had habitually done since their establishment, the various regional offices (Nairobi, Montevideo, Cairo, Jakarta and New Delhi) conducted intensive work through courses, symposia, seminars, meetings and publications.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

New activities were embarked upon in this field, such as the teaching of the management sciences, research on youth, social aspects of issues relating to man

and his environment, human aggressiveness, rural development and the role of the social sciences in development planning.

The most striking action was taken on ethical issues: it took the form of two important expert meetings at UNESCO Headquarters, one in July 1969 on UNESCO's role in developing research on peace problems, and another in December of the same year on the role of the mass media in a multiracial society.

From 14 to 17 October 1969, a symposium took place at Headquarters on 'Truth and non-violence in Gandhi's humanism', attended by 21 experts.

The Secretariat co-operated with the National Commission of Czechoslovakia in 1970 to commemorate the three-hundredth anniversary of the death of Comenius, and an expert meeting at Prague in that year discussed the topic 'Comenius and the Reform of Human Affairs'.

Preparation of the *International Study on the Main Trends of Research in the Social and Human Sciences* continued, and the first part was completed for publication in 1970. The second was to appear in 1971.

CULTURE

In September 1969 the International Commission for a History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind, assigned by UNESCO in 1950 to prepare, co-ordinate and monitor the drafting of the History, was dissolved on the successful completion of its work, and publication of the *Journal of World History* continued.

The work on the relocation and reconstruction of the Abu Simbel temples having been completed in September 1968, it remained for the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia only to preserve the temples on the island of Philae, located between the two Aswan dams. All the monuments had to be dismantled and reconstructed on a neighbouring island of higher elevation. The work was expected to begin in the spring of 1971.

The International Campaign for the Restoration of Cultural Property Damaged by Floods in Florence and Venice had two International Committees, appointed by the Director-General in agreement with the Government of Italy. The committees met for the first time, one in Florence and the other in Venice, in July 1969.

UNESCO organized an Intergovernmental Conference on the Institutional, Administrative and Financial Aspects of Cultural Policies; it was held in Venice from 24 August to 2 September 1970, and was attended by representatives of 88 countries.

In June 1970 the project on the *General History of Africa* entered the drafting phase following an expert meeting held in Addis Ababa. The meeting laid down the drafting principles for an eight-volume synoptic publication, and drew up the publication schedule.

The International Music Council organized, with financial support from UNESCO, a meeting of the International Rostrum of Composers, dealing with Western music, which was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 27 to 31 May 1969. Similarly, the Council organized a Rostrum of Oriental Music at UNESCO Headquarters from 27 to 29 May. It featured Indian, Japanese and Korean musical works.

COMMUNICATION

The first meeting of Governmental Experts on International Arrangements in the Space Communication Field was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 2 to 9 December 1969. It was attended by experts from 60 countries, who requested that studies should be conducted of the social and cultural impact of the use of space communication.

A mission from UNESCO, together with experts from FAO and ILO, visited India to study the establishment of an educational television system involving the use of ground stations and the transmission of programmes by telecommunication satellites, on an experimental basis, starting in 1973–1974.

The International Advisory Committee on Documentation, Libraries and Archives met at UNESCO Headquarters from 19 to 22 August 1969.

As evidence of the progress made in the field of news agencies in Africa, it may be pointed out that in 1950 there had been only one, whereas in 1970 the number had risen to 27.

The *UNESCO Chronicle* continued to appear in four editions, in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

The Iranian National Commission for UNESCO launched an edition of the *UNESCO Courier* in Persian, bringing the number of languages in which the review was published to 12 in the biennium. The total printing averaged over 400,000 copies a month.

A number of productions were completed and distributed to television companies and depositaries of UNESCO films in Member States, among them *More than Fair*, a television programme on women's access to education, *Venice in Peril*, on the international campaign to save that city, and *Turning Point*, a film on International Education Year.

HEADQUARTERS

The opening ceremony of the fifth building (corner of Garibaldi-Miollis) took place on 17 March 1970, attended by the President of the French Republic, Mr. Georges Pompidou. The work of the French architect Bernard Zehruss, it had nine floors above street level and two below-ground floors giving access to four landscaped patios.

In the main entrance patio, a walking figure by the Swiss sculptor Alberto Giacometti and an abstract steel sculpture by the Spanish artist Eduardo Chillida had been erected. Two composite works by the Venezuelan Soto, consisting of coloured rods and a rotating element, were installed in the vestibule. A large mural by the American Ellsworth Kelly was placed in the main meditation room.

The Director-General drew up a plan for the occupancy of the Headquarters premises, and it was decided to transfer to the new building the Bureau of Relations with Member States, the Bureau of Relations with International Organizations and Programmes, the Bureau of Personnel, the Bureau of the Comptroller, and the Commissary. The non-governmental organization offices from rue Franklin, the United Nations Information Centre and the Permanent Delegations, the number of which had risen from 58 to 68, were also transferred to the new building.

THE SIXTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The sixteenth session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters in Paris from 12 October to 14 November 1970.

It was attended by representatives of 124 Member States and two Associate Members, two representatives of non-Member States, seven representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 16 representatives of intergovernmental organizations and 114 representatives of international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Attilio dell'Oro Maini (Argentina) as President, with one delegate of each of the following 15 countries as Vice-Presidents: Canada, Ecuador, Federal Republic of Germany, France, India, Jamaica, Japan, Madagascar, Nigeria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The Conference established the Programme Commission and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Eteki-Mboumoua (Cameroon) as President of the General Conference at its fifteenth session. He referred to the opening of the fifth Headquarters building, at which he had been present, and paid tribute to the host country which had donated the land for the construction. He referred to the death of the President of the United Arab Republic, Gamal Abdel Nasser, who, he said, 'belonged to the race of men who give a new direction to history, if not actually make it'. He went on to refer to the International Symposium organized by UNESCO in collaboration with the Indian National Commission, from 14 to 17 October 1969, to mark the centenary of the birth of Gandhi, and mentioned also International Education Year, currently being cel-

ebred in 1970, which was also the year of the Second United Nations Development Decade, and expressed the hope that the sixteenth session of the General Conference would fall into step with the ‘cultural revolution’ which was taking place, not because that revolution was ‘the door of some lost paradise’ but because it was ‘the great project of building a society of men who are free subjects where before they were merely objects’.

The next speaker was Mr. Gian Franco Pompei (Italy), Chairman of the Executive Board, who referred to the fact that the date (12 October) coincided with that of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, and expressed his support, together with that of the delegations present from that vast continent, for the celebration of that anniversary. He indicated his satisfaction at the contribution made by the Executive Board to the preparation of the future programme described in document 16C/4, the Long-term Outline Plan, which was to be considered by the General Conference.

The Director-General then took the floor to express his satisfaction at being able to convey his greetings to the representatives of the United Nations in the year marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Charter signed at San Francisco on 26 June 1945, and said that UNESCO’s collaboration within the United Nations was increasingly active and was directed in the first place towards the developing countries.

He referred to the Draft Programme and Budget for 197–1972 (document 16C/5) and to the Draft Long-term Outline Plan (16C/4), which, he said, marked an important and significant phase in the onward march of UNESCO.

He asked everyone to bear in mind that the principal objective of the Organization, as stated in its Constitution, was ‘to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture’.

The Conference elected 15 members of the Executive Board, and also elected its Chairman, Mr. Prem N. Kirpal (India) being appointed to that office.

At this session, the General Conference discussed the following issues, among others.

Education

Member States were invited to continue the activities carried out during International Education Year and, during the first quarter of 1971, to make an initial assessment of what had been achieved; to pay attention to both the theoretical and the practical aspects of life-long education and to allocate funds to the various forms of education of which it was composed; to develop appropriate worldwide educational and information programmes on drug abuse; to take appropriate measures to restrict the encouragement of foreign scientists to leave, or not return to, their countries; and to provide the Director-General with information on that subject.

The Director-General was authorized to make an inventory of the experience gained during International Education Year in order to clarify the objectives and methods of life-long education; to strengthen moral and civic education, with emphasis on its contribution to international co-operation and understanding, respect for human rights and human dignity and the ideals of peace; to introduce into curricula instruction concerning the United Nations and its specialized agencies; to promote the introduction of appropriate innovations for the development of school education as a part of life-long education, to undertake activities relating to the development and improvement of higher education; to make information available on the experience gained in functional literacy and to develop the Experimental World Literacy Programme; and to continue his support for regional centres, especially ASFEC and CREFAL, after 1972.

The General Conference drew attention to the value of celebrating in 1980 a second International Education Year to examine achievements during the Second Development Decade in the field of education. It also unanimously approved the establishment of the European Centre for Higher Education at Bucharest.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was authorized to continue to assume joint responsibility for a four-year period (1971–1974) with the International Atomic Energy Agency for the operation of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, to continue publishing the quarterly *Impact of Science on Society*, to promote, in co-operation with FAO and ILO, the development of agricultural education and the agricultural sciences; to contribute to the implementation of the International Biological Programme; to promote the study of geophysical phenomena underlying natural disasters; and to take appropriate measures to carry out the recommendations concerning the practical and scientific results of the International Hydrological Decade.

The General Conference decided to launch a long-term intergovernmental and interdisciplinary programme on Man and the Biosphere, focusing on the general study of the structure and functioning of the biosphere and its ecological regions, on observation of the changes brought about by man in the biosphere and its resources, on the study of the effects of those changes on the human species, and on the education that should be provided on those subjects. An International Co-ordinating Council for the Programme was established, and a group of 25 countries was designated for membership in it, to be elected by the General Conference at each of its regular sessions. The statutes of the Council were also approved.

With regard to the Co-ordinating Council of the International Hydrological Decade, established by the General Conference at its thirteenth session, the decision was taken to increase the number of its members from 21 to 30. It was also agreed to amend the Statutes of the International Oceanographic Commission.



The Rabat Press Agency in Morocco.

Social sciences

The Director-General was authorized to promote co-operation between research workers in the fields of philosophy, human sciences and social sciences, to continue publication of the quarterly *International Social Science Journal*, to promote social science teaching and research, to provide aid to the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (Tangier) until the end of 1974 and to the European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences (Vienna) until the end of 1972, and to promote and assist the application of the social sciences to development, to the problems of human rights and peace, and to human and environmental and population problems.

Culture

The Director-General was authorized to give UNESCO's cultural programme a new balance so that the concepts of cultural development and cultural policy would form the nucleus around which future programmes were to be organized; to ensure the publication of the first volumes of the *General History of Africa*; to promote new types of art education and train creative artists capable of responding to the needs of mankind in a rapidly changing society; to promote, among other activities, co-operation with the relevant centres, institutes and councils in each case; to continue publication of the quarterly *Museum*; to assist Member States in the preservation and presentation of sites, monuments and works of art of special significance; to mobilize international assistance to contribute to the preservation of Borobudur (Indonesia), Moenjodaro (Pakistan) and Philae (United Arab Republic); and to co-operate with the Italian authorities in the restoration of the cultural property damaged by the floods in 1966 in Florence and in the elaboration and execution of an over-all programme of preservation, restoration and cultural organization for the protection of Venice.

The General Conference endorsed the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies, held at Venice from 24 August to 2 September 1970, which had been attended by Ministers and government officials in charge of cultural policy from 87 countries.

It also examined the report of the Director-General on the work of the International Commission for a History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind following the completion of its task and the publication of the whole history in several languages. It expressed its satisfaction with the work produced and its gratitude to the Commission, its President Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro and all who had helped the Commission, dissolved on 8 September 1969, to carry out its task.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to take such steps as might be feasible within the budgetary provisions to promote the development of Auroville as an important international cultural programme.

Communication

Member States were invited to exchange information on the progress being made in the use of space communication in the fields of UNESCO's competence.

The Director-General was authorized to promote the application of the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation; to maintain the Regional Centre for Book Development in Asia in Karachi; to continue publication of the *UNESCO Chronicle* and the *UNESCO Courier*; to promote and co-ordinate research in relation to documentation, libraries and archives; and to continue the implementation of the experimental project on documentation services and libraries in Ceylon until the end of 1972, of the experimental project on school library services and the training of school librarians in Central America (Honduras) until the end of 1972 and of the experimental project on the development of archives in Africa (Ivory Coast) until 1975, and assistance to the East African School of Librarianship at Makerere University (Kampala) until the end of 1972.

The General Conference proclaimed 1972 as International Book Year and invited Member States to take all possible measures to make 1972 a national reading year and to encourage an appreciation, particularly among young people, of philosophy and literature by making books generally and cheaply available.

Other decisions

Mention may be made, among other things, of the following:

1. The decision that Grenada should enjoy the rights and assume the obligations resulting from its inclusion in the British Eastern Caribbean Group, Associate Member;
2. The tribute paid to Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah, Deputy Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Adiseshiah had been associated with the Secretariat since 1948;
3. The decisions to authorize the Director-General to participate in the activities of Member States, to supply executive officials (UNESCOPAS) to those States, and to co-operate with the United Nations Development Programme and with international and regional banks, with the United Nations Children's Fund and with the World Food Programme in activities under the UNESCO programme;
4. The decision to invite the Director-General to prepare document 17C/4, which was to be entitled 'Medium-term Outline Plan for 1973–1978', as well as the Draft Programme and Budget for 1973–1974. In that connection, the General Conference considered that document 16C/4 constituted an appropriate framework for the formulation of future programmes;
5. The expression of the General Conference's satisfaction at the proclaiming of the Second United Nations Development Decade starting from 1 January

- 1971, and its endorsement of the proposals submitted by the Director-General for that Decade (document 16 C/13);
6. The decision to recommend that the Director-General, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article VI of UNESCO's Constitution, should take all necessary measures for the appointment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible;
 7. The decision to take note with satisfaction of the inauguration of the fifth building in the Garibaldi-Miollis area, and also to approve the preliminary plan and estimate for the construction of the sixth building and the garage, at a maximum cost of \$10,500,000, and the project for alterations to Headquarters premises at a cost of \$1,590,000;
 8. The decision to hold the seventeenth session of the General Conference in Paris in 1972;
 9. The adoption of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;
 10. The approval of the Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Library Statistics;
 11. The approval for the biennium 1971–1972 of a budget of \$89,898,560.

The biennium 1971–1972

THE SECRETARIAT

On 1 January 1971 Mr. John E. Fobes (United States of America), who had been Assistant Director-General for Administration between 1964 and 1970, was appointed Deputy Director-General.

In 1971 the former Bureau of Relations with Member States (BMS) and the former Bureau of Relations with International Organizations and Programmes (RIO) were merged into the new Bureau of Relations with Member States and International Organizations and Programmes (RMO).

The Office of Management and Data Processing concerned itself especially with systems analysis, programming, and testing and operating the computer in relation to activities for which computer processing was scheduled for 1971–1972.

In 1971 there was a substantial increase (\$4,500,000, or 6 per cent more than envisaged), in the activities financed from extra budgetary resources. Another important development was the first country programming exercise in application of the new UNDP policy. The Secretariat drew up programmes for 47 countries (covering assistance for five years) to be submitted in 1972 to the UNDP Governing Council.

In 1971 there were 762 staff in the Professional and higher categories, 1,267 in the General Service category (a total of 2,029 at Headquarters) and 1,462 outside Headquarters (1,052 and 410 respectively).

In the course of the biennium, the Director-General visited 16 countries to take part in major international meetings or hold talks with the principal authorities in relation to activities of the Organization.

EDUCATION

In February 1971 the International Commission on the Development of Education was established, comprising seven members, one of them being its Chairman Mr. Edgar Faure. Their aim was to draw up a report after study, region by region, of strategies for the development of education systems, so that countries could derive inspiration for the planning of their own systems.

The report was submitted to the Director-General by Mr. Edgar Faure under cover of a letter dated 18 May 1972, and its title was *Learning to Be*. It comprised nine long chapters, and was published at the beginning of September that year. Its publication was one of the notable events of the year in relation to education. It gave a striking over-all picture of the state of education in the world, and drew attention to the need to seek solutions to the problems through innovative means, instead of merely carrying on with what had been done to date. Those in charge of education were invited to regard life-long education as 'the master concept for educational policies in the years to come'. The barriers between school and out-of-school education would have to be broken down in order to achieve a broadened and diversified education.

The projects under the World Experimental Literacy Programme were on the point of completion, and the time had come to take stock of them, in that the very concept of functional literacy had reached a critical point at which the need was apparent for a real integration of the educational process with the idea of life-long education, which was a source of inspiration for the movements of educational renewal. As in past years, International Literacy Day was celebrated in a large number of countries.

The Third International Conference on Adult Education (Tokyo, 25 July-7 August 1972) emphasized the need to expand and strengthen adult education, which was linked to the aims of educational innovation and democratization.

In relation to educational planning, a study was carried out of the educational objectives of 61 countries, together with resources and needs.

The Third Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia was held in Singapore from 31 May to 7 June 1971.

From 6 to 15 December 1971 the Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for the Promotion of Science and Technology in Relation to

Development in Latin America and the Caribbean took place at Carballada (Venezuela).

In January 1972, UNDP approved a regional project for assistance to the African liberation movements, to be implemented by UNESCO through the Organization of African Unity.

With assistance from UNDP and the co-operation of UNESCO, the National Centre for Educational Development and Research (CENIDE) was established in Madrid and opened in 1971.

In April 1971 the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control was established. UNESCO entered into contact with the Secretary-General of the Fund and initiated its own activities by means of savings effected on other programme activities.

The quarterly review *Prospects in Education* was launched in 1971 in English and French. Four issues appeared in 1972 in a format aimed at those responsible for education in all fields.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The Intergovernmental Conference for the Establishment of a World Science Information System (UNISIST), the objective of which was world-wide exchange of scientific and technical information, was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 4 to 8 October 1971. One of the aims of the programme was to prevent a widening of the technology gap between the industrialized countries and those of the third world.

From 19 to 28 October of the same year an expert meeting to prepare for the International Geological Correlation Programme was held, also at Headquarters. The report of the meeting reflected the purpose of the programme, which was to further man's knowledge of the nature of the earth and thus help his search for mineral and energy resources. It was recommended that Member States should establish national committees.

A third meeting of great interest was held at the same location and in the same year (9–19 November) and resulted in the effective launching of the Man and the Biosphere programme.

With regard to the International Hydrological Decade, the Bureau of the Co-ordinating Council met at UNESCO Headquarters on 24 and 25 April 1972, and in the same year there were eight meetings of working groups and expert groups. The programme continued to be the centre of UNESCO's activities in relation to hydrology.

Under the leadership of three eminent specialists in molecular biology, all of them Nobel Prize winners, a study and evaluation were conducted (September 1972) of the activities of the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO)

and the International Cell Research Organization (ICRO), and agreement was reached to continue co-operating actively in both fields.

The amended Statutes of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission entered into force after the extraordinary session of the Assembly held at UNESCO Headquarters in November 1971.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Analysis of human resources and work on demographic problems were transferred to the Department.

The Division of Philosophy, for its part, assumed responsibility for co-ordinating UNESCO's activities for the protection of human rights, including action against racism.

The comparative study of the organization and resources of the social sciences in six countries (the Arab Republic of Egypt, Belgium, Chile, Hungary, Nigeria and Sri Lanka) was completed and sent to press.

Direct assistance by UNESCO for the European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences (Vienna) ended in 1972. Nevertheless, contacts took place with a view to continuing the co-operation under contract on some topics.

In January 1972 assistance to the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (Tangiers) under the Regular Programme was terminated. The project continued with assistance from the United Nations and co-operation from UNESCO in relation to documentation and research.

FLACSO, established in Santiago, Chile, with UNESCO assistance in 1957, became a regional intergovernmental institution under an agreement which entered into force in June 1972. The first General Assembly of FLACSO, convened in Paris by the Chilean Government, was held at UNESCO Headquarters on 30 and 31 October 1972.

The General Assembly of the United Nations had proclaimed 1971 as the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and in order to consider its achievements UNESCO organized, from 22 to 26 March 1972, a round-table discussion at Headquarters on the topic 'Race and Society'.

CULTURE

Drafting of the *General History of Africa* was well under way, and two new studies were initiated, on Malay cultures and Oceanic cultures.

Work continued on the activities carried out since the early years of UNESCO to facilitate access by the public at large to intellectual and artistic activities: the programme of translations which made available representative classical works and contemporary authors from all over the world; the publication of art books,

reproductions and catalogues to publicize the various forms of artistic expression, collections of records on which many works of popular, traditional or contemporary music could be heard, and collections of slides.

In the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, the Philae project, the last phase of the operation, was well under way.

Assistance was going ahead for the conservation of Moenjodaro (Pakistan), Borobudur (Indonesia) and Bamiyan (Afghanistan), the projects for Florence and Venice and the project relating to Bali, the latter in the context of cultural tourism.

The journal *Museum* began to be published in a new format and a new graphic presentation, and preparations were made for the appearance in 1973 of the review *Cultures*, the successor to the *Journal of World History*.

UNESCO organized at Helsinki, from 19 to 28 June 1972, an Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Europe. It was also represented at the Fifth International Congress on Medieval Philosophy (Madrid, 5–12 September 1972) and the Symposium organized by the Council for Cultural Co-operation of the Council of Europe on 'Religion in History Textbooks' (Leuven, 18–23 September 1972).

In line with the decentralization policy, a Regional Adviser for Culture in Asia, based in Jakarta, was appointed on 1 July 1972, and on the same date the Regional Office in the Western Hemisphere (Havana) became the Regional Office for Culture for Latin America and the Caribbean).

COMMUNICATION

The space communication programme continued to arouse very keen interest, particularly on the part of developing countries. For example, a request for aid with a view to getting UNESCO to conduct a feasibility study for a regional system of educational television was put forward by a number of Member States in Latin America and was approved by UNDP in 1971.

Also with UNDP assistance, the first Centre for Book Development in Latin America was established in Colombia, and negotiations were initiated for the establishment of a similar centre in English-speaking Africa and one in French-speaking Africa.

125 Member States took part in International Book Year (1972), and many Heads of State participated in the commemorative ceremonies. The greater part of the activities comprised book fairs and exhibitions, as well as meetings and seminars on books.

The *UNESCO Courier* was published in 14 languages: Arabic, Dutch, English, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Tamil. The English, French and Spanish editions were published by the Secretariat.



Statue of Buddha, Borobudur (Indonesia).



On the 25th Anniversary of UNESCO the first five Directors-General of the Organization met each other. From left to right: Jaime Torres Bodet, Julian Huxley, René Maheu, Luther H. Evans and Vittorino Veronese.

The Universal Copyright Convention, approved on 6 September 1962, was revised at Paris on 24 July 1971.

HEADQUARTERS

It was not possible to begin work on the sixth building in 1972, because the site in its entirety could not be made available until April 1973.

The first phase of the plan for renovation of the Headquarters premises (construction of an annex to the conference building) was completed before the General Conference. The second phase (interior work) ended in May 1972 within the scheduled timetable. Thus new premises were available for the seventeenth General Conference, which made it possible, *inter alia*, to hold a number of important exhibitions during the session. The savings on the work amounted to \$40,000.

MEMBER STATES

In 1972 six further countries (including Bahrain and Qatar, which until that time had been Associate Members), signed the Constitution, bringing the number of Member States to 131.

As a result of its entry into the United Nations, the Government of the People's Republic of China became, from 29 October 1971, the only legitimate representative of China to UNESCO.

The Government of Portugal announced in June 1971 its withdrawal from UNESCO, which took effect on 31 December 1972.¹

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO

On 4 and 5 November 1971, various ceremonies were held in Paris to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of UNESCO. The formal meeting which took place at Headquarters was attended by the President of the French Republic, Mr. Georges Pompidou, the Lord Chancellor of the United Kingdom, Lord Hailsham, a personal representative of His Holiness Pope Paul VI, the President of the General Conference and the Chairman of the Executive Board, 66 Ministers from Member States, the Director-General and the four previous Directors-General, as well as representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

To mark the occasion, the Director-General had commissioned a group of eminent persons to write a book, which was published under the title *In the Minds of Men*.

1. Portugal became a Member State again on 11 September 1974.

From 10 to 21 November, an exhibition was held in the building of the French Radio and Television Organization (ORTF) in Paris, commemorating the anniversary and depicting the work of UNESCO over the past quarter of a century. It was very well attended and aroused much comment.

THE SEVENTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The seventeenth session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters in Paris from 17 October to 21 November 1972.

It was attended by representatives of 124 Member States and two Associate Members, two representatives of non-Member States, nine representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 16 representatives of intergovernmental organizations and 104 representatives of international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the General Conference consisted of Mr. Toru Hagiwara (Japan) as President, and one representative of each of the following 15 countries as Vice-Presidents: Central African Republic, Dahomey, Federal Republic of Germany, Honduras, India, People's Republic of China, Peru, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela and Zambia.

The General Conference established the Commission for Education, the Commission for Science, the Commission for Social Sciences, Humanities and Culture, the Commission for Communication and the Commission for General Programme Matters, as well as the Resolutions Committee, the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Headquarters Committee and the Administrative Commission.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Attilio dell'Oro Maini as President of the General Conference at its sixteenth session. He drew attention to the strengthening of UNESCO's universality through the presence of the authorities of the People's Republic of China, as a result of its recognition. He offered a tribute to distinguished collaborators who had died during the period between the two sessions, and in particular to Mrs. Luz Vieyra Méndez, Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, and requested a minute's silence in tribute to all of them.

He referred to the date of the holding of the General Conference, coinciding with the end of International Book Year, which he believed had been a success. It was also the first UNESCO General Conference since the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Organization's foundation, and he recalled what he termed a very felicitous expression of the Director-General, Mr. René Maheu, 'the civilization of the universal', an expression which had been taken up throughout the world as the Organization's distinctive slogan.

The next speaker was the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Kirpal. He referred to the increase in the number of Member States, which he saw as a very hopeful sign. He referred to the line, so often repeated, that appeared at the beginning of UNESCO's Constitution – 'Since wars begin . . .' – and asked whether UNESCO had achieved the goal embodied in those noble words. Unfortunately, he said, the answer was that it had not, but it could also be said that it had tried, and not altogether in vain.

He referred to the chaotic situation in the world, which was immersed in such problems as illiteracy, the population explosion, pollution of the environment, an inadequate protein diet and famine in certain areas, and referred to a volume of Chinese verse by Tu Fu, the translator of which into English had said:

No one else would have dared to sum up all human history, as he saw it, in six Chinese characters. . . . The six characters are: Blue, Smoke, War, White, Bones, Men, that is 'Blue is the smoke of war, white the bones of men.

Mr. Vittorio Winspeare Guicciardi, representing the Secretary-General of the United Nations, then read out a message from the Secretary-General which welcomed with satisfaction the study made by UNESCO's International Commission on the Development of Education, under the presidency of Mr. Edgar Faure (*Learning to Be*). He then referred to International Book Year in 1972. He commended the study made by UNESCO of apartheid and its effects on education, science, culture and information, as well as other activities, and concluded with the words 'Your Director, Mr. René Maheu, is in the front line of those who truly believe in the need to make still more vigorous and more coherent efforts to strengthen this system . . . the only way in which the agencies of the United Nations can attain maximum efficiency'.

The Conference elected 13 members of the Executive Board, and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Fuad Sarruf (Lebanon) being elected to that office.

This session of the General Conference dealt, among other things, with the following issues.

Education

The General Conference invited Member States to examine the guidelines and recommendations of the International Commission on the Development of Education, to contribute to the financing of the education programme operated jointly by UNRWA and UNESCO for Palestine refugees in the Near East, to take concrete measures to facilitate educational opportunity for foreign migrant workers and their children, to take the recommendations of the Third International Conference on Adult Education into account in their educational policies, and to inform the Director-General, before the eighteenth General Conference, of the measures they had taken to check the migration of talent.

The Director-General was authorized to include in the provisional agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the International Conference on Education an item concerning the examination of the results of the work carried out by Member States in connection with the report of the International Commission on the Development of Education; to take account in preparing future programmes of the problems of education as defined in the Commission's report; to promote international co-operation with regard to educational policies and planning by convening in 1973 a Regional Conference of Ministers of Education of European Member States and making preparations for another, in 1975, of the 25 least developed countries; to assist the Regional School Building Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City) until 1973; to pursue and undertake activities in primary and secondary education in the spirit of life-long education; and to give priority to all action aimed at eliminating illiteracy, preferably within the Experimental World Programme, and to promote evaluation and research activities in that field, the latter particularly through the International Institute for Adult Literacy Methods (Teheran), which was to continue receiving UNESCO support up until 1978.

The General Conference placed on record that the report of the International Commission on the Development of Education was not an official document of UNESCO, but the report of seven independent experts, published by UNESCO as an important contribution to the world-wide discussion on educational development, as well as to the Second Development Decade.

The Conference noted with regret UNDP's decision to discontinue its financial contribution to the CREFAL and ASFEC centres in 1973, and in view of the important work done by both centres expressed its desire that the UNDP authorities should reconsider that decision.

In addition, recalling resolution 2822 (XXVI) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, it recommended to the United Nations the establishment of an international university under the auspices of the United Nations.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was authorized to study the implications of science and technology for the life of man and human societies, to promote international and regional co-operation relating to policy-making in the field of science and technology and to convene in 1973 a conference of ministers of African Member States responsible for the application of science and technology to development; to provide secretariat services for the International Co-ordinating Council of the programme on Man and the Biosphere; to take appropriate measures for the continuation and completion of the International Hydrological Decade; to support the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission; and to promote the general advancement of marine science.

The General Conference recommended that the Director-General should give

priority attention to the needs of the 25 countries designated as least developed at the meeting of the Group of 77 held at Lima in 1971.²

It also decided to launch a long-term international programme on the transfer of scientific and technical information, to be known as the UNISIST Programme, and to that end established a Steering Committee, approved its Statutes, and elected 18 countries as members of the Committee for 1973–1974.

It also decided to undertake in 1975 a long-term intergovernmental programme in the field of hydrology, to be known as the International Hydrological Programme.

Social sciences

The Director-General was authorized to develop interdisciplinary co-operation by promoting international co-operation among research workers in philosophy and the humanities, in particular in collaboration with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies, to promote the institutional development of the social sciences, to encourage international co-operation in the social sciences and to promote the preparation of methods for their application to programmes in education, science, culture and communication.

Culture

The Conference recommended that Member States should base their policies for the preservation and development of national cultures on the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies (Venice, 1970), and that they should develop national and international tourism, bearing in mind the need to protect and safeguard indigenous cultures, monuments and historic sites.

The Director-General was authorized to promote better knowledge of Asian and Oceanic cultures, to promote the study of contemporary Arab culture, to publish the quarterly *Museum*, to organize programmes to train museum and monument specialists, especially from developing countries, to make a grant-in-aid to the Study Centre for the History of Art and Civilization of Ancient Egypt (Cairo) until 1974, and to carry out, in co-operation with international non-governmental organizations, operational projects to enlist the support of the younger generation for the conservation and preservation of Philae (Egypt), Borobudur (Indonesia), Venice (Italy), Mohenjo Daro (Pakistan), Bamiyan (Afghanistan) and Tabqa and Bosra (Syria).

In view of the interest of Belgium in establishing a European Cultural Centre, the General Conference recommended to Member States that they should

2. The Group of 77 took its name from the number of third world countries which acted in solidarity at the first United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Geneva in 1964.

use the services of that Centre for the research relating to cultural studies, cultural development and the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage.

Communication

Member States were once again invited to take all possible measures to ensure that the mass media were not used for war propaganda or on behalf of racism and hatred among nations, and to pursue the initiatives undertaken during International Book Year.

The Director General was authorized to continue publishing *Study Abroad*; to encourage the development of national news agencies so as to facilitate exchange in developing countries; to prepare for the eighteenth session of the General Conference a draft declaration concerning the fundamental principles governing the use of the mass media with a view to strengthening peace and international understanding and combating war propaganda, racism and apartheid; to give continuing attention to the suggestions for book development emerging from the regional meetings convened by UNESCO; to promote and co-ordinate research in the fields of documentation, libraries and archives and to promote the planning of those services as an integral part of national communication and infrastructures in support of development; and continue publishing the *UNESCO Courier* in English, French and Spanish and to arrange for the publication, under contracts and other arrangements, of editions in other languages.

On 15 November, the General Conference approved and proclaimed the Declaration of Guiding Principles on the Use of Satellite Broadcasting for the Free Flow of Information, the Spread of Education and Greater Cultural Exchange.

Other decisions

The following are some of the decisions taken by this session of the General Conference:

1. Amendment of Article V, paragraph 1, of the Constitution to replace the words 'thirty-four' by 'forty' (members of the Executive Board);
2. In view of the need of the Secretariat, Permanent Missions and NGOs for premises, the Director-General was authorized to arrange for the construction of the sixth building at a cost not exceeding 67 million francs;
3. The General Conference also agreed to express its gratitude to the Member States which had expressed their readiness to contribute to financing that project, and to invite the French Government to continue the search for long-term solutions, given that construction of the sixth building would meet the need for premises up to 1985;
4. The approval of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;

5. The approval of the Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and National Heritage;
6. Holding of the eighteenth session at Headquarters in Paris;
7. Approval of the budget for the biennium 1973–1974, amounting to \$119,954,000.

1973–1976

The biennium 1973–1974

THE SECRETARIAT

On 12 February 1973 the Government of the United States of America announced a 10% devaluation of the dollar, and from then onwards the variations in the rate of the dollar against the main foreign currencies, particularly the French franc, against which it fell from 5.01 to 4.05 francs, had a considerable effect on the UNESCO budget, to the point where the Executive Board, at its 93rd session, decided to summon an extraordinary session of the General Conference. This took place from 23 to 26 October, and will be discussed below.

On 1 January 1973 Mr. James Merrit Harrison (Canada) was appointed Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences and their Application to Development, replacing Mr. Adriano Buzatti-Traverso (Italy), who had left on 31 December 1972.

On 3 December 1974 Mr. Mahdi El-Mandjara (Morocco), who had been appointed to the post on 1 January 1971, ceased his functions as Assistant Director-General in the Office of Pre-programming.

The Director-General visited 27 countries during the biennium, either to participate in high-level meetings or to hold talks with their governments.

The General Assembly of the United Nations, at its special session held from 9 April to 2 May 1974, solemnly proclaimed its

determination to work urgently for the establishment of a new international economic order [. . .], which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations.

UNESCO was to take this into account in its future programmes.

EDUCATION

The report *Learning to Be*, which achieved higher sales figures in the biennium than any other UNESCO publication, had wide repercussions, and the flow of ideas and the comments which it inspired assisted the Secretariat in their search for ways of making a living reality of the concept of life-long education, which was the main objective both of operational action and the intellectual action for the preparation of programmes.

In the field of literacy, the evaluation of the Experimental Programme continued, and an attempt was made to give a fuller and more political (in the best sense of the word) definition of the idea of 'functional literacy', which was understood as reaching beyond the limits of economic and social objectives so as to embrace and integrate cultural factors, while literacy training was regarded as being only one stage of the educational process which should be placed in the general context of life-long education.

The global evaluation of the Experimental World Literacy Programme continued, as did the specific evaluation of 11 projects (in Algeria, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Iran, Madagascar, Mali, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania) whose experimental phase had been completed, resulting in the termination of international assistance; the projects were to continue at the national level. A practical guide to *The Training of Functional Literacy Personnel* was published.

On 21 October 1974 a new agreement was signed with the Government of Mexico for the establishment of a Regional Centre for Adult Education and Functional Literacy for Latin America; this autonomous centre, the successor to CREFAL, was located at Pátzcuaro (Michoacán), and was to receive assistance from UNESCO.

The agreement between UNESCO and UNRWA was extended until 31 December 1974.

In January 1973 a Regional Office for Education in the Arab States was established in Beirut, with functions similar to those in Santiago, Chile, Bangkok and Dakar.

In the same year, the Asian Centre of Educational Innovation for Development (ACEID) was also established as an integral part of the Regional Office for Education in Asia (Bangkok). Its strategies were defined and the broad outlines of its activities mapped out at a meeting held from 6 to 14 August. The Centre was to be financed by UNESCO and UNDP.

The Second Conference of Ministers of Education of European Member States (November–December 1973), held at Bucharest,¹ approved *inter alia* a

1. The system of periodic regional conferences of Ministers had been initiated by UNESCO at Addis Ababa in 1961.

resolution in which the European Member States indicated their determination to promote closer collaboration in the field of higher education and periodically to evaluate the results obtained. In July 1974, the Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean was signed at the end of the International Conference of States organized in Mexico City for that purpose. The text of the Convention had been drawn up by an ad hoc committee of intergovernmental experts meeting in San José, Costa Rica, from 21 to 28 January 1974.

In the course of the year, UNESCO concerned itself with the preparations for International Women's Year, to be celebrated in 1975 in accordance with a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly adopted on 11 January 1973, and a booklet entitled *UNESCO and the International Women's Year* was prepared.

A new area of activity for the Organization, the education of foreign migrant workers and their children, was initiated in 1974.

UNESCO received assistance from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, and in 1974 advisory services on demography were provided to Member States through the regional offices for education.

The application of the new educational technology had an impact on school architecture and furniture. In this connection, practical experimental work was carried out for the nomadic schools in Somalia; the visual materials were stored and carried in especially designed kits which could be transported by camels when the schools were moved to follow the grazing pattern of the flocks and herds.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The new programme 'Science in the 1970s' was initiated in 1973, and from 3 to 7 December a symposium on the human implications of scientific advance was held at UNESCO Headquarters.

The Director-General opened the ceremonies commemorating the five hundredth anniversary of the birth of Copernicus, which were held in the ORTF building, Paris, in February 1973 and were attended by the Vice-President of the Council of State of the Republic of Poland.

The Regional Conference of Ministers of African Member States responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development (CASTAFRICA), held in Dakar in January 1974, was an important further step in the series of such conferences for developing regions.

The International Hydrological Decade ended in 1974, and preparations began for the International Hydrological Programme (IHP); this was designed to build on the results of the Decade, which were studied by an International Conference meeting at Headquarters from 2 to 14 September. The Conference con-

sidered that the Decade had made significant advances not only in hydrological science but also in national attitudes towards water as a resource.

In the context of the preparations for a possible Science and Technology Policies Information System (SPINES), work continued on the preparation of sources for the SPINES Thesaurus.

The preparatory phase of UNISIST (World Science Information System) ended, and the system became operational. The Steering Committee of UNISIST met from 5 to 9 November 1973, a UNISIST Newsletter was launched, and operational activities started with two main aims: improvement of links between existing science information systems and provision of aid to developing countries.

The International Co-ordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) held a session in April 1973 and suggested four projects relating to tropical forests, grazing lands, aquatic ecosystems and mountain ecosystems for inclusion in a 'core programme' that could be co-ordinated at international level.

Effective co-operation was developed with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which approved 12 projects involving MAB and UNESCO's related work in ecology for implementation in 1974–1975.

The Board of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP) met for the first time in May 1973 and laid down four priority areas: 'Ordering the past – refining the geological calendar', 'In the beginning – evolution of the ancient crust', 'Man's home – his geological environment' and 'Man's needs – energy and minerals'.

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

The Human Rights Co-ordination Unit prepared a detailed memorandum on the education and the cultural life of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories and a preliminary study of the legal and technical aspects of a draft Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice, and discussed and drafted an initial programme for the Decade of Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, launched by the United Nations on 10 December 1973 on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. UNESCO commemorated the date with a celebration at its Headquarters.

Studies concerning the specific problems of young people in four regions of the world (the Indian subcontinent, the Arab States, some countries of Eastern Europe and Latin America) were undertaken in order to define the needs of young people and consider the possibilities of increasing their participation in social and economic life.

Social science centres were established for Africa south of the Sahara (Kinshasa) and for the Arab world (Cairo). UNESCO launched in Asia and Africa

regional research programmes headed by multinational multidisciplinary teams assembled in the region in question.

The interdepartmental programme *Man and his Environment – Human Settlements* was initiated in 1974, and a co-ordinator was appointed.

Under an agreement signed between UNESCO and the Lebanese Government in 1973, the International Centre for the Humanities was established at Byblos. UNESCO was to contribute intellectual and financial assistance.

The extension of the UNISIST system to the social sciences and the humanities was studied. An expert committee which met in 1974 outlined a plan for future years.

CULTURE

The first volume in the series 'Latin America through its Culture' was published, on the subject of contemporary literatures. Three further volumes were prepared in the course of the biennium.

The new international review *Cultures* began publication in October 1973, and was very well received. The first issue was entitled 'Music and society'.

In February 1973, work began on the installation of the coffer-dam to drain the site so that the Philae temples could be dismantled before their transfer to the island of Agilkia.

August 1973 saw the official inauguration of the work at Borobudur, and in relation to Moenjodaro, the Executive Board authorized the Director-General to initiate the International Protection Campaign at the beginning of 1974.

The International Music Council continued, with UNESCO assistance, to add recordings to the UNESCO Collection in the series 'Musical Sources' and 'Musical Atlas'.

In October 1973 the new Regional Training Centre for the Preservation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage (Jos, Nigeria) began its first course. The Centre was established with UNDP assistance and occupied the premises of the former pilot project for the training of museum technicians.

The project for restoration of the Buddhas of Bamiyan (Afghanistan) was initiated. In addition, 16 archaeological missions from various European countries continued the excavations at Tabqa (Syria) together with seven missions from the host country. Restoration of a number of monuments at Basra, particularly the royal baths and Omar's Mosque, also continued.

The study of the protection and rehabilitation of the Medina of Fez continued in 1973. The project for the rehabilitation of the Medina of Tunis and for the preservation of Carthage was concluded in that year.

A meeting of experts was held at Hammamet (Tunisia) from 22-27 April 1974 in connection with the historical and sociocultural study project on Arab towns, their architecture and present development.

The Arab culture project entered a new phase after the collective evaluation consultation held jointly with ALECSO² in Cairo from 24 to 27 June 1974. A Regional Seminar on Development of Museums in Arab States was also held in Cairo, from 23–30 November 1974.

COMMUNICATION

The rapid development of the communication media and the advent of new technological possibilities such as satellite broadcasting, videotape recording and cable television called for careful planning and sophisticated management techniques if an effective contribution was to be made to national development and the expansion of education.

The *UNESCO Courier* continued to extend its range; at the end of the biennium, 15 monthly editions were being published in as many languages, and a quarterly edition in Sinhalese.

During 1973, 610 radio recordings were produced in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish (feature programmes, interviews, news magazines, etc.).

In the same year, some 500,000 information booklets were distributed to Member States, including 56,000 copies of a pamphlet entitled *Youth and Literacy*.

On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 125,000 documents relating to human rights were distributed to the public, including off-prints of special issues of the *UNESCO Courier* and the *UNESCO Chronicle*.

The Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures was held from 23 to 27 September 1974. Organized by UNESCO, the Conference unanimously approved the concept and objectives of national information systems (NATIS).

HEADQUARTERS

The alterations to the Fontenoy premises were completed, and the work received final acceptance in October 1973.

On 18 March 1974, work began on the sixth building, and on 2 April the Director-General approved the plan for over-all occupancy of the premises. Professor T. Maldonado (Argentina) had been engaged to design the layout and decoration of the common premises and the garden, and began work on the project on 25 October 1973.

2. The Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization, founded in 1964.

MEMBER STATES

Four countries signed the Constitution during the biennium, bringing the number of Member States to 135.

Portugal, which had withdrawn on 31 December 1972, became a Member State again on 11 September 1974.

Where the United States of America is concerned, its provisional withdrawal will be dealt with when discussing the eighteenth session of the General Conference.

THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

Once the Charter of the United Nations University (established in 1972) had been approved by the General Assembly, it was decided that it would be based in Tokyo. The Assembly authorized the Secretary-General of the United Nations to apply the provisions of the Charter in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO. The first three sessions of the Council of the University (New York from 13-17 May 1974, Paris from 9-12 July 1974 and Paris on 10 October 1974) were organized in close collaboration between the United Nations, UNESCO and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The first Rector of the University was a United States Professor, James W. Hester.

THE THIRD EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL CONFERENCE

This session of the Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 23 to 26 October 1973, with Mr. T. Hagiwara (Japan) as President, and was attended by representatives of 121 Member States. After studying the relevant documentation (proposals by the Director-General and the report of the Executive Board), the General Conference approved for 1973-1974 supplementary appropriations amounting to \$14,252,100 in order to meet the extra costs resulting from the financial shortfall, the most serious UNESCO had experienced since its establishment. The General Conference decided that the additional sum should be financed through contributions from Member States calculated in accordance with the scale of assessments established by the General Conference at its seventeenth session.

Three Directors' posts, 55 Professional posts and nine General Service posts were frozen for varying periods, 12 meetings were cancelled and 24 postponed, the appropriations for official staff travel were reduced by \$295,000, and the appropriations for consultants' services and temporary staff were reduced by \$403,000 and \$213,000 respectively.

Savings were also effected in relation to activities which did not appear to be yielding the expected results, and others which had attained their objectives or could be postponed to subsequent biennia.

THE EIGHTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

This session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters from 17 October to 23 November 1974.

It was attended by representatives of 135 Member States and one Associate Member, one observer from a non-Member State, 11 observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 20 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 124 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference was composed of Mrs. Magda Joburu (Hungary) as President, and one representative of each of the following 15 countries as Vice-Presidents: Cuba, China, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Gabon, India, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America.

The Conference established the Commission for Education, the Commission for Science, the Commission for Social Sciences, Humanities and Culture, the Commission for General Programme Matters and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Resolutions Committee, the Legal Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Toru Hagiwara (Japan) as President of the General Conference at its seventeenth session. He recalled the distinguished figures who had died since the third extraordinary session: Mr. Georges Pompidou, President of the French Republic, His Majesty King Gustav VI of Sweden, Mr. Franz Jonas, President of the Republic of Austria, General Juan Domingo Perón, President of the Argentine Republic, Mr. Salvador Allende, President of the Republic of Chile, Mr. Attilio dell'Oro Maini (Argentina), and Mr. Arcot L. Mudaliar (India), former Chairmen of the Executive Board, and Mr. Jaime Torres Bodet, the second Director-General of UNESCO, who had died in tragic personal circumstances. He requested a minute's silence in memory of them all.

He referred to the first C/4 document on the six-year plan, document 18 C/4, which was before the General Conference; it contained a table of objectives classified in order of priority, and had been considered by the Executive Board.

He recalled the great responsibility that rested upon the General Conference of appointing a new Director-General, and said that it must be borne very much in mind that 1975 would be International Women's Year.

The next speaker was Mr. Fuad Sarruf (Lebanon), Chairman of the Executive Board. He offered his best wishes to the delegations from the Islamic countries on the occasion of the Al Fitr Feast³ and expressed confidence regarding the

3. The feast following the last day of the month of Ramadan, a period of fasting.

work of the General Conference. A noteworthy passage in his statement is the reference to moral training, which, he said, was based

on our conviction that knowledge and learning alone are not an adequate guide for conduct; [. . .] the second basis on which a healthy society rests is that of human values as revealed in both ancient and modern books of wisdom, which are the product of human experience derived from the civilizations which have succeeded each other on the face of the earth.

On 14 November, in plenary session, the General Conference paid tribute to the outgoing Director-General, Mr. René Maheu.⁴ Statements were made by the Chairman of the Executive Board, the special representative of the Holy See, Monsignor Benelli, who announced that His Holiness the Pope had awarded the John XXIII Peace Prize to UNESCO,⁵ one representative of each region (United Kingdom, Romania, Uruguay, Indonesia, Egypt and Dahomey), the Chairman of the Group of 77 (Mr. Derrayi of Algeria), the representative of France, Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro, President of the General Conference at its twelfth session, at which Mr. Maheu had been elected Director-General (in 1962), and the President of the General Conference at its current eighteenth session.

Mr. René Maheu then took the floor to give an eloquent farewell address from which some paragraphs from the beginning and the end may be singled out:

Once again – and for the last time – I rise to speak from this rostrum, looking out on your mounting ranks as one on a cliff-top might see the ocean stretching out before him to the world's furthest horizons. Deeply moved and yet resolute, as I was twelve years ago when I committed myself to your service, I have come today to lay down the charge you then entrusted to me and to take my leave of you. Twelve years! In fact, thirteen since the Executive Board called upon me to take the place of my friend, Vittorino Veronese. That is a very long time in an era when things are constantly changing, at an age when strength and vigour, if taxed and exhausted, are not automatically renewed.

But before we part – before my passage through its destiny turns from presence into memory and from memory to history – I would for the last time salute the UNESCO which was my duty and my joy, my labour, my care and my pride, with all the fervour of my heart, designating it by the names most appropriate to the various aspects under which I have learnt to know it.

I hail the Idea embodied in it – that great idea which proclaims the primacy of the spirit in the course of events.

4. Mr. Maheu had informed the Executive Board on 20 June 1974 of his decision not to stand for re-election as Director-General.
5. The award ceremony took place in Rome on 30 November. The Prize was received from the hands of Pope Paul VI by the new Director-General, Mr. M' Bow, who was accompanied by Mr. Maheu.

I salute the Effort it represents – the unending endeavour to translate the brotherhood of peoples into effective and fruitful co-operation between States.

I hail the Friendship it fosters – the communion of men, the joy in life which, transcending the differences, misunderstandings and conflicts that separate men in the dark hours of our present time, bind together throughout the world so many men and women united in common devotion to a noble cause.

Above all, I hail the Promise it enshrines – the immemorial promise of Man to men, which each age passes on to the next in its own fashion, and which is today specially embodied in this institution, this undertaking of which we are the servants. Message of freedom, dignity and peace, I hail the Promise in UNESCO.

The following are some of the issues discussed at this session of the General Conference.

Education

It was felt to be in the sphere of education that UNESCO's role as a 'shaper of the future' was most clearly apparent. Education remained one of the major factors in a process of cultural, economic and social development designed to bridge the gap between the developed and developing countries and to culminate in the establishment of a just and balanced world structure.

Greater attention needed to be paid to education for peace and international understanding and to education in human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Efforts in the field of literacy continued to be incommensurate with the magnitude of the world's needs, and it was important to increase assistance and stimulate national efforts in that area.

Although the expression 'life-long education' was already accepted throughout the world, it was felt that adult education must not be neglected; it continued to retain its full significance, and literacy campaigns were a fundamental element in it.

The General Conference also considered that UNESCO should continue assisting the United Nations University with a view to transforming it into a true instrument of international intellectual co-operation.

Natural sciences

The General Conference decided to confirm the plan designed to concentrate all UNESCO's scientific information and documentation activities, including some aspects relating to the social sciences, in the UNISIST programme.

It also decided to establish a high-level working group to assist the Director-General in UNESCO's activities relating to the impact of scientific progress on man.

There was almost unanimous approval of the implementation of the major projects which had gradually been making their mark on the over-all science programme, such as the International Scientific and Technical Information Sys-

tem (UNISIST), the programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and the Long-term and Expanded Programme of Oceanic Exploration and Research (LEPOR). All of those programmes were on a high intellectual level, largely multidisciplinary, and had been drawn up by top-ranking scientific groups, almost always with the collaboration of the international scientific unions.

The General Conference decided that the Regional Science Offices for Africa (Nairobi), Latin America (Montevideo), the Arab States (Cairo), South and Central Asia (New Delhi) and Southeast Asia (Djakarta) would be known as 'Offices for Science and Technology'.

Social sciences and humanistic studies

Great importance was attached to the social sciences occupying a more central place in the UNESCO programme and making a greater contribution, particularly to research into peace and development, and in general to all the Organization's major programmes.

The General Conference called for an intersectoral programme under the Draft Programme and Budget for the next biennium based on the recent United Nations World Population Conference held at Bucharest and on UNESCO's activities in relation to population.

It was apparent that the Bucharest Conference had firmly rejected all attempts to examine population problems in isolation from socio-economic development, and had clearly explained that population issues could not be separated from the problems relating to human rights and cultural integrity, or reduced to simple terms of limiting family size.

Culture

The importance of culture as a factor in national identity was appreciated, in that a living national culture could enable a country to protect its original and specific spiritual values against the consequences of imported technology.

The Director-General was requested to convene a group of experts in 1975 to give its views on the ongoing and future programmes of the Organization in the fields of information, documentation, libraries and archives, select a number of objectives and indicate the priorities among them. He was also requested to submit to the General Conference at its nineteenth session a report on the status of those services and activities.

There would be a need to create conditions conducive to the safeguarding of cultural pluralism, understood as meaning not only consideration of the problems of minorities but also those of subcultures in the various social groups, particularly among migrant workers.

It was agreed that increased assistance should be provided to Member States

regarding their policies for the preservation of historic districts, towns and sites and their integration into a modern environment, while at the same time paying attention to protection of the cultural context. It would be desirable to promote co-operation with MAB in relation to the launching of the programme 'Man in his Environment – Human Settlements' with a view to facilitating participation by UNESCO in the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements, to be held in Vancouver (Canada) in May-June 1975.

The General Conference decided to establish an International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, in accordance with the Statutes drawn up by the Director-General, which were approved.

Communication

It was agreed that there was a need to facilitate the two-way flow of information and that the partitioning of the world into producers and passive consumers of information was to be avoided. In that connection, emphasis should be placed on the usefulness of studies relating to communication policies.

It was also agreed to continue and intensify in the years to come the action taken to make books available to all, placing particular emphasis on regional co-operation and assisting FAO, UNIDO, and other competent international organizations in remedying the severe consequences of the world crisis caused by the shortage of paper and the high cost of its production. The concept of the 'free and balanced flow of information' was introduced. This formulation was an expression of the understanding that the right to information should include both the right to be informed and the right to provide information.

Headquarters

On 20 November 1973 an offer had been received from the French Government to transfer the Headquarters to a number of buildings about to be constructed in the zone known as 'Tête Défense', at the end of the Avenue de Neuilly. The Director-General considered that the buildings would not meet the necessary conditions in terms of conference rooms and lighting. The General Conference agreed with that view.

Appointment of the Director-General

On 15 November, in plenary session, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow (Senegal), who had been Assistant Director-General for Education since 24 November 1970, was elected Director-General for a six-year term.

From his statement on the occasion of his installation, the following passages may be singled out:

'But since every man bears the mark of the environment into which he was born and in which he grew to adulthood [. . .] it is in the spirit of the African people, and in their wisdom, that I shall find the initial motivations of my action.'



Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow,
the sixth Director-General.



A large biosphere reserve
in the Seychelles.

'I also interpret your vote as a gesture of consideration and esteem for regions and peoples – those of the Third World – which have for so long been confined to a peripheral role in reaching decisions and exerting influence at world-wide level. I feel certain that, as you do today, millions of men and women will regard this election as a milestone on the way to elimination of the prejudices which have so often and so tragically marked the history of mankind, and as evidence of a desire to set international co-operation on an increasingly equitable footing'.

The Executive Board

The General Conference elected eighteen members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, electing Mr. Hector Wynter (Jamaica) to that office.

Other decisions

The following are some of the other decisions taken at this session of the General Conference:

1. Authorization for the Director-General to prepare a medium-term plan covering the six-year period 1977–1982, as well as a Draft Programme and Budget for 1977–1978 (documents 19 C/4 and 19 C/5 respectively), taking into account inter alia the consolidated table of problems and objectives, the subsequent analyses of these problems and objectives and other specific provisions contained in the resolution;
2. Henceforth, the report of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization (document C/3) was to be biennial rather than annual;
3. The decision that UNESCO should make its full contribution to the establishment of a new international economic order;
4. The decision, by vote, to grant observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization and to fourteen African liberation movements recognized by OAU;
5. Arabic, already a working language of General Conferences, would become a working language of the Executive Board from 1975 onwards. Chinese would be a working language of the Executive Board in 1977, and of General Conferences in 1980;
6. Israel's request to become part of the European region was not approved;⁶
7. Adoption of the Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

6. As a result, the United States of America suspended payment of its assessed contribution falling due in 1977.

8. Adoption of the Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education;
9. Adoption of the Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers;
10. Approval of a budget for 1975-1976 amounting to \$169,992,000.

The biennium 1975-1976

THE SECRETARIAT

Right at the beginning of this biennium, for the reasons already indicated, an austerity policy had to be adopted and fresh resources sought to meet any eventualities. These measures affected the staffing of the Organization; only vitally necessary posts were filled, and the Secretariat performed its work with a reduced staff and on the basis of a redistribution of functions. It thus proved possible to effect, over the biennium, savings of \$12,126,000 or 7.13 per cent of the total budget. Some Member States expedited their payments, paying in 1975 part of their contributions for 1976, while others provided interest-free loans.

To fill vacant posts, on the one hand, and to adjust to the new redistribution of functions, on the other, the following appointments of Assistant Directors-General were made: Mr. Sema Tanguiane (USSR) for Education (6 November 1975), Mr. Jacques Rigaud (France) for Programme Support and Administration (15 November 1975), Mr. Abdul-Razzak Kaddoura (Syria) for Natural Sciences (1 April 1976), Mr. Dragoljub Najman (Yugoslavia) for Co-operation for Development and External Relations (acting from 1 July 1975, definitive from 1 June 1976), Mrs. Martha Hildebrandt (Peru) for Social Sciences (15 July 1976), the first woman to occupy an Assistant Director-General's post, and Mr. Makaminan Makagiarsar (Indonesia) for Culture and Communication (27 August 1976).

On 12 August 1976 the post of Mediator was established, attached to the Bureau of Personnel but outside the normal staff system, reporting direct to the Director-General. Appointed for a one-year trial period, the incumbent was responsible for receiving and examining complaints from staff members concerning administrative and personal difficulties.

The Inspectorate-General was established in July 1975. Its purpose was to assist the Director-General in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the programme by conducting inspections of services and projects and to carry out studies with a view to proposing measures for reviewing the progress of activities, improving programme management mechanisms and checking that expenditure was justifiable.

EDUCATION

On completion of the evaluation of the Experimental World Literacy Programme, initiated in 1966 with UNDP assistance, the final report was drawn up with the assistance of an expert group, and distributed under the title 'The Experimental World Literacy Programme: A Critical Assessment'. The report stressed that while literacy was an elementary stage in education, it implied political determination on the part of the governments concerned, broad participation by the people, and strategies for change that were related to the cultural environment and to development objectives that had been carefully defined and were steadfastly pursued.

In his statement on 8 September 1976, International Literacy Day, the Director-General stressed the political commitment required if concerted action was to be taken by society as a whole.

A useful contribution was made to the debate about education by the meeting of senior officials from the ministries of education of the 25 least developed countries, held in Paris from 8 to 16 September 1975, which submitted to the Director-General suggestions and opinions regarding the difficulties being encountered in the renovation and development of education in their respective countries.

An extremely important meeting was the Conference of Ministers of Education of African Member States, held in Lagos in January-February 1976, the main topic of which was 'Basic education and mass education in support of development'. The Conference reviewed problems raised by the renovation and planning of reform of educational systems, and emphasized *inter alia* such issues as education and productive work and the use of national languages as means of instruction.

Work on technical and vocational education focused on promoting the implementation of the revised recommendation approved by the General Conference at its eighteenth session.

From 13 to 17 December 1976 an International Conference took place at Nice and approved the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab and European States Bordering on the Mediterranean.

5 November 1976 saw the signing of the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of Venezuela and UNESCO for the establishment in Caracas of the Regional Centre for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was scheduled to open in 1977. It was to be the second such regional centre after the one in Bucharest.

It was agreed to amend the Statutes of the International Bureau of Education, increasing the number of its members from 20 to 24.

From 5 to 10 April 1976 the First International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport was held in Paris.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The International Hydrological Programme, the extension of the International Hydrological Decade, which had ended in 1974, was launched in this biennium. The Programme covered, through a programme reorientation, the various applications of hydrology to water resources management and the ecological implications of that management. An Intergovernmental Council was established for the Programme.

The International Geological Correlation Programme grew rapidly during the biennium, by the end of which National Committees had been established in 69 countries.

There was a substantial increase in the number of Member States of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. Mention may be made of the establishment in Latin America and East Africa of a joint research programme on oceanic upwelling in offshore areas, which was known to lead to an increase in the productivity of fishing.

With regard to the Man and the Biosphere programme, the most notable development was the transition from an initial phase which may be termed 'descriptive' to a new, more operational phase.

From 23 to 27 June, a meeting of experts on the ethical problems posed by recent progress in biology was held in Varna (Bulgaria). The meeting emphasized that modern biology could help to solve two of the main problems facing mankind, the achievement of better standards of health and an adequate food supply.

By the end of the biennium more than 80 national committees or groups for UNISIST had been established to ensure more effective participation by Member States in that programme and to promote co-ordinated development of national scientific and technical information systems.

The vocabulary of science and technology policies for the application of science and technology to development was completed in the course of the biennium. This was drawn up in order to serve as a basis for the SPINES Thesaurus, which dealt with international exchanges of information on science and technology policies.

An International Conference on the Educational Training of Engineers and Technicians was held in New Delhi from 20 to 26 April 1976, and recommended the intensification of activity in technician education and training and the establishment of post-graduate education in developing countries.

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

A change in the status of the social sciences within the Secretariat took place during the biennium, with higher priority being assigned to them. As a result, a

new Sector was established on 1 April 1976 under the title Sector for the Social Sciences and Their Applications; previously, the relevant activities had formed part of the Sector for Social Sciences, Humanities and Culture. The youth programme, previously the responsibility of the Education Sector, was transferred to the Social Sciences Sector. Activities relating to philosophy and interdisciplinary co-operation were also assigned to the new Sector. In addition, the necessary foundations were laid for co-operation between the regional social science institutions established in previous biennia. Another innovation in the biennium was the expansion of UNISIST to the social sciences.

The study carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities was completed and prepared for publication in 1977.

Studies of the economic and social aspects of the arms race were published in a special issue of the International Social Science Journal.

CULTURE

A very significant event during the biennium was the establishment of the Administrative Council of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, established by the General Conference at its eighteenth session. The Council was composed of public figures from different regions. At the end of the biennium, the resources of the Fund amounted to nearly \$4 million.

The Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Africa (Accra, Ghana, 27 October–6 November 1975) revealed a remarkable convergence of views on the essential problems it had to consider. Cultural diversity was recognized to be a living reality and a factor contributing to equilibrium and fruitful dialogue among different cultures, while at the same time the assertion of cultural identity was considered to be the preferable means of ensuring the harmonious development of societies and the self-fulfilment of individuals.

The major restoration campaigns continued: it was planned that the Philae project would be completed by the autumn of 1978, and progress was made on the work in Venice, Borobudur, Tunis-Carthage, Moenjodaro and Kathmandu (where restoration of the 'Hanuman Dhoka' former royal palace was completed).

Work was about to begin, with the collaboration of the Governments concerned, on the campaigns to restore the Medina of Fez (Morocco), the conservation and rehabilitation of Herat (Afghanistan), the restoration of the cultural heritage of Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, the conservation and rehabilitation of Sukhothai (Thailand) and the restoration of the architectural heritage of Guatemala.

Work continued on the two main programmes in the field of African cultures, the preparation of the *General History of Africa* and the ten-year plan for oral tradition and African languages, which entered its operational stage. *The Introduction to African Culture* was finalized for publication.

Publication of the series 'Latin America through its Culture' continued. The book on *Latin America through its Architecture* appeared in 1975 and the third Spanish edition of *Latin America through its Literature* in 1976.

With regard to the study of European cultures, closer links were established between the projects on South-East European and on Slav cultures, stressing the interactions between both programmes within a wider European context.

During the biennium the *UNESCO Courier* was published in 16 languages, and negotiations were under way for two new editions, in Catalan and Urdu. The *Courier* had two and a half million readers throughout the world.

Distribution of the review *Museum* was also improved, and the number of subscriptions increased.

COMMUNICATION

The first Intergovernmental Conference on Communication Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean took place in San José (Costa Rica) from 12 to 21 June 1976. The issues of greatest interest related to the situation and trends in communication policies in the region, the role of communication in an integrated approach to development, the problems arising from the development of modern systems of communication, and the 'right to communicate'.

The Conference influenced the preparation of a declaration on the fundamental principles governing the use of the mass media in strengthening peace and international understanding and in combating war propaganda, racism and apartheid.

From the outset, the preparation of this declaration had given rise to serious divergences between Member States, revealing deep-lying differences of opinion regarding the role of the mass media in society. The discussion in the appropriate Commission revealed such wide disagreement that it was decided to refer the matter to the General Conference.

HEADQUARTERS

The second plot of land in the Garibaldi-Miollis area was made available to the Organization. It was calculated that construction work would be completed and the building be in service by October 1977.

UNESCO asked the French Government to continue seeking long-term solutions.

MEMBER STATES

One country signed the Constitution in 1975, and four did so in 1976, bringing the number of Member States to 141 at the end of the biennium.

OTHER ISSUES

On 19 September 1975 the Director-General received a copy of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, signed on 1 August.

In 1976 UNESCO published a book entitled *Moving Towards Change: Some Thoughts on the New International Economic Order*, which aimed at defining the Organization's position with regard to the serious problems posed in various areas and the prospects offered by the establishment of a new international economic order. The publication was very favourably received, and served as a basis or reference source for many studies and documents.

THE NINETEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The nineteenth session of the General Conference was held in Nairobi (Kenya) from 26 October to 30 November 1976, at the Kenyatta Conference Centre.

The Conference was attended by representatives of 133 Member States, five observers from non-Member States, 11 observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 10 observers from intergovernmental organizations and 68 observers from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Taaita Toweett (Kenya) as President, with one representative of each of the following 22 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Algeria, Argentina, Canada, China, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Republic, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

The Conference established Commission I (Natural Sciences and Social Sciences), Commission II (Education, Culture and Communication), Commission III (General Programme Matters) and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by the Temporary President, Mrs. Magda Joburu. She gave the floor to the President of the Republic of Kenya, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, who on behalf of the people of Kenya welcomed all present and recalled that his country had joined UNESCO as a Member State 12 years previously, shortly after attaining independence. He hoped that those present would have the opportunity to travel around the country in order to meet its people, observe their cultures and discover their talents and ideas.

He expressed his hope that, during the five weeks of the Conference, its deliberations would be directed to the truest ideals and objectives of UNESCO, and he concluded by inviting all to learn the expression used in Kenya to express thanks: *harambee*. He said that he was going to pronounce the word, and that all should respond 'Hey'. This was done several times.

A programme by Kenyan traditional dancers and choirs was then presented.

The next speaker was the Temporary President, Mrs. Magda Joburu. After thanking President Jomo Kenyatta warmly for his hospitality and greeting all delegates and others attending the session, she referred to the fact that this was the first time UNESCO had held a General Conference in Africa. She mentioned a number of personalities who had passed away since the previous General Conference, referring in the first place to the previous Director-General, Mr. René Maheu,⁷ who had occupied that post for 12 years (out of his 28 years of service to UNESCO); she expressed the highest praise for Mr. Maheu. She then referred to another deceased Director-General, Mr. Julian Huxley,⁸ the first to occupy that post, who had laid the foundations of the Organization on which his successors could build. She then mentioned among others Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who had been President of the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) and Mr. René Cassin, one of the founding fathers of UNESCO, whose name was forever associated with the defence of human rights.

She commended the work done by the Secretariat during the past biennium, and expressed regret at the situations of tension in various parts of the world, some of them reflected in armed conflicts which were trampling human rights under foot, while at the same time the arms race was continuing, with the resulting misuse of material and intellectual resources. She concluded by referring to the fact that the nineteenth session of the General Conference coincided with the thirtieth anniversary of UNESCO.

The next speaker was Mr. Hector Wynter (Jamaica), Chairman of the Executive Board, who said he felt very honoured to be able to represent the Board at the General Conference, and expressed his sadness at the passing of two former Directors-General, Mr. Huxley and Mr. Maheu.

He recalled the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and the major role UNESCO would have to play in that connection.

He referred to the ceremony to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Organization and the major work that remained ahead of UNESCO, on the basis of the experience gained.

The Director-General, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M' Bow, then took the floor. After welcoming all those attending the Conference, he associated himself with the remarks of previous speakers on the subject of those personalities who had died in the previous two years.

He expressed his profound thanks to the President of the Republic of Kenya

7. Mr. Maheu died in Paris on 19 December 1975, at the age of 70.

8. Mr. Huxley had died in London on 14 February 1975, at the age of 88.

for his kind invitation and his presence, and said that 20 years had elapsed since the General Conference last held a session away from Headquarters (New Delhi, 1956), and that this was the first time an event of such scope had been held in Africa; that was a source of personal satisfaction to him as an African.

He referred to the world-wide problems that were of even greater concern than at the time of the previous General Conference, thus making it necessary to eliminate some aspects of oppression that ran counter to the universality which, as one of UNESCO's ideals and aims, needed to be strengthened.

Some of the most important issues discussed at this session of the General Conference are described below.

The Medium-Term Plan for 1977–1982

The General Conference considered that document 19 C/4 marked an important stage in the improvement of UNESCO's programming methods, and approved the document's broad lines of approach, being of the opinion that they were such as would strengthen the Organization's activities on behalf of human rights and peace, help to establish, promote and implement a conception of development that was in conformity with the fulfilment of man and the progress of societies, and contribute to the achievement of a new international economic order. It also decided what the final objectives of the plan should be, and invited Member States to give their full attention to those objectives in pursuing their national and regional activities.

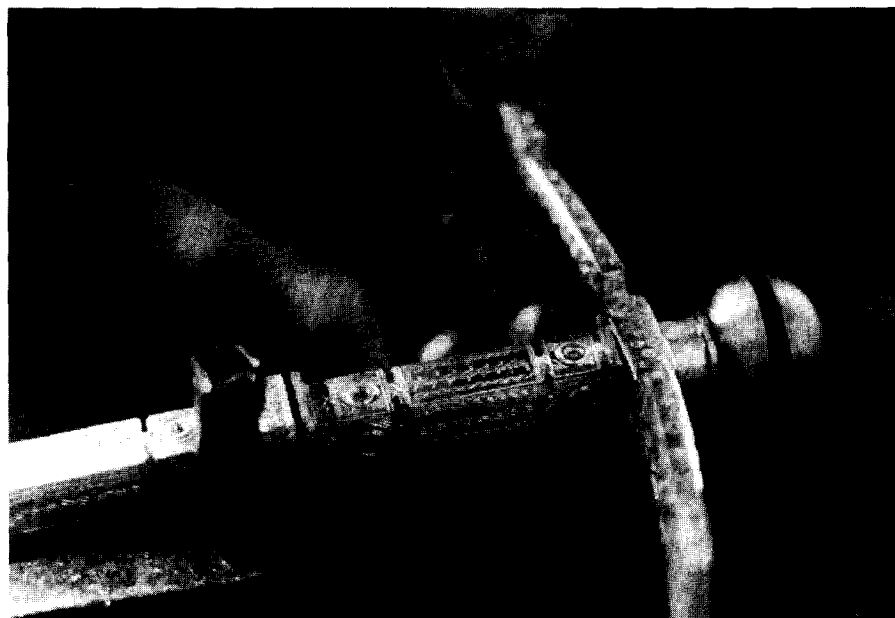
Education

Member States were invited to grant or renew voluntary contributions to the International Institute for Educational Planning and the UNESCO Institute for Education in Hamburg, as well as to contribute to the financing of the education programme for Palestine refugees in the Near East.

The Director-General was authorized: to put into effect programmes of activities designed to promote equality of opportunity in respect of education, to promote, in the context of life-long education, the renovation and improvement of structures, content, methods and techniques of school and out-of-school education; to carry out activities designed to promote the general advancement of science and technology education in Member States at the pre-university levels; to assist Member States to develop higher education as a dynamic force for the promotion of national development; to put into effect a programme of activities designed to intensify the struggle against illiteracy, particularly in rural areas, considering that the illiteracy of almost a thousand million of the world's inhabitants was a disgrace to all mankind, for which reason he was invited to provide, in document 20 C/5, for a considerable acceleration of the campaign against illiteracy, possibly contemplating a UNESCO Literacy Decade.



Drawing water in Tunisia.



Handcrafts are not only an expression of culture, but also a source of income. Here, a dagger hilt from Mauritania.

Natural sciences

Member States were invited to participate actively in the International Geological Correlation Programme and the International Hydrological Programme, to establish national committees, and to participate in the programmes of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

The Director-General was authorized to strengthen as a matter of priority UNESCO's programme in science and technology, to study the interactions between scientific and technological advancement and the development of man and society in the context of different cultures and socio-economic goals, to continue implementing the programme on Man and the Biosphere, to examine the organizational arrangements for the International Geological Correlation Programme and to make appropriate recommendations to the General Conference at its twentieth session, to continue to support the International Hydrological Programme in accordance with the plan approved, to continue to provide the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and its subsidiary organs with secretariat services and programme support in order to enable the Secretariat to implement the ocean science projects under the International Decade of Ocean Exploration (IDOE), the Global Investigation of Pollution in the Marine Environment (GIPME) and other programmes.

Social sciences and their applications

The Director-General was authorized to put into operation a programme of research and training relating to development, aimed at shedding light on the problems of the theory and practice of development, through a global, multidisciplinary interpretation; to continue to carry out the programme designed to contribute to the international development of the social sciences in Member States; to put in hand a programme of consultations, studies and promotional work calculated to assist in developing the part played by young people in educational, social and cultural activities; to put in hand a programme of interdisciplinary research, exchanges, publications and promotional activities with a view to the establishment of a new international economic order; to prepare a new text of the draft Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice on the basis of the existing preliminary draft; to employ the resources of philosophical and interdisciplinary thinking in the service of UNESCO's ideals for an analysis of the bases and aims of the Organization's activities; and to associate UNESCO with the celebration of the twenty-third centenary of the death of Aristotle, particularly in connection with the world congress on Aristotle and Contemporary Thought to be organized by the Government of Greece in 1978.

He was also authorized to continue to carry out the programme for the collection, analysis and publication of statistics and for assisting Member States in the development of their statistical services within the Organization's fields of competence.

Culture

The Director-General was authorized to continue implementing the programme for the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage of mankind and for the development of museums in Member States; to undertake a world campaign for public and private aid for the safeguarding of the Acropolis and its monuments, under the auspices of UNESCO and in collaboration with the Government of Greece; to take all necessary measures with a view to the establishment, by the General Conference at its twentieth session, of an intergovernmental committee for facilitating the restitution or return of cultural property to the countries having lost them; and to convene a meeting of experts from the different geocultural regions and specialists in different artistic disciplines to study the status and social position of the artist.

Communication

The Director-General was authorized to continue carrying out the programme designed to promote the free and balanced flow of information, and the movement of persons and materials, and to promote research on the role of communication in society. He was also authorized to pay very special attention to the activities of the bodies (the Non-Aligned Countries Co-ordination Council and the Co-ordinating Committee of the Press Agency Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries) responsible for co-ordinating and applying the information programmes of those countries.

The General Conference decided to establish a General Information Programme which would bring together the activities previously carried out by the Division of Scientific and Technological Information and Documentation in the Science Sector (the UNISIST programme) and by the Division of Documentation, Libraries and Archives in the Culture Sector, with a view to ensuring better co-ordination of those activities. The new Programme would also be responsible for ensuring development of the activities relating to libraries and archives, bearing in mind the importance of the programme for the development of national information systems (NATIS) and the need for over-all planning of national information infrastructures.

The General Conference also decided to establish the Intergovernmental Council of the General Information Programme, and approved its Statutes. Representatives of 30 Member States were appointed as members of the Council for 1977-1978.

The Director-General was also requested to carry out an overview of problems relating to communication in modern society in the light of technological progress and the growing evolution of world relations in all their complexity and breadth.

The Executive Board

The Conference elected 25 members of the Executive Board, and appointed its Chairman, electing Mr. Leonard C. J. Martin (United Kingdom) to that office.

It was agreed to amend Article V, paragraph 1, of the Constitution to replace the word 'forty' by 'forty-five' (the number of members of the Board). The number of seats in electoral group III would also be increased to eight, the number in electoral group IV to seven and the number in electoral group V to sixteen. An amendment would also be introduced to the effect that in the event of the death or resignation of a member of the Executive Board, his replacement for the remainder of his term would be appointed by the Board on the nomination of the government of the State the former member represented.

Other decisions

Among the other decisions taken by the General Conference at this session were the following:

1. The Director-General was requested to continue to ensure UNESCO's participation in the discussion being undertaken within the United Nations system with a view to the establishment of a new international economic order;
2. It was decided that UNESCO would continue its efforts to attain the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the United Nations Second Development Decade;
3. The Director-General was requested to take the necessary steps for, and to give particular attention to, the implementation of European co-operation projects and activities, bearing in mind the results of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe as set forth in its Final Act;
4. The Conference placed on record its support in principle for the harmonization of the medium-term planning cycles and the budget cycles of the organizations of the United Nations, and the Director-General was invited, from 1984 onwards, to prepare biennial programmes and budgets beginning in even years, while 1984–1989 was selected as the medium-term planning period.
5. It was agreed to expand the use of Spanish in publications and Arabic in international and intergovernmental meetings convened by UNESCO in which Arab States participated;
6. Note was taken with satisfaction of what had been achieved by the Drafting and Negotiating Group set up at the nineteenth session of the General Conference, whose task had been to seek to resolve delicate issues behind closed doors and by means of understanding;
7. It was agreed to include Israel in the European region, completing the list of Member States empowered to participate in regional activities;
8. The Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education was adopted;

9. The Recommendation concerning the International Exchange of Cultural Property was adopted;
10. The Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas was adopted;
11. The Recommendation on Participation by the People at Large in Cultural Life and Their Contribution to it was adopted;
12. The Recommendation on the Legal Protection of Translators and Translations and the Practical Means to Improve the Status of Translators was adopted;
13. The Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on Radio and Television was adopted;
14. The Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials was adopted;
15. It was agreed that the twentieth session of the General Conference would be held in Paris;
16. A budget of \$224,413,000 for the biennium 1977-1978 and supplementary estimates of \$7,100,000 were approved.

The spirit of Nairobi

It is interesting to note that for a long time the term 'The spirit of Nairobi' was used to describe the understanding, tolerance, respect for other views and wish for conciliation that characterized this session of the General Conference.

THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO

On 4 November 1976, following the conclusion of the plenary meeting for that day, the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Organization took place at the Kenyatta Conference Centre.

The ceremony was attended, apart from delegations, by Mr. James Mancham, President of the Republic of Seychelles, the most recent Member State to join the Organization, and the guests of honour invited by the Director-General - Lady Huxley, the widow of Sir Julian Huxley, first Director-General of UNESCO, Sir Ronald Walker, the most senior Chairman of the Executive Board and President of the fourth General Conference, and Mr. Luther Evans, the third Director-General of UNESCO. Mr. Vittorino Veronese, the fourth Director-General, had sent his apologies for being unable to attend.

Messages were received from 66 Heads of State and from the heads of various organizations.

First to speak was the Director-General, Mr. M'Bow, who welcomed all present and recalled the words spoken by Mr. Léon Blum on 20 November 1946, addressing the first session of the General Conference as its elected President, words which, he said, thirty years later were still as relevant as ever. He added

that 'the establishment of UNESCO was an act of faith and of hope in man, in all men, wherever they may live upon this earth [. . .] It is to the very fact of its being intergovernmental that our Organization owes many of the successes, but also some of the difficulties, that it has met with since it started life'.

Mr. Taaita Toweett, President of the General Conference, then made a statement in which he said 'Today is a time of celebration [. . .] that requires us to take a moment for reflection'. Looking back over thirty years of UNESCO's action, he referred to illiteracy, a field in which UNESCO had done so much to reduce the percentage of illiterates, although the absolute number of illiterates continued to rise, an indication of the difficulty of success for action at the world level without the co-operation of all at the national level. He expressed his belief that governments would hearken to UNESCO's sustained call of conscience and that in the next three decades its influence would be broadened. 'UNESCO', he said, 'has awakened the conscience of the world in respect of many problems [. . .] Overcoming those problems is, then, a question of will'.

The next to speak was Mr. Hector Wynter, Chairman of the Executive Board, who welcomed the fact that the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of UNESCO was taking place in a region that might well be called the 'cradle of mankind', in that it was there, in that region of Africa, in Olduvai Gorge, that fossil traces of *Homo sapiens* had been discovered.

He reviewed in very broad outline the history of the world since 1915, when the beginnings of modern, organized multilateral relations had been attempted, after bitter wars, at the Congress of Vienna. He went on to refer to the First World War, the League of Nations, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the Second World War, the establishment of the United Nations and, one year later, on 4 November 1946, the birth of UNESCO in London. He drew a parallel between the world of 30 years before and the contemporary world, pointing out the substantial differences between them, among which were the tremendous growth of UNESCO, in the number of Member States and in the diversity of activities. 'The spirit of UNESCO', he said, 'will not die as long as there is need for nations to work together to prevent war and to promote justice'.

Speaking next, Mr. Munyua Waiyaki, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya, began by referring to the birth of UNESCO, and went on to draw attention to the 1960s when 'the wind of change began to blow all over the world [. . .] The colonies became politically independent and [. . .] lost no time in joining the United Nations Organization and its specialized agencies, including UNESCO'. He recalled that UNESCO had been established 'for the purpose of advancing, through educational, scientific and cultural relations of the peoples of the world, the objectives of international peace and the common welfare of mankind', and expressed the hope that the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary would fill all present with new joy, with new ideals, new determinations, new outlook and make them act as dignified men and women.

The last speaker was Mr. James Mancham, President of the Republic of Seychelles, who recalled his childhood in Kenya and paid tribute to Mzee Jomo Kenyatta. He indicated the urgent need for a code of education and behaviour that would transcend national differences, ideological purposes and prejudices and all forms of religious, racial or colour discrimination, a code aimed at fostering at the root level the true spirit of friendship and respect among all the people of the world, and at clearly demonstrating the fact that boundaries in human experience were humanly made. Once that code was promulgated, UNESCO would have to ensure that it was used as a basis for educating all the world's children that they were brothers in the same family of mankind.

1977–1980

The biennium 1977–1978

THE SECRETARIAT

The years 1977 and 1978 were a period of intensive activity based on the consensus reached at the nineteenth session of the General Conference, which enabled UNESCO to act with the effective support of all its Member States.

The approval of the Medium-Term Plan made it possible to view the programmes in a global perspective, beginning with the contribution to the establishment of a new international economic order and the concept of development centred on man as both its principal agent and its ultimate beneficiary, a form of development which went beyond economic growth and in which the educational, cultural and social aspects were essential dimensions.

To make the public at large aware of the Medium-Term Plan for 1977–1982, UNESCO published in 1977 the book *Thinking Ahead – UNESCO and the Challenges of Today and Tomorrow*.

The Deputy Director-General, Mr. John E. Fobes (United States) retired on 31 December 1977, and on 6 June 1978 Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza (Spain), a professor of biochemistry who had been Rector of the University of Granada and Under-Secretary in his country's Ministry of Education, was appointed to the post.

On 30 September 1978 Mr. Jacques Rigaud (France) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for Studies and Programming, and was replaced by Mr. G. V. Rao (India).

In June 1977 the financial situation was normalized, when the United States paid the amounts it had been withholding from its contribution since the end of 1974.

EDUCATION

The problem of illiteracy was a disturbing one, in that the absolute numbers of illiterates were constantly increasing, and the planning and evaluation of literacy projects thus came to be regarded as one of the priority objectives.

The Secretariat prepared and sent to Member States a questionnaire on the phenomenon of drop-out among school-age girls; 62 replies were received, and in addition, five Member States undertook country studies and 17 participated in the exchange of information and experience.

UNESCO's aid to refugees and national liberation movements covered two categories: (a) the national liberation movements of Africa recognized by OAU and, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), African refugees; and (b) the Palestine Liberation Organization recognized by the League of Arab States, and, through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Palestine refugees.

From 7 to 16 November 1977, the Fourth Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in the Arab States was held in Abu Dhabi. One of the issues discussed was the educational strategies to be implemented to meet the new demands of development.

In July – August 1978, the Fourth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia and Oceania took place at Colombo. It adopted a Declaration which stressed the role of educational innovation both for the modernization of societies and for strengthening their own cultural values.

From 1 to 26 October 1977, the Intergovernmental Conference on Environmental Education was held in Tbilisi (USSR) in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme.

Two meetings took place in Madrid; the first, from 13 to 17 February 1978, was the First Ibero-American Seminar on Educational Administration, while the second, on 22 and 23 September of the same year, was an expert meeting on foreign language teaching.

Other topics of interest were: training and scientific and technological research in relation to the teaching of science and technology; educational structures, content, methods and techniques; training of educational personnel; the role of higher education in society; adult education; and the Associated Schools Project, which continued to develop very positively as an instrument for promoting education in international understanding, co-operation and peace. The total number of schools involved rose to 1,276.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Work continued in order to respond to various situations, especially in the developing countries. UNESCO assisted 38 countries to set up or strengthen govern-

mental structures for formulating and implementing national science and technology policies.

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission strengthened its regional activities in the western Indian Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Southern Ocean and the Caribbean, stress being laid on the search for mineral and biological resources.

In the course of the biennium, 87 new areas were officially designated as biosphere reserves. At the end of 1978 there were 145 reserves in 35 countries.

The International Co-ordinating Council of the MAB programme met in Vienna from 24 October to 1 November 1978 and identified a number of basic principles for the more effective implementation of the Programme.

The International Hydrological Programme made satisfactory progress in 1977–1978.

Many training courses and symposiums on cell and molecular biology were organized in co-operation with the International Cell Research Organization (ICRO).

The first phase of the SPINES pilot programme was carried out in the course of the biennium to bring about broader and more balanced exchange of the information needed by Member States in order to formulate, implement and monitor their national science and technology policies. The co-ordinated multilingual adaptation in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish of the English source version of the *SPINES Thesaurus* was organized.

From 21 to 25 November 1977, the International Congress '2001 – Urban Space for Life and Work' was held at UNESCO Headquarters in collaboration with the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.

To commemorate the centenary of the birth of Einstein, an international meeting was held in Munich and Ulm (Federal Republic of Germany) in September 1978 to review the impact of modern scientific ideas on society.

From 28 August to 6 September 1978 an Intergovernmental Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics was held in the Palacio de Congresos of Torremolinos (Malaga, Spain), attended by His Majesty Juan Carlos of Spain and the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. M'Bow. Eighty countries and many organizations were represented. The Conference considered 25 draft resolutions.

The first Ibero-American Conference on Scientific and Technological Information and Documentation, organized by the Supreme Council for Scientific Research of Spain, was held in Madrid from 11 to 15 September 1978, with the collaboration of UNESCO. It was attended by 105 representatives from 14 countries, and considered nine reports on issues related to the title of the meeting.

The Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology Policies in the European and North American Region, convened by UNESCO, took place in Belgrade from 11 to 16 September 1978. It was attended by 33

countries from the region and by delegations and observers from other Member States and various organizations.

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

To discuss the principles and strategies of INTERCONCEPT, a project designed to clarify the meaning of social science terminology based on analyses of the use of concepts in various languages, an expert meeting was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 9 to 11 March 1977. The Advisory Committee appointed at the meeting drew up a pilot project which was considered at a second meeting held in Hattenheim (Federal Republic of Germany) from 30 May to 1 June 1978.

The World Conference for Action against Apartheid took place in Lagos (Nigeria) in August 1977; UNESCO paid great attention to its recommendations, and intensified its programme on the subject, particularly during International Anti-Apartheid Year (1978).

On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Congress on the Teaching of Human Rights took place in Vienna from 12 to 16 November 1978.

The programme relating to women was restructured to reflect the three aims of the United Nations Decade for Women (1976–1985): equality, development and peace. There was also an increase in research and teaching in relation to women's rights.

The 100th issue of the review *Diogenes*, which had been in existence for 25 years, was published in 1978.

Other issues dealt with in this sector were: peace research, appreciation and respect for cultural identity, global interpretation of development, integrated rural development, problems of social disharmony, the application of the social sciences to the development of the role of youth in society, and environmental and population problems.

CULTURE

The International Scientific Committee for the drafting of the *General History of Africa* sent in the final versions of the manuscripts of volumes I and II to the Secretariat during the last quarter of 1978.

UNESCO's major international campaigns continued to make progress. By the end of 1978, 85 per cent of the work of reassembling the monuments of Philae (Egypt) had been carried out. In Venice, the private committees set up under the campaign contributed to the restoration of some monuments. In Indonesia, work on reassembling the northern and southern faces of Borobudur was nearly completed. In Moenjodaro (Pakistan), a new river diversion scheme was approved, and in Carthage a plan to create a national historical and natural park

was completed in 1978. In Kathmandu, a master plan for the valley was completed. Other locations where studies or work were conducted were Fez (Morocco), Herat (Afghanistan), Guatemala and East Africa.

On 10 January 1977 the Director-General of UNESCO issued an appeal from the Parthenon in Athens to save the monuments of the Acropolis.

As a result of various voluntary contributions, the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture already amounted to \$4.3.

From 10 to 20 January 1978, an Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Bogota (Colombia), focused its attention primarily on the problem of cultural identity. It was attended by 200 delegates from 26 countries of the region and by observers from other Member States and from various organizations.

Volumes 27 and 28 of the *Index Translationum* were completed, and the first of them was published. Quarterly publication of the review *Cultures* in English and French continued, and in 1978 UNESCO began publishing it in Spanish.

A total of 72 works were translated and published in the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works, including some low-cost editions.

In 1978, the first UNESCO publication in the Insights series appeared, under the title *Suicide or Survival? The Challenge of the Year 2000*.

On the basis of an agreement signed between UNESCO and the Government of Cameroon, the Regional Book Development Centre for Africa South of the Sahara was established.

COMMUNICATION

This biennium was a milestone in the field of communication within the UNESCO programme, in that it saw the establishment by the Director-General, in October 1977, of an International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems, composed of 16 specialists from 16 countries under the chairmanship of Mr. Sean MacBride (Ireland).

The Commission held its first meeting at UNESCO Headquarters from 14 to 16 December 1977, and two others, also at Headquarters, in April and July 1978, and organized an international seminar on the infrastructure of news collection and dissemination in the world. The Commission's main objective was 'to define general agreement on how men should organize the free and balanced exchange of information and ensure that the communication media contribute more effectively to the advancement of peoples and their mutual understanding'.¹ In May 1978 an expert meeting was held in Stockholm to promote discus-

1. The text of the statement made by Mr. Sean MacBride at the 21st World Congress of Newspaper Publishers, held at The Hague on 26 May 1988, is extremely interesting.

sion on the relatively new concept of the right to communicate within the context of a new world information and communication order.

Within the theoretical framework of UNISIST, work was conducted on the planning of an international information network on education and the promotion of a world network on technical information.

A list of regional and national bibliographies of printed and audiovisual materials was published to help developing countries select the works for which they wished to acquire translation, reproduction, adaptation and other rights.

The fourteenth and fifteenth editions of the *UNESCO Statistical Yearbook* were published in 1978.

HEADQUARTERS

The sixth building went into use on 3 October 1977, with a consequent reallocation of office space within the Secretariat and an increase in the accommodation provided for permanent delegations, of which there were now 90.

MEMBER STATES

Two countries signed the Constitution in 1977 and three in 1978, bringing the number of Member States to 145 at the end of the biennium.

REGIONAL OFFICES

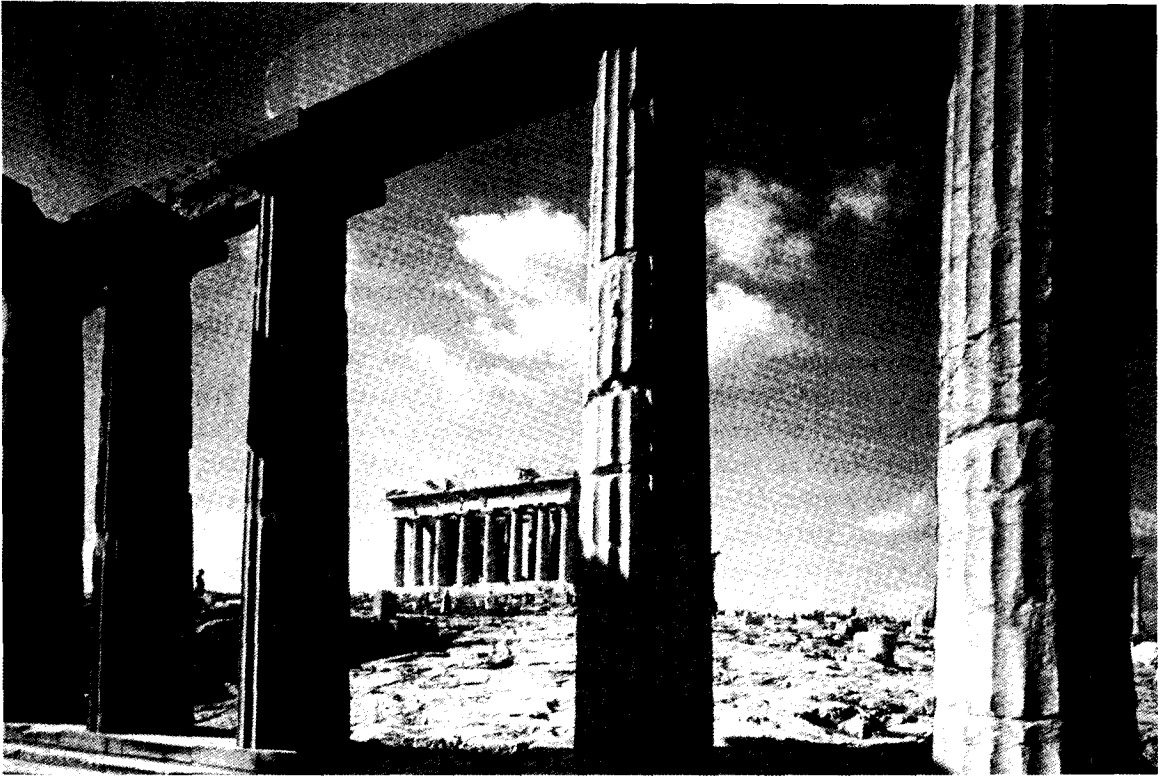
Both the regional offices and the regional advisers in the various sectors performed their roles satisfactorily, and carried out many activities: courses, seminars and other meetings, publications, provision of advice, participation in projects, etc. Space does not permit a detailed account of these activities.

OTHER ISSUES

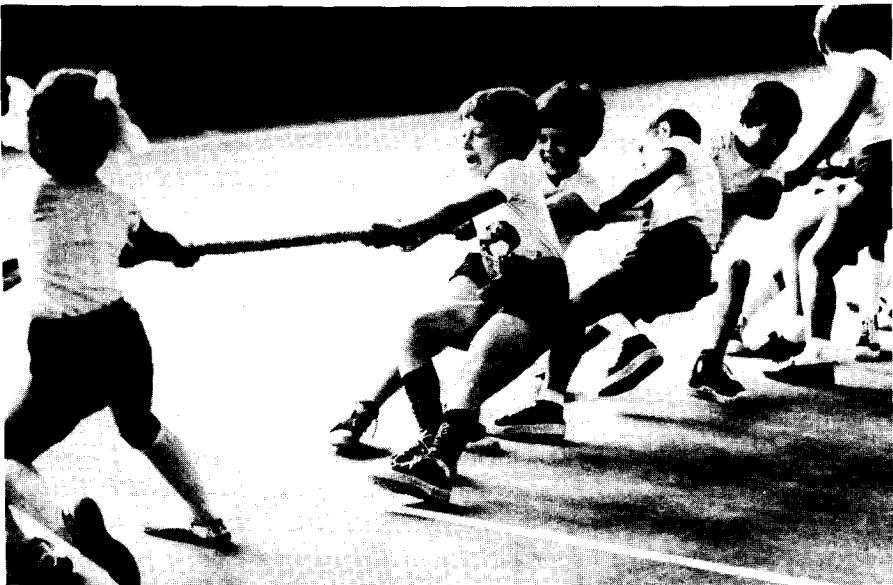
On 30 January 1978 a bibliographical exhibition commemorating the 1000th anniversary of the Spanish language opened at UNESCO Headquarters.

From 17 to 21 April 1978, the first World Conference of UNESCO Clubs was held at Headquarters, 30 years after the first such club had been founded in Japan. The Japanese shipbuilding industry made a generous contribution to the holding of the Congress.

On 27 October of the same year, the Director-General awarded the UNESCO Silver Medal to three chairmen and nine secretaries of National Commissions who had been in office for at least 15 years.



The Acropolis, Athens.



Sport in education, education in sport.

THE TWENTIETH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twentieth session of the General Conference took place at UNESCO Headquarters from 24 October to 28 November 1978.

It was attended by representatives of 139 Member States, two observers from non-Member States, 10 observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 21 observers from intergovernmental organizations, 134 observers from international non-governmental organizations and five from liberation movements recognized by OAU and the League of Arab States.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Napoléon Leblanc (Canada) as President, and one representative of each of the following 23 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Barbados, Burundi, Cuba, China, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Indonesia, Libya, Japan, Liberia, Mozambique, Netherlands, Oman, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Uruguay. The General Conference established Commission I (education), Commission II (natural sciences), Commission III (social sciences), Commission IV (culture and communication), Commission V (general programme matters) and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Taaita Toweett (Kenya) as President of the previous General Conference. He began by expressing thanks, on behalf of all present, to the 'Stetoslav Obretenov' National Choir of Bulgaria, which had begun the meeting with music by Beethoven and poetry by Schiller. He extended a special welcome to all present and recalled personalities who had died since the nineteenth session of the General Conference, including the Presidents of Cyprus (Archbishop Makarios) and Kenya (Mzee Jomo Kenyatta), Popes Paul VI and John Paul I, some former members of the Executive Board and permanent representatives, as well as the retired staff member and former Secretary of the General Conference, Mr. Manuel Jiménez. A minute's silence was observed by all.

He welcomed the representatives of new Member States and referred to the major effort that was expected of everyone in the working meetings of the Conference, singling out the importance of the draft Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice and the contribution of UNESCO to the establishment of a new international economic order. He then mentioned an important event – the holding in the course of the year of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights – and expressed his hope that the twentieth session of the General Conference would constitute an important step in advancing the noble objectives of UNESCO.

The next speaker was the President of the Executive Board, Mr. Leonard

C. J. Martin (United Kingdom), who also thanked the Bulgarian choir for its performance and expressed his confidence that the 'spirit of Nairobi' would prevail in the debates at the Conference and would facilitate solution of the problems or difficulties that might arise.

Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, President of the French Republic, attended the seventh plenary meeting (on 27 October) and delivered an important statement on 'Education and Teachers in Modern Society'.

The General Conference elected 20 members of the Executive Board, and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Chams Eldine El-Wakil (Egypt) being elected to that office.

The following are some of the topics of interest dealt with at this session of the General Conference.

Education

The Director-General was authorized to continue and extend the measures designed to promote the right to education of migrant workers and their families, to encourage activities that would contribute to improving the status of women and their participation in economic, social and cultural development, to carry out activities designed to develop scientific and technological training and research and technical and vocational education, to stimulate the preparation and application of comprehensive educational structures and to improve the planning of education, as well as its administration and management.

The General Conference proclaimed the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport for the purpose of 'placing the development of physical education and sport at the service of human progress, promoting their development, and urging Governments, competent non-governmental organizations, educators, families and individuals themselves to be guided thereby, to disseminate it and to put it into practice'.

It appealed most earnestly to Member States to contribute generously to the Endowment Fund of the United Nations University and/or to make special contributions for research and training activities.

Expressing its profound concern at the increasing scale of illiteracy throughout the world, the General Conference invited the Director-General to carry out activities aimed at furthering the strategy for combating illiteracy, and launched an urgent appeal to Member States, to governmental and non-governmental organizations and to all groups concerned with education, to support literacy activities by all the means at their disposal.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was invited to promote the progress of science and technology for peaceful purposes and the effective application of scientific and technological achievements to the economic, social and cultural development of all

peoples; to participate in the formulation of an integrated science and technology policy for all United Nations organizations concerned; to attempt to increase endogenous capabilities for scientific and technological creation, making it possible to work out appropriate technologies or to adapt existing technologies, to carry out feasibility studies of technology for rural development and to improve knowledge of terrestrial biological resources in the context of the Man and the Biosphere programme.

The General Conference decided to amend some articles of the Statutes of the Board of the International Geological Correlation Programme and considered it expedient to bring about the development of the Programme and Plan of the second phase of the International Hydrological Programme.

It also authorized the Director-General to continue providing secretariat services to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, to develop the scientific basis for understanding and improving interrelationships between man and marine systems, oceanic and coastal, and to develop activities designed to promote the preservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage of mankind in the field of science and technology.

Social sciences and their applications

The General Conference adopted and solemnly proclaimed the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice, which comprised ten articles.

The Director-General was authorized to promote understanding of the respective roles women and men play in society, and to help to improve and increase the participation of women in all decisions concerning the future of society; to encourage teaching and education aimed at promoting peace and international understanding, to work for greater awareness of the social, cultural and ethical implications of scientific and technological advance, to promote young people's commitment to international co-operation, development, human rights, peace and disarmament, and to develop knowledge of the problems associated with drug use and strengthen educational measures calculated to contribute to their solution.

Recalling that the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Republic of Turkey, was to be celebrated in 1981, the General Conference decided that UNESCO should co-operate on the intellectual and technical planes with the Turkish Government, given that Atatürk had set an outstanding example in promoting the spirit of mutual understanding among peoples.

In addition, in consideration of the fact that 1980 was the thousandth anniversary of the birth of the outstanding scientific thinker Abu'Ali ibn Abdallah ibn Sina (Avicenna), the General Conference called on Member States to observe it and requested the Director-General to make provision, in UNESCO's Programme for 1979–1980, for the celebration of the anniversary.

Culture

The Director-General was invited to prepare a 'UNESCO Project Horizon 2000' with the aim of enabling the African languages to be used as languages of instruction before the end of the century, to assist the countries of the Mediterranean subregion to set up a Mediterranean Cultural Centre in Malta designed specifically to foster awareness of the Mediterranean cultural heritage, and to ensure the presence of UNESCO in Jerusalem with a view to the preservation of the city and the site.

The General Conference decided, considering the prospects outlined by the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Bogota in 1978, to support the action of the Dominican Republic in setting up a Regional Centre for the Study of Caribbean Cultures, to be located in Santo Domingo.

It also decided to revise the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind*, and authorized the Director-General to constitute an International Commission under the Presidency of Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro.

Considering the great significance of the celebration of the 1400th anniversary of the Hegira, the starting point for Islamic civilization and culture, the General Conference requested the Director-General to take appropriate measures and arrange activities to celebrate it, and also invited him to provide assistance and support to the Centre of Comparative Islamic Studies established in Isfahan (Iran) by the Al-Farabi University.²

The Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation (11 articles) were approved.

Member States were called upon to assist in the conservation of the cultural and natural heritage of the Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) and to co-operate with the Government of Thailand in its efforts to implement the Sukhothai Historical Park Project.

The General Conference noted that the International Campaign to Safeguard Philae was progressing satisfactorily and that the Government of Egypt intended, after completing the project, to organize a great ceremony in Egypt.

Communication

The Director-General was invited to continue the effort to analyse the process and role of communication; to promote the initiative embodied in a recommendation of the international symposium on the theme 'Cinema and Society', or-

2. The beginning of the Hegira coincides with the year 622 of the Christian Era, but as the Muslim calendar consists of lunar years of 354 days, year 1400 of the Hegira corresponded to 1979 of the Christian Era.

ganized by UNESCO in California in August 1978, for the preparation of a History of the Cinema; and to request the members of the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems to address themselves, in the course of preparing their final report, to the consideration and proposal of concrete and practical measures leading to the establishment of a more just and effective world information order.

The General Conference approved the Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racism, Apartheid and Incitement to War.

Headquarters

The General Conference noted with satisfaction that the sixth building had been completed and inaugurated in October 1977, within the time-limits laid down, and requested the French Government to continue its search for long-term solutions that would make it possible to bring all UNESCO's facilities together and to build an entirely new Headquarters inside Paris.

Other decisions

1. The General Conference, recalling the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly which proclaimed 1979 as the International Year of the Child, invited the Director-General to promote appropriate activities in the context of that International Year;
2. Having considered the decision of the Executive Board to establish the International Simón Bolívar Prize (financed by the Government of Venezuela), to be awarded every two years to the person or persons who had made an outstanding contribution to the freedom, independence and dignity of peoples, the General Conference invited the Director-General to take the measures necessary to ensure the widest possible dissemination of that initiative, which would begin on 24 July 1983, the date of the bicentenary of Bolívar's birth;
3. The General Conference decided that the budget cycle would be triennial for the period 1981–1983, in order to harmonize the planning and budget cycles with those of the United Nations, and also decided to convene an extraordinary session of the General Conference in 1982 for the purpose of approving the Medium-Term Plan for 1984–1989 and, if necessary, of considering the financial problems connected with the triennial Programme and Budget for 1981–1983;
4. The Director-General was requested to give the Russian language the same status enjoyed by the more widely used working languages of the Organization, and to submit to the General Conference at its twenty-first session a plan to ensure that it gradually attained such equality of status;

5. The Director-General was also requested to take measures to give Arabic the same status in UNESCO as the other more widely used working languages, while observing the principle of selectivity;
6. The revised Recommendation concerning International Competitions in Architecture and Town Planning was adopted;
7. The Recommendation for the Protection of Movable Cultural Property was adopted;
8. The revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics was adopted;
9. The Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on Science and Technology was adopted;
10. It was agreed that the twenty-first session of the General Conference would be held in Belgrade, at the invitation of the Government of Yugoslavia;
11. A budget of \$303 million was approved for the biennium 1979-1980.

The biennium 1979-1980

THE SECRETARIAT

This biennium was the second two-year period of the Medium-Term Plan adopted in Nairobi in 1976, and the Organization began its consideration of the future lines of emphasis to be followed in its activities, with a view to the preparation of the second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989).

The new system of evaluation of UNESCO went into effect in this biennium. Activities focused on three main aspects: attention to systematizing and improving existing practices in individual programme actions; consolidated evaluation of programme themes; and selective evaluations of specific projects.

Mrs. Martha Hildebrandt (Peru), Assistant Director-General for Social Sciences, had left on 31 December 1978; Mr. Jacques Havet (France) was appointed to replace her, and he in turn was replaced, on 15 August 1979, by Mr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen (Mexico).

On 3 February 1979 Mr. Jean Knapp (France) took over as Assistant Director-General for the Bureau of Studies and Programming.

The Director-General visited 22 countries, in some cases to attend meetings of special interest and in others to make direct contact with certain projects or with given authorities in the interests of the Organization.

EDUCATION

In 1970, one adult in three had been illiterate, but the efforts made had significantly reduced the illiteracy rate among the world population, from 32.4 per cent

among those aged 15 years or over in 1970 to 28.9 per cent in 1980. It was estimated that in 1990 the figure would be 25.7 per cent. However, the absolute number of illiterate adults had continued to increase, and it was estimated that in 1980 they numbered 814 million, as against 742 million in 1970. If that trend continued, the 21st century would begin with at least 954 million illiterate adults.

In 1980 UNESCO published the book entitled *The Experimental World Literacy Programme: A Critical Assessment*.

Within the framework of the International Year of the Child and in order to promote pre-school education in Africa, a seminar was held in Dakar in November 1979, in collaboration with UNICEF, on the needs of the African child and the adaptation of pre-school education to his cultural, economic and social environment.

In the same context, the exhibition of 'Children's games and toys throughout the world' was shown in ten Member States, and two books were published: *The Child and Play* and *Impact of Educational Television on Young Children*.

From 12 to 21 June 1980, the Third Conference of Ministers of Education of Member States of the Europe Region was held in Sofia, and looked into the problems relating to educational policy that would have to be faced during the 1980s.

From 17 to 21 December 1979, the International Conference of States for the Adoption of the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the States of the Europe Region was held at UNESCO Headquarters. The text of the Convention was adopted unanimously by the representatives of all countries attending.

The thirty-seventh session of the International Conference on Education was held in Geneva from 4 to 14 July 1979, coinciding with the fiftieth anniversary of the International Bureau of Education, which was commemorated by a ceremony held on 7 July.

The Fifth Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning of Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Mexico City from 4 to 13 December 1979, and concluded with the adoption of a declaration containing principles and guidelines for the development of education in the region over the coming decades.

The Regional Centre for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CRESALC), which had been opened in Caracas, largely devoted the 1979–1980 biennium to setting up its services. Among other publications, three issues of a newsletter entitled *Higher Education* appeared.

The Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport held a meeting at UNESCO Headquarters in July 1979. The main issue discussed was the promotion of physical education and sport as an integral part of life-long education.

From 30 June to 4 July 1980 a symposium was held in Dakar to evaluate

achievements in combating discrimination in the field of education and identify the obstacles impeding the exercise of the right to education.

An anthology on peace entitled *Peace on Earth*, prepared with funds from the John XXIII Peace Prize, which had been awarded to UNESCO, was published.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The main features of the Man and the Biosphere programme during the biennium were an expansion of operational activities, decentralization of the programme, its ongoing evaluation and the intensification of training activities in the developing countries, using the field of pilot projects as a starting point.

The first six-year phase (1975-1980) of the International Hydrological Programme ended satisfactorily. Of 67 subprojects relating to the eight major scientific projects selected for this phase, 54 had been completed as of the end of 1980.

Under the International Geological Correlation Programme, 73 National Committees and 37 official contacts had been established, bringing the number of Member States associated with the Programme to 110.

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission continued to carry out the activities decided on by its Assembly and its Executive Council. By November 1979, 103 Member States were participating in the Commission's work.

The United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held in Vienna from 20 to 31 August 1979, provided a good opportunity for UNESCO to make known the work it had done. Special mention should be made here of the booklet entitled *New Perspectives in International Scientific and Technological Co-operation*, summarizing UNESCO's experience and its knowledge of needs and trends in Member States in this field. The regional offices collaborated with the various countries in drawing up their national reports.

Mention should be made of the Intergovernment Conference on Scientific and Technological Information for Development (UNISIST II), held at UNESCO Headquarters from 28 May to 1 June 1979.

UNESCO organized, in collaboration with UNEP and ICRO, a number of courses on microbiology which were attended by some 350 students.

In April 1979 an International Symposium on Earthquake Prediction, attended by some 250 specialists from over 30 countries, was held at Headquarters.

Following completion of the French version of the *SPINES Thesaurus* with the collaboration of the International Council of the French Language, the English version was published. The Spanish version was being prepared in collaboration with the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Ibero-American States and with a number of Spanish-speaking Member States.

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

From 12 to 16 November 1979, 56 leading figures from all over the world attended a Peace Forum in Paris. The meeting was characterized by the concern evinced for the preservation of world peace, respect for human rights and the condemnation of all forms of torture.

In the context of the International Year of the Child, a multidisciplinary inter-institutional project was carried out, aimed at the establishment of an international network for the study of the socio-cultural problems relating to the status, situation and role of children.

From 8 to 12 October 1979, a regional expert meeting was held in Kinshasa (Zaire) on the formulation of social science policies. It was attended by 18 specialists from 12 African countries, and laid the basis for a long-term effort to promote national social science policies in Africa.

Assistance continued to be given to the Centre for Social Science Research and Documentation for the Arab Region, and co-operation between UNESCO and the Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO) continued. The headquarters of the Faculty was transferred to San José (Costa Rica).

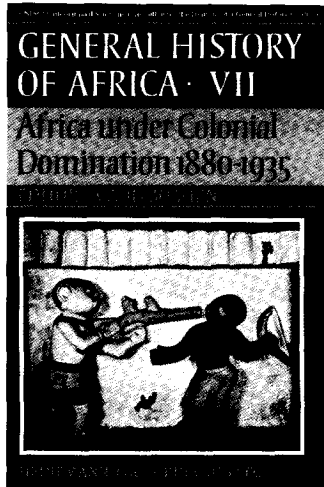
From 17 to 22 December 1979, a regional meeting on youth in Africa, organized by UNESCO, was held in Nairobi. It was attended by 32 senior officials from 21 Member States in the region and 13 observers from other countries and organizations.

From 25 to 29 August 1980, a meeting took place at Santiago de Compostela (Spain), with financial support from the Pedro Barrié de la Maza Foundation, for the purpose of bringing philosophical attention to bear on the 'Study of the relationships between man and his environment', with particular attention to the concept of living space.

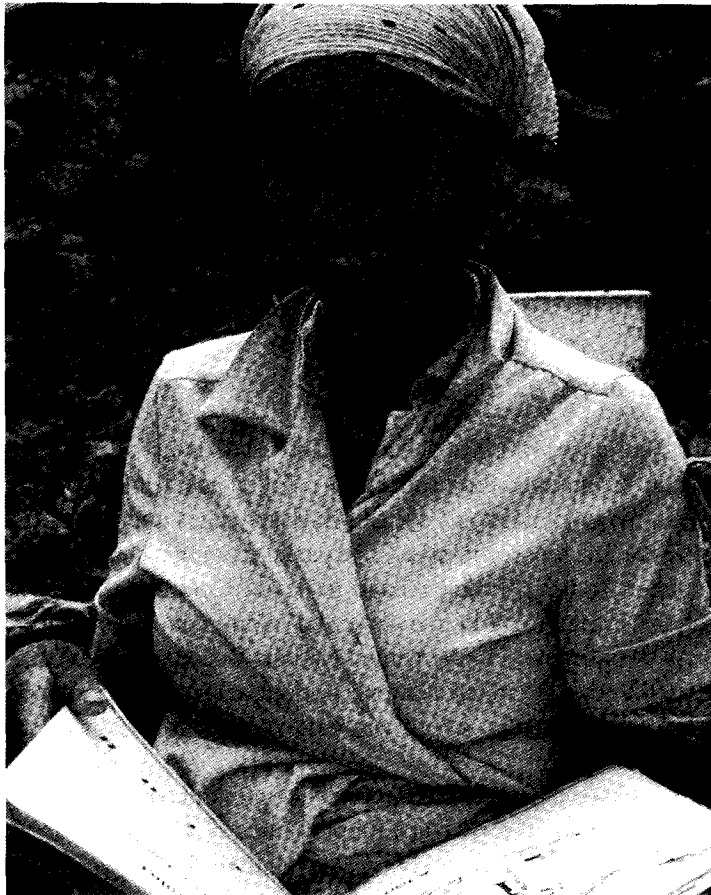
CULTURE

On 10 March 1980 the inauguration of the Philae temples, reconstruction of which on Agilkia island had been completed in August 1979, took place in Upper Egypt. The ceremony marked the completion of the International Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia, initiated by the Director-General's appeal twenty years before, on 8 March 1960. 'Victory in Nubia' was the final title of the campaign, the first and most important of its kind so far carried out by UNESCO. Negotiations continued in Egypt on the establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and a new National Museum in Cairo.

During the biennium, campaigns were launched in other locations: Sukhothai (Thailand), monuments in Montenegro, Malta, Haiti, Sri Lanka, the old city of Fez and the Island of Gorée (Senegal). At the same time, activities continued in support of Venice, Borobudur, Moenjodaro, Carthage and Sidi bou Said (Tunisia), the Acropolis and the Kathmandu Valley.



One of the eight volumes of the *General History of Africa*.



The condition of women is a constant preoccupation of UNESCO in all of its activities.

In 1980 the World Heritage List, established under the Convention approved by the General Conference at its seventeenth session, included 85 monuments and sites.

Within the context of the International Year of the Child, increased attention was paid to promoting children's books, and light was thrown on the relations between children and art.

The first two volumes of the *General History of Africa*, compiled on the responsibility of an international committee comprising 39 members, two thirds of them African, were published.

Implementation of The 'Ten-year Plan for the study of African oral traditions and the promotion of African languages', now in its operational phase, was continued.

From 22 to 26 October 1979, an expert meeting was held at Granada (Spain), in co-operation with ALECSO, on mutual relations between Arab culture and other cultures.

UNESCO contributed to the fourth International Congress on South-East European Cultures, organized by the International Association for South-East European Studies at Ankara in August 1979.

In March 1980 a World Theatre Conference, organized jointly by UNESCO and the International Theatre Institute, took place at Headquarters, attended by representatives of theatrical circles from 48 countries.

In Varna (Bulgaria), in June 1979, a workshop on the deaf-mute theatre was organized in the context of the International Year of Disabled Persons.

COMMUNICATION

On 22 February 1980, Mr. Sean MacBride handed to the Director-General the report on 'Communication and Society Today and Tomorrow', which was published in the Organization's six working languages under the title *Many Voices, One World*. The report comprised five parts: 'Communication and Society', 'Communication Today', 'Problems and Issues of Common Concern', 'The Institutional and Professional Framework' and 'Communication Tomorrow'.

As a contribution to the United Nations Decade for Women, UNESCO collaborated with the United Nations in organizing an International Seminar on Women and the Media, which was held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, in 1980.

Two major regional conferences on communication policies were held: one for Asia and Oceania (Kuala Lumpur, January 1979) and another for Africa (Yaoundé, June 1980). They followed a conference which had been held in 1976 in San José (Costa Rica), on Communication Policies for Latin America and the Caribbean, and they highlighted the disparities existing in the world with regard to communication.

The Multilateral Convention designed to avoid double taxation of copyright royalties remitted from one country to another was approved at a meeting held in Madrid from 26 October to 13 December 1979.

Publication of a fortnightly bulletin in English and French entitled *UNESCO News*, aimed at Permanent Delegations, National Commissions and UNESCO staff away from Headquarters, began in 1979.

HEADQUARTERS

All the measures recommended by the Security Commission for High Rise Buildings of the Paris Préfecture de Police were applied in the sixth building (Bonvin).

The Director-General informed the French Government of UNESCO's interest in the offer by the City of Paris to make available, at Javel on the banks of the Seine, land which might lend itself to a long-term solution.

MEMBER STATES

Two further countries signed the Constitution in 1979, and eight more did so in 1980, bringing the number of Member States to 153.

OTHER ISSUES

UNESCO initiated the International Year of the Child on 28 January 1979 with a television programme produced jointly by UNESCO and French television.

UNESCO published a book entitled *What Kind of World are we Leaving Our Children*, the subject of a round-table organized by UNESCO in June 1978.

THE TWENTY-FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

This session of the General Conference was held in Belgrade from 23 September to 28 October 1980. It was attended by delegates from 150 Member States, an observer from one non-Member State, 13 observers from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 24 from intergovernmental organizations and 97 from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Ivo Margan (Yugoslavia) as President, and one delegate of each of the following 32 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Angola, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, China, Democratic Yemen, France, Gabon, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

The General Conference established Commissions I (education), II (natural

sciences), III (social sciences), IV (culture and communication), V (general programme matters) and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee and the Headquarters Committee. The Drafting and Negotiation Group was also established.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Napoléon Leblanc as President of the previous session of the General Conference. He invited all present to listen to the Collegium Musicum Women's Choir of the Belgrade Faculty of Music, which sang, under the direction of Mrs. Darinka Matic-Marovic, the ode composed by Radomir Petrovic for the 86th birthday of Marshal Tito in 1978.

The next speaker was Mr. Cvijetin Mijatovic, President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, who acknowledged the great honour done to Yugoslavia by the holding there of the twenty-first session of the UNESCO General Conference. 'We are conscious', he said, 'of the exceptional complexity of relations in the world. We know that we are only at the threshold of many of our undertakings and that, in the interest of mankind and universal progress, we all have to face a period of considerable, patient and arduous work for the realization of the goals into which are woven the hopes and aspirations of millions the world over.' 'At this moment, UNESCO assembles practically all the countries of the world and co-ordinates their efforts in highly significant fields. Its activity represents one of the most convincing examples and proofs of how greatly all nations today are interrelated and how peace, progress and happiness of all today are inconceivable unless they are equally accessible to all'.

Next to take the floor was Mr. Leblanc, who paid tribute to two of his predecessors who had died since the previous General Conference – Mr. Bedrettin Tuncel (Turkey) and Mr. Toru Hagiwara (Japan) – as well as to Professor Jean Piaget (Switzerland), former Director of the International Bureau of Education, and to Marshal Josip Broz Tito, President of the Republic of Yugoslavia. He went on to express his hope that the present session of the General Conference would be an example of solidarity among peoples, which was, ultimately, the Organization's true *raison d'être*.

The next speaker was the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Chams Eldine El-Wakil (Egypt), who greeted all present, thanked the President of the Republic for his presence and recalled that, when at the previous session of the General Conference it had been decided to accept the invitation of the Government of Yugoslavia to hold the twenty-first session there, no one had thought that the meeting would take place without the voice of Marshal Tito being heard at it.³ He emphasized his full confidence in the success of the Conference, and expressed the hope that it would be the Conference of understanding and unity.

Last to speak was the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. M'Bow, who

3. He had died on 4 May 1980.

thanked Mr. Mijatovic and all delegates and representatives for their presence and paid tribute to the memory of Marshal Tito, referring in laudatory terms to some of his writings and activities.

He referred among other issues to the scientific knowledge made available for military purposes, with the result that the arms race was taking on disturbing dimensions; that was one of the reasons why he wished to address a message to all present expressing his hope that the present session of the General Conference would give new impetus to international collaboration and solidarity. ‘Just as we have spoken for the past four years of the ‘spirit of Nairobi’, he said, ‘we may rightly speak of the ‘spirit of Belgrade’.

The Medium-Term Plan

The General Conference considered the preliminary report of the Director-General on the Medium-Term Plan for 1984–1989, and commented on the Plan’s general approach, characteristics and presentation, the kinds of action to be provided for and the necessary consultations with Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Education

Member States were invited to apply the provisions of the Convention and the Recommendation against Discrimination in Education; to promote foreign language courses for all age-groups, and training and retraining courses for teachers of less widely taught languages; and to make voluntary contributions to the International Institute for Educational Planning and the UNESCO Institute for Education in Hamburg.

The Director-General was authorized to convene two sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport during the biennium 1981–1983, to launch an international appeal for financial and material support for Ethiopia to enable it to intensify its campaign against illiteracy, to make material and technical contributions so that the over-all literacy, adult education and integrated rural development programme could be intensified, and to continue supporting the operation of the International Bureau of Education and the International Institute for Educational Planning.

Considering the appeal made to UNESCO in the Mexico Declaration adopted by acclamation at the fifth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning of Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean (4–13 December 1979) to take the initiative of putting forward a major project on education in the region, the General Conference requested the Director-General to organize in 1981 an intergovernmental regional meeting to help in defining the objectives, strategies and methods of action for that project, to which special attention should be paid when the next Medium-Term Plan was being drawn up.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was invited to prepare the activities of the main scientific programmes in such a way that they would fully benefit all Member States, to give special attention to the need to strengthen the intergovernmental programme in the marine sciences and ocean services so as to assist all countries to cope with the demands placed on them in connection with the new ocean regime emerging from the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, and to carry out activities aimed at the establishment of an international information system relating to new and renewable energy sources.

The General Conference approved eight major regional projects for the application of science and technology to development.

Social sciences and their applications

Two main issues were dealt with at this General Conference: a plan for the development of human rights teaching and information and the involvement of youth in various spheres of social life.

Member States were invited to celebrate in 1981 the centenary of the birth of Teilhard de Chardin, and the Director-General was requested to take appropriate steps in that connection.

Also, considering that on 10 November 1983 the quincentenary would be celebrated of the birth of Martin Luther, Member States were invited to promote ceremonies in appreciation of the work and personality of Luther, and the Director-General was invited to take measures necessary to support the commemoration by all means he might consider appropriate.

Culture

The Director-General was invited to support the Intercultural School of Music in Venice; to prepare a preliminary study of the technical and legal aspects of the preservation of the cultural heritage against disasters and other major calamities; to approach the governments of Member States, as well as interested institutions and foundations, to request technical and financial support for the establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the new National Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo; and to include 10 sites on the list of projects for restoration, depending on the availability of funds under the regular budget.

The Director-General was authorized to appoint an adviser for the cultural heritage of the archaeological site of Tyre (Lebanon), and was thanked for his efforts to secure implementation of the resolutions on the question of Jerusalem.

The General Conference noted that the safeguarding of the Nubian monuments, and more recently of the Philae temples, had been completed successfully, and congratulated the Government of Egypt and all Member States that had participated in the Campaign.

It was decided that the Executive Committee of the Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia would henceforth be entitled the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo.

During the General Conference, a round-table discussion took place at the Sava Centar in Belgrade on 'Islam Today', with the participation of the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Mr. Habib Chatti; the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. M'Bow, also attended.

Considering that 25 October 1981 marked the centenary of the birth in Málaga (Spain) of the great painter Pablo Ruiz Picasso, the Director-General was requested to ensure that UNESCO made a major contribution to the celebration of that centenary; he was also requested to take similar steps to commemorate the hundredth anniversary, on 25 March 1981, of the birth of the famous composer Béla Bartók.

Communication

The General Conference addressed its appreciation and thanks to Mr. Sean MacBride and to the members of the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems and congratulated them on the high standard of the work carried out on the preparation of the report published by UNESCO, which constituted a valuable contribution to the study of information and communication problems.

The General Conference considered that the new world information and communication order could be based, among other considerations, on elimination of the imbalances and inequalities which characterized the current situation, removal of the internal and external obstacles to a free flow and wider and better balanced dissemination of information and ideas, freedom of the press and information, and respect for the right of all peoples to participate in international exchanges of information on the basis of equality, justice and mutual benefit.

The General Conference approved the Recommendation of the Intergovernmental Conference for Co-operation on Activities, Needs and Programmes for Communication Development (Paris, April 1980), and decided to establish an International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC).

Headquarters

The General Conference took note of the measures foreseen by the Director-General to continue the artistic decoration of the sixth building, and invited him to continue to make representations to the authorities with a view to having the plot of land measuring approximately 300 square metres, situated on the corner of Boulevard Garibaldi and rue Miollis, made available to the Organization.

The Executive Board

The Conference elected 25 members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Victor Massuh (Argentina) being elected to that office.

It was decided to amend Article V, paragraph 1 of the Constitution by replacing the words 'forty-five', referring to members of the Executive Board, by 'fifty-one', with a concomitant increase in the number of posts in electoral group III from eight to nine, in group IV from six to eight and in group V from sixteen to twenty.

Election of the Director-General

The term of office of Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow as Director-General having been completed, an election was held to fill the post. On 27 September, Mr. M'Bow was re-elected for a seven-year, rather than a six-year, term, because of the change in the dates for the holding of subsequent General Conferences.

Other decisions

1. The General Conference invited the Director-General to prepare a report on UNESCO's contribution to the implementation of the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, to be submitted by him to the meeting scheduled to be held in Madrid;⁴
 2. Recalling that 1981 had been proclaimed the International Year of Disabled Persons, the General Conference invited the Director-General to make known and promote the objectives and activities of the Year by all the means available to the Organization, to collaborate with the relevant organizations and to collaborate in preparing for a Conference in 1981 to study and decide on the main lines of international action in favour of special education and other activities;
 3. The Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist was adopted;
 4. The Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images was adopted;
 5. The Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on the Public Financing of Cultural Activities was adopted;
 6. It was agreed that the fourth extraordinary session of the General Conference should be held at Headquarters from 11 to 20 October 1982, and that the twenty-second session of the General Conference would take place at Headquarters in 1983;
 7. A budget of \$625,374,000 was approved for the three-year period 1981–1983.
4. The report was submitted to the Conference at the Palacio de Exposiciones y Congresos in Madrid on 18 November 1980 by the Deputy Director-General, Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza.

1981–1983

The triennium 1981–1983

In compliance with the decision to that effect taken by the General Conference at its twentieth session and with a view to bringing the programming periods of UNESCO into line with those of the other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system, this budgetary period was the first in the history of the Organization to cover three years. The year 1983, which was not included in the first Medium-Term Plan, was thus a year of transition between the two plans.

In broad outline, the period 1981–1983 was characterized by the introduction on an experimental basis of the Performance Evaluation Monitoring System (PEMS). At the end of 1983 an overall analysis of PEMS was conducted which revealed certain shortcomings and made apparent other priorities.

The years 1981–1983 were the first three years of the Third United Nations Development Decade, proclaimed by the General Assembly to begin on 1 January 1981.

With respect to the responsibilities of UNESCO, the International Development Strategy for the Third Decade emphasized the decisive role of education and training for national development and individual fulfilment, and selected as a priority objective the eradication or considerable reduction of illiteracy by the year 2000, with a 'parallel and harmonious expansion of all levels and types of education'. It also emphasized the basic importance of access to modern scientific and technical knowledge to promote social and economic progress, and reiterated the principles and objectives of the Programme of Action drawn up by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (Vienna, 1979).

THE SECRETARIAT

On 31 August 1981, at his own request, Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza ceased to serve as Deputy Director-General and returned to Spain, where he was appointed Minister of Education and Science.

Mr. Makaminan Makagiarsar (Indonesia) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for Culture and Communication on 30 November 1981, and on 1 December of the same year took charge of the Culture Sector, while Mr. Gerard Bolla (Switzerland) took charge of the Communication Sector on the same date.

Following the departure of Mr. G. V. Rao (India) as Assistant Director-General for General Administration on 31 December 1980, Mr. T. C. Young (China) took over the post from 1 April to 14 July 1981, with Mr. George F. Saddler (United States of America) taking over from 15 July of the same year.

Mr. Acher Deleon (Yugoslavia) was appointed Assistant Director-General for Programme Support on 1 January 1981, and ceased to serve in that capacity on 31 December of the same year, being replaced on 1 January 1982 by Mr. Henri Lopes (Congo).

Mr. Dragoljub Najman (Yugoslavia), Assistant Director-General for Development and External Relations, left on 30 June 1982 and was replaced by Mr. John B. Kabore (Upper Volta).¹

The Assistant Director-General for Social Sciences and their Applications, Mr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen (Mexico), left on 22 February 1982, and Mrs. Zala Lusibu N'Kanza (Zaire) was appointed to replace him the following day.

The regional offices continued their active part in implementing the programme and providing important services to Member States, such as studies and research, documentation and information, training of personnel, advisory services, support for regional and national programmes, etc.

The most important innovation in respect of decentralization during the three-year period was the establishment of regional co-ordinator posts whose incumbents were responsible for co-operation with Member States on regional matters and for co-ordinating the Organization's activities. Mention may also be made here of the 25 representatives of UNESCO in 93 Member States and three Associate Members.

The new Subregional Education Office for Central America and Panama (Subregional Education Adviser for Central America and Panama) was established in San José (Costa Rica). The Subregional Education Office for the Andean Countries (Subregional Education Adviser for the Andean Countries) was also established.

EDUCATION

Action in the struggle against illiteracy was increased, since while this activity is indeed first and foremost the responsibility of the countries concerned and its success depends on the political will of their governments, the duties of the inter-

1. Upper Volta changed its name to Burkina Faso in 1984.

national community in this regard, and of UNESCO first of all, are none the less considerable.

In accordance with a recommendation by the Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning of Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 1979), and pursuant to the resolution of the General Conference at its twenty-first session, the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, aimed at eradicating illiteracy in that region by the year 2000, began in 1981-1983. The UNESCO Office for the Support Unit for the project was to be based in Quito, and a Regional Intergovernmental Meeting was held there from 6 to 11 April 1981 to decide on the objectives of and forms to be taken by the project. The steps to be taken to achieve the objectives laid down defined by an Interim Intergovernmental Committee which met in Castries (Saint Lucia) from 12 to 17 July 1982.

The International Institute for Adult Literacy Methods (Teheran) became a national institution and signed a contract with UNESCO for the initiation of international documentation and research activities.

CREFAL and ASFEC also became national centres with regional responsibilities, and continued their co-operation with UNESCO.

From 25 February to 5 March 1983 the European Conference on Motivation for Adult Education took place in Hamburg; it was attended by members from the European countries and representatives of the United States of America, Canada and Israel.

From 12 to 16 December 1983, an International Conference took place in Bangkok and approved a Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific. Prior to that (1-5 December 1981), another international conference meeting in Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) had approved a similar Convention for Africa.

From 2 to 7 November 1981, a World Conference on Education, Prevention and Integration in relation to young handicapped people was held in Torremolinos (Spain). The Conference approved the Sundberg Declaration, so named in memory of Mr. Nils-Ivar Sundberg, in charge of the special education programme in UNESCO since 1978, who died during the meeting.

The Fifth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in African Member States took place from 28 June to 3 July 1982 in Harare (Zimbabwe - the former Rhodesia). The Conference made several recommendations and adopted the Harare Declaration on specific development problems affecting education in Africa. A study was prepared and published under the title *Education in Africa in the Light of the Harare Conference*.

Other issues which received attention during the triennium were respect for human rights, appreciation and respect for cultural identity, aid to refugees, gen-

eral science and technology education, promotion of technical and vocational education, integrated rural development, environmental education, population education, and the status of women and their participation in development. Special attention was paid to the Associated Schools Project, which celebrated its thirtieth anniversary in 1983 with 1730 schools in 85 Member States.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Activity during the triennium was largely guided by the contribution to the execution of the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (Vienna, 1979) and by the implementation of the major regional or interregional projects in Africa, Latin America and the Arab States approved by the General Conference at its twenty-first session.

The MAB programme celebrated its tenth anniversary in 1981; its purpose continued to be to provide the up-to-date scientific information and specialized staff required for natural resources management.

This period coincided with the second phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP). The next phase was to extend throughout the period of the new Medium-Term Plan.

One of the outstanding activities of the triennium was the Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia and the Pacific (CASTASIA II), held in Manila from 20 to 30 March 1982. It adopted recommendations concerning the scientific and technological development of the Member States of the region.

UNESCO contributed to the establishment in 1981 of the International Organization for Chemistry for Development (IOCD), the President of which in 1983 was Mr. Glenn T. Seaborg.

A world-wide survey was conducted of research projects, studies and courses in science and technology policies, and the results were published in No. 49 of the series 'Science Policy Studies and Documents'.

UNESCO provided advisory services in the field of science policy, at their request, to 51 Member States and four regional intergovernmental organizations.

Mention may be made of the following topics which, among others, formed part of activities in the Sector during this period: scientific and technological research and training, mineral and energy resources, integrated rural development, seismic risks, and issues relating to informatics, applied microbiology, biotechnologies and renewable energies.

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

In 1981–1983 research was undertaken to throw light on the factors contributing to the perpetuation of discrimination against women in various societies. Studies were conducted in 15 countries, and the results of some of them were published in a special issue of the *International Social Science Journal* under the title ‘Women in Power Spheres’, as well as in an issue of *Cultures* on the theme ‘Women on the Move – Towards What?’.

Three regional meetings of women researchers and university professors of sociology, anthropology, law, psychology, economics and history were organized, in Rio de Janeiro in 1981 and in Tunis and New Delhi in 1982.

From 31 May to 5 June 1982, a Round Table on Youth in the 1980s was held in Costinesti (Romania). It made specific proposals with a view to International Youth Year (1985).

The project on ‘Tasks and Challenges for the Social Sciences in the 1980s’ aroused great interest among specialists in all countries.

From 21 to 25 March 1983, an international meeting of experts was held in Nairobi on rural and urban interactions in the social sciences and social transformations among the peasantry.

Three expert meetings, all of them regional, were held on the subject of ethno-development and ethnocide: the first (for Latin America) in 1981, in San José (Costa Rica), where the Declaration of San José was approved; the second (for Africa) in 1983 in Ouagadougou (Upper Volta), which emphasized the need to maintain an African cultural identity; and the third (for Europe) in 1983 in Karasjok (Norway).

The UNESCO Prize for Peace Education was awarded for the first time in 1981, and was shared by Mrs. Helena Kekkonene (Finland) and the World Organization of the Scout Movement. In 1982 it was awarded to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, and in 1983 to Pax Christi International.

UNESCO joined in the ceremony held on 21 October 1981, under the auspices of the Permanent Delegation of Chile and the Member States in the Latin American and Caribbean Group, to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Andrés Bello. It also organized an international symposium, from 16 to 18 September 1981, on Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, and a ceremony on 13 December 1982 to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Jacques Maritain, on which occasion a booklet containing a selection of the philosopher’s writings was published.

Other noteworthy activities during the triennium were: the application of the social sciences to the study and solution of the problems of human rights and peace; population; the global interpretation of development; the environment and human settlements; the strengthening of regional and national infrastructures and programmes; the training of national specialists; the role of youth in national development; and the promotion of participation by women.

CULTURE

The success of the first international campaigns to save the monuments of Nubia, Venice and Borobudur gave rise to a large number of requests. During the triennium, five new campaigns were initiated: the safeguarding of the historic monuments of Hué (Vietnam) and the sites of Chinguitti, Tichitt, Oualata and Ouadane in Mauritania, both launched in 1981; the campaign for the establishment of the Nubia Museum at Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo, launched in 1982, and the two campaigns launched in 1983 for Göreme and the historic quarters of Istanbul (Turkey) and for the Plaza Vieja in Havana (Cuba). At the end of 1983, 29 international campaigns were under way or being prepared, and some three million dollars had been raised for them, although the rate of contributions was tending to decrease.

From 26 July to 6 August 1982 the World Conference on Cultural Policies was held in Mexico City. The aim of the Conference, held at the end of a series of regional conferences, was to assess the experience gained in cultural policies and practice and to trace the main lines of action of the international community and UNESCO for the 1980s.

From 28 February to 4 March 1983, an expert group met in Caracas to make preparations for the General History of Latin America and the Caribbean. A meeting was held in Kingston (Jamaica) from 11 to 15 April 1983 on the drafting of the part dealing with the Caribbean.

The Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return or Restitution of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation held two meetings, one at UNESCO Headquarters from 14 to 18 September 1981 and the other in Istanbul from 9 to 13 May 1983.

With the support of ALECSO, Arab Cultural Week was held at Headquarters in September 1983.

Some 70 new titles comprising literary works translated from many languages to other more widely used ones were added to the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works.

A large travelling art exhibition entitled *The Art of Islam* was organized, and three other exhibitions were mounted at UNESCO House and at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris: *The Arctic*, *Picasso Recreations* and *Pacific Ways*.

The International Simón Bolívar Prize, established by the General Conference at its twentieth session, was awarded for the first time by the Director-General on 24 July 1983, on the bicentenary of Bolívar's birth. The Prize was awarded to King Juan Carlos of Spain and to Nelson Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress.

A new anthology of the works of Bolívar was published in English, French and Spanish under the title *The Hope of the Universe*.



The ancient city of Oudane (Mauritania).



Monuments at Hué (Viet Nam).

COMMUNICATION

Activity in this Sector was guided principally by the resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-first session on the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems and the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC). IPDC held four ordinary sessions: in Paris from 18 to 20 June 1981, in Acapulco (Mexico) from 18 to 25 January 1982, in Paris again from 13 to 20 December 1982 and in Tashkent (USSR) from 5 to 12 September 1983. At them, the Intergovernmental Council of IPDC adopted priorities and project selection criteria.

The experimental world-wide exchange of television news programmes by satellite carried out in Geneva in March 1983 with the co-operation of the regional broadcasting organizations of Africa, Asia and the Arab States proved fruitful, in that it enabled machinery to be set up for the exchange of television news among the organizations of the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union and led to the establishment of ASIAVISIION.

On 12 January 1982 the Protocol to the 1950 Florence Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials, adopted in Nairobi in 1976, entered into force. Together with the Beirut Agreement (1948), the Florence Agreement and its Protocol played a major role in facilitating the international circulation of materials in the fields of education, science, culture and communication.

The Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme (PGI) organized a meeting in Toledo (Spain) from 11 to 15 May 1981 on 'The transfer and utilization of information for development in the 1980s'. The conclusions of the meeting were examined by the Council at its sessions in October 1981 and January 1983.

The PGI Documentation Centre established in 1980 improved its information and documentation services and published a list of PGI documents and publications 1977-1981.

From 7 to 11 June 1982 the World Congress on Books was held in London to evaluate what had been achieved in various regions of the world during the 10 years since International Book Year in 1972 and to put forward recommendations on the action to be taken.

The trilingual directory *Study Abroad* entered its thirty-fifth year, and continued to be one of UNESCO's most widely distributed publications.

In December 1983, the *UNESCO Courier* was being published in 27 languages, while *Prospects* appeared in Arabic for the first time during that year.

1983 was proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations as World Communications Year.

MEMBER STATES

Eight countries signed the Constitution (two in 1981, three in 1982 and three in 1983), bringing the number of Member States to 161.

On 28 December 1983 the United States of America notified the Director-General of its decision to withdraw from the Organization effective 31 December 1984, citing as its reason 'trends in the policy, ideological emphasis, budget and management' which 'had led UNESCO away from the original principles of its Constitution' and had 'served the political purposes of Member States, rather than the international vocation of UNESCO'.

UNESCO CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

From 29 June to 3 July 1981, the Second World Congress of UNESCO Clubs was held in Paris, and it was agreed to establish the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, based in Paris.

THE FOURTH EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL CONFERENCE

The fourth extraordinary session of the General Conference took place at UNESCO Headquarters from 23 November to 3 December 1982, the main topic of its discussions being the Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989. The Conference had been convened in accordance with the decision of the General Conference at its twenty-first session, and the composition of the General Committee remained the same.

Two commissions were established to study the different parts of the Medium-Term Plan, with Mr. Iba Der Thiam (Senegal) being elected Chairman of Commission I and Mr. Charles Hummel (Switzerland) Chairman of Commission II. A Drafting and Negotiation Group was also established.

The session was attended by representatives of 152 Member States and one non-Member State (the Holy See), eight delegations of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 26 from international governmental organizations and 128 from international non-governmental organizations.

The Conference approved the major programmes in the Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989, namely: I: Reflection on world problems and future-oriented studies; II: Education for all; III: Communication in the service of man; IV: The formulation and application of education policies; V: Education, training and society; VI: The sciences and their application to development; VII: Information systems and access to knowledge; VIII: Principles, methods and strategies and action for development; IX: Science, technology and society; X: The human environment and terrestrial and marine resources; XI: Culture and the future; XII: The elimination of prejudice, intolerance, racism and apartheid; XIII: Peace, international understanding, human rights and the rights of peoples; XIV: The status of women; and XV: Programme support.

In relation to each major programme, invitations or recommendations for their conduct were addressed to the Director-General.²

THE TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twenty-second session of the General Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 25 October to 26 November 1983.

It was attended by delegates from 157 Member States, one representative of an Associate Member, one observer from a non-Member State, 12 from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 63 from intergovernmental organizations, 267 from international non-governmental organizations and twelve representatives of liberation movements and organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Said M. Tell (Jordan) as President, with one delegate from each of the following 34 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Australia, Benin, Brazil, Burundi, China, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Japan, Lesotho, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Yemen.

The Conference established Commissions I (Education), II (Natural Sciences), III (Social Sciences), IV (Culture and Communication), V (General Programme Matters) and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Credentials Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee and the Headquarters Committee. The Drafting and Negotiation Group was also established.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Ivo Margan (Yugoslavia), as Temporary President. He expressed his satisfaction at the presence of Mr. François Mitterrand, President of the French Republic, thanked him warmly for attending the opening meeting, and welcomed all present. He went on to express his regret at the death of Mr. Ronald Adam, who had been a member and Chairman of the Executive Board.³

2. Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza, who was then about to leave his post as Minister of Education and Science in Spain, spoke as head of the Spanish delegation, and recalled with emotion the years he had served in the Organization as Deputy Director-General, naturally unaware that five years later he would be appointed Director-General.
3. Other deaths during the triennium were those of Mr. Luther Evans, third Director-General of UNESCO, in San Antonio (Texas) on 22 December 1981, Mr. Paulo E. de Berredo Carneiro, who had represented Brazil in the Preparatory Commission for UNESCO and had subsequently been a member of the Executive Board, in Rio de Janeiro on 17 February 1982, and of Mr. Jean Thomas (France), who had been a member of the Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission and had gone on to occupy senior posts in the Organization, on 7 November 1983 (during the General Conference).

He said that as he spoke there was no 'great and terrible war', but a succession of conflicts and confrontations, and that the developing countries were the most seriously affected. He regretted the expansion of the arms race and the increasingly expressed role of military power in some countries, all of which deprived mankind of resources which could be used more appropriately for economic development, for combating hunger and poverty and for the purposes which UNESCO aspired to fulfil in implementing its programme. 'Must we limit ourselves to [the] observation', he asked, that technical progress was a source of growth but also a determining factor in the arms race.

He went on to refer to the programme for the coming biennium, 1984-1985, based on the new Medium-Term Plan, and appealed to everyone to renew at the present session of the General Conference the same constructive spirit that had prevailed at the previous session.

The next speaker was the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Victor Massuh (Argentina), who began by thanking President Mitterrand for his presence and recalling the success of the twenty-first General Conference.

He referred to the Draft Programme and Budget for the forthcoming biennium, as well as to the Medium-Term Plan, which offered Member States new prospects for international co-operation.

The Director-General then took the floor. He recalled the presence in that same meeting room, on earlier occasions, of General De Gaulle and President Pompidou, on the twentieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries of the Organization respectively, as well as of President Giscard d'Estaing, who had addressed the General Conference at its twentieth session, all of them preludes to the attendance of Mr. Mitterrand at the twenty-second session, which considered itself honoured by his presence.

He recalled that 38 years had elapsed since the meeting in London, in 1945, of the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education which was going to lead to the creation of UNESCO. In the words of Mr. Archibald McLeish, who had headed the delegation of the United States of America, the purpose of that meeting had been 'to prepare the instrument through which the common understanding of mankind could be increased'.

Although many former colonies had acceded to political sovereignty, the international community had been enlarged and a greater feeling of solidarity had developed, grave trends had nevertheless begun to appear and tension had spread throughout the world, lighting many local fires, causing hundreds of deaths and feeding an arms race which, initiated in the industrialized countries, was gaining ground in the developing countries; disparities between the richest and the poorest regions had increased, and even the great Powers, increasingly involved in the regional conflicts, were beginning to find themselves in positions of confrontation. As a consequence, great concern was gaining ground, and faith in the future was becoming weakened. Nevertheless, the world possessed intel-

lectual, scientific, technical and political capability for solving the main problems, and the foundations existed for co-operation which would be in the interests of all peoples.

In conclusion, he recalled the words of Léon Blum, who had led the French delegation at the London Conference:

It would . . . be impossible in our view to exaggerate the importance that an organization for intellectual and spiritual co-operation must assume in the creation of a peaceful world and in the pacific organization of the world. But it goes without saying that such an organization can be conceived of only as one of the many complex parts of this organization and its efficacy and above all authority will depend in the last resort on the efficacy and authority conferred upon the international community itself.

Lastly, the President of the French Republic, Mr. François Mitterrand, took the floor. He began with a question: 'What did the world look like in 1945? In the North – ruins, the aftermath of war. In the South – colonies, the first uprisings, a climate presaging war. That was when UNESCO was founded. That was when Léon Blum, as we have just been reminded, requested for France the honour of being host to the new organization. Today, thirty years later, 160 countries are united in the same ambition': order and peace.

He added that UNESCO, despite tension and drama, had become that valuable forum in which all the people of the world paused to converse and act together. Since its inception, he said, UNESCO had fulfilled its mission in its chosen field. Its action had been spectacular, and progress significant.

He cited a number of specific programmes in the Sectors of Education, Science and Culture, and with regard to the latter said that culture was capable of dividing the world in two because of the rapid progress of science which widened the separation between peoples. To prevent that happening, a strategy was called for, and the broad outlines of such a strategy were given in the new Medium-Term Plan, which reflected what UNESCO's aspirations should be and what should be maintained as its original source of inspiration: 'To build in spite of storms; to build a world in which hope will find its place.' He concluded by expressing the hope that the twenty-third session of the UNESCO General Conference would make major progress in that direction.⁴

The following are some of the most important issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference.

4. Other Heads of State attending the session were Mr. Aristides Maria Pereira, President of the Republic of Cape Verde, who made a statement on 30 October, and His Majesty the King of Spain, Juan Carlos (accompanied by Queen Sofia), who spoke on 4 November.



Two winners of the International Simón Bolívar Prize: Nelson Mandela and H.M. King Juan Carlos of Spain.

Education

The General Conference adopted the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, and authorized the Director-General to convene the first session of the Committee in 1984–1985.

It also invited the Director-General to continue to assign high priority, under the 'Education for all' programme, to requests for co-operation from the least developed countries.

Having regard to the Harare Declaration adopted in 1982 at the Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in African Member States, the General Conference authorized the Director-General to take any steps he might deem necessary to facilitate the launching and successful execution of the Regional Programme for the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa, as well as to give particular attention to programmes of direct relevance to the development and renewal of primary education.

It also authorized him to call on the international community to offer the material and technical collaboration needed by Honduras and Suriname for the implementation of their national literacy plans.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to convene in 1984 the thirty-ninth session of the International Conference on Education, as well as the fifth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in the Member States of Asia and the Pacific (MINEDAPV).

It also invited him to intensify activities relating to research on priority themes for educational development and to the application of the findings already obtained, as well as to contribute to improving the status of teachers in society through the broader dissemination and application and updating of the 1966 Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, and to promote exchanges of teaching material among Member States.

In particular, the General Conference requested the Director-General to help education to draw more substantially on traditions and values of relevance to the future and to make more extensive use of the cultural heritage, and to promote to that end the use of mother tongues and national languages in all types of education. He was also requested to study the dimensions of the educational and social problems of delinquents and the activities that could be undertaken in order to help Member States find solutions.

The General Conference also appealed to Member States to contribute generously to the Endowment Fund and Operating Fund of the United Nations University, as well as to its activities and projects.

Natural sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General to contribute, in co-operation with international non-governmental organizations, to the strengthening and

development of national programmes of fundamental and applied research and to the advanced training of research workers in the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology, particularly in the developing countries; to develop university and post-graduate education and specialized information and documentation systems; and to promote post-graduate training programmes and regional and international research projects in history, anthropology, geography, linguistics and the administrative and management sciences.

The Director-General was authorized to convene two Regional Conferences of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development, one in the Arab States in 1984 (CASTARAB II) and the other in Latin America and the Caribbean in 1985 (CASTALAC II).

The General Conference considered that account should be taken of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981–1990) proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and authorized the Director-General to implement the programmes and subprogrammes planned in Major Programme X, as well as to implement the third phase (1984–1989) of the International Hydrological Programme, to continue and step up the development of the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), to pursue development of the programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), to strengthen co-operation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, to continue publishing the scientific information on the environment obtained within the framework of the MAB programme and other UNESCO intergovernmental scientific programmes, and to develop and improve the general environmental education programme in close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Social sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General to encourage the study of the ideological and pseudo-scientific bases of prejudice, intolerance and racism, in particular through a critical analysis of attempts to 'classify' different social groups. It also requested him to encourage investigation of the factors contributing to peace, to contribute to more searching examination of the question of human rights and the rights of peoples, and to take appropriate measures in UNESCO's fields of competence in order to develop a climate of opinion conducive to abolition of the threat of war and an end to the arms race.

It recommended that the Director-General should continue and increase his efforts to promote the development of the Associated Schools Project and the UNESCO Clubs, and invited Member States to increase their efforts to implement the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching.

The General Conference recommended that Member States should make special efforts to ensure that the interests of women and men were equally promoted in their programme proposals to UNESCO, and invited the Director-Gen-

eral to envisage, in the preparation of the next biennial programme and budget, a further increase in the financial and personnel resources for programmes specifically designed for women and to increase the representation of women in the UNESCO Secretariat, at Headquarters and in the field.

Culture

The Director-General was invited to encourage the drawing up of inventories of the movable and immovable cultural heritage and to stimulate research with a view to improving conservation techniques; to promote knowledge of cultures and to encourage greater awareness and expression of cultural identities, and to continue to analyse the interrelationships linking culture with economics, science, technology and communication, with a view to facilitating, *inter alia*, the incorporation of cultural factors in development strategies.

The General Conference expressed its satisfaction at the successful completion of the work of the International Campaign for the Safeguarding of Borobudur, and authorized the Director-General to conduct, within the limits of available funds, the technical studies needed in order to draw up a plan for the safeguarding of the archaeological site of Tyre and its surrounding area. It also thanked the World Heritage Committee for its decision to include the Old City of Jerusalem and its walls on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

It invited the Member States concerned to co-operate among themselves and with the Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation to ensure that negotiations on return or restitution could take place as smoothly as possible.

It also recommended that Member States should examine the possibility of declaring 18 April each year International Monuments and Sites Day, recalling that the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) had celebrated that Day on 18 April 1983.

Recalling the foundation of the international township of Auroville in South India in 1968, when young people from many countries had participated in the ceremony by depositing the soil of their countries in the foundation urn to symbolize the coming together of the nations of the world, the General Conference invited the Director-General to extend all possible support for the development of Auroville, in that its purposes were to ensure international understanding, peace and an education that would permit harmonious individual and collective growth.

Recalling that the World Conference on Cultural Policies (Mexico City, 1982) had approved a recommendation proposing the proclamation by the United Nations of a World Decade for Cultural Development, the General Conference approved the principle of such a Decade and invited the Director-General to inform the United Nations Economic and Social Council of the proposal.

Having taken note of the establishment, within the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, of a subsidiary body called the Committee for Interna-

tional Copyright Funds (COFIDA), the purpose of which was to finance all or part of such royalties, the General Conference invited Member States, public and private institutions, writers' associations, publishers and all groups and persons concerned to offer their financial support to COFIDA so that it would be able to attain its objectives. The General Conference also appealed to public and private institutions and individuals to continue to give the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture their financial, intellectual and technical support.

Communication

The General Conference invited the Director-General to stimulate the development of research concerning the sociocultural impact of new communication technologies and the democratization of communication, as well as to help to eliminate the obstacles to the free flow and wider and better balanced exchange of books, news and programmes. It also invited him to continue to study and make known the most effective means of remedying the imbalance affecting regional and interregional exchanges of information.

The Director-General was also invited to continue to develop the conceptual framework for UNISIST and to make available to Member States documentary software packages for microcomputers with a view to establishing national data bases, to strengthen national information systems and their institutions, to develop UNESCO's documentation, library and archive services and to continue developing and supplying documentary software packages.

The General Conference recommended to Member States that they should continue and intensify their efforts to implement UNESCO's resolutions concerning the establishment of a new international economic order.

In addition, considering that mankind was currently at a particularly agonizing crossroads in its history, the General Conference appealed to Member States to set aside on 22 March 1984, on the stroke of noon, one minute during which all men, women and children would stop their activities in order to demonstrate, unanimously, their desire for peace, international understanding and universal co-operation.

It also invited Member States to encourage the development of multilateral and bilateral relations in the fields of education, science, culture and communication as one of the important factors in strengthening peace, friendship and reciprocal understanding among countries and peoples.

Headquarters

The General Conference noted with satisfaction the measures taken by the Director-General for the protection and improvement of the artistic decoration of the Miollis/Bonvin site, with the assistance of distinguished architects.

It also noted that the newly altered conference premises, officially inaugurated by the Director-General on 21 June 1983 in the presence of the Minister of

Education of the host country, the President of the General Conference and the Chairman of the Executive Board, had provided satisfactory working and security conditions for the twenty-second session.

The General Conference noted that the new office block (seventh building at rue Bonvin) would go into service in 1984.

With regard to the long-term solution, the General Conference recalled the idea that UNESCO might be allotted all the buildings round the Place de Fontenoy, opposite the École Militaire, a solution that would, in many respects, be the best possible one. In that connection, within the framework of planning needs beyond the year 2000, provision might be made for an intermediate stage around 1989–1990, in which just one of the Ministries situated on the Place de Fontenoy would suffice. At the same time, the gradual construction of additional underground car parks underneath the Place de Fontenoy might also be envisaged.

The Executive Board

The Conference elected 26 members of the Executive Board as well as its Chairman, Mr. Patrick K. Seddoh (Ghana) being appointed to that office.

Other decisions

1. The Director-General was invited to help clarify the links between development and international relations by undertaking an examination of economic theories, having regard to the needs of the developing countries;
2. He was also invited to intensify efforts to develop procedures for the application of the provisions contained in the Universal Copyright Convention;
3. The Director-General was authorized to continue and develop activities intended to ensure the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical data and the advancement of statistical methods;
4. Member States were requested to support UNESCO's participation in the carrying out of the appropriate projects agreed on by the Madrid Meeting of the States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe;
5. The Director-General was invited to continue to promote the steady application of measures to expand the use of Russian and to continue to implement during 1984–1985 the measures relating to the wider use of Arabic;
6. The generous invitation of the Government of Bulgaria was accepted, and it was decided to hold the twenty-third session of the General Conference in Sofia;
7. A budget of \$374,410,000 was approved for the biennium 1984–1985.

1984–1987

The biennium 1984–1985

THE SECRETARIAT

After the triennial Programme and Budget for 1981–1983, the Programme and Budget for 1984–1985 returned to biennial programming, in a cycle that was now in step with that of the other organizations of the United Nations system, beginning in even years. The Programme and Budget for 1984–1985 covered the first period of execution of the second Medium-Term Plan (1984–1989) approved by the General Conference at its fourth extraordinary session.

The Programme had to reflect a number of austerity measures to cope with the reduction of \$10,483,000 which was decided on by the General Conference at its twenty-second session and with the shortfall in revenue corresponding to the contribution of the United States of America for 1985.

From 1984 onwards, steps were taken to establish a Central Evaluation Unit. In the first half of 1985 this Unit finalized the general framework for the system of continuous evaluation of the programme actions or self-evaluation, aimed at overcoming any difficulties arising during the execution of those actions.

A decrease took place in the number of UNESCO staff, from 3,393 in 1983 to 3,196 in 1985.

At its 119th session (May 1984), the Executive Board established a Temporary Committee to study the functioning of the Organization. At its 122nd session, held shortly before the twenty-third session of the General Conference, the Board noted with satisfaction the pace at which the reforms were being carried out, and decided to terminate the mandate of the Committee.

On 31 May Mr. Jean Knapp (France) was reassigned from the post of Assistant Director-General for Studies and Programming to that of Deputy Director-General.

Mrs. Zala Lusibu N'Kanza (Zaire) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for Social Sciences and their Applications on 14 November 1984 and was replaced by Mr. Nicolas Bodart (Belgium), who in turn left on 30 April 1985. The post, renamed Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, was occupied on 1 May that year by Mr. Julio Labastida (Mexico).

Mr. Gérard Bolla (Switzerland) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for Communication on 30 May 1984; his post was occupied by Mr. Antonio Pasquali (Venezuela), who left on 31 December 1985 to take up his duties as Regional Co-ordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean with the rank of Assistant Director-General.

On 31 December 1985 Mr. John B. Kabore (Burkina Faso) and Mr. George F. Saddler (United States of America) relinquished their duties as Deputy Assistant Director in Charge of Co-operation for Development and External Relations and Assistant Director-General for General Administration respectively. On the same date, Mr. Henri Lopes (Congo) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General for Programme Support.

The Director-General made 40 visits to different countries during this period to contact governments, attend meetings or visit projects.

EDUCATION

One noteworthy event in this sector was the International Conference on Adult Education, which took place at Headquarters from 19 to 29 March 1985 and enabled stock to be taken of the progress made since the last conference of its kind, held in Tokyo in 1972.

The literacy work of the Organization hinged on the Major Regional Projects, particularly the Major Project on Education in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, which was initiated in 1981 and was chiefly aimed at the eradication of illiteracy by the year 2000. The Project made notable progress.

The biennium saw the start of activities under the Regional Programme to Promote the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa, whose preparation had been undertaken at the end of the 1981–1983 triennium in pursuance of a recommendation made by the Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in African Member States, held in Harare in 1982. Emphasis was placed on the linkage with the renewal of primary education.

In 1985 there were around 824 million illiterates, concentrated especially in the developing countries: 54 per cent of adults in Africa, 36 per cent in Asia, and 17 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean. A certain amount of illiteracy was also to be found in many industrialized countries, and in all cases and in all regions illiteracy was much higher among women. In 1985 there were 233 million more illiterate women than illiterate men.

The approach linking adult literacy with primary education was also scheduled to be applied in a regional plan of action concerning Asia and the Pacific, the preparation of which was to be undertaken in 1986-1987 in compliance with a recommendation by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 4 to 11 March 1985.

From 17 to 21 June 1985, an international symposium on the democratization of education, in particular the democratization of higher education and its role in the promotion of economic and social progress, was held at Headquarters.

The International Conference on Education held its thirty-ninth session in Geneva from 16 to 25 October 1984. At it, 540 participants discussed the reciprocal relations between education for all and the new scientific and technological environment. The debates highlighted the importance of the teaching of science and technology in modern societies from the point of view of equality of opportunity.

With respect to the training of educational planners, UNESCO organized 55 national courses attended by nearly 2,000 specialists, as well as many workshops and seminars.

The Intergovernmental Committee on Physical Education and Sport held an important meeting in 1985, devoted essentially to the application of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport.

In the field of higher education, the biennium was characterized by increased regional co-operation for development and by the improvement of such education. The entry into force, on 23 October 1985, of the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific completed the series of regional instruments designed to increase the mobility of students, teachers and researchers.

The number of institutions involved in the Associated Schools Project rose from 1,733 to 1,983. At the end of the biennium, the participating countries numbered 193.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Over 4,000 young physicists, mostly from developing countries, received training in the sciences and their application to development.

An international network of centres for the application of informatics to the engineering sciences was established in co-operation with the Union of International Technical Associations, and many engineers received training in this area through 11 international courses organized under UNESCO's auspices.

In pursuance of a decision taken by the General Conference at its twenty-second session, an interim intergovernmental committee met at Headquarters from 13 to 19 November 1984 to make preparations for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Informatics Programme.

One notable activity in the course of the biennium was the Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CASTALAC II), which met in Brasilia from 20 to 26 August 1985. Twenty years had elapsed since the first such Conference, held in Santiago, Chile.

The International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), the programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) and the programmes of the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC) continued, with the aim of advancing knowledge essential to the development and rational use of natural resources and solving urgent problems relating to the protection of the human environment.

Under IGCP, 14 research and study projects conducted jointly with the International Union of Geological Sciences were completed.

In 1984 the International Hydrological Programme entered its third phase, which was to last until 1989, and the results of the previous phases were widely circulated. There were 141 National Committees and correspondents, and an estimated 10,000 specialists throughout the world were contributing directly or indirectly to the implementation of the 61 projects.

During the biennium, IOC continued studies relating to the World Climate Research Programme, which gave rise to two experiments, one concerning the tropical regions and the other on ocean circulation.

MAB continued to place emphasis on the priority themes of research, training and demonstration concerning humid and subhumid tropical zones, arid and semi-arid zones, mountain regions, coasts and islands, as well as urban systems and urbanization.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

In the social and human sciences, 19 national surveys were conducted to establish inventories of national research and training potential in this sector in African countries. The Latin American Social Science Faculty also drew up five studies on the state of the social sciences in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In this same region, decentralization of the execution of the social and human sciences programme made great progress in 1985 with the establishment of a regional social science unit attached to the Regional Centre for Higher Education (CRESALC) in Caracas. The unit launched five research projects and organized four specialized meetings and two training courses.

UNESCO continued to support the European Centre for Co-ordination of Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences (Vienna).

With a view to promoting studies, new approaches and research relating to the status of women, a meeting of experts on 'Theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches to studies of the role of women in history' was held in Paris from 13 to 16 November 1984.

A number of case studies were carried out on racial classification in various countries, and 11 other studies were made of concepts and theories related to race and ethnicity.

The informal consultation of experts in the social and human sciences on the socio-economic, cultural and political causes of racism and apartheid, held in Beijing, China, in 1984, considerably broadened the geographical base of an academic debate which so far had taken place mainly in Europe and North America.

A working group of specialists in different social science disciplines from the Southern African subregion was organized at the University of Zimbabwe in October 1984 to prepare the framework for research on the interactions between colonialism, racism and apartheid.

An expert meeting on 'Philosophical reflection on peace in the present world context' took place at Headquarters from 3 to 6 December 1985.

Five studies on peace movements were undertaken, and nine multidisciplinary studies were launched dealing with the different interpretations of the causes and consequences of conflicts. These served as the basis for an international symposium organized in co-operation with the International Peace Research Institute.

The 1983 and 1984 issues of the 'UNESCO Yearbook on Peace and Conflict Studies' were published in English in 1985. The 1985 Yearbook was to constitute one of UNESCO's contributions to the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The celebration of International Youth Year in 1983 gave rise to numerous activities, one of the most outstanding of which was the World Congress on Youth, held in Barcelona from 8 to 15 July 1985 and attended by the Director-General of UNESCO.

CULTURE

In the course of the biennium, the number of States Parties to the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage rose from 78 to 88, and the number of sites included in the World Heritage List from 165 to 216.

At the end of 1985, 29 campaigns were under way, while work continued to preserve and develop sites and architectural complexes such as those of the Island of Gorée, the old town of Havana, Moenjodaro, Carthage and Sidi bou Said, and Venice.

Four new campaigns were launched on behalf of the historic city of Sana'a (Yemen Arab Republic), the architectural heritage of the Valley of Wadi Hadramaut and of the old town of Shibam (People's Democratic Republic of Yemen), the ancient monuments and sites of Paharpur Vihara and Bagerhat (Bangladesh) and the architectural heritage of Guatemala. Preparations were being made for nine

other campaigns, and progress was made in the development of a plan of action to safeguard the archaeological site of Tyre.

On 19 December 1984, the Director-General launched in Sana'a an appeal in support of the international campaign for the safeguarding of that city, and on 28 August 1985 he issued another appeal in Guatemala in support of the restoration of its architectural heritage, which had been severely affected by the 1976 earthquake.

Implementation of the 'African Languages – Horizon 2000' programme, designed to promote the use of African languages as instruments of teaching and development, continued in 1985. Study of the languages used in the Caribbean had begun some years before, while the programme under way in relation to Asian languages comprised ethnolinguistic studies and activities for the preparation of modern terminologies.

COMMUNICATION

Under the International Programme for the Development of Communication, the Intergovernmental Council held two sessions in Paris, from 3 to 9 May 1984 and from 4 to 11 March 1985, during which it approved the financing of 81 new projects, bringing to 148 the total number of projects receiving or having received assistance out of the IPDC Special Account. The growth in the number of requests received continued to outrun the resources available.

The General Information Programme was the main mechanism for action during the biennium, and the Regional Network for the Exchange of Information and Experience in Science and Technology in Asia and the Pacific developed considerably. A study for establishing a satellite telecommunications network linking the Member States of that region was prepared in co-operation with INTELSAT. Installation of the network was to begin in 1986.

Integrated library and information services were put into operation for the first time. Two national projects were under way, and a regional one was in the course of preparation.

UNESCO published 270 new titles in their original languages or in translation, including 16 from the International Institute for Educational Planning, 27 from the International Bureau of Education and 16 from the UNESCO Institute for Education in Hamburg. In addition, 69 titles were published in conjunction with outside publishers.

The books with the largest sales were *Birthright of Man*, the *UNESCO Handbook for Science Teachers*, *The ABC of Copyright* and *Islam, Philosophy and Science*.

The February 1984 issue of the *UNESCO Courier* published an appeal by the Director-General, under the heading 'The Hand of Friendship', to offer someone unknown to the giver a one-year subscription to the review in the name of solidarity.



Kibaru, the first newspaper in the local language (Bambara) of Mali.

HEADQUARTERS

The seventh building, the work of the architects Zehrfuss and Cornuejols, was inaugurated in rue François Bonvin on 20 June 1985, during the 121st session of the Executive Board. It was located beside the two-story prefabricated building which had gone into service in 1983.

MEMBER STATES

The United States of America, acting on the intention indicated in the communication it had sent to the Director-General the previous year, withdrew from UNESCO as a Member State on 31 December 1984.

In response to a letter from the Secretary of State dated 15 March 1985, the Director-General gave his consent to the establishment of a United States observer mission at UNESCO, which the Executive Board had considered 'would be a valuable means of ensuring contact between the United States of America and the Organization'.

The Executive Board examined the financial situation caused by this withdrawal, namely the reduction of UNESCO resources by an amount equivalent to half the United States contribution for 1984–1985 (\$43 million), and considered that the deficit could be eliminated through budget cuts amounting to \$25 million, \$9 million in voluntary contributions and a further \$9 million as an unused portion of the budgetary reserve.

On 22 November 1984 the United Kingdom notified the Director-General of its intention to withdraw from the Organization on 31 December 1985. Singapore also withdrew on the same date.

OTHER ISSUES

On 10 September 1984 the Director-General issued an appeal for assistance in the reconstruction of the educational establishments and scientific and cultural institutions of Antsiranana and Mahajunga (Madagascar), which had been destroyed on 15 April that year by Cyclone 'Kamisy'.

UNESCO played an active part in the preparation and proceedings of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Nairobi in 1985.

Many studies were conducted on the process of endogenous development. The book entitled *A New Concept of Development*, which appeared in 1984, is unquestionably UNESCO's most important publication on development.

THE TWENTY-THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twenty-third session of the General Conference was held in Sofia (Bulgaria) from 8 October to 9 November 1985, in the Ludmila Zhivkova Palace of Culture.

This session of the General Conference was attended by delegates from 154 Member States, observers from the United States and the Holy See, 12 representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, 49 representatives of intergovernmental organizations and 134 representatives of international non-governmental organizations.

Mr. Todor Zhivkov, Chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, honoured the opening meeting with his presence.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Nikolai Todorov (Bulgaria) as President, and one delegate from each of the following 36 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Angola, Australia, Austria, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mali, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Spain, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The General Conference established Commissions I, II, III, IV and V and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Credentials Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by the Temporary President, Mr. Said Tell (Jordan) who, on behalf of all present, welcomed Mr. Todor Zhivkov. He went on to recall the names of a number of personalities who had died since the previous General Conference, among them Mr. Ahmed Sekou Toure, President of the Republic of Guinea, and Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India.

He referred to the difficulties experienced in the course of the biennium and to the severe test to which the Organization had been put, especially by the withdrawal of the United States of America. He expressed the hope that the United States would return to UNESCO, for the benefit of the Organization as well as its own, and in the interest of all Member States.

He described the deplorable world situation caused by the nuclear arms race between the two major Powers, which was continuing without respite and taking on a new and more disturbing dimension because of what had come to be known as 'star wars'; if such a war broke out, it would endanger the lives of the majority of the earth's inhabitants, not only because of the devastation caused by those weapons but because of the illness and hunger their use would bring with it.

He then referred to the war which had been going on for two years between Iran and Iraq, to the question of Palestine which had been unresolved for almost 30 years, and to the rigours of apartheid in South Africa, as examples of other similar situations in which mankind was involved.

He concluded by asserting that, despite that sombre and despairing picture, there existed a light of hope which all present hoped would shine more strongly in order to eliminate fear and despair from peoples' hearts; UNESCO could contribute to that objective by reason of the principles on which it was based and the objectives it aspired to achieve.

Next to speak was Mr. Seddoh (Ghana), Chairman of the Executive Board. After welcoming all present, and particularly the Chairman of the Council of State, he referred to the work done by the Executive Board in circumstances affected by the structure of the programme and by the difficulties experienced in the biennium.

He expressed optimism with regard to the future, despite both the international situation and that of UNESCO, and wished the General Conference success.

The Director-General then took the floor and thanked Mr. Zhivkov for his presence, going on to express the gratitude of all present to the people and leaders of Bulgaria for their hospitality.

He recalled that the twenty-third session of the General Conference was being held in a year which marked the fortieth anniversary of several major events: the end of the Second World War, the explosion of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombs, the establishment of the United Nations system, an event charged with an immense hope, and, lastly, the date 16 November 1945, on which the Constitution of UNESCO had been adopted.

Forty years later, in a world which had undergone such profound changes, UNESCO, he said, 'may regard what has been achieved with quiet but justified satisfaction'. He added that UNESCO had helped to encourage the progress of scientific and technological knowledge, awareness among Member States of those interests that they held in common and of the need to work together for progress and for the preservation of the ideals of freedom, justice and solidarity.

He did not wish to dwell, he said, on the smear campaigns and attempts at destabilization to which UNESCO had been subjected in the last few years. Instead, he preferred to reiterate his faith in the possibilities that were open to UNESCO of responding to the world situation, because 'UNESCO was given the privilege of acting in the fields of thought and creativity'.

Last to speak was Mr. Zhivkov, Chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. After welcoming all present, he too referred to the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War and to the establishment of UNESCO, thanks to whose work millions of men had been able to emerge from the darkness of illiteracy and important cultural monuments belonging to the whole of mankind had been saved from the erosion of time.

He then referred to three world problems which he considered to be of vital importance: the scientific and technical revolution with its various consequences; the evolution and improvement of man; and the situation of the developing coun-

tries. He said that no world problems, or even regional problems, could be solved until the threat of a thermonuclear conflict was removed. In the struggle for survival, every individual played a vital role. He concluded by giving an assurance that Bulgaria would continue to participate actively in the work of UNESCO in the best spirit of co-operation.

Some of the issues of greatest interest dealt with at this session of the General Conference were the following.

Education

The General Conference invited the Director-General to further the circulation and exchange of information on national strategies and experience with regard to the struggle against illiteracy; to support the efforts being made by Member States to combat the phenomenon of relapse into illiteracy; to give greater priority to activities in support of the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Programme for the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa and the Regional Programme for the Promotion of Primary Education and the Eradication of Illiteracy in Asia and the Pacific; to encourage efforts aimed at implementing the recommendations of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education; to encourage and support educational activities and programmes designed to help adults find their place in the world of work; to eliminate the economic, social and cultural obstacles to educational equality between women and men; to reduce the disparities between inhabitants of rural and urban areas in the field of education; to continue and develop activities for the disabled; to continue to support educational activities within the framework of co-operation with UNRWA in the Near East, with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and to promote educational activities on behalf of migrant workers and their families.

The Director-General was requested to undertake large-scale preventive action against the abuse of drugs and narcotics, and to continue assisting Member States in strengthening and revitalizing the population education programme.

Member States were invited to continue to support the activities of the European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES) in Budapest and to afford it financial and moral support, while those which had not yet done so were invited to accede to the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region.

The General Conference thanked UNESCO and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development for their contribution to the preparation of the feasibility study on the creation of a Palestinian Open University, and invited the Director-General to provide technical and financial assistance within the limits of the available resources.

The General Conference also appealed to the United Nations General As-

sembly to proclaim an International Literacy Year, and requested the Director-General, in the preparation of the Third Medium-Term Plan, to accord special attention to the formulation of a comprehensive strategy for the eradication of illiteracy, as an essential element of the Plan.

The Director-General was authorized to continue ensuring the operation of the International Bureau of Education and to have an evaluation carried out of IBE's operating methods and achievements over the last two financial periods. He was also authorized to continue the operation of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), and the General Conference appealed to Member States to grant, renew or increase their voluntary contributions to the Institute.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was invited to promote the improvement and modernization of the teaching of science and technology and to encourage science and technology extension work programmes for adults and the development of out-of-school science activities for young people; to continue the efforts being made to expand and improve technical and vocational education, including intermediate agricultural education; to contribute to the development and strengthening of national programmes in basic and applied research and the training of researchers in the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology; to co-operate with higher education institutions in improving their science teaching programmes; and to continue university and post-graduate training activities for engineers and technicians.

The Director-General was authorized to prepare and implement a special programme of assistance to Africa in the fields of scientific and technological research and to ascertain, in collaboration with the authorities of the African Member States, appropriate ways and means of implementing that programme.

The Director-General was also invited to support national and international programmes concerned with examining the effects of scientific and technological progress on societies, while promoting the role of women in the field of science and technology; to convene a Regional Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Africa; actively to continue implementation of the International Geological Correlation Programme with the greatest possible participation of the developing countries; to strengthen co-ordination of fundamental and applied research within the framework of the major regional project on the Precambrian of Africa, in order to promote the economic development of the region; actively to continue implementation of the third phase (1984–1989) of the International Hydrological Programme in accordance with the plan adopted by the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP; actively to continue the implementation of the MAB programme and to ensure its continuous evaluation, in particular through its International Co-

ordinating Council; to strengthen the network of pilot projects on the functioning of urban systems set up within the framework of the MAB programme, taking into account the diversity of the ecological and socio-economic situations of the different regions; to help, in collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, to attain the objectives of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless; to continue the implementation of the UNESCO/UNEP International Environmental Education Programme and to establish the requisite links between that programme and the Organization's intergovernmental scientific programmes; and to strengthen co-operation with the other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and with the non-governmental regional and international organizations concerned.

Social sciences and their applications

The General Conference invited the Director-General to encourage the development of the study and teaching of international public law and research and training devoted to international relations, international co-operation and understanding; to promote capacities for research in the social and human sciences into the causes and consequences of the arms race and the relationship between peace, security and disarmament; to promote study of the conditions necessary for the effective exercise of human rights by supporting examination of the problems that scientific and technical progress posed for the effective protection of those rights; to elicit a contribution from educational institutions at various levels to the World Disarmament Campaign proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its twelfth special session; to promote and strengthen the implementation of the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching approved by the General Conference at its twenty-first session and to make the necessary arrangements for the launching in 1986 of the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace in accordance with the recommendation of the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference, bearing in mind that, as stated in the 1974 Recommendation (eighteenth General Conference), the terms 'understanding', 'co-operation' and 'international peace' were to be considered as an indivisible whole; and to continue promoting discussion of the problems of women in research and higher education.

The General Conference decided to set up a permanent system for reporting on the steps taken by Member States to apply the Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, approved by the General Conference at its eighteenth session, on 19 November 1974.

It also decided that Member States should submit to the General Conference every six years national reports on the progress made in implementing that Recommendation, on the basis of which UNESCO itself would publish every six years a world status report, including the comments of the General Conference.

Culture

The General Conference, recalling the resolution adopted at its twenty-second session relating to the proclamation by the United Nations of a World Decade for Cultural Development, invited the Director-General to promote the development, co-ordination and implementation in the various geocultural regions of methods of inventorying, collecting and preserving the different forms of the non-physical heritage, including oral traditions, and also invited Member States to contribute in a concrete manner to the fulfilment of the objectives assigned to the Decade, which was to begin in 1988.

The Director-General was invited to continue activities for the safeguarding of the immovable cultural heritage; to contribute to the strengthening of facilities for the preservation and presentation of the movable cultural heritage and to encourage bilateral negotiations for the return or restitution of cultural property to its country of origin; to extend knowledge of different cultures and to stimulate the expression of cultural identity; to promote creative work and stimulate creativity in the various artistic fields; and to continue UNESCO's action for the preservation of the cultural identity of the Palestinian people and the safeguarding of its heritage.

The General Conference called on UNESCO and its Member States to commemorate in 1987 the 200th anniversary of the birth of Vuk Karadžić, author of the modern Serbian phonetic alphabet, and in 1986 the 175th anniversary of the birth of the composer and pianist Franz Liszt and the centenary of his death.

The General Conference, aware that 1987 would mark the centenary of Esperanto, also invited Member States to mark that occasion, and recommended that international non-governmental organizations should join in celebrating it and consider the possibility of using Esperanto as a means for the spreading of all kinds of information among their members, including information on the work of UNESCO.

Communication

The General Conference invited the Director-General to stimulate research on the sociocultural impact of new communication technologies; to undertake overall analyses of work already carried out or currently in progress on the concept of a new world information and communication order; to help to eliminate all obstacles to the free flow and wider and better balanced exchange of news and programmes; to contribute to the conduct of activities which answered the needs and priorities of the countries with the least developed communication infrastructures and systems; to continue to develop the conceptual framework of UNISIST and to make its normative instruments available in Member States, the United Nations system and within the Organization itself; and to pursue activities relating to infrastructures, policies and training and strengthen national in-

formation systems and their institutions, including library, archives and documentation and specialized information services of all kinds.

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to continue activities which would help to provide effective protection for the moral and material interests of authors, and invited him, in the framework of the Programme and Budget for 1986–1987, to study the possibility of celebrating the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Copyright Convention.

The Director-General was also authorized to continue to publish the *UNESCO Courier* in the usual languages, and to arrange for its publication with similar presentation and content in other languages, an edition in Hausa being included among those envisaged for coming years.

The Executive Board

The Conference elected 26 members of the Executive Board and appointed its Chairman, Mr. Ivo Margan (Yugoslavia) being elected to that office.

Other decisions

1. The General Conference recommended to Member States that they should improve the recruitment of women for vacant posts and consultant assignments with UNESCO;
2. The Director-General was invited to make the Office of the UNESCO Representative to the Caribbean into a UNESCO Intersectoral Office for that region;
3. Noting that the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of UNESCO would fall in 1986, the General Conference invited Member States to organize appropriate celebrations to mark the anniversary, and invited the Director-General to publish a special issue of the *Courier* covering the contribution UNESCO had made in its forty years of existence to the promotion of international co-operation in its fields of activity;
4. The Director-General was invited to prepare a study with a view to establishing a university, to be called the UNESCO University, at which the studies should cover only subjects relating to man and society, the work and the ideals of the United Nations system. The teaching body and administrative staff should comprise people from all the regions of the world, and the University should receive students from all continents without exception; it should be sited in a Member State which maintained good relations with all other States and was equipped to provide the most suitable conditions for the University;
5. The General Conference reaffirmed its support for the Contadora Group in the work which it was carrying out to secure peace in Central America, without which that region would be unable to carry through, with success, programmes in the fields of education, science, culture and communication;

6. In accordance with resolution 39/157 of the United Nations General Assembly, of 17 December 1984, Member States were called upon to contribute actively to the fulfilment of the programme of the International Year of Peace (1986);
7. Likewise, emphasizing the importance of a follow-up to International Youth Year (1985), the General Conference invited the Director-General to ensure generally that young people were still more closely associated with the activities of UNESCO;
8. The President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations, Mr. Gonzalo Abad (Ecuador), drew attention at a plenary meeting to the 'Madrid Appeal' drafted by a group of artists, scientists and intellectuals meeting in Madrid on 11 and 12 October 1985. The Appeal pointed out that the complexity of world problems had substantially increased and a widespread crisis of civilization and even of survival had arisen which more than ever called for active co-operation and universal solidarity;
9. The General Conference invited the Director-General to appoint a leading academic personality to conduct a comprehensive study of the way in which academic freedoms were guaranteed and exercised in the occupied Arab territories;
10. The General Conference solemnly appealed to Iran and Iraq to seek a solution to the conflict between them, based on mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity;
11. The Director-General was authorized to pursue, during the biennium 1986–1987, the studies under way so that a decision could be taken regarding the long-term solution for the Headquarters premises, subject to confirmation by the French Government of the option under consideration concerning the Place de Fontenoy;
12. The Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics on the Production and Distribution of Books, Newspapers and Periodicals, replacing the version approved in 1964, was approved;
13. It was agreed that the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference would be held at Headquarters;
14. A budget ceiling of \$398,468,000 was approved for the biennium 1986–1987, and the Director-General was authorized, should the announced intention of two Member States to withdraw from the Organization at the end of 1985 become effective, to deduct from the various appropriation lines the amounts necessary to meet the financial effects of those withdrawals.

The biennium 1986–1987

THE SECRETARIAT

It was during the 1986–1987 biennium that work began on drawing up the third Medium-Term Plan (1990–1995). In the last few months of 1986 a broad consultation was initiated not only with Member States, Associate Members and international governmental and non-governmental organizations but also with eminent personalities directly or indirectly associated with UNESCO's work.

During the biennium, a new evaluation system was put into effect, operating on three levels: critical appraisal of the forms of programme execution; relevance of the activities carried out in terms of set targets and expected results; and gauging the impact of the Organization's activities in Member States. Efforts were also made to improve the evaluation of projects financed by extra-budgetary resources.

On 30 November 1986 Mr. Jean Knapp relinquished his duties as Deputy Director-General and was replaced on 1 December of the same year by Mr. Michel de Bonnecorse (France).

On 1 January 1986, Mr. Henri Lopes (Congo) was appointed Assistant Director-General for Culture and Communication, and on the same date Mr. Doudou Diene (Senegal) became Deputy Assistant Director-General for the External Relations and Information Sector; on 16 November of the same year, he was replaced by Mr. Zhaochun Xu (China).

Mr. S. Vieux (Haiti) occupied the post of Deputy Director-General for General Administration from 1 January 1986 to 21 January 1987, and the day following his departure Mr. Youri N. Kochubey (Ukraine) was appointed to replace him.

Mr. Thomas Keller (Federal Republic of Germany) was appointed Acting Assistant Director-General for General Programmes and Programme Support on 1 January 1986.

The Director-General made 51 visits to different countries to attend meetings or significant events, and occasionally to contact the relevant authorities.

After a number of studies the Executive Board approved, at its 124th session (May 1986), the measures taken by the Director-General in relation to the Programme and Budget for the biennium, which had decreased by \$17,884,020 as a result of the withdrawal on 31 December 1985 of the United Kingdom and Singapore. 800 posts were abolished under the regular budget and extra-budgetary funding, the reductions being effected through voluntary separations from service, retirements and abolition of vacant posts.

EDUCATION

One of the principal achievements in this Sector was the conduct of activities which led to the proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of 1990 as International Literacy Year.

This issue was discussed *inter alia* at the sixth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning of Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held in Bogotá from 30 March to 4 April 1987. It was also the main topic of the International Symposium for Reflection on the Preparation of International Literacy Year, which took place in Ulan Bator (Mongolia) from 24 to 29 May of the same year.

The two major regional programmes (for Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa) were formulated and strengthened, and a similar programme was drawn up for Asia and the Pacific.

The International Conference on Education held its fortieth session in Geneva in December 1986, focusing on secondary education.

From 27 to 30 May 1986, the Regional Committee for the Application of the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region met in Bucharest, while from 2 to 4 June of the same year the Intergovernmental Committee on the Application of the similar Convention in the Arab and European States bordering on the Mediterranean was held at Headquarters.

The International Congress on Environmental Education and Training, organized jointly by UNESCO and UNEP, met in Moscow in August 1987, attended by over 300 specialists from 80 countries and 15 international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Ten years after the first Intergovernmental Conference on Environmental Education, which was also held in the Soviet Union, in Tbilisi, participants were able to take stock of follow-up action on the recommendations of that Conference and decide on policy lines for future action. The recommendation that the 1990s should be proclaimed the World Decade for Environmental Education was also adopted.

Two pilot projects were carried out in Greece and Portugal on the integration into the national school system of the children of migrant workers, and three more (two in Asia and the Pacific and one in Africa) on the content of primary education in rural areas.

Various seminars and meetings were held on: factors influencing the democratization of education; better co-ordination between formal and non-formal education; expansion of the concept of adult education in response to technological and social change; literacy instruction and education in civics for women; school education for girls; access by girls to secondary technical and vocational education, scientific studies and technological training at university level; teaching of technologies for rural areas; action for the handicapped; action on behalf

of refugees and national liberation movements; and action on behalf of migrant workers and their families.

Other activities in this Sector in the course of the biennium were: study of national integrated educational and training plans; mobilization of internal and external resources; publication of a synoptic work on educational content for the year 2000; preparation in co-operation with WHO of an educational programme for AIDS prevention; assistance in the establishment, in the University of Venice, of a regional information centre on teaching of languages not widely used or widely taught in Europe; harmonization of training activities; improvement of initial and life-long education; expansion of the IBE data base; preparatory work for the establishment of a specialized information network on educational buildings; development of education for international understanding, co-operation and peace; extension and consolidation of the Associated Schools Project (almost 2150 such schools in 1987); international education; support for youth activities; and human rights teaching.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Africa (CASTAFRICA II) was held in Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) from 6 to 15 July 1987. Its main purpose was to take stock of the experience acquired in that field since the first Conference in 1974 and to determine ways of directing policies towards meeting the socio-economic needs of African communities, particularly rural ones.

During the biennium, 122 countries participated in the International Geological Correlation Programme, and there were 83 National Committees. The number of projects being implemented in 1987 rose to 51. The main topics of other geology-related activities were: geology for economic development; interdisciplinary research on the earth sciences; training of specialized personnel; and research on natural hazards and mitigation of their risks.

Application of the third phase (1984-1989) of the International Hydrological Programme continued, with the participation of 138 Member States. A UNESCO/WMO International Conference took place in Geneva from 16 to 21 March 1987 to ensure complementarity between the programmes and to offer suggestions for the fourth phase (1990-1995). The other main topics relating to water resources during the biennium were: knowledge of the hydrological cycle, water resources assessment, planning and management; and contribution towards a better understanding by planners, decision-makers and the public of the role of water resources in socio-economic development.

The programme on the ocean and its resources was carried out through the activities of the UNESCO marine science programme and the International Ocea-

nographic Commission. Emphasis was placed on the interdependent development of marine science human resources, research programmes and infrastructures.

Where MAB was concerned, the main issues during the biennium were: advancement, collation and application of knowledge; integrated management of islands; land-use planning and resource management in the humid and sub-humid tropics; integrated land management of arid and semi-arid zones; temperate and cold zones; training of specialists and technicians; and integrated ecological studies of urban systems.

Other activities in the Sector during the biennium were: a study of the relationship between science, technology and society in different economic and cultural contexts; strengthening the role of scientists and specialists in directing scientific and technological progress towards the betterment of societies and in maintaining peace; analysis of national experience and exchange of information; exchange of ideas and information on the teaching of the sciences and technology; integration of productive work into technical and vocational education; technological research and adaptation in the engineering sciences; computer applications in engineering; the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme; biotechnology; Microbiological Resources Centres; and out-of-school science and technology education.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

The project on the establishment and consolidation of the Latin American Social Sciences Council (CLACSO), to which UNDP contributed \$1,321,619, was concluded. The programme contributed to CLACSO becoming the most important non-governmental social science organizations in the region.

The celebration of 1986 as the International Year of Peace was an important activity for the Sector, giving rise to a special effort to investigate the factors likely to contribute to the maintenance and strengthening of peace; on 15 and 16 December 1986, a round-table met at Headquarters, attended by leading figures from academic, literary and political circles.

An International Symposium on the Environment and the Teaching of Social Sciences in the framework of general education was held from 17 to 21 February 1986, also at Headquarters.

In Madrid, from 18 to 21 March 1986, a meeting took place on the sociocultural causes of prostitution. An international committee of experts participated in the meeting.

Major support was provided to the World Peace Conference, held in Mexico City from 10 to 14 March 1986, and also to the holding of the ninth General Conference of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), which took place in Brighton (United Kingdom) from 13 to 18 April 1986.

An international symposium on the elucidation and better understanding of

the concept of the rights of peoples and clarification of the relationship between rights of peoples and human rights as defined in existing universal international instruments took place in Canberra (Australia) from 24 to 28 August 1987. The participants were in agreement on the complementarity between the rights of peoples and individual rights, and emphasis was placed on the fact that the rights of peoples could not be used as a pretext for denying individual rights.

Special mention must be made of the holding in Malta (from 31 August to 5 September 1987) of the International Congress on Human Rights Teaching, Information and Documentation, which made it possible to identify emerging trends in the field of human rights teaching and research and to draw up a framework for future action.

From 14 to 18 December 1987, an international meeting of social and human scientists took place at Headquarters to consider ways and means of strengthening international co-operation in the social and human sciences fields.

Other activities in the Sector during the biennium were: collaboration with the International Law Commission in establishing an international register of institutions capable of promoting effective access to human rights by disadvantaged social groups; planning and evaluation of development; technical co-operation among developing countries; population activities; contribution to the celebration of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless; philosophical reflection on the recent progress in the life sciences and on the unity of man; socio-political study of intolerance and racism; and contribution to a better knowledge of the ideological foundations of apartheid and its social mechanisms of discrimination.

CULTURE

Preparations for the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1997) were a key component in the implementation of the programme in this Sector during the biennium, particularly since the United Nations General Assembly, when proclaiming the Decade, had appointed UNESCO as the lead agency. Thus a Plan of Action was drawn up, and Member States were invited to set up national committees for the Decade.

With regard to the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage, the campaigns under way continued, and preparations were made for seven more. The programme on the San Francisco de Lima complex was launched during the biennium.

Eleven new Member States were added to the list of States Parties to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, and 72 monuments and sites were included in the World Heritage List, bringing the total number of entries to 288 in 67 countries.

From 3 to 5 February 1986, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the

International Campaign for the establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo was held in Cairo. Another meeting took place at Headquarters from 15 to 17 September 1987.

Other important activities were: methodology for the safeguarding of the non-physical heritage; language studies and research; wider application of the international conventions; development of the basic facilities for conservation, training of specialized personnel and exchange of information; continuation of the drafting or preparation of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind*, the *General History of Africa*,¹ the *General History of Latin America*, the *General History of the Caribbean* and the *History of the Civilizations of Central Asia*; various aspects of Islamic culture;² action to promote the mutual appreciation of cultures; promotion of creation in various fields of artistic expression; training of artists and craftsmen; participation of the artist in social life; consideration of cultural factors in development; cultural development policies and participation in cultural life; training of cultural development personnel; and international cultural co-operation.

COMMUNICATION

The main instrument of communication activities was the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), whose purpose was to assist Member States in developing their communication infrastructure and capacities. During its sessions held in Paris in January 1986 and January 1987, the Council approved financing for 130 new projects, thus bringing the total number of projects receiving or having received assistance under the IPDC Special Account to 278 as of June 1987.

From 19 to 25 July 1987, the Intergovernmental Conference on Communication Policies in the Arab States was held in Khartoum (Sudan). This was the fourth regional conference on the topic,³ and its proposals were reflected in general terms in the Khartoum Declaration.

An international round-table on a new world information and communication order took place in Copenhagen from 2 to 7 April 1986.

Under the General Information Programme (PGI), which grouped together the main activities in the field of information, libraries and archives, regional

1. A symposium on the Arabic sources of African history was held in Rabat from 1 to 3 April 1987.
2. The eighth meeting of the Drafting Committee took place at Headquarters from 18 to 21 March 1986.
3. The others had taken place in San José (Costa Rica) in 1976 for Latin America and the Caribbean, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) in 1979 for Asia and Oceania, and Yaoundé (Cameroon) in 1980 for Africa.



Federico Mayor, the present Director-General of UNESCO.



Angkor,
Cambodia.

data bases were set up in nine Member States and the capability of data base creation was strengthened in 50 institutions in developing countries.

Other activities in the course of the biennium were: sociocultural impact of new communication technologies; the new world information and communication order; the reduction of the obstacles to the free flow and exchange of information; the media; major world problems and international understanding; endogenous technology; book development and promotion; promoting the reading habit; audiovisual media and archives; the education of media users; development of tools for the processing and transfer of information; national information policies; development of library and information systems and services; the Records and Archives Management Programme; reference and library services; and integration into the UNESCO Integrated Documentation Network of the IIEP Documentation Centre and the Energy Information Centre.

The UNESCO Microfilm Service microfilmed 693,296 pages comprising 9,678 Secretariat documents, 600 publications and 195 periodicals.

The *UNESCO Courier* was published in 31 languages, and also quarterly in Braille, in English, French, Korean and Spanish.

From 9 September to 5 October 1987 the editors of the *Courier* organized at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris an exhibition on the theme '*UNESCO Courier: Forty Years of Cultural Action*', giving a graphic presentation of its history and achievements.

THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO

On 12 September 1986, during the 125th session of the Executive Board, a solemn meeting took place to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of UNESCO. Statements were made by the President of the General Conference, the Chairman of the Executive Board, the representatives of regional groups and the Director-General, and on 4 November, the exact day of the anniversary, important events took place at and away from Headquarters. The occasion was marked throughout the world, and a wide range of activities took place in many countries.

The book *UNESCO on the Eve of its Fortieth Anniversary*, published by the Organization in 1985,⁴ is of considerable interest.

4. Under the direction of Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow, Director-General, and with the collaboration of former members and members of the Executive Board, senior officials and former officials of UNESCO, among whom the names of Mr. José Blat Gimeno (Spain) and Mr. René Ochs (France) figure prominently on the cover page of the book.

MEMBER STATES

Although the number of countries which signed the UNESCO Constitution between 1946 and 1983 was 162, it must be borne in mind that South Africa had withdrawn on 31 December 1956, the United States of America on 31 December 1984 and the United Kingdom and Singapore on 31 December 1985, and had not returned by 31 December 1987, with the result that the number of Member States as of that date was 158.

CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL

On 6 October 1986, at a closed meeting of the Executive Board, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow said that he would not stand for a third term as Director-General at the election that was to take place during the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference.

On 20 October 1987, after a vote, the Executive Board decided to propose Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza (Spain) to the General Conference as candidate for the post of Director-General.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

This session of the General Conference was held at Headquarters from 20 October to 20 November 1987. It was attended by delegates of 155 Member States and two Associate Members, as well as by representatives of three non-Member States (Holy See, United Kingdom and United States of America), 11 bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations, 25 intergovernmental organizations, 111 international non-governmental organizations and four liberation movements and organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Guillermo Putzeys Alvarez (Guatemala) as President, and one delegate from each of the following 36 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Ethiopia, France, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Haiti, India, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Yemen, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

The Conference established Commissions I, II, III, IV and V and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Nominations Committee, the Legal Committee, the Credentials Committee and the Headquarters Committee. As at previous sessions, a Drafting and Negotiation Group was established.

The session was opened by Mr. Nikolai Todorov (Bulgaria), Temporary

President; he gave the floor to Mr. Damienov, Permanent Delegate of Bulgaria to UNESCO, who announced the screening of a film on the twenty-third session of the General Conference, which had taken place in Sofia.

Mr. Todorov then took the floor again, and began by expressing his regret at the deaths since the previous session of the General Conference of the Presidents of Mozambique, Samora Machel, and Burkina Faso, Thomas Sankara, and the Prime Ministers of Sweden, Olof Palme, and of Barbados, Errol W. Barrow, as well as of eminent personalities associated with UNESCO, among them Mr. Vittorino Veronese, former Director-General,⁵ and former Executive Board Chairmen Mr. Rodolfo Barón Castro and Mr. Leonard C. J. Martin.

He welcomed all present and expressed regret at the absence of those countries which had left UNESCO, despite the efforts and concessions made, expressing his conviction that UNESCO would continue to progress.

He then referred to the agenda, which, he said, included an item that might divert attention from other major questions; nevertheless, that item – the election of the Director-General – should not overshadow the remaining vital issues that had to be discussed.

There was a need, he said, for idealism and realism; an effort must be made to seek and to find the most promising paths towards a common future, in spite of ideological and political differences.

He added that UNESCO had, throughout its history, displayed great vitality. He was convinced that this vitality would, thanks to all present, again enable the Organization to rise to the challenges of the present session of the General Conference, and that, in spite of the question marks which hung over the session and the emotions they aroused, UNESCO would, at that twenty-fourth session, succeed in remaining true to itself.

The next speaker was Mr. Mangan, Chairman of the Executive Board. He welcomed all present to the session, which like all its predecessors, would have before it the Draft Programme and Budget for the next two years, a document which on the present occasion would be innovative in many ways. It would also have before it a number of other matters related directly or indirectly to the Board's efforts to review and improve the functioning of the Organization.

At a turning point in the history of the Organization, the General Conference, he said, was called upon to reflect on the future orientations of its action on the basis of the Director-General's report on the preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan, as well as to consider a number of legal and constitutional matters arising out of the current circumstances.

5. Who died in Rome on 3 September 1986. On hearing the news, Mr. M'Bow made a statement in which, paying tribute to his memory, he praised Mr. Veronese's activities as Director-General of UNESCO.

He referred to the spirit of tolerance, mutual understanding and co-operation which had been the hallmark of the deliberations of the Executive Board, as well as the efforts made to respect differing views and reconcile diverging interests. The fact that more of the decisions had been taken by consensus was good proof of that.

The Director-General, Mr. M'Bow, then took the floor. He welcomed all present, and said that the twenty-fourth session was opening at a particularly difficult time in the history of mankind, when too many hopes were too often being denied, with more and more situations of economic, social and political impasses, internationally and within each society.

The world, he said, seems to be having great difficulty in adapting to the upheavals brought about during the last few decades by the rapid progress of science and technology and by the increasingly global character of economic and cultural exchanges and of information. The imbalances between material development and mankind's ethical needs . . . are deepening.

The conclusion that may be drawn from all this, he said, is an essential one – that today, even more than in the past, we must try to consolidate the system on the basis of absolute equality of rights among all its Member States, to strengthen its cohesion and increase its means of action, in order that the ideas, initiatives and currents in the international community that are working in the direction of solidarity, justice and progress may develop on an ever wider scale.

UNESCO's role at the heart of this system is irreplaceable. Situated as it is at the crossroads of all knowledge and all cultures, it is perhaps the only laboratory now specializing in a highly advanced field: the biochemistry of peace in the minds of men.

He concluded by expressing his view that UNESCO must continue drawing upon the huge reserves of generosity and intelligence that lay dormant in the conscience of every people and in the mind of every individual. UNESCO must continue bringing intellectuals, scientists and artists from all countries closer together, so that they could together devise a future in which all people recognized one another without rejection. The twenty-fourth session of the General Conference could make a decisive contribution to that, and he pleaded with it to do so.

The most important issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference are summarized below.

Education

The Director-General was invited, particularly within the framework of preparations for International Literacy Year, to continue efforts to alert world public opinion to the need for special attention to continue to be given to activities to promote general access to, and secure the improvement of, primary education; to continue supporting the Major Project in the Field of Education in the Latin

American and Caribbean Region, the Regional Programme for the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa and the Regional Programme for the Universalization and Renewal of Primary Education and the Elimination of Illiteracy in Asia and the Pacific, and to collaborate with the Member States concerned on the preparation and implementation of a similar programme in the region of the Arab States; to continue to further the application of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education; to promote adult education; to gain a deeper knowledge of the economic, social and cultural obstacles to educational equality between women and men; to reduce the existing disparities in education between rural and urban populations; to continue and increase activities to foster the education of the disabled; and to continue the efforts to monitor on a permanent basis the functioning of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories.

The General Conference approved the draft programme for International Literacy Year submitted by the Director-General, and authorized him to submit it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It also requested the General Assembly of the United Nations to proclaim 1990 International Literacy Year, as recommended by the Economic and Social Council.

It appealed to Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations to take immediate measures to prepare programmes and activities for International Literacy Year in the context of the Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000.

The Director-General was authorized to appeal to the international community to provide Honduras with the support it needed in order to implement its National Plan for the Development of Adult Education.

The Director-General was authorized to organize in 1988 the forty-first session of the International Conference on Education, as well as the fourth Conference of Ministers of Education of Member States of the Europe Region, and to make preparations for the sixth Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in African Member States; to continue, with a view to mobilizing external financial resources for education, to co-operate with the World Bank, the regional development banks, the multilateral and bilateral funds, UNICEF and the World Food Programme; to continue to encourage innovations in educational content, methods and techniques; to continue publication of the journal *Prospects* and to increase its circulation; to continue assisting in the integration into curricula of matters relating to the quality of life, the prevention of drug abuse and the prevention of AIDS; to co-ordinate the activities under the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching; to foster the extension and consolidation of the Associated Schools Project; to continue to follow up the measures taken during International Youth Year, with particular respect to the recommendations and the Barce-

Iona Statement unanimously adopted at the World Congress on Youth in 1985; to further the expansion and improvement of higher education; to reinforce the action undertaken to promote the recognition of studies, degrees and diplomas in higher education, thus encouraging the mobility of students, teachers and researchers; to continue to promote the training of educational personnel, particularly teachers in higher education; and to complete the preparation of a Convention on technical and vocational training and convene a meeting of a committee of governmental experts in 1989 to prepare a final draft of the convention to be submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-fifth session.

Natural sciences

The Director-General was invited to promote the improvement and modernization of the teaching of science and technology by introducing content relating to new fields, such as biotechnology and the space and marine sciences; to encourage the development of out-of-school scientific activities for young people and to promote scientific and technological extension work programmes for adults, particularly in developing countries; to encourage the implementation of activities designed to open up education systems more widely to the world of work; to continue to promote the expansion of technical and vocational education, including intermediate agricultural education; to encourage the development of innovation in the university teaching of the sciences and the application of computers in such teaching and in post-graduate training; to contribute to the improvement of university training activities for engineers and technicians; and to contribute to the spread of scientific knowledge and know-how in biotechnology, encouraging the development of areas relevant to agriculture, medicine and industry.

He was also invited to support national and international programmes concerned with studying future trends in science and technology and examining the effects of scientific and technological progress on societies; to promote the role of women in science and technology; to continue implementation of the International Geological Correlation Programme and strengthen links between that Programme and other governmental and non-governmental science programmes; to expand the activities of the 'Geology for economic development' project concerning evaluation of the mineral potential of Africa, by extending them to Latin America; to promote the establishment of warning systems for natural hazards; to continue implementation of the International Hydrological Programme, the third phase of which would end in 1989, and to prepare for the fourth phase (1990 - 1995) in accordance with the recommendations made by the International Conference held in Geneva in March 1987; to strengthen the work programme and potential for action of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission in regard to oceanography and ocean services; to strengthen research and training capabilities in the marine sciences; to continue implementation of

the Programme on Man and the Biosphere, in particular by strengthening the networks of pilot research projects on integrated land-use planning and the rational management of natural resources; to promote, in collaboration with the International Council of Scientific Unions, research and studies on ecosystems; to pursue implementation, in collaboration with UNEP, FAO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, of the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves under the MAB programme; to intensify research and exchanges of information on urbanization phenomena and on population movements; to pursue implementation of the UNESCO-UNEP International Environmental Education Programme; and to provide technical and financial support for the Simon Bolívar International Centre for Scientific Co-operation in Venezuela.

Social sciences and their applications

The Director-General was invited to improve international, regional and subregional co-operation in the social and human sciences; to promote a programme of international and multidisciplinary studies on the position and role of the family in contemporary societies; to encourage research, training and education relating to the status of women in the different regions of the world; and to accord philosophy and the human sciences the scope and coherence befitting them in the respective programmes and allocate to those programmes the means of action required to enable UNESCO duly to carry out the task of critical examination that falls to it in the United Nations system.

He was also invited to encourage scientific and ethical investigation of the unity of the human species; to contribute to the struggle against intolerance, prejudice, racism and discrimination in all their forms in UNESCO's fields of competence; to evaluate the impact of the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice (1978) and the Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination based on Religion or Belief (1981); to contribute to a better understanding of the existing economic and social situation in South Africa and in Namibia and to bring out clearly the effects of apartheid on education, science, culture, communication and information there; to encourage the application of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979); to promote the research and training capacity which could contribute in UNESCO's fields of competence to the maintenance and strengthening of peace and the provision of sufficient knowledge on the level of armaments and questions concerning disarmament; to promote a debate on how the defences of peace could be constructed in the minds of men; to promote the study of the conditions necessary for the effective exercise of human rights; and to provide intellectual and technical support to the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America, established by the United Nations in Lima (Peru).

Culture

The Director-General was invited to work out a plan of action for the preservation and presentation of the different forms of the non-physical heritage, particularly those in danger of disappearance; to contribute to the strengthening of facilities for the preservation and presentation of the movable cultural heritage and encourage bilateral negotiations for the return or restitution of cultural property to its country of origin; to extend knowledge of different cultures and stimulate the expression of cultural identities by continuing the preparation of a new edition of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* and the publishing of regional histories such as the *General History of Africa*, the *General History of Latin America*, the *General History of Caribbean*, the *History of the Civilizations of Central Asia* and the work on the various aspects of Islamic culture; and to continue the application of the decisions and resolutions relating to the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of Jerusalem so long as the city was occupied, a decision being taken to include that question in the agenda of the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference.

The General Conference appealed to Member States, public and private institutions and individuals to lend their intellectual, technical and financial assistance to international action to safeguard nineteenth and twentieth century manuscripts forming part of the cultural heritage.

The General Conference invited Member States and the Director-General to associate themselves with the initiatives of the 'Banner of Peace' movement within the framework of the activities of the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988–1997), in relation to which Member States were invited to contribute to the acknowledgement of the cultural dimension of development, to implement significant activities and projects catering for the priority issues of their economic, social and cultural development, and to advance their contribution to the Decade by establishing national committees.

It was decided to establish an Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade, and its Statutes, comprising nine articles, were approved.

It was also decided to assign greater importance to the Declaration of the World Conference on Cultural Policies (Mexico City, 1982) in implementing UNESCO's programme relating to the World Decade for Cultural Development.

The General Conference congratulated the Director-General on the good management of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, paid tribute to all donors and benefactors, particularly to those Member States which had allowed the Fund to be launched, and issued a general appeal for added resources for the Fund through financial contributions, however modest.

Communication

The General Conference urgently appealed to Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations, professional circles and the various sources of financing to increase their support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication.

The Director-General was invited to stimulate research on the sociocultural repercussions of new communication technologies; to contribute to the strengthening of research and documentation capacities in communication; to help eliminate all obstacles to the free flow and wider and better balanced exchange of news and programmes; to co-operate with Member States, associations of the mass media and non-governmental organizations to follow up the findings of the evaluation undertaken in 1986–1987 of the effect of the Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racism, Apartheid and Incitement to War; and to give high priority to the training and further training of communication personnel.

The Director-General was requested, in implementing these activities, to devote special attention to those that contributed to the implementation of the Plan of Action of the World Decade for Cultural Development and those that could contribute to the reduction of international imbalances in the field of communication and were aimed at the least well-endowed regions and the most disadvantaged social groups.

He was also requested to continue to develop the conceptual framework of UNISIST and to make the normative instruments of that programme available in Member States, the United Nations system and the Organization itself; to strengthen national information systems and their institutions, including library, archives, documentation and specialized information services; to continue to develop and supply documentary and statistical analysis software packages to Member States; to continue to publish the *UNESCO Courier* and to give support to the editions published away from Headquarters in other languages, and to continue publication of the periodicals *Prospects*, *Impact*, *Nature and Resources*, *International Social Science Journal*, *Museum* and *Copyright Bulletin*.

Tribute to Mr. M'Bow

The General Conference paid tribute to Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow at its plenary meeting on 4 November, and expressed its deepest gratitude to him for his service as Director-General over the past thirteen years, recalling his previous service as a member of the Executive Board since 1966 and as Assistant Director-General, Education Sector, since 1970.

Appointment of the Director-General

At the plenary meeting on 7 November, following the requisite election, Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza (Spain) was appointed to the post of Director-General for a period of six years from 15 November.⁶ The text of his address on the occasion of his installation appears as an annex.

The Executive Board

The General Conference elected 25 members of the Executive Board, and appointed its Chairman, Mr. José Israel Vargas (Brazil) being elected to that office.

Other decisions

1. It was recommended that the Director-General should resume publication, in 1990, of the UNESCO calendar of anniversaries of great personalities and events;
2. The General Conference approved the principle of the proclamation of an International Year of the Family, the celebration of which should stimulate a general consideration of the problems and needs of the family and encourage governments to formulate economic, social and cultural policies on behalf of the family, and the Director-General was requested to bring the resolution to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly;
3. A solemn appeal was issued to Iran and Iraq to seek a solution based on mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and on non-interference in each other's internal affairs, thus putting an end to the armed conflict between them;
4. It was decided to amend some articles of the Constitution and some rules of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;⁷
5. The Director-General was invited to maintain the use of Chinese in the biennium 1988–1989, at the same level as in the preceding biennium, and to identify the measures to give Chinese progressively, during the third Medium-Term Plan, the same status as the other working languages;
6. In connection with the fortieth anniversary of UNESCO, the General Conference invited Member States to work for a constant and constructive dialogue, and called on educators, scientists, scholars, journalists and intellectuals, and on their national and international associations, actively to support the purposes, principles and activities of UNESCO;
7. It was agreed that the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference would be held at Headquarters;
8. A budget of \$350,386,000 was approved for the biennium 1988–1989.

6. Mr. Mayor Zaragoza had been Deputy Director-General from 1978 to 1981.

7. The text of the Constitution, with its successive amendments, appears as an annex.

1988–1991

The biennium 1988–1989

THE SECRETARIAT

UNESCO began this biennium under the leadership of Mr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza, elected at the General Conference the previous year, and with a budget of \$342,869,800 once the sum of \$7,516,200 for the Medical Benefits Fund, end-of-service grants and indemnities and unamortized construction costs had been deducted. Various donations and special contributions increased the total appropriation by \$443,344.

The new Director-General carried out a partial adjustment to the structures of the Secretariat, affecting mainly the central units. In this connection, two Deputy Directors-General were appointed, one of whom (Mr. Eduardo Portella of Brazil) was to assume responsibility for the programme and the other (Mr. Charman Lal Sharma of India) for management. Mr. Portella, besides supervising programme implementation, was also responsible for bringing about greater interdisciplinarity and intersectorality. Both took up their duties on 16 November 1988.

A third Deputy Director-General, Mr. Sylvain Lourié (France), a former staff member of the Organization, was appointed in his personal capacity on 1 October 1989.

The aim was to create a new style of management based on the devolution of decision-making, and this involved changing attitudes and working relations, delegating responsibility and encouraging individual initiative, self-reliance and a sense of responsibility in each member of the Secretariat. A long-term training programme in managerial and organizational methods was conducted, and nine management courses were organized in 1989, one for senior executive staff and eight for middle and lower-level staff. An advisory committee responsible for administrative policies and procedures was also set up.

The Bureau for the Co-ordination of Operational Action (BAO) was established to replace the Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development, under the responsibility of the Deputy Director-General for Management.

On 1 January 1989, Mr. Colin Nelson Power (Australia) was appointed Assistant Director-General for Education.

An improvement took place in the institutional dialogue between UNESCO and the sources of financing – the United Nations Development Programme, which contributed more than half the financing for extra-budgetary projects, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the development banks and other aid agencies. Extra-budgetary resources secured amounted to \$155,500,000, an increase of 8 per cent over the figure for the previous biennium. Voluntary contributions by Member States amounted to over \$20 million.

In view of the special situation of Africa, where a large majority of the least-developed countries were located, a unit to co-ordinate activities in the region was established in January 1989 and a special programme was developed entitled ‘Priority: Africa’, containing practical recommendations for solving problems and meeting needs.

The posts and duties of the Regional Co-ordinators were abolished, with the result that all field units came under the authority of the Deputy Director-General for Management, assisted from February 1989 onwards by the Bureau for Co-ordination of Field Units (BFC).

The Office of Public Information was reorganized in order to give the press a better idea of what UNESCO was doing.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Knut Hammarskjöld, a commission of six experts was set up to prepare a report on ways and means of improving the efficiency of staff and management. The commission started work in February 1989, and on 30 December of the same year submitted its report, which was examined by a group of high-level international advisers.

One of the major tasks carried out during the biennium was the preparation of the Medium-Term Plan for 1990–1995. The biennium 1988–1989 was also the last phase of the Medium-Term Plan for 1984–1989.

The Director-General visited a number of Member States and headquarters of international organizations, travelling 33 times in 1988 and 27 times in 1989 on official visits or to participate in meetings where his presence was required.

EDUCATION

Highest priority in this sector during the biennium was assigned to the fight against illiteracy and the renewal and expansion of primary education. To this end, programmes were strengthened, especially in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Preparations were made for the celebration of International Literacy Year (1990), and 107 national committees were set up to plan literacy-related activities during the Year (ILY), while the ILY Secretariat was directly responsible for the preparation of a number of publications to promote the Year. ILY was launched at a ceremony which took place at United Nations Headquarters, New York, attended by the Director-General of UNESCO together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

At this ceremony, Mr. Mayor said that there were currently still one thousand million illiterates in the world. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar, said that illiteracy was one of the Organization's main concerns. The ceremony took place on 6 December 1989.

The third session of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (PROMEDLAC III) was held in Guatemala City from 26 to 30 June 1989. It highlighted as one of the main objectives the eradication of illiteracy in the region. Another of the objectives of the session was to consider the progress made by Member States in the region in implementing the priority activities under the Major Project, which according to the Chairman of the session had become a model for other similar projects in other regions of the world.

From 9 to 17 January 1989, the forty-first session of the International Conference on Education was held in Geneva, attended by over 500 national delegates and approximately 60 observers. It was devoted to the interesting and topical theme of the diversification of post-secondary education in the light of the employment situation.

The Fourth Conference of Ministers of Education of Member States of the Europe Region was held in Paris in September 1988, and evaluated the prospects for developing education in Europe on the threshold of the twenty-first century, placing particular emphasis on the humanistic, cultural and international dimensions which should characterize such education and on the impact of the new information and communication technologies on education systems.

Mention should be made in this connection of the international congress on 'Education and Informatics – Strengthening International Co-operation', held at UNESCO Headquarters in April 1989.

In September 1988 the fifth session of the Advisory Committee on Regional Co-operation in Education in Asia and the Pacific was held in Indonesia.

From 12 to 16 December 1989, an international meeting of experts to launch an interregional project to enhance the multiplier effect of the Associated Schools Project took place in Bangkok (Thailand).

Efforts were made to strengthen co-operation with the other organizations of the United Nations system, and an agreement was concluded with the World Health Organization on education for AIDS prevention.

Other activities in this sector in the course of the biennium were: the devel-

opment and renewal of primary education; promotion of post-literacy programmes; the training of planners and administrators for the provision of education for all; the training of primary education personnel; examination of the obstacles hindering and factors encouraging the democratization of education; the training of adult education personnel; the teaching of science and technology and the promotion of physical education and sports; equality of educational opportunity for girls and women; the educational role of women in society; the development of education in rural areas; the promotion of educational activities for disabled persons; action on behalf of refugees, national liberation movements and migrant workers and their families; the preparation of a document entitled 'National Educational Research Policies: A Worldwide Survey'; improvement of the content and methods of education; design and construction of educational infrastructures and facilities; interaction between education and productive work; innovations in the content, methods and materials of technical and vocational education; contribution of higher education to the advancement of society; application of the conventions on the recognition of higher education degrees and diplomas; and exchange of information and innovations in the teaching of science and technology.

NATURAL SCIENCES

The International Scientific Council for Science and Technology Policy Development decided on the outlines of the Organization's programme under the Medium-Term Plan for 1990–1995.

In the field of research, training and international co-operation in the natural sciences, mention may be made of the support for the fourth Symposium on Asymptotic Stability and for the sixth International Congress on Mathematical Education, as well as the organization, in co-operation with the International Centre for Pure and Applied Mathematics (ICPAM) of a meeting of European, Arab and African mathematical experts to establish infrastructure for regional and inter-regional co-operation in mathematical sciences.

In relation to physics and chemistry, mention may be made, among other activities (which were indeed extremely numerous), of the sponsorship of the Asian Physics Education Network (ASPEN); two workshops on microcomputers in physics teaching, held in Indonesia and Thailand; the launching of a pilot project on university physics teaching in the Philippines; the development of experiments and teaching materials on lasers for university students under the joint UNESCO/ICSU joint pilot project in Thailand; the organization of programmes on the production of low-cost laboratory equipment in the Arab States, Asia and Latin America; and the excellent collaboration with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste.

Noteworthy activities in the field of the biological sciences were the sympo-

sium on molecular and cell biology (Monterey, Mexico, April 1988) and the workshop on the human genome (Valencia, Spain, September 1989), which agreed to expand the existing European and North American networks.

With regard to the environment and the rational use of natural resources, activities which furthered the objectives of Member States continued to be implemented under intergovernmental or international programmes (IGCP, IHP, MAB, IOC and IEEP).

Regional meetings of national authorities and officials responsible for science and technology policies were held in Latin America in 1988 and Africa in 1989.

Other activities during the biennium in the natural sciences sector were: computer applications in engineering; the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme; the effects of scientific and technological progress and participation by specialists and the public in the direction taken by it; contribution to a better understanding of the relationship between science, technology and society in different social, economic and cultural contexts; science and technology extension work; the creation of a Science and Technology Popularization System (SATPOS); promotion of international co-operation for policy development in science and technology; geology for economic development; interdisciplinary research on the earth's crust and publication of its findings and of data relating to the earth sciences; impact evaluation of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP); development of scientific and technical knowledge with a view to the better assessment and prediction of natural hazards; planning and co-ordination of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and completion of its third phase; development of scientific and technical knowledge with a view to the assessment, planning and management of water resources; promotion of scientific investigation of the ocean and its resources; ocean services, provision of oceanographic data, information and warnings; training of scientific and technical personnel for the study of marine systems and their resources; co-ordination and development of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme; tropical resource management; expansion of the network of cell and molecular biology studies; combating desertification; Mediterranean, temperate, cold and mountain regions; implementation of the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves; planning and integrated management of urban systems; and development and conservation of the environment in the year 2000.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

From 26 June to 1 July 1989, the International Congress on Peace in the Minds of Men was held in Yamoussoukro (Côte d'Ivoire), in co-operation with the Houphouët-Boigny International Foundation for Peace. It approved the Yamoussoukro Declaration, which defined peace positively, not as the mere ab-

sence of war. The objectives of the Congress were to draw attention to the positive aspects of the activities designed to build peace and to the contribution of UNESCO to that task within its areas of competence and in discharge of the mission assigned to it by its Constitution.

UNESCO commemorated the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two-hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen.

The French National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO organized in 1989, under the auspices of UNESCO and with the support of the French Mission for the Bicentenary of the French Revolution, an international symposium on the relationship between the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America in 1776, the 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

In 1989 the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to the drafting of which UNESCO had actively contributed.

Co-operation with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS) continued, in particular with regard to publication of the periodical *Diogenes*.

Publication of the *International Social Science Journal* and the *Inventory of Peace and Human Rights Institutions*, as well as consolidation of the Asia Pacific Information Network in Social Sciences (APINESS), also continued.

Various seminars, conferences and meetings were held on the strengthening of national training and research potential in the disciplines of the social and human sciences; the latest advances in the field of philosophy and the human sciences; the economic crisis in Southern Africa and international financing institutions; social and human science methodology; the enlargement of bibliographies on different disciplines and of the human rights inventory; the evolution of man and woman in Europe, Asia and the Pacific; the forms taken by the social, cultural and vocational adaptation of migrant women; the preparation of a publication entitled *Poverty, Progress and Development*; and studies and research on the fundamental rights of women and the elimination of discrimination based on sex.

Other activities in this Sector were: financial support to CODESRIA for the publication of works on the social sciences in some African countries; socio-economic analysis of the problem of hunger and food self-sufficiency; the strengthening of regional and subregional networks for social research, training and education in Latin America and the Caribbean, including eight post-graduate training meetings, exchange of researchers, and three meetings on regional and subregional networks for co-operation in the social sciences, all of the above being conducted in collaboration with the Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO), the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Latin American Social Science

Council (CLACSO) and the Central American University Confederation (CSUCA); technical and financial support for the holding of the eighth biennial conference of the Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils (AASSREC), held in New Zealand in 1989; the publication of two books (in Indonesia and India) in the series 'Introducing Asian Societies'; intellectual and financial support to the Arab Regional Centre for Social Sciences (ARCSS) to complete the penultimate stage in the preparation of the Arab Social Science Glossary; and intellectual and financial support for the European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences (Vienna) in carrying out research.

CULTURE

During the biennium, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage progressed towards universal application, with the number of States Parties increasing from 97 to 111. With regard to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, seven new countries acceded, bringing the number of States Parties to 68.

Two new Member States acceded to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, bringing the number of States Parties to 77.

Mention must be made of the launching of two ten-year plans, one global and one interregional, for safeguarding the preservation of popular traditions and minority languages.

The 1989 edition of the *UNESCO Agenda for the World Heritage* was published in 1988.

The action plans for three campaigns (Kathmandu, Sana'a and Moenjodaro) were reviewed to take account of the Strategy for the International Safeguarding Campaigns Programme adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session. Two new campaigns were launched, to safeguard the principal monuments and sites of Ethiopia and the Jesuit Missions of the Guaranís in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. Of interest in this respect is the material published in the *UNESCO Courier* (August 1988) on the world cultural and natural heritage.

With regard to action to promote the arts, literature and crafts, three international plans were prepared relating respectively to the application of the Recommendation on the Status of the Artist, the development of cinema and television in the developing countries and the development of craft work.

With a view to the creation of an environment favourable to reading, reading promotion campaigns were organized in Member States, and a 'Reader's Year' was launched in four of them.

The World Decade for Cultural Development started on 21 January 1988,

and 231 of the 300 projects submitted to UNESCO were selected as Decade activities. Forty-eight new projects were financed from the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, in the arts, crafts, documentation, the collection and safeguarding of cultural traditions, and the media. With a view to promoting the role of women in the transmission of traditional cultural patterns, two series of video cassettes were produced, one in Asia and the Pacific and the other in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Other video cassettes contained traditional dances and music from Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, and oral traditions of ethnic minorities in Europe, Latin America, Africa and the Pacific region.

With regard to languages, contributions were made to the publication of two dictionaries of autochthonous languages in Africa and three in Latin America and the Caribbean, and elementary grammars for languages shared by several African countries were prepared. Support was also provided to Member States for inventorying and recording minority languages in Europe and for the publication of a book on the languages of the Arctic regions of America, Asia and Europe.

In 1988 the Egyptian Government and the University of Alexandria, in collaboration with UNESCO, launched a project for the revival of the famous Library of Alexandria, established by Ptolemy I.

From 6 to 9 December 1988, a meeting took place of the International Scientific Committee for the preparation of a book on the various aspects of Islamic culture.

Seven issues of the journal *Museum* were published in Spanish, French and English, six in Russian and three in Arabic.

Volume I of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* was finalized, Volume II was drafted and revised by the Reading Committee, and the contents of Volumes III, V and VI were approved. Volume II of the *General History of Africa* was published in Italian, and Volume IV in Portuguese; the table of contents for all the volumes of the *General History of Latin America* was finalized, while Volume III of the *General History of the Caribbean* was finalized and Volume I of the *History of the Civilizations of Central Asia* was submitted for publication.

Among other important activities in this sector, mention may be made of: the dissemination of universal literature through translation and publication and via the mass media; the preparation of training material in the various book offices; the creation of an environment favourable to reading; and the organization of two major commemorations: the sixth centenary of the death of the Persian poet Hafez and the centenary of the birth of the Portuguese writer Fernando Pessoa.

COMMUNICATION

Many studies were conducted in this sector in the course of the biennium, noteworthy among them those of questions relating to the concept of a new world information and communication order, involving the publication of a documentary history of that concept seen as an evolving and continuing process. The *UNESCO Mass Communication Thesaurus* was revised, for use in communication documentation centres, and the Arab Network of Documentation Centres on Communication Research and Policies (ARABCOMNET) was established and strengthened.

In connection with the celebration on 10 December 1988 of the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Director-General, Mr. Mayor Zaragoza, issued on 2 November of that year an appeal the text of which concluded with the following words: 'These principles guide UNESCO along its way, they illuminate its past work and mark out the paths of its action for tomorrow'.

Special attention was paid to the image of women projected by the media, and to the programme of research on the impact of new communication technologies, on which subjects 20 studies were conducted covering a number of countries and regions.

With regard to the elimination of obstacles to the flow of books, news and programmes and the strengthening of machinery for exchange and international co-operation, 20 international and regional organizations received support and four studies on the relationship between new communication technologies and media pluralism were completed.

Other topics considered were: the media, major world problems and international understanding; the endogenous production of equipment; the training of communication personnel; the endogenous production of programmes and materials; the development of audiovisual archives; and the education of users.

Special attention was paid to the coproduction of video programmes on culture and development, in order to help bridge the gap in mutual understanding between world regions and promote respect for individual cultures. An example of this activity was a one-hour video documentary in two parts, entitled *Crossing Over*, coproduced by Banyan Productions of Trinidad and Tobago and the National Film and Television Institute of Ghana. This documentary concerned the social, historical and cultural links between the two countries, and by extension between Africa and the Caribbean, taking as its starting point their respective musical and oral traditions, both traditional and contemporary.

Five subregional seminars were held to review strategies for the introduction of new communication technologies, as well as two meetings of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication, a regional workshop on the computerization of Asian scripts,

another workshop on information technology in developing country news agencies, held in collaboration with the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool, a regional seminar on the introduction of television services in the Pacific region, an international seminar in Havana on the reinforcement of film and video production in developing countries, especially in Latin America, and two regional seminars on audiovisual archives in Asia and Latin America.

The International Programme for the Development of Communication was strengthened, and remained an eminently suitable means of implementing projects financed by extrabudgetary resources. Of the 91 new projects begun during the biennium, 72 were financed under the IPDC Special Account (the remaining 19 were financed by funds in trust).

In Africa, 11 rural periodicals were launched and nine village documentation centres were established, while more than 30 professionals were also trained.

Advisory missions in the field of national and regional communication were sent to 17 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

In February 1989 UNESCO launched a new illustrated monthly called *UNESCO Sources*, the main purpose of which was to report on the Organization's activities. A new programme for the visual reproduction of all the sites included in the *World Heritage List* was also launched. The first phase of this programme, 'Wonders of the World', consisting of 26 short films, was completed in October 1990.

In April 1988 the *UNESCO Courier* completed forty years of publication, and offered readers an issue devoted to photography. From June 1989 onwards, it was published in a new format.

Initially a newspaper, it had been transformed into an illustrated journal in 1954, and in 1980 colour pages were included. By 1988 it was being published in 34 languages.

MEMBER STATES

Three countries signed the Constitution in the course of the biennium, all in 1989, bringing the number of Member States to 161.

THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR 1990–1995

The preparation of this Plan was one of the major tasks carried out during the biennium. The Secretariat maintained dialogue and constant consultation between the Organization's governing bodies and Member States, with the involvement of the Executive Board at each of its sessions. The preparation of the Plan made apparent the importance of basing the planning of the Organization's activities on mutual reinforcement of the functions of programming, budget preparation, studies and analysis and evaluation.

THE FIVE-HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

UNESCO associated itself with the commemoration of the Five-Hundredth Anniversary of the Encounter Between Two Worlds (1492-1992). At its 130th session, the Executive Board recommended that the Director-General should include in Major Programme III of the Medium-Term Plan activities to commemorate the anniversary, and requested him to report to it at its 131st session on the measures taken in implementation of its resolution.

The formal submission of the Programme took place in Paris on 13 March 1989.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twenty-fifth session of the General Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 17 October to 16 November 1989.

It was attended by representatives of 158 Member States, two delegations from Associate Member States, three from non-Member States, 12 from United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, 24 from intergovernmental organizations and 103 from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Anwar Ibrahim (Malaysia) as President, and one delegate of each of the following 36 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Algeria, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

The General Conference established Commissions I, II, III, IV and V and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Legal Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Credentials Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting of the session was opened by Mr. Putzeys Alvarez (Guatemala) as Temporary President. After welcoming all present, he announced a performance by the UNESCO Choir 'Les Voix Unies', which sang five gypsy songs by Johannes Brahms.

He went on to pay tribute to the memory of all the eminent persons associated in one way or another with UNESCO who had died since the previous session of the General Conference - the Heads of State Zia Ul-Haq, President of Pakistan, and Emperor Hirohito of Japan, the former President of the General Conference of UNESCO Sir Ronald Walker of Australia, the former member of the Executive Board Gian-Franco Pompei of Italy and two persons closely associated with UNESCO's activities, Edgar Faure and Sean McBride.

He then continued his statement by referring to the important actions and

events on the world scene that had taken place (some of them still under way) in the biennium 1988–1989.

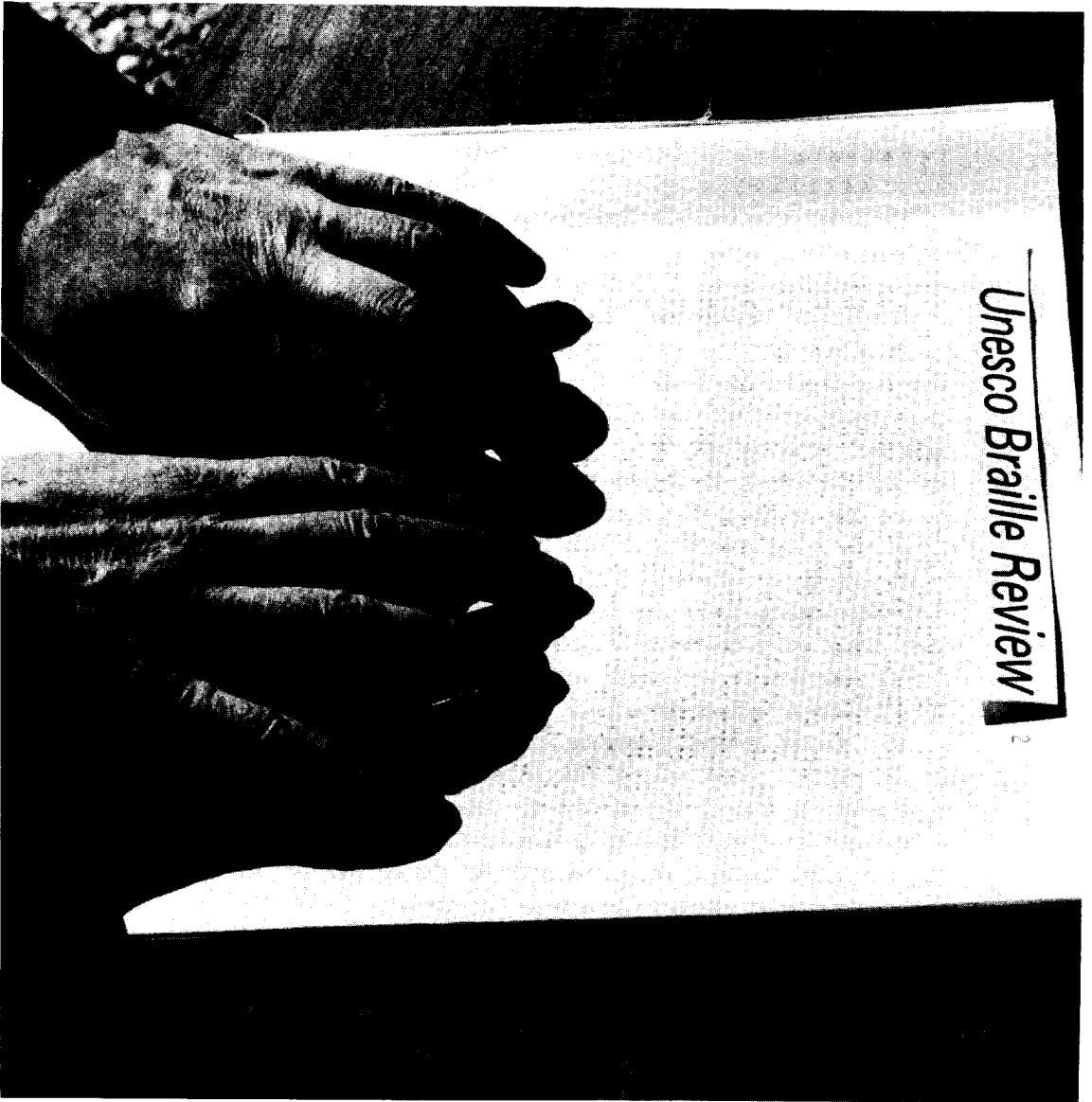
He referred to the developing countries and some sectors of society in more developed countries which were still grappling with the dire problems of inadequate health care, malnutrition and the lack of any tangible prospect of a better quality of life. At the present crossroads in history, much remained to be done, and nobody, he said, would deny that it was UNESCO's responsibility to expose the real situations and work towards the conceptual readjustment that was becoming ever more necessary.

He added that UNESCO had not been remiss in its quest for ways and means of dealing with that problem. Its doctrine, as the fruit of its entire existence, encouraged reflection and action on the broad lines of the programme; it had prompted it to regional and global dialogue, and the examination of universal issues, and had helped to identify the specific problems faced by Member States in education, science, technology and culture.

He considered that the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference was an ideal forum for reviewing those and other issues, and expressed his hope that the next few days would see the adoption of resolutions on proposals that the Executive Board and the Director-General had made together in the drafts of the third Medium-Term Plan and the Programme and Budget for 1990–1991.

He paid tribute to the work of the Executive Board, and expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Director-General, Mr. Federico Mayor, for his persevering work at the head of the Secretariat and for the Organization's dynamic action.

Next to speak was Mr. Israel Vargas (Brazil), Chairman of the Executive Board, who referred to the difficulties encountered in recent years, in contrast to the hopes raised on the international scene that UNESCO would strengthen its determination to discharge its mandate and restore its universality. He highlighted the work carried out by the Council during the past two years, despite the problems that had had to be solved, in the face of which there had always been consensus among its members, and expressed the Board's unanimous approval of the Medium-Term Plan and Draft Programme and Budget. That would, he was convinced, constitute the basis for the successful conduct of the General Conference, a success which appeared to be facilitated by the recommendations by the Board itself regarding the composition of the various committees and commissions and the presidency of the General Conference. He added that the performance of all those tasks had been facilitated by the constant efforts of the Secretariat under the leadership of the Director-General, Mr. Federico Mayor, whose efforts to improve the work of the Organization had also met with the most loyal co-operation by the Executive Board which he (Mr Vargas) had had the honour to chair during those two years, and that those circumstances were good omens for the future of the Organization.



This review is published in three languages.

The Director-General, Mr. Mayor, then took the floor. He began his statement by indicating the importance of unity at a time when lasting peace appeared to be taking root and the dangers of nuclear devastation seemed to be receding. 'Together', he said, 'we can and we must give the long-awaited response. . . . Together we can face the challenges that can be met through education, science, culture and communication'.

He added that UNESCO had an exceptional opportunity for fostering cooperation among nations, and that the solidarity represented in the meeting room must be mobilized as a force within the Organization.

'UNESCO', he continued, 'must play a leading part in drawing up the grand design of humanity for a juster, freer and more peaceful future. The time has come to recognize that whatever a country's geographical situation, size, population density or natural wealth, its richest resource is the talent, imagination and distinctive creativity of each of its citizens. Thus there can be no provision of food without schools, no development without knowledge, and there will be no shining future ahead if we fail to guarantee access by all to education, information and the means of communication'. He stressed that there was a need to change the very structure of the Organization so as to provide appropriate mechanisms for decision-making and for speedy and 'transparent' management, but that both programmes and counsel would be ineffective if they had no influence at the level of governments, and if they did not help to change national and international policies for education, science, culture and communication.

He said that he would continue to be on guard lest UNESCO came to be used for political ends to achieve objectives which were outside the scope of its constitutional mandate, and concluded his statement by stressing that on the eve of the third millennium, solidarity appeared as the most effective way of combating poverty, the destruction of the environment, the aggravation of world imbalances, the spread of violence and new social upheavals.

Some of the main issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference are described below.

Education

The General Conference invited the Director-General to pay particular attention to the interaction between adult literacy teaching and the education of children; to undertake world-wide promotional activities for International Literacy Year and the implementation of the Plan of Action to Eradicate Illiteracy by the year 2000; to reinforce the ongoing regional programmes for the promotion of literacy and universal primary education in developing countries; to contribute to the development, in Member States, of post-literacy and continuing education for young people and adults in the context of life-long education, especially regarding illiteracy and civic education for women; and to improve the quality of primary education and raise levels of learning achievement, mainly through the

renovation of primary-school curricula and the improvement of teaching methods and of testing programmes to measure what pupils had learned.

He was also invited to help improve the content of programmes related to humanistic, cultural and ethical values in formal and non-formal education; to co-operate with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and the World Health Organization in educational activities for the prevention of drug abuse and the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); to improve the quality of science and technology education in general education and to promote the renewal of science curricula and the introduction of new knowledge and teaching methods; to promote international co-operation relating to the reform and diversification of higher education and to reinforce the exchange of information on higher education; to promote educational policies, strategies and measures concerning the various aspects of democratization of education and aimed especially at meeting the educational needs of women, disabled children and young people, and particular groups of countries; to undertake baseline studies for the establishment of a world-wide satellite network for educational purposes; and to enhance and extend the documentation and information services provided to Member States in support of the Organization's education programmes and projects.

With respect to the International Bureau of Education, the Director-General was authorized to provide for its operation and to incur expenditure under the regular programme of \$5,035,200 to finance its activities, and also to seek extra-budgetary resources to enable the Bureau to contribute in a variety of ways to the development of education in Member States. Some articles of the Statutes of the Bureau were also amended.

The Director-General was also authorized to provide for the operation of the International Institute for Educational Planning and to continue to associate the UNESCO Institute for Education in Hamburg with the execution of certain of the Organization's activities.

The General Conference approved the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Illiteracy by the Year 2000, to begin in 1990, which had been proclaimed as International Literacy Year. It also expressed its satisfaction with the substantive preparation undertaken to date for the World Conference on Education for All, to be held in Jomtien (Thailand) in March 1990.

Other issues relating to education dealt with at this session of the General Conference were: literacy for women and girls; promoting the right to education; education for migrants and nomadic and resettled people; assistance for preventive education; amendment of the Statutes of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport; the fight against doping in sport; universality of the Olympic Games; the development of technical and vocational education; teacher education; the recognition of studies, degrees and diplomas in higher education; and European co-operation in education.

Natural sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General to strengthen national and regional capacities for university science and technology education; to promote basic scientific research and make scientific and technological knowledge available to strengthen national and regional capacities, and international co-operation in key and frontier areas of the basic sciences and technology; to encourage the use of informatics as an instrument for development through prompt assistance in the acquisition of updated knowledge, the training of specialists and users, the spread of information and the transfer of know-how, as well as through the implementation of major regional projects under the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme (IIP) and the development of IIP's teleprocessing networks; and to encourage greater use of new and renewable sources of energy, particularly in the least developed countries, as well as research on and the introduction of energy-saving technologies.

He was also invited to implement the International Environmental Education Programme in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and to promote the development of environmental education and its incorporation into all types and levels of education, with emphasis on the pre-service and in-service training of teachers for primary and secondary schools; to foster the collection, review and circulation of scientific data, information and research findings on environmental issues, mainly through the various information media of UNESCO's intergovernmental environmental programmes; to continue to contribute to the development of knowledge of the earth's crust through the implementation of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP); to pursue the development of scientific and technical knowledge concerning the causes of natural disasters and the means of mitigating their effects, as a contribution to the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction; to continue implementation of the programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) and the natural heritage part of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; to strengthen regional research and training networks on marine, coastal and island systems; and to strengthen the role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

The Director-General was also invited to commence the implementation of the fourth phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), involving continued development of the hydrological sciences in a changing environment; to support the training and retraining of local personnel in the popularization of science and technology; to strengthen regional networks for training, research and information exchange in the field of science and technology policy, and to support their research activities and short training sessions; and to enhance awareness of the current and future significance of science ethics issues among the researchers concerned, decision-makers and the public at large.

A number of members of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, the International Co-ordinating Council of the programme on Man and the Biosphere and the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme were elected at this session of the General Conference.

An amendment to Article VIII.3 of the Statute of the International Co-ordinating Council of the programme on Man and the Biosphere was approved.

Social sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General, among various other issues, to sustain national training and research capabilities, especially in the developing countries and above all in Africa, chiefly in anthropology, geography, history, economics and sociology; to strengthen international, interregional and regional co-operation in the social and human sciences; to encourage the teaching of philosophy and philosophical and ethical investigation in all the major programme areas of UNESCO, in the various scientific branches, new research areas and knowledge systems, and concerning axiological and ethical problems relating to biology, the environment, development, human rights and peace, education, communication, modernity and cultural specificity; to encourage the International Social Science Council to take practical steps to promote broader and more effective participation by specialized institutions from developing countries in its programme; to reinforce networks of international non-governmental organizations in the area of human settlements and increase co-operation with them; to promote research on the various ways of organizing and improving the living conditions of disadvantaged populations; to encourage research on the role of women as agents of social change in various regions of the world; to carry out an intersectoral and inter-agency co-operation project on the theme 'Research, education and communication concerning population'; and to take the necessary measures to ensure greater intersectoral co-operation while at the same time investigating the social and human science implications of certain activities within the other major programme areas.

The Director-General was also invited by the General Conference to clarify the concepts and processes and broaden the understanding of human resources development in UNESCO's fields of competence, and of its links with 'sustainable development'; to enhance UNESCO's contribution, in its specific fields of competence, to the new International Development Strategy; to promote, in the light of the Yamoussoukro Declaration on Peace in the Minds of Men (1989), a debate on the question of how the defences of peace could be constructed in the minds of men, including particularly a programme for the world-wide eradication of hostile preconceptions and the further clarification and development of new concepts such as 'positive peace', within UNESCO's fields of competence; to elaborate an integrated plan for international education on peace and human

rights at all levels of the education system directed firstly to promoting the full and comprehensive implementation of the 1984 Recommendation; to develop knowledge, exchanges of information, training and documentation in the field of human rights; and to improve knowledge of the problems of cultural integration and social participation of immigrants and that of certain problems of discrimination.

The General Conference also invited the Director-General to further develop during the 1990–1991 biennium and the following biennia strategies and all necessary actions for the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation, as an objective of high priority; to give very high priority to the impact of recent scientific and technological advances on the protection of human rights in the implementation of the Medium-Term Plan for 1990–1995; and to enhance co-operation between Associate Schools and UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations at both the national and international levels.

Culture

In this Sector, the General Conference invited the Director-General to contribute to the co-ordination by UNESCO of the activities of the World Decade for Cultural Development; to continue the preparation of a new edition of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* and the drafting and publication of the five regional histories in progress; to implement international and regional programmes for the development of the artistic disciplines, including architecture and craftsmanship; to strengthen national and regional capabilities in the book sector, mainly through the strengthening of networks, promotion of the circulation of works and the improvement of professional information; to continue to extend the application of the three conventions and ten international recommendations concerning the preservation and protection of the cultural heritage; to promote museum development by highlighting the scientific tasks of museums and their contemporary responsibilities with respect to communication, education and cultural, economic and social development; to undertake the necessary measures within the context of the regular programme and the Participation Programme to ensure the provision of adequate assistance for the activities of the World Decade for Cultural Development; to keep the Executive Board and the General Conference regularly informed of progress in the implementation of the aims and programmes of the Decade; and to request Professor Lemaire, his personal representative, to report to him on the state of Jerusalem's cultural and religious heritage and the action needed to preserve and restore it.

The General Conference also invited the Director-General to increase understanding of the relations between culture and other key aspects of economic and social development; to strengthen national capacities to develop and apply methods for the incorporation of socio-cultural factors in integrated development planning, particularly through the implementation of pilot demonstration

projects; and to take all the necessary measures for the execution of the Major Project 'Integral Study of the Silk Roads'.

The General Conference appealed to Member States and to all those who had already given generously to renew their contributions, and to those who not yet done so to envisage contributing to the activities of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture.

It also welcomed UNESCO's active participation in the commemoration of the Five Hundredth Anniversary of the Encounter between Two Worlds.

A number of members of the Intergovernmental Committee to Promote the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in the Case of Illicit Appropriation, the Executive Committee of the Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo, and the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development were elected during this session of the General Conference.

Communication

The General Conference invited the Director-General, among other activities, to promote the wider and better balanced dissemination of information, without any obstacle to freedom of expression; to develop all the appropriate means of strengthening communication capacities in the developing countries in order to increase their participation in the communication process; to examine the specific measures by which UNESCO could encourage freedom of the press and the independence, pluralism and diversity of public, private or other media; to prepare teaching materials and training programmes for public opinion research institutions recently created in developing countries; to prepare regional studies for all regions on the means of ensuring the free flow of information at international as well as national level and its wider and better balanced dissemination; to strengthen the International Network of Documentation Centres on Communication Research and Policies (COMNET); to step up efforts to increase and diversify public, private and other sources of funds for the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC); to explore all possible ways of increasing communication capabilities and skills in developed and developing countries; and to organize training activities, with emphasis on specialized areas inadequately covered by other institutions, special attention being given to women and young people.

The Director-General was also invited to prepare pilot projects in media education through co-operation among communication professionals and education specialists; to update the UNESCO-developed Common Communication Format and reinforce efforts to build compatible national formats; to organize telecommunication links among institutions for the training of information specialists; to continue to improve UNESCO's library, documentation, archives and

micrographic services and to update the Bibliographical Data Base and the *UNESCO Thesaurus*; to reinforce the management capabilities in national and public library systems; to monitor and support activities, in particular fund-raising campaigns, relating to the revival of the Library of Alexandria; to encourage co-operation among developing countries in the field of archival infrastructures; to undertake and implement an international microfilming programme and to assist in a few selected microfilming projects; to organize sessions of the Intergovernmental Council of the General Information Programme (PGI) and its Bureau; to intensify the preparation and distribution of PGI's technical guidelines for users world-wide; and to draw up a plan of action for an informatics and telecommunications development project indicating the costs and benefits and ways of meeting the cost, to be considered by the General Conference at its twenty-sixth session.

Article 4 of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the General Information Programme was amended, and 16 Member States were elected to that Council.

The Executive Board

At the 20th plenary meeting, held on 28 October, the General Conference proceeded, on the basis of a report by the Nominations Committee, to elect 26 members of the Executive Board, which at its first meeting elected Mr. Yahya Aliyu (Nigeria) as its Chairman.

Other decisions

1. The broad lines of emphasis of the third Medium-Term Plan and its structure, consisting of seven major programme areas, were approved;
2. Member States were invited to create the requisite conditions or improve the conditions existing and to provide the National Commissions with the necessary means to enable them to assume their functions fully;
3. The Director-General was invited to study ways by which Member States could be brought actively into the processes of identifying, interpreting and implementing UNESCO's regional programmes;
4. The Convention on Technical and Vocational Education was approved;
5. The Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore was approved;
6. It was agreed that the twenty-sixth session of the General Conference would be held at the Headquarters of the Organization, in Paris;
7. A budget of \$378,788,000 was approved for the biennium 1990–1991.

The biennium 1990–1991

THE SECRETARIAT

This biennium was the first phase of implementation of the Medium-Term Plan for 1990–1995, and during it the Director-General proposed that precedence should be given to activities on behalf of Africa, the least developed countries (LDCs) and women, three of the most disadvantaged groups.

A series of adjustments to the structure of the Secretariat was instituted, designed to strengthen intersectoral co-operation and interdisciplinarity in the execution of programme activities, particularly those which were the subject of innovation in the Medium-Term Plan.

The Bureau for the Co-ordination of Environmental Programmes, created as from July 1990, was entrusted primarily with the preparation of UNESCO's input to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. A post of co-ordinator for basic education programmes was also established within the Education Sector in order to monitor the follow-up of the Jomtien Conference.

Another main adjustment to the Secretariat's structure was the creation of a new Communication, Information and Informatics Sector, bringing together activities related to Major Programme Area IV (Communication in the service of humanity), to the General Information Programme and to the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme. Mention should also be made of the establishment, within the Division of Development Studies in the Social and Human Sciences Sector, of a Unit for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to follow up the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1990s, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which was held at UNESCO Headquarters in September 1990.

From that same month onwards, all administrative units at Headquarters and in the field were placed under the authority of the Deputy Director-General for Management.

On 2 January 1990 Mr. Adnan Badran (Jordan), who was also Deputy Director-General *ad interim*, was appointed Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences.

On 3 September of the same year, Mrs. Francine Fournier (Canada) was appointed Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences. One day previously, Mr. Henrikas Aalguirdas Iouchkiavitchious (USSR) had been appointed Assistant Director-General for Communication, Information and Informatics.

On 3 December 1990, Mr. Guillermo Putzeys Alvarez (Guatemala) was appointed Assistant Director-General for External Relations. He died on 8 April 1991 and was replaced, as of 1 July of that year, by Mr. Luis G. Marqués (Spain), who had been occupying that post in a personal capacity since 14 June.

As a result of the abolition of the Bureau for Programme Support, Mr. Thomas Keller (Germany) ceased to serve as Assistant Director-General of that Bureau on 1 July 1990, and was appointed Assistant Director-General of the Bureau for Relations with Extra-budgetary Funding Programmes.

Mr. Sylvain Lourié (France), appointed Deputy Director-General on 1 October 1989 in his personal capacity, retired on 6 July 1990.

With respect to evaluation, a revised guide for internal evaluation of regular programme activities was drawn up, and over 100 staff members from Headquarters and the field units were given training in its use. For the first time, a new synoptic document on the results of evaluation activities implemented by the Organization during 1990 was submitted to the Executive Board to facilitate its consideration of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1992–1993.

Thanks to the close co-operation between the Executive Board and the Secretariat, the main issues involved in decentralization were progressively clarified during the biennium. Taking into account the cost of decentralization as well as the limitations imposed by UNESCO's budgetary constraints, a number of measures were taken to facilitate gradual but steady progress, in both qualitative and quantitative terms.

The access of field units to the financial, budgetary and administrative information stored in the central computer at Headquarters had been improved by linking them directly by satellite to the main computer. At the end of 1991, such links had been established with 12 field offices.

Measures were initiated to keep the Regional Offices fully informed of all UNESCO activities, including those related to UNDP country programming and missions planned for the countries for which they were responsible.

With the donations and special contributions received during the biennium, the total budget appropriation amounted to \$379,709,845, while expenditure incurred as at 31 December 1991 totalled \$375,915,367. The surplus of \$3.7 million was due exclusively to currency fluctuation under Part VIII and, in accordance with the Organization's financial rules, was credited to Miscellaneous Income.

The Director-General made 70 visits to various countries in 1990, and 51 in 1991, to contact the governments, attend meetings or conferences or visit specific projects.

EDUCATION

During the biennium, absolute priority was assigned to a massive reduction of illiteracy and to the renewal and expansion of primary education: pivotal events in these respects were International Literacy Year (1990) and the World Conference on Education for All, held in Jomtien, Thailand, in March 1990, under the aegis of UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF and the World Bank.

The main objective of International Literacy Year was to contribute to greater understanding by world public opinion of the various aspects of the problem of illiteracy and to intensified efforts to spread literacy and education.

To this end, 118 National Committees or official contact points and an international task force on literacy were established; over 300,000 documents were produced and mailed; more than one hundred articles were prepared for publication; responses were given to more than 3,000 requests for information and assistance; and several thousand meetings were organized throughout the world.

Responses to a questionnaire on the attainment of the objectives of the International Year were received from 103 Member States; 38 per cent rated it as 'Very successful' and 62 per cent as 'Fairly successful'. The average rate of success for specific objectives was 17.3 per cent 'Excellent', 47.6 per cent 'Good', 23 per cent 'Fair', 3.5 per cent 'Poor' and 8.1 per cent 'Too soon to tell'.

The World Conference on Education for All, referred to above, constituted a major turning point in the struggle to achieve basic education for all. It led to wide interest being aroused, to resources being mobilized and to co-operative efforts and renewed strategies at the level of Member States, donor agencies, international organizations and the educational community world-wide. Activities taken in co-operation with more than 70 Member States to set up interministerial bodies to work together to achieve the goals of basic education for all, and with more than 20 Member States through round-table meetings on the same subject, constituted preparatory steps for further action as advocated in the Declaration adopted by the World Conference.

The programme implemented in this connection during the biennium focused on the promotion of primary education for girls, disadvantaged and underserved groups; improving the learning achievements of children; improved parent-teacher co-operation; the preparation of textbooks and curricular materials and the training of school personnel.

Also worthy of mention is the project 'The young child and the family environment', which had some significant achievements, particularly in terms of collection and circulation of information to promote greater awareness of the problem of childhood and development, and support to some Member States through financial contributions and advisory services.

Turning now to other aspects of education, mention may be made of the preparation of a summary, circulated to European National Commissions for UNESCO, of UNESCO's and European intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations' achievements in the field of humanistic, cultural and international values in education, and of a conceptual framework for action to promote such values in education.

In the sphere of education and the world of work, voluntary contributions made it possible to organize important activities such as the feasibility study for an international project on technical and vocational education. International, re-

gional and subregional meetings concerning education and the world of work revealed that there was an urgent need for a better balance in the content of education, i.e. between general education and initial technical and vocational training.

Scientific and technological education activities were significantly decentralized so as to enable the organization of training workshops in all regions.

In relation to higher education and the changing needs of society, implementation exceeded expectations thanks to ever-increasing support from Member States, closer co-operation with NGOs, and the direct involvement of universities in the subprogramme.

From 26 to 30 March 1990, the International Congress on Planning and Management of Educational Development was held in Mexico City; it was extremely successful because of the broad and intensive involvement of agencies of the United Nations system, international governmental and non-governmental organizations, National Commissions and other bodies.

A number of congresses, conferences, meetings, round tables and symposiums were held, both at Headquarters and in various countries, on various issues under the Education programme; space does not allow these to be detailed here.

Key educational policy, strategy, planning and management issues were debated on several occasions during the biennium, and, as a result, a strong consensus emerged that properly managed educational systems were essential for planning harmonious and sustainable human development. That consensus generated increasing need for international co-operation focused on the elimination of inequalities in education through the trial and application of guidelines for educational policy review in the least developed countries and small States.

NATURAL SCIENCES

One of the issues to which high priority was assigned during this biennium in the field of science for progress and the environment was the strengthening, through training, of national capacities in the developing countries. Training was given to more than 1,000 university teachers and young researchers in mathematics and computing science, 3,400 physicists, more than 400 chemists and 1,400 biologists, organized in co-operation with such organizations as the International Centre for Pure and Applied Mathematics (ICPAM), the International Cell Research Organization (ICRO) and others. In addition, 600 engineering specialists and faculty teaching staff from the developing countries were trained in a number of areas of specialization. All of the above are merely examples of extremely wide-ranging activity in this broad field.

An integrated framework for co-operation between universities was established through the concentration of activities on the university foundation course project in physics and chemistry and on training of university staff in basic science teaching.

The first session of the UNESCO Scientific Co-ordinating Committee carried out an evaluation, and, in addition, the recommendations of the first meeting of the Biotechnology Action Council were received.

Under the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, priority was assigned to the development of human resources through support for postgraduate courses, study grants, international workshops and symposia.

During this biennium UNESCO was closely associated with representatives of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and later on with those from the Economic System of Latin America (SELA), to design a system called 'Enlace' (Linkage) aimed at establishing and/or enhancing co-operation between public scientific and technological research and industry, so as to increase the output of innovative and competitive products and their marketing.

To meet the needs of Member States in relation to the expansion of university teaching of the basic sciences, activities were to focus on the preparation of high-quality learning materials adapted to the diversity and specific conditions of developing countries, and on the training and retraining of university basic science teachers. It should be pointed out that the process of change in Central and Eastern Europe called for appropriate actions in the field of basic engineering and the sciences, some of them taking the form of emergency assistance.

Twenty-four prototypes of environmental education curricula were drawn up for primary and secondary schools and teacher training, and 16 seminars were organized for developing national strategies and action plans.

Under the Man and the Biosphere programme (MAB), 26 new biosphere reserves were established (bringing the international network of biosphere reserves to 300 reserves in 76 countries), and 10 new natural sites were included in the World Heritage List (which in early 1992 included a total of 359 natural and cultural properties).

A contribution was made to the training of more than 400 specialists in ecology and natural resources management, including the award during the biennium of 20 grants within the MAB Young Scientists Research Award Scheme (eight of them to women).

Progress was also made during the biennium in fleshing out the basic plans for the collaborative programme on biodiversity under the joint auspices of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS), the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) and UNESCO.

Also in collaboration with IUBS, an international research programme was prepared on marine biodiversity and ecosystem function.

The fourth phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) was launched, comprising 49 projects and extending from 1990 to 1995.

The humid tropics programme of IHP established, under UNESCO auspices, two subregional centres, located in Malaysia and Panama, for research, training and technology transfer.

The intersectoral and interagency project on environmental education and information was carried out in consultation with UNEP, in accordance with Phase VII of the UNEP/UNESCO International Environmental Education Programme (IEEP).

The promotion of regional co-operative networks for the reduction of earthquake and volcanic risk in Asia, the Arab States, the Balkans, Latin America and the Caribbean and the South-East Asia regions had a significant impact.

UNESCO co-operated with the Club of Rome in preparing a study on mobilizing science and technology to meet global challenges.

Increased attention was given to land use, in particular the rehabilitation of arid zones and natural ecosystems. Twenty-eight projects were executed, aimed specifically at human resources development through the training of local expertise, promotion of the exchange of information and the publication of research findings.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Areas of special activity during the biennium were: a contribution to the development of certain branches of the social and human sciences; the development of information and documentation relating to branches of these sciences; a contribution to the development of philosophical and ethical investigation; changes in urban systems; the status of women; the structure and functions of the family; a study of the phenomena of marginalization and exclusion and pilot activities aimed at promoting social reintegration; the contribution of the social and human sciences to the other major programme areas; research, education and communication concerning population; human resources in relation to 'sustainable development'; the cultural dimensions of development; the promotion of peace and international understanding; exchanges of information and teaching in the fields of peace and international understanding; international co-operation for the protection and observance of human rights; and the contribution made to the elimination of apartheid and all other forms of discrimination.

Activities were conducted to stimulate research and training and increase the intellectual involvement of the world's different regions in the development of the social and human sciences. The establishment of the African Council of Social and Human Sciences deserves to be mentioned.

Two issues of the *International Social Science Journal* were published which examined the political changes under way in different regions of the world.

Also worth mentioning is the international meeting on bioethics and the social consequences of medical research, which was organized in Moscow in October 1990.

Micro-DARE was developed for the exchange of data on diskette, as was a UNESCO CD-ROM prototype using DARE, a computerized data bank contain-

ing periodically updated inputs on more than 100,000 institutions, information and documentation services, and also on journals and specialists in the social sciences.

In January 1991 an international symposium on the future of the family was held in Paris, completing the series of five regional consultations held in 1990 in Tunis, Mexico City, Lomé, Vienna and Beijing.

Specialists in the social and human sciences from Europe met in Santander (Spain) in June 1991 and indicated common concerns, while at the same time laying the foundations for collaboration in their field of research. At this meeting, the Director-General of UNESCO put forward the idea of an intergovernmental programme in the social sciences.

A special issue of the *International Review of Education* dealing with population education was prepared and published by the UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE) in Hamburg. Two pilot studies on changes in migrant family structures were also prepared.

In June 1991, in co-operation with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, UNESCO organized in Banjul (Gambia) a workshop on the current human rights situation in the Republic of South Africa.

In the same month, the International Conference on the Educational Needs of the Victims of Apartheid in South Africa was held at UNESCO Headquarters. At the conclusion of its work, it adopted the Paris Statement highlighting UNESCO's major fields of activity with regard to apartheid, human rights, and the restructuring of educational systems, as well as humanistic and cultural values.

The first international forum on the role of human resources in relation to 'sustainable development' met at UNESCO Headquarters, attended by 50 representatives of the scientific, political and industrial communities of 28 Member States. They discussed the complex relationship between development processes and agents and the conservation of the environment.

Intersectoral co-operation between the Education and the Social and Human Sciences Sectors was fostered. This particularly concerned a mission to the United Republic of Tanzania which had as its main aim to strengthen interministerial skill-training and employment for out-of-school youth.

An interregional symposium on the relationship between cultural factors and the key aspects of development in different societies met in Caracas from 3 to 7 December 1990, attended by 20 international experts. The symposium made it possible, among other things, to lay down evaluation criteria for planners.

A number of National Commissions for UNESCO published in their information bulletins the Yamoussoukrou Declaration on Peace in the Minds of Men, or extracts from it, frequently accompanied by in-depth articles.

CULTURE

Mention must be made in relation to this Sector, among other activities which will be referred to below, of three major expeditions which plied the ancient Silk Roads: the Desert Route Expedition in China (20 July–20 August 1990); the Maritime Route Expedition from Venice to Osaka (23 October 1990 – 9 March 1991); and the Steppe Route Expedition in the USSR (15 April–18 June 1991). During the expeditions, 23 international seminars took place, followed by the publication of 20 scholarly works. In all, 172 scholars participated in the expeditions, joined by local scholars in each country through which the expeditions passed.

The project for the Revival of the Ancient Library at Alexandria entered the operational phase with the establishment of the International Executive Committee, the development of a plan for the acquisition and computerization of the Library's collection and the launching of a fund-raising campaign.

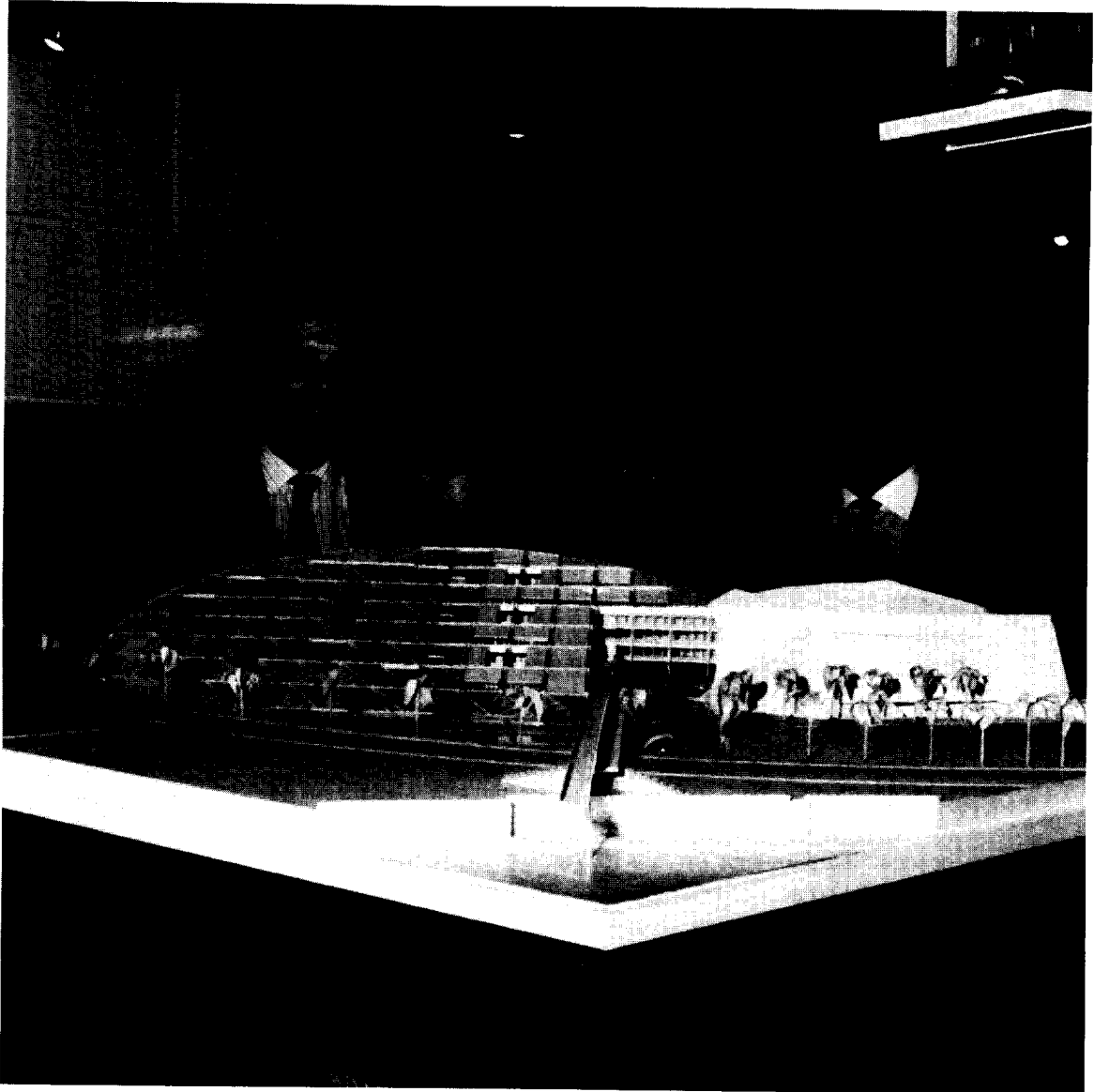
In terms of preservation and enhancement of the cultural heritage, an extra impetus was given to the Fez campaign (Morocco) with the co-operation of UNDP, and also to the campaigns for preservation of the Island of Gorée, the Cultural Triangle in Sri Lanka and the old city of Sana'a. New action related to the preservation of the site of Angkor Wat in Cambodia and the protection of the old city of Dubrovnik under the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

With regard to books and reading, considerable progress was made under the New African Books Strategy, in which 43 countries took part. A similar programme was developed for Asia and the Pacific, and the 'Periolibros' project, designed in co-operation with the Fondo de Cultura Económica of Mexico, was launched to encourage the practice of reading in Latin America.

Volumes III and IV of the *History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind* were drafted, and the content of Volume VIII was approved. Volume III of the *General History of Africa* was published in French, Volume VIII in Arabic and Portuguese, the abbreviated version of Volumes III and V in English, the summary edition of Volume I in Hausa and the summary version of Volume IV in French. These are just examples of many other publications.

The UNESCO Collection of Representative Works and the UNESCO Collection of Traditional Music were arousing increasing interest, as were the art albums.

The UNESCO programme in relation to the Five Hundredth Anniversary was being diversified, but focused especially on two aspects: 'Amerindia 92' and 'Multiple Encounters'. The first meeting of the Amerindia 92 cycle was held Ottawa-Hull (Canada) from 10 to 14 November 1991, on the theme 'Strengthening the spirit'. With regard to the 'Multiple Encounters', mention may be made of the symposium held in Paris on 'Perception of the other and the first intercultural contacts', followed by a seminar in Barcelona (Spain) entitled 'Cultural identity



Model of the new Library of Alexandria.

and modernity. New models of cultural relations'. In May 1991 a bibliographical exhibition was held at UNESCO Headquarters on the theme 'Words and writing: The encounter between two worlds'. All of the above are mentioned as examples of various activities.

During the biennium, 14 new Member States acceded to the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, bringing the number of States Parties to 123.

Other activities in the Sector related to: cultural exchanges and the mutual appreciation of cultures; cultural identities and intercultural relations; the dissemination of universal literature through translation and publication and via the media; creation, creativity and participation in cultural life; books and industrially produced cultural goods; copyright; the physical and non-physical cultural heritage; and promotion of the return of cultural property to its countries of origin or its restitution in case of illicit appropriation.

COMMUNICATION

In this Sector, particular emphasis was placed during the biennium on reinforcing the free flow of information and its wider and better balanced dissemination, without any obstacle to the freedom of expression, and on strengthening communication capacities in the developing countries.

Two meetings were held in Paris in February and April 1990 in support of press freedom and media independence, pluralism and diversity, in Central and Eastern Europe and in Africa. A third meeting, held in Windhoek (Namibia), brought together more than 60 journalists and publishers from 38 African countries and made a decisive contribution to promoting and strengthening an independent and pluralistic press in Africa.

In the context of activities under the regular programme and extra-budgetary projects, training was given to over 6,000 professionals, including a significant number of women communicators from developing countries.

The new methods for project evaluation and preselection were tested at the first regional meeting held in Caracas (September 1990), covering the Latin America and Caribbean region and organized with the assistance of the Swedish International Development Agency. The meeting carried out a pre-evaluation of projects which was then reviewed by the IPDC Intergovernmental Council in February 1991.

In July 1990, a consultation was organized in France on the media and literacy. Attended by 200 participants from 40 countries, it was the largest international event so far on media education and literacy.

The activities relating to the development and application of new communication technologies were helpful, and particularly relevant to the developing economies of small, isolated or island developing countries. It was also apparent

that the coproduction series was highly appreciated by Member States and served to present up-to-date images of cultural affinities among seemingly unrelated cultures.

Evaluation played a more forceful role both in assessing project results and in formulating proposals for new projects or the extension of ongoing projects. One example was the formal tripartite evaluation of the Mahaweli Community Radio Project in Sri Lanka, conducted in January 1990.

The Office of Public Information diversified the press review and also published special editions on particular events. The monthly *UNESCO Sources* and the weekly *UNESCOPRESS* proved to be successful innovations. UNESCO's production of audio-visual material was renewed with the production of televised magazine programmes, video films and radio programmes devoted to special events or subjects such as the World Decade for Cultural Development, International Literacy Year, the prevention of natural disasters or the safeguarding of various cultural heritage sites.

Other activities in this Sector related to the free flow of ideas by word and image; establishing linkages between communication and development; improving the training of journalists and other communication professionals; evaluation of communication activities in support of women; a study of the economic and socio-cultural impact of the new communication technologies; and computerization of Asian scripts.

MEMBER STATES

On 3 February 1990, Democratic Kampuchea became known as Cambodia.

On 5 March 1990 the unification of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen took place.

On 3 October 1990 the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic were unified.

On 24 August 1991 the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic became known as Ukraine.

On 19 September 1991 the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic became known as Belarus.

As from 30 September 1991, the Russian Federation replaced the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

In 1991 four countries signed the Constitution, bringing the number of Member States to 163.

THE TWENTY-SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twenty-sixth session of the General Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 15 October to 7 November 1991, and was attended by representa-

tives of 161 Member States and two Associate Members, three observers from non-Member States, two representatives of African liberation movements, a representative of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, eight delegates from organizations of the United Nations system, 23 from intergovernmental organizations and 133 from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Betwell Allan Ogot (Kenya) as President, and one delegate from each of the following 36 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Niger, Pakistan, Poland, St. Lucia, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

The Conference established Commissions I, II, III, IV and V and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Legal Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Credentials Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Anwar Ibrahim (Malaysia) as Temporary President. He welcomed all present and went on to pay tribute to the memory of eminent persons who had passed away since the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference: Mr. Ahmed Abdallah Abderrahman, President of the Comoros, Mr. René Muawad, President of Lebanon, Professor Sharif Thajeb, of Indonesia, a former member of the Executive Board; Mrs. Dolores Macalintal of the Philippines, Mr. Amadou Hampate Ba of Mali and Mr. Gardner Davis, both former members of the Board, and, lastly, Mr. Guillermo Putzeys Alvarez of Guatemala, President of the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session and Assistant Director-General for External Relations at Headquarters.

He went on to recall the events that had taken place in Eastern Europe since the previous session of the General Conference, and hailed the beginning of an irreversible trend in the geopolitical development of the region and the world.

We must, he added, separate political convulsions in a spatio-historical sense and man's continuing struggle as reflected in UNESCO's civilizational mission expounded by Archibald McLeish, building 'the defences of peace in the minds of men'.

UNESCO, he went on, 'as an intellectual forum, must have the moral courage to be the voice of the conscience of humanity. This moral imperative should be manifested in a coherent and consistent manner when discussing democracy, whether in Moscow or Haiti; when discoursing on freedom, whether in the Baltic countries, Palestine, South Africa or Afghanistan; and when expressing our anxiety over Dubrovnik or proscribing the wanton destruction of Mesopotamian treasures.

In the current political and ideological vacuum, UNESCO is in a unique position to spearhead a global intellectual revolution. If we, the Member States of the Organization, can ensure that its mission remains true to the spirit of its founding fathers;

that it retains its role as a global intellectual forum; that it becomes the messenger of peace and enlightenment in the world; only then shall this world body become the true voice of human conscience.

The next speaker was Mr. Yahya Aliyu, Chairman of the Executive Board, who began his statement by saying that the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference had closed at a critical historical moment for many countries:

Since then, he said, the world has changed at an extremely rapid rate, creating new horizons as well as many changes in the different continents. This complete process has nevertheless brought forward the need for the enhancement of multilateral co-operation and in particular of the United Nations system as a whole. Needless to say, it is up to us to contribute to that enhancement in the spheres of competence of UNESCO.

He went on to say that during the past two years the Executive Board had fully complied with the mandate given to it by the General Conference, not only tackling the day-to-day problems but also proposing new perspectives in the interests of international intellectual co-operation. The Council had examined the Draft Programme and Budget for 1992–1993, and he was sure that its recommendations would contribute to the success of the General Conference. He added that, in the fulfilment of its tasks, the Board had been constantly helped by the Secretariat under the leadership of the Director-General, Mr. Federico Mayor.

The next speaker was Mr. Federico Mayor, Director-General of the Organization, who began by saying that the twenty-sixth session which had just been opened was more than an opportunity to gather together, it was a second birth:

UNESCO was born of war, a total war that began with violence, continued with genocide and ended with a nuclear cloud that would never be dispersed. Since that first General Conference, UNESCO has known nothing but war, although a different kind of war, the Cold War that resulted from the community of nations splitting into ideologically opposed blocs. These two groups clashed unceasingly until the 1990s, making it difficult for the international co-operation institutions defined at Bretton Woods, in San Francisco and in London to carry out their functions.

The following paragraphs from his statement may also be singled out for mention:

And, today [. . .] for the first time since 1946, a General Conference is being held in a climate of freedom and hope, heralding a new phase in which Member States, united in their commitment to certain common principles, in their single-minded acceptance of certain shared values and dedication to certain common goals, are engaged in rebuilding UNESCO as a corner-stone of the rebirth of the United Nations system, as an edifice equipped to respond to the major challenges with which the twenty-first century is already confronting us.

Democracy, freedom and human rights, which have always been and continue to be the principal objectives of UNESCO, have now become basic ingredients of incontrovertible policy [. . .] Democracy as a theory and practice of democracy are inseparable from ethics. One of the most important elements of the heritage which our battered but triumphant twentieth century, with its mistakes and its success stories, its heroism and its turpitude, will hand on in the year 2001 is the message that democracy without moral fibre is either a fool's paradise or a farce.

UNESCO must lead reform of the content of education at all levels so as to ensure that the proper behaviour patterns for relationships with other individuals, other groups and the ecological environment evolve and take firm root in every woman and in every man: this requires a form of education that is suitable for all, the knowledge of theoretical principles and the skills required to use the techniques and applications that would reduce the present glaring discrepancies between different individuals' and different countries' access to natural and intellectual resources and, with the new education, would attenuate the excessive differences and imbalances that threaten our common future.

The kind of economy that operates solely on the basis of productivity and the calculation of results, where everything is judged in terms of competitiveness and profits, is beginning to realize the urgent need to introduce principles and standards of behaviour into its frame of reference.

An African, a great poet and statesman, Léopold Sédar Senghor, wrote in his 'Chants d'ombres': 'It is time to set out, to face the anxiety of stations; I thirst after new places and fresh waters'. Yes, indeed, it is time to move on to fresh fields and pastures new; it is time to think again, centring the aims of development on human beings and resolutely undertaking joint action with clear roles for all the governmental and non-governmental bodies concerned; it is time for a complete overhaul of all countries' education systems and their content [. . .] it is time to promote the full exercise of human rights and their concomitant duties everywhere; it is time to speed the process of disarmament [. . .] it is time to reform economic management at the international level [. . .] it is time to act on the production and consumption of energy [. . .] it is time to give renewed attention to the intellectual heritage of humanity [. . .] it is time for us to stop being an audience and to become actors; it is time to give all the world's children – especially those who are displaced, disabled, forced into child labour, living on the streets, the poorest and most marginalized – the basic necessities of life and the education that they need; it is time to strengthen scientific research [. . .] it is time to build bridges between nations, countries and peoples so that all cultures, without exception, can express themselves; it is time [. . .] to construct the defences of peace in the minds of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The next to take the floor was Mr. François Mitterrand, President of the French Republic, who had previously been welcomed by the President of the General Conference, the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Director-General.

The following are some of the noteworthy paragraphs from Mr. Mitterrand's statement:

This moment brings to my mind the history of UNESCO, going back to the period after the First World War with the establishment of the International Commission for Intellectual Co-operation. [...] The foundations of the United Nations had been laid and one thinks today, as people have no doubt done before, of the question which Paul Valéry put to Salvador de Madariaga: what would a community of nations amount to without a community of minds?

Well, that place is here and you have come together to justify that ambitious undertaking [...] As Léon Blum declared in 1946, 'We expect two things from UNESCO which are not at all incompatible, far from it: first, precise, methodical and progressive initiatives in a certain number of essential technical fields, and secondly, a general influence on the spiritual condition of peoples and individuals.

It is, then, essentially the task of your Organization to provide the answer. You will accomplish this [...], Ladies and Gentlemen [...]

France acclaims the efforts of your officials and your Director-General, Mr. Federico Mayor. It cherishes the greatest ambitions for you and your Organization and is ready to contribute to the best of its ability to the great debate before you.

Ladies and Gentlemen, you represent the universal. I repeat, your vocation is universality, in space, in time and in learning [...] I am convinced that this twenty-sixth session of the General Conference of UNESCO will enable you to advance decisively along this path. Therefore, on behalf of France, which is happy to welcome you to Paris, I should like to greet you and wish you every success in your endeavours. Thank you.

Some of the issues dealt with at this session of the General Conference are described below.

Education

The General Conference invited the Director-General, among other activities, to intensify co-operation with other United Nations agencies, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the media with a view to promoting literacy for young people and adults, as well as universal primary education of a high standard; to implement the project 'The young child and the family environment'; to convene an international commission to give consideration to education and learning for the twenty-first century; to improve technical and vocational education in Member States; to develop educational strategies and policies; to promote educational planning and management; to promote innovation and research in education; and to enhance UNESCO's role as a clearing house in education.

The General Conference also authorized the Director-General to maintain the International Bureau of Education with a view to promoting education in Member States through the preparation and organization of the forty-third session of the International Conference on Education (Geneva, 1992) and the preparation of the forty-fourth session of that Conference (Geneva, 1994), among other activities. Ten Member States were elected to membership of the Board of the Bureau.

With regard to the International Institute for Educational Planning, the Director-General was authorized to take the necessary measures to provide for its operation, and the General Conference appealed to Member States to grant, renew or increase their voluntary contributions.

The Director-General was also authorized to support the UNESCO Institute for Education (Hamburg) by providing it with the services of a director and other professional staff as appropriate.

The General Conference noted with satisfaction the success achieved by International Literacy Year, requested the General Assembly of the United Nations to ensure that the cause of literacy should continue to enjoy a prominent place on the international agenda, and invited the Director-General to continue to accord the highest priority to those actions of the Organization aimed at promoting literacy and education for all, giving special attention to the needs of women and girls and the requirements of the least developed countries.

It also invited the Director-General to give priority to non-formal education and to promote exchanges of experience between countries in different regions; to continue to give moral support to UNESCO's international laboratory for the psychological rehabilitation and educational readjustment of the 'Children of Chernobyl'; and to launch in 1992–1993 the first phase of an international UNESCO Technical and Vocational Education Project (UNEVOC).

The General Conference congratulated the Director-General on expanding the programme of preventive education against drug abuse and on diversifying its activities, and invited him to take steps to implement the Global Programme of Action, to support any action that might assist the United Nations system in making its activities more consistent, and to continue to seek funds in order to increase the financial and human resources of the preventive education programme.

With regard to physical education and sport, the General Conference decided to amend Article 7 of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport, and invited the Director-General to prepare a study on the advisability of developing a new international instrument to combat doping in sport.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to study the practicalities of strengthening the European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES) and enlarging its intellectual potential; to foster the development of inter-university co-operation in Europe through a multilateral network entitled 'Network: European Universities'; to support Member States in the setting up of mechanisms and in building up, at the national level, expertise on the recognition of studies and qualifications in higher education; and to procure extra-budgetary funds from international governmental and non-governmental sources for making generally available the experience already acquired with the design and construction of multi-functional prototype buildings using local materials and techniques.

The General Conference also authorized the Director-General to look into more focused in-depth ways of assessing progress, exploring problem areas and assisting Member States in combating discrimination in education.

Natural sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General to contribute to enhancing the quality of university education in the basic and engineering sciences in developing countries; to make information available about innovative programmes and learning materials for the university education of scientists and engineers; to encourage the award of research and study fellowships in scientific disciplines; to support university-industry linkages in developing countries through seminars and exchanges of information and staff; to emphasize the interdisciplinary and intersectoral role of informatics; and to improve intersectoral and inter-agency co-operation in the field of the environment and natural resources management.

The Director-General was also invited to improve environmental education and information by implementing the International Environmental Education Programme in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to heighten awareness of global environmental issues, to develop research and experimentation in environmental education and information, and to foster the collection, review and circulation of information and research findings on environmental issues.

With a view to encouraging the development of the earth sciences and increasing the capacity of Member States to mitigate losses resulting from natural disasters, the Director-General was invited to pursue the activities related to knowledge of the earth's crust through the implementation of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), and to continue pursuing the expansion of scientific and technical knowledge about the causes of natural disasters and the means of mitigating their effects, as a contribution to the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

The Director-General was also invited to continue implementing the programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) and the natural heritage part of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. He was also invited to pursue the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, to continue implementation of the fourth phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP); to promote scientific and technological culture by supporting national efforts to promote public understanding of science and technology; to continue the publication of the journal *Impact of Science on Society*; and to contribute to the development of Member States' capacities in the management of science and technology development, particularly through follow-up of the recommendations of the regional Conferences of Ministers responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Africa (CASTAFRICA).

The General Conference requested the Director-General to initiate in 1992 external evaluations of achievements and of difficulties encountered in the implementation of the Organization's science programme, and also to take steps to increase UNESCO's role in scientific co-operation within the Europe region, with special reference to the new situation in that region.

The General Conference approved the text of a Declaration on the role of UNESCO in relation to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The General Conference elected 15 Member States to the International Coordinating Council of the programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), 16 Member States to the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme, and 16 Member States to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme.

Social and human sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General, among other activities, to improve national training and research capabilities, especially in the developing countries and above all in Africa; to continue building up to regional, interregional and international networks of specialized institutions; to add new material to existing data banks; to publish bibliographies and the *International Social Science Journal*; to encourage research in the different regions of the world into the role of women in the processes of social change; to contribute to the International Year of the Family; to organize jointly with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) an International Congress on Population Education and Development; to implement the mobilizing project 'Youth shaping the future'; to consolidate the International Youth Clearing House and Information Service (INFOYOUTH) and to seek extra-budgetary resources with a view to strengthening it; to support the teaching of philosophy and to increase public awareness of the role of philosophical thinking in understanding the major problems of the modern world; to continue to promote dialogue between the great religions of the world; and to undertake a feasibility study on the establishment of an intergovernmental programme in the social sciences.

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to co-operate with the international 'Megapolis' centre for problems relating to the management and development of major cities, with its headquarters in Moscow, and, if possible, to place it under the aegis of UNESCO.

The Director-General was invited by the General Conference to examine the possibility of UNESCO providing support for the holding of the nineteenth World Congress of Philosophy (Moscow, 1993). He was also invited to examine, in consultation with the United Nations, the appropriate arrangements for declaring 1995 the United Nations Year for Tolerance, and to prepare a declaration on tolerance.

Recalling the resolution set out in the Medium-Term Plan for 1990–1995 concerning Major Programme Area VI, ‘UNESCO’s contribution to prospective studies and to strategies concerned with development’, the General Conference invited the Director-General to implement the programmes and subprogrammes of this major programme area, in particular those relating to ‘The human dimension of development’ and to ‘Development strategies and outlook; support for the least developed countries’.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to contribute, in the light of the Yamoussoukro Declaration on Peace in the Minds of Men (1989), to elucidating the concept of a culture of peace and to circulating the Seville Statement on Violence (1989), the Montevideo Declaration on Democratic Culture and Governance (1990) and the conclusions of the Prague Forum on Culture and Democracy; to support youth exchanges; to broaden the geographical base of the Associated Schools Project and to increase its contribution; to increase, in close co-operation with the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, exchanges of information, especially on the rights of the child; to improve knowledge of new forms of discrimination (particularly those associated with population movements and the AIDS epidemic); and to continue to develop activities aimed at the application of the Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

The Director-General was also invited to co-operate with the European Centre for Human Rights Education (Prague) and to initiate negotiations with the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic with a view to transforming the Centre into a UNESCO Centre; to ensure UNESCO’s contribution, in its fields of competence, to the implementation of the democratic reforms in the countries of Eastern Europe; to ensure that UNESCO contributed to the promotion of democratic culture in Latin America; to strengthen UNESCO’s co-operation within the United Nations system and with relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations in matters relating to the improvement of the status of women; and to increase the direct participation of young people in UNESCO’s activities and strengthen intercultural youth exchanges, with special emphasis on North/South co-operation and solidarity.

Culture

The General Conference invited the Director-General to provide broader access to works which were particularly representative of their various cultures; to promote, under the ‘Stages of life’ project, the collection, preservation and spread in all regions, of traditional oral and non-verbal forms of cultural expression; to continue the publication of the general and regional histories currently being prepared and to complete the work by 1995; to promote copyright and neighbouring rights, by fostering the application of the conventions and recommenda-

tions adopted in that field under the auspices of UNESCO; to strengthen UNESCO's contribution to the preservation of the common heritage of humanity under the Strategy for the International Safeguarding Campaigns Programme, by concentrating the Organization's efforts on four priority campaigns; and to pursue his efforts with a view to encouraging the implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development.

The General Conference decided to proclaim, within the framework of that Decade, a World Day for Cultural Development to be celebrated each year on May 21, and invited the Member States to participate actively in the implementation of the Decade, in the celebration of the World Day for Cultural Development and in the mid-term review of the Decade.

Nineteen Member States were elected to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Decade.

The General Conference requested the Director-General, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to establish an independent World Commission on Culture and Development comprising women and men drawn from all regions and eminent in diverse disciplines to prepare a World Report on Cultural Development, and to establish a special account to accept voluntary contributions which would be used to underwrite all costs of the Commission, including those of its secretariat and publications.

The World Commission was expected to prepare a World Report on Culture and Development based on the collection and analysis of information from all regions and from a variety of sources, and to arrange for the publication of particularly noteworthy studies and other materials. Suggested areas of consideration for the World Commission on Culture and Development were detailed in an annex.

The General Conference noted with satisfaction the efficient implementation of the Silk Roads project, and invited the Director-General to widen the scope of the scientific and intercultural dialogue initiated during the expeditions.

With regard to the commemoration of the Five-Hundredth Anniversary of the Encounter Between Two Worlds, the General Conference invited the Director-General to pursue the programme further by extending it beyond 1992.

Considering the importance and unique significance in human history of the City of Jerusalem, a Holy City for the three monotheistic religions, and considering that the identification, study and enhancement of the roads of pilgrimage to Jerusalem could help to promote understanding and mutual respect among the peoples concerned, the General Conference invited the Director-General to carry out a feasibility study on the matter and to submit it to the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development at its next session.

The General Conference requested the Director-General to intensify UNESCO's activities for the protection of the world cultural heritage and the preservation of the Angkor monuments, and lent its support to the Gorée-Almadias Memorial.

Communication

The General Conference invited the Director-General, among other activities, to support the publication by professional organizations of data on the freedom of public, private and other media; to prepare a study on the international circulation of news; to organize regular surveys of the flow of television programmes; to strengthen women's professional media associations and networks and improve reporting on women's perception of development; to intensify efforts to increase and diversify resources for the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), from public, private and other sources and to devise strategies to increase public awareness of IPDC; and to achieve closer intersectoral and inter-agency collaboration in the planning and implementation of integrated communication strategies and programmes.

The Director-General was also invited to undertake, in co-operation with the media in the developing countries, training campaigns and activities designed to deal with development issues; to encourage the use of community and alternative media in reaching marginalized groups and increasing public access to the media; to assist the development of radio programmes on early childhood, in relation to the intersectoral project 'The young child and the family environment'; to evaluate the impact of training activities carried out under the aegis of UNESCO since 1980; to consolidate a data base on worldwide trends in new applications of communication technology to development, establish information services for internal and external users, and create co-operative networks at the regional level; and to support initiatives in the use of adapted and low-cost technologies, including the computerization of alphabets, desk-top publishing techniques for newspapers and magazines in rural areas and transmission technologies for low-cost or small-scale broadcasting.

The General Conference congratulated the Director-General and the Secretariat on the Seminar on Promoting an Independent and Pluralistic African Press, organized by UNESCO and the United Nations in Windhoek (Namibia) from 29 April to 3 May 1991, which had acted as a catalyst in the process of encouraging press freedom, independence and pluralism in Africa, and thanked the Director-General for his action to provide a positive follow-up to the recommendations made at the seminar, especially those mentioned in the annex to the Windhoek Declaration.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to extend to other regions of the world the action taken so far in Africa and Europe to encourage press freedom and to promote the independence and pluralism of the media, to celebrate the anniversary of the Windhoek Declaration, to transmit to the United Nations General Assembly the wish expressed by the Member States of UNESCO to have 3 May declared 'International Press Freedom Day', and to examine, with the United Nations Secretary-General, the possibility of issuing a joint report on the progress of press freedom in the world to mark that day.

The General Conference elected 17 Member States as members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication.

The Executive Board

At the plenary meeting held on 26 October 1981, the General Conference proceeded, on the basis of a report by the Nominations Committee, to elect 25 members of the Executive Board, which, at its first meeting, on 28 November that year, elected Ms Marie Bernard-Meunier (Canada) as Chairperson.

Other decisions

1. The General Conference fully supported the action of the Director-General and urgently appealed to the conflicting parties in Yugoslavia to take all necessary measures, under the terms of the Hague Convention, to protect the cultural and natural heritage;
2. The Director-General was invited to do his utmost to ensure that girls and women were given top priority in the implementation of the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs, and to take into account their special needs;
3. He was also invited to continue efforts to increase the participation of women in science and technology;
4. The General Conference expressed its appreciation of the initiative taken by the Government of Sri Lanka with a view to establishing a Buddhist research information centre, with initial assistance from UNESCO;
5. The General Conference decided to postpone until its twenty-seventh session consideration of the admission of Palestine to UNESCO;
6. The General Conference decided that its twenty-seventh session would take place at the Headquarters of the Organization;
7. A budget of \$444,704,000 was approved for the biennium 1992–1993.

Opinion of the Director-General regarding the General Conference

Attention is drawn, because of the importance of their content, to the last two paragraphs of the Report of the Director-General 1990–1991, page XXXVI, paragraphs 103 and 104:

The General Conference firmly reasserted the ethical mission and intellectual role of UNESCO at its twenty-sixth session. Today, with the constantly accelerating pace of life and of events, this intellectual responsibility ties in with a time-related ethic: how, in particular, can we mobilize the world's potential of knowledge and know-how to obtain an expert diagnosis when action must be taken urgently? How can we ensure that the course of action we are taking is the right one? How best can we act as catalyst, persuading and mobilizing? How can we create new partnerships, not just with governments, which are our natural partners, but with the dynamic forces

in civil society: non-governmental organizations, associations, universities, research institutes, private firms?

These questions, which are now concerned with how things are to be done rather than with the nature of the objectives, lie at the heart of the process of reflection which all of us, Member States and Secretariat alike, must continue to pursue if UNESCO is to have the multiplier effect needed to effect the transformations which the present world situation demands.

1992–1993

The biennium 1992–1993

THE SECRETARIAT

During this biennium, attention continued to be focused especially on the three priorities set for the previous biennium: the African Member States, the least developed countries (LDCs) and women not only in education but in the natural sciences, the social sciences, culture and communication as well, in other words throughout the whole range of the Organization's activities. The Director-General established, under his own chairmanship, an International Committee for the Least Developed Countries.

On 8 February 1993 the Director-General issued an appeal 'to the world's Heads of State and Government, to Ministers and officials responsible for education at all levels, to the mayors of all cities, towns and villages, to all teachers, to religious communities, to journalists and to all parents' to educate children and young people with a sense of tolerance, in preparation for the United Nations Year for Tolerance (1995). The appeal was made on the occasion of the inauguration of the Museum of Tolerance built in Los Angeles by the Simon Wiesenthal Foundation.

There was a need to adjust to the rapid changes taking place in various situations, in an international environment in which new needs, and also new possibilities for action, were emerging. Accordingly, increasingly close co-operation among the institutions of the United Nations system was essential. Many Member States wished to see a new era of co-operation and co-ordination focused on the objective of sustainable development, and in that connection the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), chaired by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, had established an Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development composed of senior officials in a number of organizations to ensure

a concerted response to UNCED under the supervision of ACC. UNESCO was recognized as a 'key actor' in various fields.

The World Commission on Culture and Development was established on 11 December 1992, with the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, as its President. It has five honorary members, 12 members and an Executive Secretary. The Commission held its inaugural session at UNESCO Headquarters from 17 to 21 March 1993, and its second session in Stockholm from 28 June to 2 July of that year. Its programme of activity included five main topics: the impact of cultural and socio-cultural factors on development; the impact of social and economic development on culture; links between culture and development models; the influence of cultural development on individual and collective well-being; and the role played by cultural activity and artistic creation as such and also in development and international co-operation.

The International Commission on Education for the Twenty-First Century was formally constituted on 15 January 1993 under the chairmanship of Mr. Jacques Delors, President of the Commission of the European Communities. It comprised 12 members, and its task was to study and reflect on the challenges facing education in the coming years and to make suggestions and recommendations in the form of a report which could serve as an agenda for renewal and action for officials at the highest levels. The first session of the Commission was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 2 to 4 March 1993. Its second session was held in Dakar from 18 to 21 September that year, preceded by a meeting of a working group on education in Africa.

A predecessor to this Commission had been the International Commission on the Development of Education in February 1971, composed of seven members under the chairmanship of Mr. Edgar Faure, which published the report entitled *Learning to Be*, submitted to the Director-General on 18 May 1972.

The Director-General appointed Mr. Luis Ramallo (Spain) as special adviser for UNESCO co-operation in the former Yugoslavia and emergency assistance. He was to deal, among other issues, with human rights violations, assistance to independent communication media, the right to education, restoration of damaged cultural heritage sites and rehabilitation of persons affected by the conflicts. Mr. Ramallo went on a visit from 2 to 9 May 1993, and a UNESCO office was to be opened in Sarajevo to co-ordinate the Organization's activities.

On 28 February 1993 Mr. Eduardo Portella (Brazil) ceased to serve as Deputy Director-General, and on 30 April Mr. Chaman Lal Sharma (India) also ceased to serve in that capacity, while continuing as adviser to the Director-General until 30 November of that year.

They were both replaced on an interim basis, on 15 November 1993, by Mr. Adnan Badran (Jordan), Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences.

Upon the retirement of Mr. Luis G. Marqués (Spain) on 10 March 1992,

Mr. Khamliene Nhouyvanisvong (Laos) was appointed Assistant Director-General for External Relations.

On 1 September 1993 Mr. Albert Sasson (Morocco) was appointed Assistant Director-General, Bureau of Studies, Programming and Evaluation.

The Director-General made 45 visits to different countries in 1992 and 38 in 1993 to contact governments, attend meetings or conferences or visit specific projects.

EDUCATION

During the biennium, priority in this Sector was assigned to access to basic education, especially for young people and women and in rural areas; the promotion of literacy; the adaptation of education systems to the demands of the twenty-first century by promoting curriculum reform and innovation; teaching methods and formulation of educational policies.

In 1993 UNESCO published a *World Education Report*, the second in the series, which as the Director-General indicated in the foreword to it 'is designed to provide useful data and analysis concerning some of the major current issues and trends in education'.

A circular letter was sent to Member States proposing that 5 October, the anniversary of the 1966 Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, should be celebrated as International Teachers' Day.

The statistics for early 1993 showed 950 million illiterates in the world, and 128 million children of school age with no possibility of attending school.

From 10 to 14 February 1992, on the initiative of UNESCO and UNICEF, representatives of 23 West and Central African countries met in Dakar to draw up a programme of support for fundamental education.

The Seminar on the Restructuring of Higher Education Institutions in Africa took place in November 1992; it deplored the serious state of higher education in the continent, and called for the diversification of relations between universities and the economic world.

From 7 to 10 December 1992, the first session of the Advisory Committee of the Regional Programme for the Universalization and Renewal of Primary Education and the Eradication of Adult Illiteracy in the Arab States took place in Cairo. It was the first official meeting of all the Arab States organized by UNESCO since the Fourth Conference of Ministers of Education, which had taken place in Abu Dhabi in 1977.

As a follow-up to the World Conference on Education for All (Jomtien, 1990), UNESCO launched the 'Reading for All' campaign designed to create a link between training for children and information for parents.

The new Education for All Forum Steering Committee met for the first time

in Geneva on 17 and 18 September 1992, on the occasion of the forty-third session of the International Conference on Education, which approved the work plan of the Forum setting out the basic activities financed by the organizers of the Jomtien Conference.

From 23 to 27 July 1992, the third meeting of the Regional Programme for the Universalization and Renewal of Primary Education and the Elimination of Illiteracy in Asia and the Pacific was held in Bangkok. The meeting reviewed the progress made in the field of education for all.

In 1992 UNESCO and UNICEF agreed to promote basic education for all in the nine largest developing countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan), and the Prime Minister of India offered to host, in New Delhi in 1993, a high-level conference on education for all. The Ministers of Education of the above nine countries met at UNESCO Headquarters in early June 1993 to prepare for that important event, which took place in New Delhi from 13 to 16 December that year. The Conference unanimously adopted the New Delhi Declaration.

Great interest was shown in the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs project, an international plan designed to strengthen co-operation between universities and increase the mobility of university staff. At the end of 1993, the regional distribution of the Chairs was as follows: 13 in Africa, 14 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 11 in Asia and the Pacific, four in the Arab States and 28 in Europe and North America. A further 75 projects had been received.

Among the many other activities in this Sector, mention may be made of the International Conference on Education for All: basic educational needs in a time of transition in central and eastern Europe – the case of Poland (Warsaw, 2–9 September 1993); the Sixth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education of Asia and the Pacific (MINEDAP VI), held in Kuala Lumpur from 21 to 24 June 1993, which adopted recommendations on education for all and the education of girls and women, among other topics, and approved the Kuala Lumpur Declaration; the fifth meeting of the Committee of the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (PROMEDLAC V); the Pan-African Conference on the Education of Girls, held in Ouagadougou (28 March–1 April 1993) under the aegis of the ‘Priority: Africa’ programme and the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education; the celebration in Paris, in April 1993, of the thirtieth anniversary of the foundation of the International Institute for Educational Planning; the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy (8–11 March 1993) organized by UNESCO in Montreal (Canada); the project for the construction in Somalia of a series of centres known as ‘Islands of Education for Peace’; and the evaluation of two pilot literacy centres for rural women in the Syrian Arab Republic.

In December 1993, Mother Teresa of Calcutta was awarded by the Director-General of UNESCO the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education. Mr. Mayor ad-

dressed Mother Teresa in the following words: ‘You are the symbol of love and peace, and you alone have the right to speak of love and peace in the world’.

NATURAL SCIENCES

UNESCO’s science programme for the biennium centred on three priorities: the first was the application of environmental sciences to sustainable development and rational management of natural resources, the second the basic sciences and engineering, with emphasis on the improvement of university education and research, and the third programmes relating to ethics, policy planning and the popularization of science.

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, was the first ‘Earth Summit’ in history. The Conference was attended by 103 Heads of State and Government, and UNESCO was represented at all meetings. The main results of the Conference were the Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21 and the signing of two Conventions, one on biological diversity and the other on climate change, but its principal outcome was recognition of the fact that environment and development are inseparably linked.

Jointly with WMO and ICSU, UNESCO organized the International Conference on Hydrology: towards the twenty-first century – research and operational needs. The Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 22 to 26 March 1993, and was attended by 159 scientists from 55 countries and representatives of seven United Nations specialized agencies and regional organizations and of five non-governmental organizations. Its recommendations appear in the Paris Statement.

From 6 to 10 July 1993, a meeting of the International Forum on Scientific and Technological Literacy for All was held at UNESCO Headquarters, attended by more than 400 specialists and by representatives of a number of international organizations. The Forum, sponsored by UNESCO, was opened by the Director-General, and the specialists attending it included the French biologist Commander Cousteau.

The UNESCO journal *Impact of Science on Society* devoted its issue No. 167 (1992) to the topic ‘Science and the Meeting of Two Worlds’.

From 25 to 29 January 1993 the twelfth session of the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) was held to discuss the following four topics: the conservation of biological diversity and maintenance of ecological processes; the exploration of approaches relating to land-use planning and sustainable management of resources; promotion of behaviour conducive to such management; and strengthening of the human and institutional capacity required for sustainable management of resources. The programme, initiated in September 1968, completed 25 years of existence in 1993.

From 5 to 9 July 1993, a meeting of more than 340 high-level experts from 50 countries took place at UNESCO Headquarters to discuss the future role of renewable resources, evaluate the advantages and drawbacks of solar energy and review the current situation and prospects of various technologies and their applications, as well as social, financial and economic factors.

From 21 to 23 April 1993, UNESCO held a symposium in Paris on the topic 'From the double helix to the human genome: 40 years of molecular genetics'. It was attended by 300 scientists, including 14 Nobel Prize winners. The meeting marked the fortieth anniversary of the discovery by James Watson and Francis Crick of the structure of DNA.

Another extremely interesting meeting took place at Leeds Castle (Kent, United Kingdom) from 5 to 7 April 1993, under the aegis of UNESCO, with the participation of eminent scientists, ministers and political authorities representing 15 countries and six organizations; it discussed the role of science in the reconstruction of eastern and central Europe. The Director-General addressed the meeting.

Among other important activities during the biennium, mention may be made of: the meeting in Paris from 3 to 7 February 1992 of the Board of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), which adopted, among other projects, one on stratigraphic correlation in South-East Asia; a 100-day scientific cruise organized by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, which left Muskat (capital of the Sultanate of Oman) on 26 February 1992 to study the ecological impact of the black tide resulting from the Gulf War; the addition in 1992 of 14 new biosphere reserves to the international network under the MAB programme; a meeting at Headquarters in February 1993, aimed at preventing natural disasters and organized by International Emergency Action; the launching of Project 2000+ to improve scientific and technological education in Member States in the twenty-first century; the opening in Panama of a Water Centre for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean Region; and the holding at UNESCO Headquarters from 25 February to 11 March 1993 of the seventeenth session of the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), which studied among other activities those carried out by IOC in follow-up to the relevant sections of Agenda 21; priority was also given to the Informatics Programme.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

The focus during the biennium was primarily on four priorities: cities and urban marginalization; women as agents of social change; preparations for the International Year of the Family (1994); and education and communication concerning population. On all of these topics, study seminars, research, training, pilot projects, institution-building and other activities were conducted. Particularly noteworthy

was the Director-General's attendance at many meetings, at which he stressed the 'culture of peace' as the major undertaking for the future.

In May 1992 a series of consultation meetings in the field of social sciences was held in Tashkent (Uzbekistan) and Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) in response to the urgent need to provide the newly independent Central Asian republics with technical assistance and aid for project development.

A forum for women from the Mediterranean, bringing together 300 women from Mediterranean countries to discuss the topic 'Women as creators and transmitters of culture in the Mediterranean region', took place in Valencia (Spain) in November 1992. Another meeting, in preparation for the Second Mediterranean Women's Forum, was organized in Rabat (Morocco) from 17 to 20 June 1993 in collaboration with the National Commissions of Spain, Italy, Morocco and Tunisia. The Forum was to be held in 1995 on the topic 'Women's work, national economies and regional development'.

Other meetings and activities on women as agents of social change were organized during the biennium, among them an international seminar held in Greece from 2 to 5 June 1993 to identify new areas and lines of emphasis for gender studies in the run-up to the year 2000; a meeting in Ankara from 8 to 12 June of the same year on the legal and social rights of women and their application in the Balkan countries; and a meeting in Geneva from 16 to 18 June of that year on the economic role of migrant women.

In December 1992, an expert meeting took place in Nairobi on the updating of human resources indicators; a regional meeting on human resources development in the context of structural adjustment was held in Kampala (Uganda) on the same date.

Activities carried out as part of the International Youth Clearing House and Information Service (INFOYOUTH) included: the establishment of an interactive decentralized network for exchanges and contacts with approximately 300–400 partners and a question-and-answer service; the publication of an international directory entitled *Youth and Heritage*; and the preparation of a world directory of foundations that could finance youth activities.

The Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize for 1992 was awarded to the Hague Academy of International Law, and that for 1993 to Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Mr. Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Shimon Peres, respectively Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Israel. That same year, the three prize winners met in Granada (Spain) on 9 December at a meeting organized by UNESCO and attended by the Director-General, Mr. Mayor.

UNESCO made a very substantial contribution to the preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993. It also lent its support to the organization at the European Centre for Human Rights Education in Prague, in November 1992, of an expert meeting on human rights and human rights education and the process of transition to democracy.

On 23 February 1993, on the initiative of the Director-General, a round table on the future of the former Yugoslavia highlighted UNESCO's mission of contributing to the maintenance of peace and security in order to further universal respect for justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion. At this meeting, UNESCO expressed its satisfaction at the regular delivery of newsprint for *Oslobodenje*, an independent newspaper in Sarajevo.

Among other activities during the biennium, mention may be made of: the active part taken by UNESCO in debate about the new prospects in relation to human rights; a meeting in December 1993 to study the ethical and juridical aspects of human genome research; the meeting, for the first time, at UNESCO Headquarters in September 1993, of the International Bioethics Committee; the establishment within the Social and Human Sciences Sector of a Bioethics Unit to co-ordinate work in that field; the organization in Venezuela, in January 1993, of a meeting on social development in the context of structural adjustment in Latin America and the Caribbean; a symposium at La Laguna (Spain), attended by the Director-General, on the reform of international institutions concerned with the protection of human rights; the holding of the second World Congress on Violence and Human Coexistence, organized under UNESCO auspices in Montreal (Canada), from 12 to 17 July 1993, attended by 1,500 participants; and the organization in Dakar (Senegal), from 14 to 17 December 1992, by the Peace and Development Foundation, with UNESCO collaboration, of the Colloquium on Culture – Democracy and Development.

CULTURE

During the biennium, attention was paid in particular to three major activities: safeguarding of the cultural heritage of humanity; the various forms of intercultural dialogue; and culture for development.

The year 1992 was the twentieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, approved by the General Conference in 1972. In 1992, the Register contained 260 cultural sites, 84 natural sites and 14 mixed sites in 81 countries. The ceremonies to commemorate the twentieth anniversary, held at Headquarters from 8 July to 8 October 1992, were well supported by many Member States.

UNESCO was able during the biennium to strengthen the Convention, and in 1992 it established within the Secretariat the World Heritage Centre, the main role of which is to ensure systematic observation of the sites covered by the Convention, make them known and secure the necessary resources. The Centre has a Committee under the chairmanship of the Director-General himself.

From 6 to 8 September 1993 the municipal authorities of Fez organized, in co-operation with the City of Quebec and UNESCO, the second international

symposium of the World Heritage Towns, at which 56 towns included in the World Heritage List were represented, the majority of them by their mayors.

The Angkor site had been placed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger. An Intergovernmental Conference for the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Area of Angkor was held in Tokyo on 12 and 13 October 1993, attended by representatives of 30 countries, six international organizations (including UNDP), the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Volunteers Programme.

From 14 to 18 November 1992 the first international Congress on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in Central Asia took place in Teheran, under UNESCO auspices, and studied the region's needs. The Teheran Declaration on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in and for the Central Asia Region indicates the importance the newly independent countries of the region attach to multilateral co-operation.

With the participation of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, the International Dance Council and the Stockholm Dance Museum, UNESCO organized in Paris, from 22 April to 4 May 1992, a travelling exhibition 'Doo-Plé – the great African dance (its laws and techniques)'.

An agreement was concluded between UNESCO and the Fondo de Cultura Económica for implementation of the 'Periolibros' project. From October 1992 onwards, 22 well-known newspapers in Latin America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and also in Spain and Portugal began including Hispano-American literary works as a free supplement to their Sunday editions.

From 16 to 18 November 1992 a symposium was held at UNESCO Headquarters on the Role and Challenge of Copyright on the Eve of the twenty-first Century, marking the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Copyright Convention.

In 1992, UNESCO participated in the Universal Exhibition in Seville (Spain) as lead agency of the United Nations system; the system had a joint pavilion there, the design and management of which had been entrusted to UNESCO, represented by Mr. Thomas Keller, Assistant Director-General. The pavilion was a great success, with some 4,000 visitors every day. On International Literacy Day (8 September), the literacy prizes were awarded there. The UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts was also awarded for the first time.

Other activities in this Sector included: the celebration of the World Day for Cultural Development at UNESCO Headquarters on 21 May 1992; the meeting of a 'Forum of Reflection' in El Salvador under UNESCO auspices on 28 and 29 April 1993; a regional seminar on the cultural dimension of development (Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 2–7 November 1992) under the auspices of UNESCO, UNICEF, and the World Bank, with the support of the African Development Bank; many cultural activities at UNESCO Headquarters on the occasion of the Five-Hundredth Anniversary of the Encounter between Two Worlds, among them the crea-

tion of a new forum for dialogue between indigenous and non-indigenous populations; the publication in English of the first volume of the *History of the Civilizations of Central Asia*, the last volumes (V and VIII) of the *General History of Africa* in English, Volume III in Spanish and Volumes IV and VII in Chinese; the holding by mid-1993 of 24 seminars under the Silk Roads Project; the tribute to the painter Joan Miró (Spain) at UNESCO Headquarters on 22 November 1993; collaboration with the institutions responsible for safeguarding the city of Dubrovnik; the sending to Moscow, at the request of the authorities of the Russian Federation, in November 1992, of a mission to look into the condition of the Bolshoi Theatre; talks with representatives of the three Christian communities directly responsible for the Holy Sepulchre building on the situation of the cultural heritage of the city of Jerusalem; and the broad distribution and acceptance of the quarterly *Museum*.

COMMUNICATION

The objectives set for the Sector in this biennium were three in number: encouraging the free flow of information; helping some countries obtain the structures and skills needed to participate more actively in the communication process; and adapting new communication technologies to specific situations, especially in the developing countries.

The forth-eighth Assembly of the Interamerican Press Association (IAPA) was held in Madrid from 28 September to 3 October 1992. It was attended by the Director-General, who recalled that in the past seven years UNESCO had laid down a new strategy for the development of communication with a view to promoting free, independent and pluralistic media throughout the world.

The International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) received \$5,553,000 in voluntary contributions, enabling it to approve 83 projects.

The first meeting of the International Advisory Committee of the 'Memory of the World' Programme, the purpose of which is to safeguard the endangered documentary heritage, took place from 12 to 14 November 1993 in Pultusk, close to Warsaw.

Implementation of 18 projects approved by the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme at its sixth session in February 1992 was initiated. The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for this programme took place at UNESCO Headquarters from 1 to 4 December 1992.

Under the programme INFORMAFRICA, the second expert meeting was held in Nairobi from 12 to 16 July 1993. The purpose of the meeting was to prepare a first assessment of the activities carried out since the launching of the Programme at the end of 1990, improve its content and specify the modalities for instituting the Regional Informatics Network for Africa.



Young newsvendor in Madagascar.

On 17 December 1992, an information workshop was held at UNESCO Headquarters which dealt, among other topics, with the following: 'Communication and Informatics in UNESCO's Programmes'; 'New Media Landscapes in a Changing World'; 'UNESCO's Efforts for the Revival of the Alexandria Library'; and 'Informatics as a Development Tool: the power of information technologies'. The Director-General held a working lunch with the participants.

In accordance with the proposal submitted by the Director-General of UNESCO to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council, the latter, at its July 1993 session, recommended to the General Assembly that 3 May should be proclaimed World Press Freedom Day.

In the field of statistics, the following activities, among others, were carried out: publication of the *UNESCO Statistical Yearbook 1992-1993* and of an analytical study of world expenditure on education: past variations and medium-term prospects; and the completion of four regional case studies on needs, availability, concepts, definitions and classifications in the field of science and technology statistics, covering 14 countries.

In Information the following activities, among others, were conducted: the regular updating of an inventory of UNESCO's data bases and information services; the training of staff of the various documentation centres; courses to train users in the management of archives, files and documents; and automation of the information processing and retrieval system of the UNESCO library, which manages a collection of about 200,000 books and 2,000 periodical titles.

A thorough reorganization of the UNESCO Publishing Office took place. This Office also manages the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works. In November 1992 the Publications Board held its first annual meeting, which, in a departure from usual practice, was attended by six unpaid outside consultants, representing publishing circles in various regions of the world. A project for a multiple international edition of an 11-volume encyclopaedia of the world heritage was negotiated.

The May 1992 issue of the *UNESCO Courier* was devoted to the Five-Hundredth Anniversary of the Encounter between Two Worlds: 'Rediscovering 1492'. It opened with an editorial by the Director-General, Mr. Federico Mayor.

From the following issue of the *UNESCO Courier* (June 1992) onwards, every month saw the appearance of the column 'Commentary by Federico Mayor', in which the Director-General set out for readers the broad outlines of his thinking and action.

The International Federation of Newspaper Publishers (IFNP) awarded the Press Freedom Prize 1993 to Mr. Federico Mayor for his exceptional contribution to the advancement of the cause of freedom of expression. This was the first time IFNP, which represents more than 15,000 newspapers throughout the world, had awarded its prize to a person outside the community of journalists. The award, marking the forty-fifth anniversary of the Federation, was conferred on the

Director-General on 25 May 1993, on the occasion of his attendance at the World Congress of Newspaper Publishers, organized by IFNP in Berlin.

MEMBER STATES

Eighteen countries signed the Constitution during the biennium, seven in 1992 and 11 in 1993; some of them had emerged from the restructuring of a number of countries, especially in Europe. This brought the number of Member States to 181.

ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

The fortieth anniversary of the Associated Schools Project was celebrated in 1993, with an international symposium organized in Soest (Germany). At the beginning of the biennium, there had been more than 2,500 Associated Schools in some 100 countries, ranging from kindergartens to teacher-training schools. By the end of the biennium, the figures were 125 countries and more than 3,000 institutions.

OTHER ISSUES

From 2 to 9 April 1993, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Auroville (25 February 1968) was celebrated at UNESCO Headquarters with an exhibition and a lecture followed by a discussion under the title 'Auroville, the city of dawn'.

On the occasion of the International Year of the Family, the Director-General stated that the year should be marked by a conscious and persevering effort at generosity, understanding and love, and described the family as 'the basic unit of society'.

The end of the next biennium (1994–1995) was to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the adoption of the UNESCO Constitution. Accordingly, the Director-General established a working group to prepare for the commemoration of those occasions.

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

The twenty-seventh session of the General Conference was held at UNESCO Headquarters from 25 October to 16 November 1993. It was attended by representatives of 179 Member States and one Associate Member, three observers from non-Member States, a delegation from Palestine, one African liberation movement, one representative of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, eight delegations of organizations of the United Nations system, 32 from intergovernmental organizations and 121 from international non-governmental organizations.

The General Committee of the Conference consisted of Mr. Ahmed Saleh Sayyad (Yemen) as President, and one delegate of each of the following 36 Member States as Vice-Presidents: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Morocco, Norway, Oman, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and United Republic of Tanzania.

The Conference established Commissions I, II, III, IV and V and the Administrative Commission, as well as the Legal Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Credentials Committee and the Headquarters Committee.

The inaugural meeting was opened by Mr. Betwell Allan Ogot (Kenya) as Temporary President. Before discussing the main issues to be dealt with at the session, he paid tribute to the memory of some of the eminent persons deceased since the twenty-sixth session: His Majesty King Baudouin of Belgium, Mr. Willy Brandt, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, and the following former members of the Executive Board of UNESCO: Mr. Mohammed el Fasi (Morocco), Mr. Otto von Simson (Federal Republic of Germany), Mr. Kaw Swasdi Panich (Thailand), Mr. Tisna Amidjadja (Indonesia) and Mr. Oumarou Clément Ouedraogo (Burkina Faso). He also paid tribute to those who had contributed to furthering the ideals of UNESCO, and in particular to those who had given up their lives in the defence of peace, and invited those present to observe one minute's silence in their memory.

He then went on to refer to the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO, the celebration of which would take place in two years' time; it would doubtless be an important event, and he hoped that by then the universality of the Organization would have been fully restored, thanks to the constant efforts of many people and, in particular, the Director-General, Federico Mayor.

He recalled the world situation at the time of the foundation of UNESCO, and, thinking of the Preamble to the Organization's Constitution and specifically of the construction of the defences of peace in the minds of men, asked 'Did we do the right thing? Did we do enough? Did we do all we should have done? In short, what educational, scientific and cultural bridges of peace have we built?'

Referring to the world situation, he said that the collapse of communism and the cessation of the Cold War had not brought about the expected peace at the global level. The age of ideological differences and clashes had been succeeded by the era of ethnic, radical and religious clashes. The threat to global peace and security was still there, arising from the production and proliferation of nuclear weapons. According to military intelligence reports, he said, '40 countries will have acquired the ability to manufacture nuclear weapons by the year 2000, with 30 of them in the so-called Third World. . . . According to the Report of the Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organiza-

tion (FAO), about 800 million people live in absolute poverty. . . . It is estimated that the population of the 'Fourth World' will reach 3.2 billion by the year 2005. According to UNESCO statistics, 814 million adults are illiterate; and 123 million children of school age have no access to education.'

'This sense of new beginnings, in the context of a deep spiritual and intellectual crisis', he added, 'is reflected in the efforts the Organization has made to set up a series of organs, such as the ad hoc Forum of Reflection, the World Commission on Culture and Development and the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-First Century. These forums provide a unique opportunity to set out the principles that will guide our action in the next decade and beyond.'

At the end of his statement he said that following his election as President of the General Conference in October 1991, he had posed the question whether UNESCO then was the kind of organization that the Member States deserved. After two years, he could now answer his own question in the affirmative.

The next speaker was the Chairperson of the Executive Board, Ms. Bernard-Meunier (Canada). After bidding a most cordial welcome to all the delegates to the General Conference, she said that those present rejoiced in the historic breakthroughs in the Middle East and South Africa, just as they had rejoiced only a few years previously in a historic breakthrough in Europe. Those developments bearing the seed of so many hopes could not and must not, she said, let it be forgotten that, in all those regions, the path to peace and development would still be long and strewn with pitfalls. She invited delegates to spare a thought for the young democracy of Burundi, which was going through a very painful ordeal.

She recalled that the Executive Board, at its first session following the twenty-sixth General Conference, had made a gesture that secured its place in the annals of the Organization, by electing, for the first time, a woman to its chair. 'That daring gesture', she said, 'did not shake the Organization to its foundations. The great honour bestowed upon me that day has been heightened, over these past two years, by an enormous sense of satisfaction. In a difficult period . . . , the Executive Board has worked hard, but in an atmosphere of harmony and serenity. . . . It has constantly sought to live up to the expectations of the Member States and to maintain the most open, frank and constructive dialogue possible with the Director-General.'

She added that the constant presence at the Board's side of the President of the twenty-sixth session of the General Conference, Professor Ogot, had been a source of inspiration and comfort to its members, and thanked him once again for his unflinching support for the work of the Executive Board. She added that this work had been made much easier by the unfailing co-operation of the Director-General and the Secretariat as a whole.

The Director-General then took the floor. After welcoming all those present, he echoed the reference made by the Chairperson of the Executive Board to the

situation in Burundi. The whole international community, he said, was saddened, and he paid tribute to President Melchior Ndadaye, the first democratically elected President of Burundi.

Some of the noteworthy paragraphs in his statement are reproduced below:

Our skies are crossed by the dove of peace and the hawk of war, engaged in the cruel game of mapping their territory. . . . We must be glad that two men, Nelson Mandela and President de Klerk, who were recently awarded the Nobel Peace Prize just as they had been awarded the Houphouet-Boigny Prize, in 1992, under UNESCO's auspices, are trying to put an end to a sorrowful chapter in the history of humanity. . . . We must be glad that Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Yasser Arafat have come together in the peace process that began at the Madrid Conference on 30 October 1991, and they must be congratulated for having at last opened the door to a just, lasting and hopeful peace in that part of the world. . . . We must also be glad that the spirit of peace has triumphed over the culture of war in El Salvador, Cambodia and Mozambique. . . . Yet at the same time, how can we call these memories to mind and not shudder, when the fires of hatred and passion are again disrupting the process of democratic transition in Eastern Europe, in the Balkans and in Central Asia, when the ferments of division are at work in Georgia, when yesterday's hopes are already threatened in Haiti, when incomprehension has followed enthusiasm in Somalia, and when brothers are tearing one another apart in Angola and killing one another in Afghanistan?

Every day, over 250,000 children are born who, whatever their place of birth, their cultural roots or the colour of their skin, instinctively expect us to provide for their harmonious development and to offer them our love, our solidarity, our commitment to transmit to them a peaceful and tolerant world. Have we truly grasped the significance of the fact that every month the world's population increases by 7.5 million? Are we fully and deeply aware that this amounts to a demographic growth of more than 90 million human beings a year? If this growth rate is not reduced, in 30 years the world's population will increase from 5.5 billion to 8 billion, 95 per cent of whom will be living in the developing countries.

It is with this in mind that we have, with UNICEF and UNFPA, convened the Summit of nine high-population countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan) to take place in New Delhi from 13 to 16 December 1993. The meeting – the world's first education summit – is a concerted attempt to take a decisive step towards the achievement of universal primary education and the reduction of illiteracy as well as to combat the population explosion and underdevelopment.

For many people, the immensity of the task and the magnitude of the issues at stake lead to scepticism and resignation. Confronted with these challenges, over-population and its probable consequences, poverty, ignorance, intolerance and violence, voices are raised which call for radical, extreme and desperate solutions. But the positive forces of the mind, the deep-seated capabilities of humanity have always carried the day when we put the turbulent history of our world into perspective. . . . Yes, I have confidence in our ability to solve these problems, and I

know that this opinion is shared by you, distinguished delegates, who come from such a variety of backgrounds and who have crossed visible, and in some cases, invisible, borders to be here together today, determined to labour with zeal in the field of intelligence and imagination.

Next, I should like to speak to you of destitution and poverty. Poverty is material deprivation. Destitution is poverty aggravated by moral confusion and emotional isolation. . . . For the developing countries alone, as the President of the General Conference pointed out a moment ago, approximately 800 million people still do not have enough food, and only 20 per cent of the 300 million people over 60 have a guaranteed income. Seventeen million people die each year of infectious and parasitic diseases such as bilharziosis and filariasis, as well as polio and tuberculosis – in the twentieth century! Ninety-five per cent of the 10 to 12 million people who are HIV positive live in the developing countries, which still count upwards of 900 million illiterates, two thirds of whom are women. Every day, 34,000 young children die of malnutrition and disease, over 850 million people live in areas affected by desertification, and 35 million people are refugees or are displaced within their own countries as a result of domestic conflicts which affect some 60 States.

But in the industrialized countries, too, 100 million people live below the poverty line, 7 per cent of the working population is unemployed and 2 million people are infected with the AIDS virus.

I should like to speak to you about the trend towards globalization in the world today. Ideas, people, services, information, agricultural and industrial goods, raw materials and capital now travel across frontiers. With the growing freedom of the press, information is broadcast instantaneously to the four corners of the earth, while informatics and telematics have created new forms of communication among people. All this is positive and contributes to the overall progress of humanity. But at the same time I should not like this trend, which at times leaves us breathless as it pursues its headlong course, to demolish in its wake the distinctive and specific, universal yet unique character of the individual human being. I say yes to human unity because we all share the same anthropological origins and there is no theory or scientific breakthrough that can give us grounds to question the principle of the shared identity of humankind. But that being said, let us ensure that each and every woman and man feel that they are living in dignity, that they enjoy consideration, that they are different and unique. Of course, everything springs from a single source that is common to all humanity, but in the end everything comes down to the human being, to the impulses of the mind, the heart and the soul which, at every moment of every day, make each one of us a wellspring of life and a ray of hope.

I should like to conclude by reaffirming the universal character of UNESCO. And this in a twofold sense, in that it aspires to having all countries of the world as members and as the participants in and beneficiaries of its action – what we call its universality; and in that it seeks to ensure that the principles and values that are enshrined in its Constitution and are its *raison d'être* preside over the destinies of all women, men and peoples of this earth.

I have dwelt on excessive population growth, poverty and resistance to dialogue between cultures because I firmly believe that they are the new threats to interna-

tional security, and also because I equally firmly believe that we have the resources of all kinds – intellectual and material – to face them. . . . With great courage and imagination solutions for change must be put forward. And we must steadfastly ensure that they remain on the political agenda even if they are unpopular at first. Disagreement when necessary, and above all perseverance; perseverance in dissent. Perseverance, ladies and gentlemen, is another key term with which I shall conclude.

Some of the issues of greatest interest dealt with at this session of the General Conference are described below.

Education

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to implement the programme and subprogrammes outlined under Major Programme Area I, 'Education and the future', devoting particular attention to the educational problems of the least developed countries and the States of the Africa region, and invited him in particular to contribute to increasing the school attendance figures for girls and women; to contribute to improving the content and process of basic education programmes, the quality of primary school teachers, literacy workers and other basic education personnel; to improve, under the project 'The young child and the family environment', the coverage and quality of early childhood education and the role of the family in basic education; to improve scientific and technological literacy and the participation of girls and women in science and technology education; to strengthen international co-operation with regard to reforming and adapting systems of higher education and to set up innovative systems of knowledge transfer (the UNITWIN/ UNESCO Chairs programme); to publish the third issue of the *World Education Report*; to participate in the review, reconstruction and in-depth transformation of education systems in countries with expressed the need for changes; and to follow up the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Agenda 21 and those of the 1993 International Congress on Population Education and Development.

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to allocate \$6,780,200 to the International Bureau of Education under the regular programme, and invited Member States to contribute financially and by other appropriate means to the implementation of the Bureau's projects relating to research in comparative education, training, and the collection, analysis and distribution of educational information.

It also authorized the Director-General to take the necessary measures to support the operation of the International Institute for Educational Planning by providing a financial allocation under the regular programme of \$5,134,900 coming under Major Programme Area I, and appealed to Member States to grant, renew or increase their voluntary contributions. It also authorized the Director-General to support the UNESCO Institute for Education (Hamburg) by allocat-

ing \$947,700 under the regular programme, and to associate the Institute with the execution of other activities. It also expressed its appreciation to the German Government for the support it provided to the Institute, and invited Member States to support the Institute by making voluntary contributions.

The General Conference requested the Director-General to secure the maximum international co-operation for the Summit of Heads of State of the nine most populous developing countries, to be held in New Delhi on 16 December that year on the subject of education for all.

The General Conference decided to amend the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to study the application of Resolution 24 C/2.7, concerning the implementation of the Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to consider the possibility of establishing, within the framework of the Programme for Central and Eastern European Development (PROCEED) and Co-operation for Reinforcing the Development of Education in Europe Network (CORDEE), a programme of co-operation entitled 'Education for all: meeting basic educational needs in Central and Eastern Europe'; to give greater priority to technical and vocational education in the 1994–1995 biennium, on the basis of proposals from the International Advisory Committee for the International Project on Technical and Vocational Education (UNEVOC); to pursue his efforts to make use of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs programme in order to associate higher-education institutions with the execution of the over-all programme of the Organization; to carry out the necessary feasibility study and other relevant activities in collaboration with the Council of Europe with a view to the possible elaboration of a joint convention on academic mobility and recognition; to study the desirability of preparing an international instrument on academic freedoms; to prepare and submit to Member States at a forthcoming session of the General Conference a draft recommendation on the desirability of adopting an international normative instrument concerning the status of higher-education teaching personnel; to submit to the General Conference at its twenty-eighth session a detailed proposal to develop a regional higher education centre in the Asia and Pacific region; to hold a second international congress on informatics and education in Moscow in 1996; to pursue and strengthen the activities undertaken by the Organization with regard to population education; and to organize training seminars for teachers in general and technical education, to encourage the application of environmental education, at national and subregional levels.

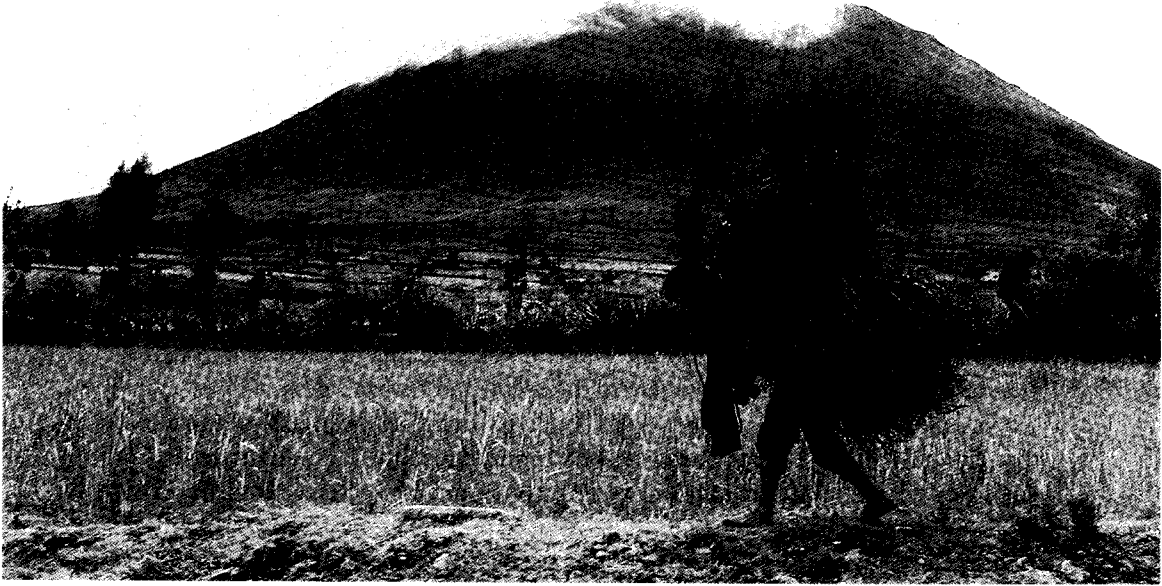
Natural sciences

The General Conference authorized the Director-General to implement the programmes and subprogrammes in Major Programme Area II, devoting special

attention to the needs of the least developed countries, the Member States of the Africa region, women and young people, and invited him to undertake activities to promote and achieve the best possible circulation and transfer of scientific and technical knowledge at the interregional, regional and subregional levels; to improve the transfer of knowledge and promote partnerships among Member States in microbial, plant and aquatic biotechnologies; to promote discussion of the place, in UNESCO's programme as a whole, of questions relating to 'science, technology and society' and to provide training in the management of science and technology and information systems; to ensure effective co-ordination of UNESCO's activities and to foster genuine co-operation with relevant United Nations organizations, other intergovernmental organizations and the major non-governmental organizations, as a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED); to pursue the co-operative studies in the earth sciences through the implementation of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP); to complete certain activities of the programme on Man and the Biosphere's current research; to design and implement new co-operative projects involving field research, training and demonstration aimed at guiding the sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems, coastal areas and islands in complementarity with the Office of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Marine Science Related Issues; to improve, within the framework of the International Hydrological Programme, fundamental knowledge of all aspects of the hydrological cycle so as to meet the demands of water management schemes, in particular in the humid tropics; and to provide guidelines for the assessment and integrated management of water resources, as well as for education and training programmes for technicians and professionals.

The General Conference approved the Agreement between the International Atomic Energy Agency, UNESCO and the Italian Government concerning the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, authorized the Director-General to take the necessary steps to bring the new arrangements regarding ICTP into effect, expressed appreciation of the commitment made by the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue its support for and its partnership in the joint operation of ICTP and its gratitude to the Government of Italy for its generous support of ICTP, and appealed to other Member States and other donors to offer voluntary contributions.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to take the necessary steps to devise an appropriate statutory framework for the International Network of Biosphere Reserves, for submission for consideration by the General Conference at its twenty-eighth session; to convene an international expert conference, to be held in Seville (Spain) in 1995 at the invitation of the Spanish authorities, to examine the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves, consider and comment on the draft statutory framework for the International Network, and further define the concept of regional units of sustainable development.



Wood: an energy-source in danger.



The only independent newspaper in Sarajevo.

It also invited him to undertake, in consultation with the United Nations, the action required to declare 1998 the International Year of the Ocean, and to take the necessary steps to enlist the broadest possible national and international support for that initiative.

The General Conference elected 15 Member States to the International Coordinating Council of the programme on Man and the Biosphere, and 14 Member States as members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme.

The General Conference decided to amend the text of article III of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP).

Social and human sciences

The General Conference invited the Director-General, among other activities, to foster the institutional development of the social and human sciences by encouraging the transfer and sharing of knowledge in core disciplines and methodologies; to facilitate the use of social science knowledge in the formulation of social policies relating to urban marginality, migrations and family issues, and aimed at promoting sustainable human development; to prepare UNESCO's contribution to the International Conference on Population and Development (1994) and the World Summit for Social Development (1995) and to contribute to the implementation of the interdisciplinary and interagency co-operation project 'Environment and population education and information for human development'; to promote the development of a culture of peace and devise innovative methods for the early prevention and peaceful management of conflicts; to promote the understanding of human rights and fundamental freedoms, with special emphasis on new prospects in human rights and international law; to help foster public awareness of the need to eradicate terrorist acts, methods and practices, and their links with drug trafficking, on account of their being activities calculated to destroy human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and peace and having detrimental effects on education and culture; to continue efforts to develop a comprehensive system of education and training for peace, human rights and democracy, embracing all levels of education, formal and non-formal, and addressing professional groups which had a special responsibility in those fields; to improve knowledge and promote public awareness of new forms of discrimination (particularly those based on race, nationality, religion, language or ethnic origin), with special emphasis on children belonging to disadvantaged groups; to contribute to the development of relations of equality between men and women, facilitate women's access to social, political, economic and cultural life, and prevent discrimination and violence against them; to explore, using an interdisciplinary approach and through intersectoral consultations, the possibility of drawing up an international instrument to protect the human genome; and to promote the

development of physical education and sports and the ethical features of sports activities.

The General Conference resolved to establish within the framework of UNESCO an international social science programme entitled 'Management of Social Transformations' (MOST) in accordance with the recommendations of the feasibility study, and to adopt the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council and of the Scientific Steering Committee of the MOST programme, comprising 20 articles.

It also invited Member States, the scientific community, professional associations and all other relevant organizations, including those of the United Nations system, to participate in all activities of the MOST programme.

The General Conference elected 33 Member States to constitute the Intergovernmental Council of the MOST Programme.

Taking into account the importance of the reforms being carried out in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the General Conference invited the Director-General to continue, in co-operation with interested countries, efforts to support democratic reforms and to contribute to the promotion of a culture of democracy, primarily through the preparation and distribution in national languages of educational materials and special studies on democracy and human rights; and to assist in establishing Chairs and documentation centres on those topics. It also invited him to prepare and implement projects in Latin America and the Caribbean through a regional network of UNESCO Chairs.

The Director-General was congratulated on the holding of the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy (Montreal, 8–11 March 1993), and the World Plan of Action on that subject was approved.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to give effect to the World Plan of Action within the framework of the activities foreseen for 1994–1995 and to establish a Committee to follow up the implementation of the Plan; to continue to give high priority to the Associated Schools Project, thus contributing to the implementation of UNESCO's programmes; to allocate a budgetary provision and staff for the implementation of the Gorée Memorial project; to continue to prepare for 1995 as United Nations Year for Tolerance; to continue in 1994–1995 the preparation of an international instrument on the protection of the human genome; to associate UNESCO with the activities carried out during the International Year for Sport and the Olympic Movement (1994); and to continue and strengthen the Organization's contribution to the struggle against doping through information and education.

Culture

The General Conference invited the Director-General to co-ordinate and promote initiatives taken by Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations

within the framework of the World Decade for Cultural Development, and to conduct a mid-term evaluation of its implementation; to promote the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage among Member States and the general public; to foster the development of museums as places of intercultural dialogue and understanding and to promote their professional management; to improve the safeguarding and conservation of the perishable cultural heritage, for example, documents on paper, microfilms, sound recordings and films; to develop regional and interregional intercultural exchanges and to conclude the preparation of the general history and regional histories; to improve the protection of creative workers and other holders of copyright and neighbouring rights with respect to works of the mind and their specific characteristics; and to broaden access to works of the mind by facilitating the free circulation of books and by encouraging their translation.

The General Conference elected 18 Member States as members of the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development.

The General Conference decided that UNESCO should contribute to the work of the World Commission for Culture and Development, and authorized the Director-General to provide the Commission with sufficient additional support for it to complete its mandate.

It also invited the High Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, 1954 (The Hague Convention), to consider entering into further consultations on the validity of the distinction between the general and special protection regimes in the Convention systems, and, in that regard, on the procedure for entering cultural property in the International Register of Cultural Property under Special Protection, and requested the Director-General to draw the attention of States that were party to one or more of the various instruments for the protection of the cultural heritage to the need for appropriate co-ordination in the implementation of those instruments both at the national and at the international level.

The General Conference elected 10 Member States as members of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation.

It also elected 13 Member States as members of the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo.

The General Conference invited the Director-General to continue his efforts to secure the implementation of UNESCO's decisions and resolutions concerning Jerusalem, and to be particularly vigilant in safeguarding the religious, cultural and historic heritage and the demographic character of that city pending the results of the current negotiations; and to take all necessary steps to strengthen UNESCO's activities – in co-operation with other international organizations – to save the Angkor monuments.

The General Conference, taking into account UNESCO's participation in the International Year of the Family (1993), the United Nations Year for Tolerance (1995) and the fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (Beijing, 1995), welcomed the idea of setting up women's centres aimed at promoting cultural exchanges between the two shores of the Mediterranean, and invited the Director-General to associate himself with that initiative, to secure extra-budgetary resources and to encourage Member States to participate in it.

It also invited the Director-General to continue to increase the human and material resources of the Silk Roads project in the light of the substantial achievements to date; to secure extra-budgetary resources for the completion of the *General History of Latin America* and the *General History of the Caribbean*; and to take appropriate steps to celebrate the Centenary of Films (1995).

The General Conference requested the Director-General to reinforce UNESCO's support by all appropriate means for the Slave Route project, by establishing an international scientific committee.

Communication

The General Conference invited the Director-General to promote the free flow of information at international and national levels, press freedom and independent and pluralistic media, and a better balanced dissemination of information, without any obstacle to the freedom of expression; to participate in the celebration, on 3 May 1994 and 1995, of International Press Freedom Day; to study the impact on societies of new information and communication technologies, taking into account threats to the pluralism and independence of the media; to strengthen communication capacities in developing countries so as to increase their participation in the communication process, with emphasis on expanding the activities of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC); to improve the education and training of information professionals, archivists, librarians and information specialists; to promote the safeguarding of libraries and archives and particularly endangered and unique collections; to pursue efforts towards the setting up of the Bibliotheca Alexandria; to improve the training of informatics specialists; to develop further the INFORMAFRICA programme, elaborate other regional strategies and enlarge regional informatics networks; and to make greater efforts to secure more extra-budgetary resources for communication activities for women.

Bearing in mind that 1995 would mark the centenary of radio, the General Conference called upon and invited the Director-General to support and promote comprehensive action focusing on the role and functions of public service broadcasting. It also expressed grave concern at the destruction of the cultural and architectural heritage of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including cultural and educational buildings, with special reference to the Sarajevo National

Library and the University of Sarajevo, and invited the Director-General to appeal to all intellectuals, artists, writers, historians, sociologists, journalists and professionals of the press, television and cinema to help develop an awareness of the problem by the public in all countries, and to provide support to the Library.

The General Conference decided that Article 7.3 of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme should be deleted.

The General Conference elected 16 States to be members of that Council. It also elected 18 Member States as members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication, and 17 Member States to be members of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme.

Appointment of the Director-General

On the proposal of the Executive Board, the General Conference, by 168 votes out of the 171 delegations present, re-elected Mr. Federico Mayor as Director-General of the Organization, for a further period of six years from 15 November 1993. The text of the address delivered by him on the occasion of his re-election appears as Annex IV.

The Executive Board

At the plenary meeting held on 8 November, the General Conference, on the basis of a report by the Nominations Committee, proceeded to elect 26 members of the Executive Board, which, at its meeting on 17 November, elected Ms. Attiya Inayatullah (Pakistan) as Chairperson.

Other decisions

1. The Director-General was requested to promote studies on 'women and peace';
2. It was decided to include the least developed countries under transverse issues, programmes and activities;
3. The Director-General was invited to intensify efforts to secure extra-budgetary resources for youth and sports programmes;
4. The text of the Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education was approved;
5. The General Conference took note with interest of the considerations submitted by the Director-General in regard to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO;
6. Member States were called on to take an active part in the celebration of the hundred-and-twenty-fifth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birth;
7. Member States were also called on to take an active part in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War (1945), in the spirit of the ideals proclaimed by the UNESCO Constitution;

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8. It was decided to include on the agenda for the twenty-eighth session of the General Conference the request for the admission of Palestine to UNESCO;
 9. It was felt necessary to give greater support to the use of Arabic, both as regards publications, books and translations and as regards the official activities and meetings of the Organization;
 10. It was decided that the twenty-eighth session would be held at the Headquarters of the Organization, in Paris;
 11. A budget of \$455,490,000 was approved for the biennium 1994–1995.

Annexes

Annex I

Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Adopted in London on 16 November 1945 and amended by the General Conference at its second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, twelfth, fifteenth, seventeenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-first and twenty-fourth sessions.

The Governments of the States Parties to this Constitution on behalf of their peoples declare:

That since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed;

That ignorance of each other's ways and lives has been a common cause, throughout the history of mankind, of that suspicion and mistrust between the peoples of the world through which their differences have all too often broken into war;

That the great and terrible war which has now ended was a war made possible by the denial of the democratic principles of the dignity, equality and mutual respect of men, and by the propagation, in their place, through ignorance and prejudice, of the doctrine of the inequality of men and races;

That the wide diffusion of culture, and the education of humanity for justice and liberty and peace are indispensable to the dignity of man and constitute a sacred duty which all the nations must fulfil in a spirit of mutual assistance and concern;

That a peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of governments would not be a peace which could secure the unanimous, lasting and sincere support of the peoples of the world, and that the peace must therefore be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind;

For these reasons, the States Parties to this Constitution, believing in full and equal opportunities for education for all, in the unrestricted pursuit of objective truth, and in the free exchange of ideas and knowledge, are agreed and determined to develop and to increase the means of communication between their peoples and to

employ these means for the purposes of mutual understanding and a truer and more perfect knowledge of each other's lives;

In consequence whereof they do hereby create the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the purpose of advancing, through the educational and scientific and cultural relations of the peoples of the world, the objectives of international peace and of the common welfare of mankind for which the United Nations Organization was established and which its Charter proclaims.

ARTICLE I. PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS

1. The purpose of the Organization is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations.

2. To realize this purpose the Organization will:

(a) Collaborate in the work of advancing the mutual knowledge and understanding of peoples, through all means of mass communication and to that end recommend such international agreements as may be necessary to promote the free flow of ideas by word and image;

(b) Give fresh impulse to popular education and to the spread of culture:

By collaborating with Members, at their request, in the development of educational activities;

By instituting collaboration among the nations to advance the ideal of equality of educational opportunity without regard to race, sex or any distinctions, economic or social;

By suggesting educational methods best suited to prepare the children of the world for the responsibilities of freedom;

(c) Maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge:

By assuring the conservation and protection of the world's inheritance of books, works of art and monuments of history and science, and recommending to the nations concerned the necessary international conventions;

By encouraging co-operation among the nations in all branches of intellectual activity, including the international exchange of persons active in the fields of education, science and culture and the exchange of publications, objects of artistic and scientific interest and other materials of information;

By initiating methods of international co-operation calculated to give the people of all countries access to the printed and published materials produced by any of them.

3. With a view to preserving the independence, integrity and fruitful diversity of the cultures and educational systems of the States Members of the Organization, the Organization is prohibited from intervening in matters which are essentially within their domestic jurisdiction.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the United Nations Organization shall carry with it the right to membership of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

2. Subject to the conditions of the Agreement between this Organization and the United Nations Organization, approved pursuant to Article X of this Constitution, States not members of the United Nations Organization may be admitted to membership of the Organization, upon recommendation of the Executive Board, by a two-thirds majority vote of the General Conference.

3. Territories or groups of territories which are not responsible for the conduct of their international relations may be admitted as Associate Members by the General Conference by a two-thirds majority of Members present and voting, upon application made on behalf of such territory or group of territories by the Member or other authority having responsibility for their international relations. The nature and extent of the rights and obligations of Associate Members shall be determined by the General Conference.¹

4. Members of the Organization which are suspended from the exercise of the rights and privileges of membership of the United Nations Organization shall, upon the request of the latter, be suspended from the rights and privileges of this Organization.

5. Members of the Organization which are expelled from the United Nations Organization shall automatically cease to be Members of this Organization.

6. Any Member State or Associate Member of the Organization may withdraw from the Organization by notice addressed to the Director-General. Such notice shall take effect on 31 December of the year following that during which the notice was given. No such withdrawal shall affect the financial obligations owed to the Organization on the date the withdrawal takes effect. Notice of withdrawal by an Associate Member shall be given on its behalf by the Member State or other authority having responsibility for its international relations.²

ARTICLE III. ORGANS

The Organization shall include a General Conference, an Executive Board and a Secretariat.

1. Paragraph adopted by the General Conference at its sixth session (1951) (6 C/Resolutions, p. 83). See also resolution 41.2, concerning the rights and obligations of Associate Members, adopted by the General Conference at the same session.
2. Paragraph adopted by the General Conference at its eighth session (1954) (8 C/Resolutions, p. 12).

ARTICLE IV. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE³*A. Composition*

1. The General Conference shall consist of the representatives of the States Members of the Organization. The Government of each Member State shall appoint not more than five delegates, who shall be selected after consultation with the National Commission, if established, or with educational, scientific and cultural bodies.

B. Functions

2. The General Conference shall determine the policies and the main lines of work of the Organization. It shall take decisions on programmes submitted to it by the Executive Board.⁴

3. The General Conference shall, when it deems desirable and in accordance with the regulations to be made by it, summon international conferences of States on education, the sciences and humanities or the dissemination of knowledge; non-governmental conferences on the same subjects may be summoned by the General Conference or by the Executive Board in accordance with such regulations.⁵

4. The General Conference shall, in adopting proposals for submission to the Member States, distinguish between recommendations and international conventions submitted for their approval. In the former case a majority vote shall suffice; in the latter case a two-thirds majority shall be required. Each of the Member States shall submit recommendations or conventions to its competent authorities within a period of one year from the close of the session of the General Conference at which they were adopted.

5. Subject to the provisions of Article V, paragraph 5 (c), the General Conference shall advise the United Nations Organization on the educational, scientific and cultural aspects of matters of concern to the latter, in accordance with the terms and procedure agreed upon between the appropriate authorities of the two Organizations.⁶

6. The General Conference shall receive and consider the reports sent to the Organization by Member States on the action taken upon the recommendations and conventions referred to in paragraph 4 above or, if it so decides, analytical summaries of these reports.⁷

3. Article IV previously contained a paragraph F.15, which was inserted as a transitional provision by the General Conference at its twentieth session (1978) (20 C/Resolutions, p. 160) and was deleted by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session (1987) (24 C/Resolutions, p. 168).
4. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) (7 C/Resolutions, p. 103).
5. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) (7 C/Resolutions, pp. 103-104).
6. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) (7 C/Resolutions, p. 104).
7. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its seventeenth session (1972) (17 C/Resolutions, p. 114).

7. The General Conference shall elect the members of the Executive Board and, on the recommendation of the Board, shall appoint the Director-General.

C. Voting

8. (a) Each Member State shall have one vote in the General Conference. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority except in cases in which a two-thirds majority is required by the provisions of this Constitution,⁸ or the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.⁹ A majority shall be a majority of the Members present and voting.¹⁰

(b) A Member State shall have no vote in the General Conference if the total amount of contributions due from it exceeds the total amount of contributions payable by it for the current year and the immediately preceding calendar year.¹¹

(c) The General Conference may nevertheless permit such a Member State to vote, if it is satisfied that failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member Nation.¹²

D. Procedure

9. (a) The General Conference shall meet in ordinary session every two years. It may meet in extraordinary session if it decides to do so itself or if summoned by the Executive Board, or on the demand of at least one-third of the Member States.¹³

(b) At each session the location of its next ordinary session shall be designated by the General Conference. The location of an extraordinary session shall be decided by the General Conference if the session is summoned by it, or otherwise by the Executive Board.¹³

10. The General Conference shall adopt its own rules of procedure. It shall at each session elect a President and other officers.¹⁴

8. These provisions are the following: Articles II.2 (admission of new Member States which are not Members of the United Nations, on the recommendation of the Executive Board); II.3 (admission of Associate Members); IV.4 (adoption of international conventions submitted for approval of Member States); IV.13 (admission of observers of non-governmental or semi-governmental organizations); XIII.1 (amendments to the Constitution); XIII.2 (adoption of regulations governing the procedure for amendments of the Constitution).

9. See Rule 81, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.

10. Subparagraph amended by the General Conference at its tenth session (1958) (10 C/Resolutions, p. 61).

11. Subparagraph adopted by the General Conference at its fourth session (1949) and amended at its sixth (1951) and seventh (1952) (4 C/Resolutions, p. 9, 6 C/Resolutions, p. 85 and 7 C/Resolutions, p. 104).

12. Subparagraphs adopted by the General Conference at its fourth session (1949) (4 C/Resolutions, p. 9).

13. Subparagraphs (a) and (b) amended by the General Conference at its third (1948) and seventh (1952) sessions (3 C/110, p. 113 and 7 C/Resolutions, p. 104).

14. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its second session (1947) (2 C/132, p. 63).

11. The General Conference shall set up special and technical committees and such other subordinate bodies as may be necessary for its purposes.

12. The General Conference shall cause arrangements to be made for public access to meetings, subject to such regulations as it shall prescribe.

E. Observers

13. The General Conference, on the recommendation of the Executive Board and by a two-thirds majority may, subject to its rules of procedure, invite as observers at specified sessions of the Conference or of its commissions representatives of international organizations, such as those referred to in Article XI, paragraph 4.

14. When consultative arrangements have been approved by the Executive Board for such international non-governmental or semi-governmental organizations in the manner provided in Article XI, paragraph 4, those organizations shall be invited to send observers to sessions of the General Conference and its commissions.¹⁵

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE BOARD¹⁶

A. Composition

1. The Executive Board shall be elected by the General Conference from among the delegates appointed by the Member States and shall consist of fifty-one members each of whom shall represent the Government of the State of which he is a national. The President of the General Conference shall sit *ex officio* in an advisory capacity on the Executive Board.¹⁷

2. In electing the members of the Executive Board the General Conference shall endeavour to include persons competent in the arts, the humanities, the sciences, education and the diffusion of ideas, and qualified by their experience and capacity to fulfil the administrative and executive duties of the Board. It shall also have regard to the diversity of cultures and a balanced geographical distribution. Not more than one national of any Member State shall serve on the Board at any one time, the President of the Conference excepted.

3. Members of the Board shall serve from the close of the session of the General Conference which elected them until the close of the second ordinary session of the General Conference following that election. They shall not be immediately eligible

15. Paragraph adopted by the General Conference at its third session (1948) (3 C/110, p. 113).

16. Article V previously contained a paragraph C13 which was inserted as a transitional provision by the General Conference at its seventeenth session (1972) (17 C/Resolutions, p. 113) and was deleted by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session (1987) (24 C/Resolutions, p. 168).

17. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its seventh (1952), eighth (1954), ninth (1956), twelfth (1962), fifteenth (1968), seventeenth (1972), nineteenth (1976) and twenty-first (1980) sessions (7 C/Resolutions, p. 104, 8 C/Resolutions, p. 12, 9 C/Resolutions, p. 70, 12 C/Resolutions, p. 95, 15 C/Resolutions, p. 103, 17 C/Resolutions, p. 113, 19 C/Resolutions, p. 93, 21 C/Resolutions, p. 122).

for a second term. The General Conference shall, at each of its ordinary sessions, elect the number of members required to fill vacancies occurring at the end of the session.¹⁸

4. (a) In the event of the death or resignation of a member of the Executive Board, his replacement for the remainder of his term shall be appointed by the Executive Board on the nomination of the Government of the State the former member represented.

(b) The Government making the nomination and the Executive Board shall have regard to the factors set forth in paragraph 2 of this Article.

(c) When exceptional circumstances arise, which, in the considered opinion of the represented State, make it indispensable for its representative to be replaced, even if he does not tender his resignation, measures shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (a) above.¹⁹

(d) In the event of the withdrawal from the Organization of a Member State a national of which is a member of the Executive Board, that member's term of office shall be terminated on the date the withdrawal becomes effective.²⁰

B. Functions

5. (a) The Executive Board shall prepare the agenda for the General Conference. It shall examine the programme of work for the Organization and corresponding budget estimates submitted to it by the Director-General in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article VI and shall submit them with such recommendations as it considers desirable to the General Conference.²¹

(b) The Executive Board, acting under the authority of the General Conference, shall be responsible for the execution of the programme adopted by the Conference. In accordance with the decisions of the General Conference and having regard to circumstances arising between two ordinary sessions, the Executive Board shall take all necessary measures to ensure the effective and rational execution of the programme by the Director-General.²¹

(c) Between ordinary sessions of the General Conference, the Board may discharge the functions of adviser to the United Nations, set forth in Article IV, paragraph 5, whenever the problem upon which advice is sought has already been dealt with in principle by the Conference, or when the solution is implicit in decisions of the Conference.²¹

18. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its fifth (1950), seventh (1952), fifteenth (1968) and seventeenth (1972) sessions (5 C/Resolutions, pp. 9-10, 7 C/Resolutions, p. 104, 15 C/Resolutions, p. 103 and 17 C/Resolutions, p. 113).

19. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its eighth (1954) and nineteenth (1976) sessions (8 C/Resolutions, p. 12 and 19 C/Resolutions, p. 93).

20. Subparagraph (d) adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth sessions (1987) (24 C/Resolutions, p. 167).

21. Subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) amended by the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) (7 C/Resolutions, p. 104).

6. The Executive Board shall recommend to the General Conference the admission of new Members to the Organization.

7. Subject to decisions of the General Conference, the Executive Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure. It shall elect its officers from among its members.

8. The Executive Board shall meet in regular session at least twice a year and may meet in special session if convoked by the Chairman on his own initiative or upon the request of six members of the Board.

9. The Chairman of the Executive Board shall present, on behalf of the Board, to each ordinary session of the General Conference, with or without comments, the reports on the activities of the Organization which the Director-General is required to prepare in accordance with the provisions of Article VI.3 (b).²²

10. The Executive Board shall make all necessary arrangements to consult the representatives of international organizations or qualified persons concerned with questions within its competence.

11. Between sessions of the General Conference, the Executive Board may request advisory opinions from the International Court of Justice on legal questions arising within the field of the Organization's activities.²³

12. Although the members of the Executive Board are representative of their respective governments they shall exercise the powers delegated to them by the General Conference on behalf of the Conference as a whole.²⁴

ARTICLE VI. SECRETARIAT²⁵

1. The Secretariat shall consist of a Director-General and such staff as may be required.

2. The Director-General shall be nominated by the Executive Board and appointed by the General Conference for a period of six years, under such conditions as the Conference may approve, and shall be eligible for reappointment. He shall be the chief administrative officer of the Organization.

3. (a) The Director-General, or a deputy designated by him, shall participate, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the General Conference, of the Executive Board, and of the Committees of the Organization. He shall formulate proposals for appropriate action by the Conference and the Board, and shall prepare for submis-

22. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its seventh (1952) and eighth (1954) sessions (7 C/Resolutions, pp. 104-5 and 8 C/Resolutions, p. 13).

23. Paragraph adopted by the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) (7 C/Resolutions, p. 105).

24. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its eighth session (1954) (8 C/Resolutions, p. 12).

25. Article VI previously contained a paragraph 7 which was inserted as a transitional provision by the General Conference at its twentieth session (1978) (20 C/Resolutions, p. 161) and was deleted by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session (1987) (24 C/Resolutions, p. 168).

sion to the Board a draft programme of work for the Organization with corresponding budget estimates.²⁶

(b) The Director-General shall prepare and communicate to Member States and to the Executive Board periodical reports on the activities of the Organization. The General Conference shall determine the periods to be covered by these reports.²⁷

4. The Director-General shall appoint the staff of the Secretariat in accordance with staff regulations to be approved by the General Conference. Subject to the paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of integrity, efficiency and technical competence, appointment to the staff shall be on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

5. The responsibilities of the Director-General and of the staff shall be exclusively international in character. In the discharge of their duties they shall not seek or receive instructions from any government or from any authority external to the Organization. They shall refrain from any action which might prejudice their positions as international officials. Each State Member of the Organization undertakes to respect the international character of the responsibilities of the Director-General and the staff, and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their duties.

6. Nothing in this Article shall preclude the Organization from entering into special arrangements within the United Nations Organization for common services and staff and for the interchange of personnel.

ARTICLE VII. NATIONAL CO-OPERATING BODIES

1. Each Member State shall make such arrangements as suit its particular conditions for the purpose of associating its principal bodies interested in educational, scientific and cultural matters with the work of the Organization, preferably by the formation of a National Commission broadly representative of the government and such bodies.

2. National Commissions or National Co-operating Bodies, where they exist, shall act in an advisory capacity to their respective delegations to the General Conference and to their Governments in matters relating to the Organization and shall function as agencies of liaison in all matters of interest to it.

3. The Organization may, on the request of a Member State, delegate, either temporarily or permanently, a member of its Secretariat to serve on the National Commission of that State, in order to assist in the development of its work.

ARTICLE VIII. REPORTS BY MEMBER STATES

Each Member State shall submit to the Organization, at such times and in such manner as shall be determined by the General Conference, reports on the laws, regu-

26. Subparagraph amended by the General Conference at its seventh session (1952) (7 C/Resolutions, p. 113).

27. Subparagraph adopted by the General Conference at its eighth session (1954) (8 C/Resolutions, p. 13).

lations and statistics relating to its educational, scientific and cultural institutions and activities, and on the action taken upon the recommendations and conventions referred to in Article IV, paragraph 4.²⁸

ARTICLE IX. BUDGET

1. The budget shall be administered by the Organization.
2. The General Conference shall approve and give final effect to the budget and to the apportionment of financial responsibility among the States Members of the Organization subject to such arrangement with the United Nations as may be provided in the agreement to be entered into pursuant to Article X.
3. The Director-General, with the approval of the Executive Board, may receive gifts, bequests and subventions directly from governments, public and private institutions, associations and private persons.

ARTICLE X. RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

This Organization shall be brought into relation with the United Nations Organization, as soon as practicable, as one of the Specialized Agencies referred to in Article 57 of the Charter of the United Nations. This relationship shall be effected through an agreement with the United Nations Organization under Article 63 of the Charter, which agreement shall be subject to the approval of the General Conference of this Organization. The agreement shall provide for effective co-operation between the two Organizations in the pursuit of their common purposes, and at the same time shall recognize the autonomy of this Organization, within the fields of its competence as defined in this Constitution. Such agreement may, among other matters, provide for the approval and financing of the budget of the Organization by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

ARTICLE XI. RELATIONS WITH OTHER SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

1. This Organization may co-operate with other specialized intergovernmental organizations and agencies whose interests and activities are related to its purposes. To this end the Director-General, acting under the general authority of the Executive Board, may establish effective working relationships with such organizations and agencies and establish such joint committees as may be necessary to assure effective co-operation. Any formal arrangements entered into with such organizations or agencies shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board.
2. Whenever the General Conference of this Organization and the competent authorities of any other specialized intergovernmental organizations or agencies whose

28. Article amended by the General Conference at its seventeenth session (1972) (17 C/Resolutions, p. 114).

purpose and functions lie within the competence of this Organization deem it desirable to effect a transfer of their resources and activities to this Organization, the Director-General, subject to the approval of the Conference, may enter into mutually acceptable arrangements for this purpose.

3. This Organization may make appropriate arrangements with other intergovernmental organizations for reciprocal representation at meetings.

4. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization may make suitable arrangements for consultation and co-operation with non-governmental international organizations concerned with matters within its competence, and may invite them to undertake specific tasks. Such co-operation may also include appropriate participation by representatives of such organizations on advisory committees set up by the General Conference.

ARTICLE XII. LEGAL STATUS OF THE ORGANIZATION

The provisions of Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations Organization²⁹ concerning the legal status of that Organization, its privileges and immunities, shall apply in the same way to this Organization.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

1. Proposals for amendments to this Constitution shall become effective upon receiving the approval of the General Conference by a two-thirds majority; provided, however, that those amendments which involve fundamental alterations in the aims of the Organization or new obligations for the Member States shall require subsequent acceptance on the part of two-thirds of the Member States before they come into force. The draft texts of proposed amendments shall be communicated by the Director-General to the Member States at least six months in advance of their consideration by the General Conference.

2. The General Conference shall have power to adopt by a two-thirds majority rules of procedure for carrying out the provisions of this Article.

29. Article 104. The Organization shall enjoy in the territory of each of its Members such legal capacity as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfilment of its purposes.

Article 105. 1. The Organization shall enjoy in the territory of its Members such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the fulfilment of its purposes. 2. Representatives of the Members of the United Nations and officials of the Organization shall similarly enjoy such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the Organization. 3. The General Assembly may make recommendations with a view to determining the details of the application of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article or may propose conventions to the Members of the United Nations for this purpose.

ARTICLE XIV. INTERPRETATION

1. The English and French texts of this Constitution shall be regarded as equally authoritative.

2. Any question or dispute concerning the interpretation of this Constitution shall be referred for determination to the International Court of Justice or to an arbitral tribunal, as the General Conference may determine under its Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE XV. ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. This Constitution shall be subject to acceptance. The instrument of acceptance shall be deposited with the Government of the United Kingdom.

2. This Constitution shall remain open for signature in the archives of the Government of the United Kingdom. Signature may take place either before or after the deposit of the instrument of acceptance. No acceptance shall be valid unless preceded or followed by signature. However, a State that has withdrawn from the Organization shall simply deposit a new instrument of acceptance in order to resume membership.³⁰

3. This Constitution shall come into force when it has been accepted by twenty of its signatories. Subsequent acceptances shall take effect immediately.

4. The Government of the United Kingdom will inform all Members of the United Nations and the Director-General of the receipt of all instruments of acceptance and of the date on which the Constitution comes into force in accordance with the preceding paragraph.³⁰

In faith whereof, the undersigned, duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Constitution in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Done in London the sixteenth day of November, one thousand nine hundred and forty-five, in a single copy, in the English and French languages, of which certified copies will be communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom to the Governments of all the Members of the United Nations.

30. Paragraph amended by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session (1987) (24 C/Resolutions, p. 167).

Annex II

Countries that have signed UNESCO's Constitution (up to November 1995) with the date of signature

Afghanistan	4 May 1948
Albania	16 October 1958
Algeria	15 October 1962
Andorra	20 October 1993
Angola	11 March 1977
Antigua and Barbuda	15 July 1982
Argentina	15 September 1948
Armenia	9 June 1992
Australia	4 November 1946
Austria	13 August 1948
Azerbaijan	3 June 1992
Bahamas	23 April 1981
Bahrain	18 January 1972
Bangladesh	27 October 1972
Barbados	24 October 1968
Belarus	12 May 1954
Belgium	29 November 1946
Belize	10 May 1982
Benin	18 October 1960
Bhutan	13 April 1982
Bolivia	13 November 1946
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 June 1993
Botswana	16 January 1980
Brazil	4 November 1946
Bulgaria	17 May 1956
Burkina Faso	14 November 1960

Burundi	16 November 1962
Cambodia	3 July 1951
Cameroon	11 November 1960
Canada	4 November 1946
Cape Verde	15 February 1978
Central African Republic	11 November 1960
Chad	19 December 1960
Chile	7 July 1953
China	4 November 1946
Colombia	31 October 1947
Comoros	22 March 1977
Congo	24 October 1960
Cook Islands	25 October 1989
Costa Rica	19 May 1950
Côte d'Ivoire	27 October 1960
Croatia	1 June 1992
Cuba	29 August 1947
Cyprus	6 February 1961
Czech Republic	22 February 1993
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	18 October 1974
Denmark	4 November 1946
Djibouti	31 August 1989
Dominica	9 January 1979
Dominican Republic	4 November 1946
Ecuador	22 January 1947
Egypt	4 November 1946
El Salvador	28 April 1948
Equatorial Guinea	29 November 1979
Eritrea	2 September 1993
Estonia	14 October 1991
Ethiopia	1 July 1955
Fiji	14 July 1983
Finland	10 October 1956
France	4 November 1946
Gabon	16 November 1960
Gambia	1 August 1973
Georgia	7 October 1992
Germany	11 July 1951
Ghana	11 April 1958
Greece	4 November 1946
Grenada	17 February 1975
Guatemala	2 January 1950
Guinea	2 February 1960
Guinea-Bissau	1 November 1974

Guyana	21 March 1967
Haiti	18 November 1946
Honduras	16 December 1947
Hungary	14 September 1948
Iceland	8 June 1964
India	4 November 1946
Indonesia	27 May 1950
Iran, Islamic Republic of	6 September 1948
Iraq	21 October 1948
Ireland	3 October 1961
Israel	16 September 1949
Italy	27 January 1948
Jamaica	7 November 1962
Japan	2 July 1951
Jordan	14 June 1950
Kazakhstan	22 May 1992
Kenya	7 April 1964
Kiribati	24 October 1989
Kuwait	18 November 1960
Kyrgyzstan	2 June 1992
Lao People's Democratic Republic	9 July 1951
Latvia	14 October 1991
Lebanon	4 November 1946
Lesotho	29 September 1967
Liberia	6 March 1947
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	27 June 1953
Lithuania	7 October 1991
Luxembourg	27 October 1947
Madagascar	10 November 1960
Malawi	27 October 1964
Malaysia	16 June 1958
Maldives	18 July 1980
Mali	7 November 1960
Malta	10 February 1965
Mauritania	10 January 1962
Mauritius	25 October 1968
Mexico	4 November 1946
Monaco	6 July 1949
Mongolia	1 November 1962
Morocco	7 November 1956
Mozambique	11 October 1976
Myanmar	27 June 1949
Namibia	2 November 1978
Nepal	1 May 1953
Netherlands	1 January 1947

New Zealand	4 November 1946
Nicaragua	22 February 1952
Niger	10 November 1960
Nigeria	14 November 1960
Niue	26 October 1993
Norway	4 November 1946
Oman	10 February 1972
Pakistan	14 September 1949
Panama	10 January 1950
Papua New Guinea	4 October 1976
Paraguay	20 June 1955
Peru	21 November 1946
Philippines	21 November 1946
Poland	6 November 1946
Portugal	12 March 1965
Qatar	27 January 1972
Republic of Korea	14 June 1950
Republic of Moldova	27 May 1992
Romania	27 July 1956
Russian Federation	21 April 1954
Rwanda	7 November 1962
Saint Christopher and Nevis	26 October 1983
Saint Lucia	6 March 1980
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	15 February 1983
Samoa	3 April 1981
San Marino	12 November 1974
Sao Tome and Principe	22 January 1980
Saudi Arabia	4 November 1946
Senegal	10 November 1960
Seychelles	18 October 1976
Sierra Leone	28 March 1962
Singapore ¹	28 October 1965
Slovakia	9 February 1993
Slovenia	27 May 1992
Solomon Islands	7 September 1993
Somalia	15 November 1960
South Africa ²	4 November 1946
Spain	30 January 1953
Sri Lanka	14 November 1949
Sudan	26 November 1956

1. Singapore withdrew from membership of UNESCO on 31 December 1985.

2. South Africa withdrew from membership of UNESCO on 31 December 1956 but rejoined the Organization in 1995.

Suriname	16 July 1976
Swaziland	25 January 1978
Sweden	23 January 1950
Switzerland	28 January 1949
Syrian Arab Republic	16 November 1946
Tajikistan	6 April 1993
Thailand	1 January 1949
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	28 June 1993
Togo	17 November 1960
Tonga	29 September 1980
Trinidad and Tobago	2 November 1962
Tunisia	8 November 1956
Turkey	4 November 1946
Turkmenistan	17 August 1993
Tuvalu	21 October 1991
Uganda	9 November 1962
Ukraine	12 May 1954
United Arab Emirates	20 April 1972
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ³	4 November 1946
United Republic of Tanzania	6 March 1962
United States of America ⁴	4 November 1946
Uruguay	8 November 1947
Uzbekistan	26 October 1993
Venezuela	25 November 1946
Viet Nam	6 July 1951
Yemen	2 April 1962
Yugoslavia	31 March 1950
Zaire	25 November 1960
Zambia	9 November 1964
Zimbabwe	22 September 1980

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Aruba	20 October 1987
British Virgin Islands	24 November 1983
Netherlands Antilles	26 October 1983

3. The United Kingdom withdrew from membership of UNESCO on 31 December 1985.

4. The United States withdrew from membership of UNESCO on 31 December 1984.

Annex III

Address by Mr. Federico Mayor,
Director-General,
on the occasion of his installation
(16 November 1987)

Mr President,

'For them the springs shall flow freely and corn shall be plentiful all the year long'. Those lines by my illustrious predecessor, Jaime Torres Bodet, epitomize our common commitment to the generations to come. It is our commitment that determines the future. We are committed to illuminating the paths of tomorrow's world by promoting education, science and culture. These enduring and unalterable goals and principles must also guide our present decisions just as, under the wise leadership of its President, they have guided those of the General Conference, faithfully reflecting maturity, serenity and the spirit of understanding and agreement. The session which will complete its work in a few days' time, and the Executive Board which preceded it, provide an example of international co-operation, common purpose, and respect for the democratic principles which govern the proceedings of this eminent institution of the United Nations system.

Thank you very much, Mr. President, for the kind words you have addressed to me, emphasizing and commending that unity, that common vision and that unavoidable striving after the construction of peace in the minds of men. That unity, that clear common purpose, both implicitly and explicitly, require the prompt return of the countries that have withdrawn and the inclusion among us of those that have not yet become members. For if we are united – and only if we are all united – we shall be able to prepare the ground to ensure that the coming millennium can really begin with 'springs flowing freely and plentiful corn'.

Mr. President of the General Conference,
Mr. Chairman of the Executive Board,
Distinguished Ministers and Delegates of Member States,
Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends:

I should like to express my gratitude for the support you have given me and the confidence reposed in me for the efficient carrying out of the decisions that have been adopted. This support is especially necessary when the challenge is on such a scale. Following a genuinely democratic procedure which illustrates the statute of our Organization, I stand before you today not as the Director-General of one group or another but as the Director-General of all, without exception; the Director-General of all the Member States, without distinction, all on a footing of complete equality and with equal regard for all their cultural diversities; everyone's Director-General, with the independence derived from the absolute figures of vote. Added to your support is that of outstanding intellectuals throughout the world who have encouraged me to take on this task, as well as the support of the Secretariat and all its members at Headquarters and in the field, men and women occupying all positions and grades, with many of whom I have already had the satisfaction of working some years ago. The foregoing augurs well for our ability to pursue our course with determination and enthusiasm, for if we continue steadfastly to serve the Organization and stand up to the reverses that may befall us and might lead to premature disenchantment, we shall be able to tackle all obstacles and resolutely endeavour to make an effective response to the problems and threats that are, in our sphere of competence, a feature of these closing years of the century.

At this moment of great expectations, I should like to stress the fact that an intergovernmental organization like ours is purely and simply an organization of States, deriving all its power and effectiveness from those States, and using it for their benefit. Of course, behind the term 'State', which refers to a country's political and administrative structure, are the people and civic society which are its real historical embodiment. My appeal, my call for a joint effort today concerns them most particularly.

Mr. President, I think it may be appropriate, in referring to the closer co-operation between those of us who are called on to share in the same task within the Organization, to reassert at the same time the effective independence of the various bodies – the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Secretariat – which work together within it, and the full and independent nature of their competences, functions and responsibilities. Only on that basis can the Organization increase its efficiency without a loss of comprehension or harmony.

In this differing but combined effort, we can all refer to one sure guide, the Constitution of UNESCO, the true Magna Carta of our Organization, whose principles are today as valid, or more so, than when they were established. These principles which the passage of time has confirmed and strengthened are thus for us inviolable and will be, for me, the compass which will determine and guide our action at all times.

Forty years after the founding of UNESCO, however, it seems appropriate to

introduce changes that, as in the rest of the United Nations system, will bring its functioning into step with the new reality. These are changes that would amount to something more than reorganization. They are changes that would actually make it possible to safeguard the aims of the Constitution and their operative principles.

It was at the end of a European conflagration that became worldwide that the architects of peace, by pooling what then constituted 'the sinews of war', coal and steel, saw with all the foresight of historic moments that world peace could be safeguarded only by creative efforts commensurate with the dangers that threatened it. Creative efforts! Let us make no mistake: coal and steel, nuclear energy, micro-electronics and biotechnologies have had, have, and will have varying importance. But what is needed today to come to terms with all the changes that have occurred and to prepare for the changes that we must bring about is the mobilization of intellectual resources and a rapid rise in the general intellectual level.

The founding objectives were not beyond the means of mankind nor were they erroneously formulated. It is true that the goals still look very distant. Furthermore, it sometimes seems that they move away more quickly than we can pursue them. We are now struggling amidst growing and insidious complexity that weakens the effectiveness of action, when it does not dissipate it altogether. Complexity, however, can be neither avoided nor concealed. Complexity, fragility and acceleration seem to me to be the three overriding characteristics of our time. These characteristics, far from serving as a pretext for inaction or as an excuse for being left behind, are a major argument for strengthening our determination and redoubling our energy, although this must be done by refining the definition of objectives in order to align, with demanding realism, our aims with the resources available to us. It is precisely in the 'universal village' whose outlines we are beginning to make out that we must assess the total cost – which reason prohibits – of doing without UNESCO, without the dense web of interdependence that enwraps our entire human experience, without the intellectual frame on which the invisible but essential networks of harmony can be woven.

Let us think for a moment about the extraordinary beneficial and sometimes, unfortunately, adverse changes we have witnessed during the last 30 years. The extension and conquest of new areas on our planet and in space itself; the rapid obsolescence of products and the dizzy speeding up of changes that have made immediacy a guiding principle of contemporary life; the globalization of structures, mechanisms, exchanges and the most far-reaching processes in present-day society; the intensification of demographic disparities in various areas: population explosion and megalopolization of cities in developing countries, set against zero and sometimes negative population growth in post-industrial countries, together with an inversion in age-group patterns that suggests that by the year 2025 less than 20 per cent of the population will be more than 20 years old, while more than 35 per cent will be over 60; the damaging, not to mention spoliation, of the natural environment, accompanied by the disappearance, irreversible in many cases, of hundreds of plant and animal species; the extremely serious risks of catastrophe due to technological accidents; the sweeping, unstoppable technological developments in biological engineering and production engineering (such as automated machinery, together with so

much else), in the creation of new materials, in photonics (lasers, optical fibres, image processing), in recent medical instrumentation, in space technology (satellites, remote sensing); etc.

My training is that of a scientist, and a scientist is, by definition, a man accustomed to team work, in whom boundless hope – of possible discovery or innovation – coexists with the implacable realism of daily experimental practice. The scientist advances only gradually, in a process of accumulating contrasted certainties. But, in his view, far from being the goal at the end of an operation, verification is a new starting-point that starts the climb upward once more. This modesty of pace, this need to check the validity and utility of what is to be done, this rigorous requirement for work to fulfil day by day the objectives that one sets oneself, will obviously be mine. There can be no others. Modesty and ambition then, as two indissociable dimensions of the one and only aim: to be useful.

Mr. President, the scientist must be aware of the needs and aspirations of the society in which he lives. Furthermore, he must collaborate in the most lofty and difficult task facing mankind: to shape the best of possible futures. I have always felt the exigency of this commitment.

Born in 1934, I belong to what is called in my country the war generation. I spent my early years amidst the din of two long, cruel wars, the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War. They were difficult times of seemingly irreconcilable clashes, of scarcity, poverty, which irreversibly left on me the conviction that political peace, civil harmony, justice, freedom and individual and social well-being are supreme values. My youth was governed by the ideal of gradually building up a liveable society in which there would at least be room for us all, a society to which we would all contribute but one that would be also the common heritage of all.

This common destiny coincides, moreover, with my own personal life story. Coming from a humble family, in which neither of my parents had been able to continue their education beyond primary level, I learnt as a child the value of knowledge and the value of work. We are what we make of ourselves, as we used to say at home, and our achievements are the surest testimony of our identity. For that reason, beyond any other consideration or advice, I look to the life of my father, a worker who retired at the head of his firm; his life was his own work, and this to me is the most perspicuous message.

The process of social and political democratization in Spain coincides with the period of my adult life. In the 1970s, democracy for my country was an objective which was not only necessary, indeed essential, but also attainable. The question was how to contribute to it in the most effective way possible, by helping to establish tolerance, to extend areas of freedom, to gain ground for genuinely practised pluralism, and to open up my country's frontiers by ending its sterile isolation and returning it fully, without presumption but without inhibitions, to the world community to which it belongs.

Mr. President: for many of those present, the immediate past has been a period of limited but interminable armed conflicts, imbalances in the world economy and an increasing number of flagrant, unjust and inadmissible discrepancies. What is no

less certain is that at present more favourable conditions for international co-operation are being created: the visible democratization of vast areas of the world, the reduction of tension, the increasing realism of the claims that are being made – all these give us reasonable grounds for hope.

As we all know, UNESCO has suffered the worst attacks upon it during this period of harmonization and progress towards the new reality. UNESCO is the most vulnerable and fragile link in an international system which today appears even more necessary than at the end of the Second World War. Its ultimate objective is, to quote the words of His Majesty the King of Spain, in his address to the General Conference in 1983, 'to change man through education [which] means ultimately to change societies, in peace and freedom'.

It is impossible for us, where action is urgently needed, to move in the right direction without exploring the general context in which UNESCO should develop its future action. Within its fields of competence – education, culture, science and communication – UNESCO must become a leading light in the service of humanity. It can achieve this only by standing back and taking stock of the situation. On the other hand, nothing can be achieved by merely following a series of changing impulses.

The plenary debate in the present session of the General Conference has emphasized the advisability of concentrating efforts on essential objectives, while taking up the challenge of creating and maintaining the critical mass required by global programmes, combined with certain actions which have a foreseeable catalytic effect, so as to promote regional collaboration and help to bring in extra-budgetary funds. This concentration in the interests of efficiency will call for interdisciplinary co-operation, in order to achieve a simultaneous advance on all sides, and for the maintenance of a universal grasp of problems combined with the search for specific solutions, in which the long-term view is not obscured by the landmarks of past achievements.

No one, I feel sure, believes that the task that lies ahead will be the work of one man. The present situation of the Organization calls for an efficient and fully self-confident Secretariat. The staff members of the Organization are its principal resource and therefore merit priority attention. For this reason, equal treatment for all, a sense of personal responsibility for the work performed, greater respect for individual initiative and transparency in all activities should become standard practice.

The international civil service is essential to the future of humankind, for that future will stand in ever greater need of global projects from which appropriate local solutions can be derived. Although a variety of allegiances frequently create obstacles, the world in which we live is either one world or it is nothing. One arising from the vast range of cultures, whose existence is the greatest asset distinguishing the human conditions; one, in order to defend the dignity of every woman and every man and to safeguard human rights; one, for concerted action and dialogue in the face of conflict, for the eradication of ignorance, and for the promotion of justice; one, for freedom and for peace. Alone, we are helpless. By joining forces under the supreme banner of the United Nations, we can succeed. For this reason, we should feel special respect for international civil servants, who must set aside their origins,

native land and customs, although these remain intact in their heart of hearts, in order to belong solely to the international organization which they serve, and by their efficiency, discretion and objectivity to be equal to the lofty calling that is theirs.

I am convinced that all members of the Secretariat, whatever their grade, age, status or origin, will work jointly and judiciously to defend their legitimate interests, while at the same time, mindful both of the situation facing UNESCO and of the question mark hanging over the future, co-operating unstintingly in the search for ways and means of doing their duty most effectively under the present circumstances.

There is also a need to modernize our services through greater use of office automation and informatics and to improve our working methods by introducing the principles of business management. At the same time, we must revitalize our evaluation systems, combining the existing method of self-evaluation with assessments conducted by outside bodies.

Alongside the work of implementation, the Secretariat has the capacity to take initiatives, which must ultimately be endorsed by the appropriate organs. However, it is the General Conference that is empowered to lay down policies and general guidelines for the Organization and to decide on the allocation of funds, in the form of the total budget granted to the Organization.

Besides providing conditions of total independence and effectiveness – which are not incompatible with the necessary austerity – for the functioning of the Executive Board, I shall take care to establish frequent and far-reaching contacts with the Permanent Delegations. I shall not forget how much I have learned from members of the Executive Board and Permanent Delegations. Throughout my term of office, but particularly during the early stages, I shall put into effect the wise counsel of the Chinese proverb: ‘We have two ears and one mouth, so we should listen twice as much as we speak’.

On this basis, without haste but without delay, I shall set in motion the modernization process that we all expect and want. It is obvious, however, as I have already pointed out, that this renewal of our methods of action must be strictly compatible with our permanent objectives and fully in keeping with our heritage of past gains. Reform, then, or better still reforms, but without disruption. What criteria should be applied? The General Conference, I believe, has just laid them down for us with great clarity: ‘Do less, but better’, ‘Lower volume, higher quality’, ‘Fewer in number with better follow-up’ are the recipes that have emerged. They might almost be termed obvious, thus stated, but they are extraordinarily difficult to put into practice. In a body composed of 158 members, attitudes and interests are so varied that they inevitably and legitimately tend to find expression in a multitude of purposes and projects. So concentration, while necessary, is very difficult, both as regards the practical goals to be attained and as regards the ways and means to be used.

Around what key issues can this concentration be achieved? Once again, the work of the General Conference provides us with decisive guidance.

The first and most obvious is a matter which has been part and parcel of the Organization’s work since its inception. It is the promotion of literacy, now understood in the broad sense as the learning and practice not only of reading skills, but also of the other idioms we use today to understand and express knowledge and

reality (through the audio-visual media, machines, etc.) involving also a thorough, critical grasp of the particular circumstances and requirements of the society in which they are to be used.

Protection of the environment in harmony with man, promotion of science in the service of progress, widespread application of knowledge for the benefit of the least-developed countries, co-operation and cultural development of and among people and nations – these are, among others, the major key issues of general interest to Member States.

This concentration of activities must go hand in hand with consultation and agreement. This is the view taken by the General Conference which, as I see it, has made this its second line of approach. There is in fact a considerable amount of duplication and repetition among the activities carried out by various intergovernmental organizations, by those organizations and States, and by public and private agencies. A comparison between the work programmes of all these bodies shows that they overlap to a surprisingly high degree, and this means that it is absolutely necessary, before implementation starts, to engage in consultation on all the activities which the various authorities are planning to carry out in a given subject area or sector of the programme. So far as our Organization is concerned, such consultation must be initiated or, as the case may be, improved, first and foremost among the organizations of the United Nations system, between them and the intergovernmental organizations of the various regions, and between both of these and the main non-governmental organizations concerned, etc.

To complement such consultation and concerted action, the general public in the various Member States must be associated with our Organization's activities. This is another crucially important point for the effectiveness of our work. It is essential for this purpose that we should succeed in creating a close-woven fabric of public support for our activities which will ensure that they truly become a feature of real life in each specific context. The functional decentralization of our structure and our work, to which the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Secretariat itself have already devoted priority attention, will only be genuinely effective if it is reflected in social as well as in territorial terms and is firmly anchored in the field.

It may be added that associating the public at large with our activities in this way will bring those activities into much greater immediate prominence and will help us to emerge from the isolation in which we, unfortunately, often find ourselves. We, like other international organizations, are accused of living and working in a closed circuit.

For this purpose, it is essential that we make the dissemination and utilization of the results of our work one of our basic objectives. We serve if what we accomplish is of service, that is to say, is known and used, and if its use makes a difference to the individual and collective behaviour patterns of those for whom it is intended. This is ultimately the sole valid criterion, the criterion that carries conviction.

The General Conference has also emphasized the need to strike a better balance between, on the one hand, activities that lead to the production of analyses (reports and studies) and legal and standard-setting texts (recommendations, resolutions and agreements) and, on the other, those actions that represent a direct effort to grapple

with reality by down-to-earth means. I consider this line of emphasis, which might be defined as preferring action over words, to be of decisive importance in giving the Organization a higher profile and strengthening its effectiveness, albeit on the understanding that UNESCO must work as a sponsor rather more than as an executive agency. For UNESCO's function (our job is to sell yeast, not bread) is that of a catalyst, triggering off processes and creating synergetic effects.

To that end, economic resources are important. However, what is at stake is not only material contributions but also, and above all, the human resources that will enable us to advance hand in hand. This symbol of solidarity – of North and South, East and West joining hands – might bring a glimmer of light to the horizon that has been darkened with war, the trafficking in arms and drugs, ignorance and oppression. In this context I call upon all States – and particularly the most developed – to work together in conjunction with numerous associate experts, and to encourage their young people to contribute to one of the boldest transformations for which, in the name of equity, the world is calling: the struggle – the only struggle in which we should be called to enlist – against illiteracy, the struggle against ignorance and the struggle for individual and collective independence.

Humanity can scale the lofty, shining heights of peace and justice, harmonious coexistence among people and between people and their environment, for it is not certain that conflict is inevitable, and it is not certain that human beings have a propensity towards aggression and war. We cannot be genetically inclined towards love any more than towards aggressiveness. Nurture is stronger than nature. Nurture through education, through training, in the hands of those who are labouring throughout the world at the most difficult, most vital task of all – teachers, of which I wish to speak here and who will be ever present in my mind throughout my term of office.

Peace grows and makes its home in the mind of each individual. There exists a vast, imperceptible substratum for peace. We must recognize the uniqueness, significance and importance of each man and woman. If all that they think, do and say is treated as insignificant, a sense of disenchantment and helplessness sets in. And, clearly, significance does not necessarily imply publicity. Suffice it, then, to recognize the tremendous value of silent concern, of unlimited, anonymous generosity, of modest disinterestedness and courage. It is enough that we should all know that in the invisible web of love, affection and disinterestedness, in this dense, tough fabric, are the strong threads that guide the real and continuing advance of peoples, and that here the errors and pettiness of those who seek vainly to convince us that all change is impossible can have no place, and vanish.

Thousands of people connected with this Organization have from the outset striven to achieve this end. They include Presidents of the General Conference, Chairmen of the Executive Board, members of those bodies, Permanent Delegates, Secretariat staff, specialists, scientists, artists, educators, politicians, and so on. I wish to remember all of them now. All, and in particular my predecessors and the Director-General with whom I had the honour of working for over three years as Deputy Director-General. He has been paid the tribute he deserved. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow, an African of universal stature, has laboured tirelessly at the head of the UNESCO Secretariat. We have all learnt from his valour and self-commitment. I hope that he

may continue for many years to highlight the most urgent development needs of the peoples. In order that multilateral co-operation may be concentrated on the essential aspects of progress and eliminate those which are harmful. In order that important long-term activities may not constantly be set aside for the most urgent. May he continue for many years to help in making into reality these lines from the Tenth Elegy by Rainer Maria Rilke: 'That one day, free now of the terrible vision/That pursues me, there may arise a song of joy'.

Mr. President, I know the obstacles that lie in the way of change. But, as a biologist, I know that nature has evolved through creative transformation. To those who advocate doing nothing, to those who say that only what is possible can be done, let us oppose, for the sake of the dignity of every individual, the never-failing formula of innovative inspiration and of imagination, in order to demonstrate that what is impossible to the faint-hearted is possible to the enterprising. Let us combine our resolve and our dreams so that we may not be branded with Camus' terrible condemnation: '. . . being able to achieve so much, they ventured so little'. I know that ultimately this will not be so. Because there is an indomitable force that withstands all, that ever emerges, that finally overcomes all obstacles. That is the creative force that is the hallmark of humanity. It is the force of the spirit. And it has its dwelling here.

Annex IV

Address by Mr. Federico Mayor, Director-General, on the occasion of his re-election (8 November 1993)

Mr. President of the General Conference,
Madam Chairperson of the Executive Board,
Heads of Delegation,
Excellencies,
Dear Colleagues and Friends,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is almost six years to the day since I stood on this same rostrum that René Maheu once compared to a cliff from which one descends the ocean of the world. For almost 50 years, this ocean has been lashed by terrible storms and many billows have swept over this rostrum. Now, when the ocean is becoming calmer, I should like to pay particular tribute to all my predecessors who, through their commitment and their tenacity, managed to maintain intact the ideal of international intellectual co-operation. At the dawn of a new era, a third millennium which is still *terra incognita* and thus full of the promises of a new renaissance, this ideal is at last able to offer mankind the alternative of a culture of peace and solidarity.

So much has changed in six years! The world itself, of course. However, the most spectacular change has undoubtedly been the end of the threat of a nuclear holocaust; the end of the years of leaden hopelessness, oppression and silence; the end – perhaps – of superpowers and potentates and of arbitrary rule, and the dawn of an age when hundreds of millions of people will cease to be impotent observers and become responsible participants.

Ever more rapid change, ever greater complexity. At the same time, I too was changing. I am now six years older – six years, during which I have tried, passionately, to communicate the message you entrusted to me: that there is no solution other than education, that the future is in the hands of educators – above all, school-teachers – and that while economic and political agreements are necessary, they are

not enough, since everything depends on the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind.

They have been six years during which I have travelled greatly, listened a lot and learnt much. I have met over 110 Heads of State. I have shared their hopes, seen their perplexity and sensed their determination. Above all, I have been able to see at close quarters to what extent rulers, assailed by the everyday difficulties of their people, are still often the unwilling prisoners of the short term. At the end of these six years my eyes are worn out with contemplation of the misfortune of the world, and yet I remain fully convinced that it is still possible to change course, to find new ways forward so as to release, at long last, the immense potential of human creativity.

During these six years UNESCO, too, has changed very considerably. As we all know, it had to begin a process of renewal. 'Without haste but without delay, I shall set in motion the modernization process that we all expect and want.' Those were the words I spoke to you in 1987 when I took office. The upheavals that have occurred in the world since then have facilitated this process of modernization while at the same time making it even more essential. First of all, we had to piece together again an institution that had been riven asunder. This was the focus of consultation, patient but tenacious, which led to the healing of the ideological wounds, a healing that was confirmed by the General Conference in October 1989. Reconciled with its constitutional principles – human rights, freedom of expression and freedom of information – UNESCO was able to reclaim for the benefit of all, without distinction, firstly its heritage of peace at the Yamoussoukro Congress and then the heritage of democracy at the Prague Forum.

After consultation, co-operation was the watchword of the 1991 General Conference. With the Jomtien World Conference on Education for All, the major organizations of the United Nations system had just embarked on an unprecedented form of partnership which was to find more elaborate expression still, in 1992, at the Rio de Janeiro United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and was continued the following year, in Vienna, at the World Conference on Human Rights.

The keynote of 1993 – that is today, the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference – will have been a determination to concentrate on our ethical mission through a return to the very essence of our Constitution – 'constructing the defences of peace in the minds of men'.

Yes, UNESCO has changed. It is more present, more diverse and more in evidence than in 1987. Being more present means being closer to those whom it is endeavouring to serve, foremost among whom are the most deprived or the weakest – the children of Bosnia or Somalia, Chernobyl or Maputo; today, Cambodia and El Salvador, tomorrow South Africa, Palestine and – it is to be hoped – Haiti. UNESCO is also more conspicuously present at the decision-making tables, both of our United Nations partners and of governments, whether the issue is the launching of an educational reform, working out a new status for the press or contributing to the protection of the environment.

Close contact and speed are a guarantee of efficacy. Much remains to be done, of course, to adapt the Organization to the pace of the age and we must not close our

eyes to the difficulties of the task. It will not be easy to serve an ever-growing number of Member States with the same budget.

The UNESCO of 1993 is also more diverse, as regards both the forms its action takes and the partners it mobilizes – the network of UNESCO chairs, the UNITWIN inter-university co-operation programme, the Common Market of Knowledge or the Bolívar programme to develop interaction between universities and industry, world reports on the state of education, science and communication – all these being examples of the wide spectrum of activities initiated to encourage the transfer and sharing of knowledge. New partnerships with the private sector, foundations and municipalities have made it possible to convey UNESCO's message to sectors which it had previously not been able to reach.

By so doing, UNESCO has given itself a stronger and more visible image. Its voice carries further and is heard more clearly; it has, as it were, regained its authority. The conferral of the Press Freedom Award, besides being a personal honour that touched me deeply, was also highly symbolic, representing the healing of a wound from the Organization's past and recognition and acceptance by media professionals themselves of its resolute fight for freedom of expression. And what better proof could UNESCO provide of its high profile than the distribution on the major international news networks of programmes produced by it? Then I think of all the public figures who have agreed to participate in UNESCO's major forums for intellectual analysis or who have lent it their names and their talent, becoming its 'goodwill ambassadors'. They all deserve our deepest appreciation. I think too of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize, which rapidly won the attention of the public through the quality of the members of its jury and the prestige of its prizewinners.

UNESCO has also, as you know, made an effort to communicate in a clearer fashion. Today it speaks more directly. Many of its publications have a more accessible style and presentation. But, beyond the level of communication, UNESCO's impact is situated, primarily, on the moral plane. The Organization, including its governing bodies and its Secretariat, endeavours to speak plainly, to speak the truth. It is that above all else that enables it to put its message across. And UNESCO's entire image gains in authenticity and authority.

Lastly, UNESCO's management and functioning have been modernized. A new merit-based personnel policy has been introduced, together with delegation of authority, which covers the whole of the Secretariat. The improvement of financial management, the trimming of procedures, greater decentralization of activities and posts and the strengthening of administrative autonomy: these have been the major themes of a reform that has engaged much of our energy over the last six years. We have certainly made a great deal of progress, but we still have a long way to go.

Mr. President,

Madam Chairperson of the Executive Board,

The world has changed. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 marked the end of Cold War confrontation between the two major power blocs, which is undoubtedly the most important political transformation over the last six years.

What has this meant for world peace? The geopolitical interpretation, perhaps the commonest, maintains that bipolarity based on the existence of two nuclear powers of equal strength was the guarantee of peace over the last 40 years. Now this balance of terror has disappeared, all kinds of wars are once again possible.

I do not share this view of 'negative peace'. In the first place, it is inaccurate since, while applicable in some degree to Europe, it does not take account of the hundreds of wars that have devastated other parts of the planet since 1945. Secondly and most importantly, it overlooks the perverse effects of the unquestioned paradox 'war is unthinkable but disarmament is impossible', which made superpower confrontation the inescapable fate of several generations and justified the arms race as the only rational solution.

The end of the Cold War has nullified the logic of this reasoning. The widespread propagation of warlike violence, which is a characteristic of the second half of the twentieth century, today appears to us as a self-evident fact and forces us to recognize that the nature of war and its protagonists have changed. War today assumes the form of civil war and its belligerents are not States but the distinctive communities – ethnic and social – who seek political fulfilment to compensate for their personal, cultural and social frustrations.

This exaggerated desire for political compensation explains why the achievement of freedom in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has mainly taken the form of a radical affirmation of the integrity of their collective identities and has been reflected in intransigent and violent claims for the restoration of ideal frontiers. The Geophysical Institute of the Moscow Academy of Sciences reported in 1991 that of the 23 frontiers that separated the different republics only three were fully accepted, which put at 75 the number of potential trouble-spots, 17 of which were already the scene of open conflict.

In the face of these intrastate wars, ethnic and cultural in origin, fluctuating and intermittent, highly varied and changing in form, involving an unpredictable and indeterminate number of participants, traditional conflict scenarios have little to tell us. These situations require a deep historical and sociological analysis, they call for a new cultural approach – tenacious and imaginative – that sees prevention as the only possible solution. Or at least as the only possible way to reconciliation. What I am saying is that they demand – more than ever – a culture of peace, and thereby assign UNESCO a key role in this context.

Mr. President,
Madam Chairperson,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

What are difficult are the conceptual changes, the changes in course that future generations will reproach us for not having made if we do not have the clear-sightedness and spiritual strength needed to embark on them. This is because not only war but also the conditions affecting our collective security, and indeed the very concept of security, have changed. For that reason I think the Security Council, as it approaches the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation, could not only change its composition but also come up with a fresh definition of the idea of security itself, which is now so

different from what it was in 1945. In my opinion, all the global threats to security – the environment, living conditions, population problems, cultural and ethnic incompatibilities, obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights in a democratic context, and so on – should, once they are apt to affect security worldwide, be regarded as falling within the competence of the Security Council, duly advised according to the nature of the issue.

If what we really want is to put an end to this other kind of threat to our security, part of the vast sums spent on military may well have to be invested in reducing poverty, especially in rural communities, and in preventing extreme poverty in the so-called Fourth World and the resulting violence and mass emigration. Money will have to be invested in wiping out the collective shame represented by street children, child workers, and children made to do intolerable jobs. We are countenancing things that cannot be countenanced. We are still girding ourselves against enemies who no longer exist, and we stand defenceless before those now threatening us. At the present time operations involving force overwhelmingly dwarf in numerical and financial terms the paltry resources spent on preventive systems for building peace and on alarm signals that can cut off conflict at its very root. This is the responsibility of all those in positions of power – and above all of the most powerful among them.

We are well equipped to contend with the most conventional dangers of war culture; we have armies and the relevant appropriations for defence and armaments in our national budgets. Yet we have been incapable of setting aside the 0.7 per cent needed to help the developing countries summon up their vast endogenous capacities. We needed to display the ability to look far ahead, but we have not managed to do so since 1974, when the United Nations adopted the resolution on the New International Economic Order. The upshot is poverty, excessive population growth, mass emigration, intolerance and violence. We are now paying a preposterous price for our short-sightedness. Are we now any more capable of looking ahead, so that in 20 years' time we can say we have learnt our lesson? The first threat facing us today is that posed by the ever-deepening chasm that separates the countries of the North from the countries of the South, a threat partly masked by the current economic crisis. Yet from the vantage point of UNESCO there can be no doubt that the world is one. Either we all forge ahead together or else we shall be unable to avoid chaos and disaster. A global outlook is now the prime condition of our survival.

There will not be an 'Agenda for Peace' unless the disproportion between the excessive claims of peace-keeping and the neglect of peace-building is reduced, since only by constructing the defences of peace can the enjoyment of human rights be guaranteed. There is no doubt that the key to an agenda for peace is an agenda for human rights.

What I have often said is that the really great change consist in moving from the logic of might to the might of logic. For the United Nations to display might is not the real might of the United Nations. Its might resides in the application of its entire Charter. Peace must not only be preserved, it must be constructed. And the organization that holds the lead role in the construction of peace is UNESCO. The time has come. We must give ourselves the means that will enable us to set in motion,

worldwide, the actions that lead to the prevention of war and the construction of peace.

How can we speak of the end of history when there are millions of people subsisting in a state of utter destitution? Passiveness is one of the worst consequences of a sated society. It is well known that the superfluous leads to decadence. We must get out of our rut and devise entirely new ways of living together. We are equipped to deal with the past. Now we must hasten not only to adapt to the events of the present day but also to anticipate those of the future.

The most developed countries will have to realize that they will be able to solve their own problems only within this global and unitary perspective, by contributing without delay to the development of the countries of the South. If – as I said before – we want to avoid eruptions of violence caused by poverty and neglect; if we want to slow down population growth rates; if we want to avoid large-scale emigration; if we want to sow the seeds of peaceful coexistence in places where today we are reaping the fruits of distrust and intolerance, then the most developed countries will have to decide to invest in collective security before it is too late. Within the space of five years development aid should amount to 3 per cent of GDP, and it should attain some 3.5 per cent by the end of the century; if this could be achieved the prospects for the beginning of the next millennium would be less gloomy. It is not an impossible effort. Will this mean that we will have to change our energy consumption habits, our accustomed well-being and our work habits? It does indeed – we *will* have to change them.

We will have to change them even though it might be unpopular. There are times when doing something unpopular is not only dictated by reason but is also a matter of ethics. There is an urgent and imperative need for us to think, without self-censorship or fear, about how we can overcome the great contradictions that are the key to our contemporary world, the pathways of the twenty-first century. For example, how can we reconcile the dichotomy between ethical requirements and technical rationality?

It is this dichotomy that we find in the different approaches of those who advocate either *development* or *human rights*. While some talk in terms of human rights and democracy, others speak of development. We often forget what is most important of all – *man himself* – and the need common to all – *justice*. If the globalization that communication and technology make possible can lead to the best as well as the worst, why not choose the best from the very beginning?

What is clear today is that without the agreement of peoples and without their participation, neither States nor institutions can guide human progress by means of official conventions or agreements of an economic or political kind. It was thought that economics and politics ensured happiness and progress and had eliminated the need for conscience. It is not so.

We have a formidable fund of forces to draw on in order to raise awareness and to take action – teachers, intellectuals, writers, journalists and the media in the four corners of the earth. In this connection, UNESCO should consider helping to provide information periodically on the state of the world: every day we hear weather forecasts and are told about stock market movements – but we are not told about things

that should really be of concern to us all and those that will have a long-term effect on the climate and the economy. Likewise, explaining to the general public the significance of the great parameters of the environment, education, population, human rights and exclusion would help to involve us more fully in global issues.

Another example of contradiction relates to the frequent crises in the technically most advanced societies and the role which work should have in those societies. What criteria should guide our thinking and what guidelines should apply when proposals are formulated? As an increasing number of goods and services can be produced with a constantly shrinking amount of human labour, how can we share out the available work-time and the corresponding rewards in the fairest possible way? And, perhaps most difficult of all, how can we use the resulting spare time for activities which are satisfying to the individual and are also useful to society, activities which stimulate creativity, generate knowledge and encourage solidarity?

Therefore, change we must. We must learn to pay the price of peace just as we had to pay the price of war. We shall have to set fresh priorities. We shall have to convince all statesmen of the need to draw up a nation-wide pact for education, at all levels, including university education, and then go on to do the same for social development.

We have to strengthen democratic systems, because the big issues of the present day can only be tackled and resolved in a democratic context. The State has to concentrate on its role as guarantor and civil society has to take its destiny into its own hands. As in the case of economic growth, the keystone of the consolidation of democracy is training. The only possible form of development is that in which every individual is participant and beneficiary alike. On the world scale, access to knowledge and its transfer are the only substratum on which we can build democracy, that common dimension where all differences can exist peacefully, side by side, in synergy, while not forgetting the basic foundation of the whole edifice: the municipality, which is the primary cell of civic life.

We have to guarantee democratic systems in which all individuals, minorities and peoples can give free and unrestricted expression to the characteristics of their cultures and, at the same time, get to know, respect and – why not? – admire and incorporate characteristics of other cultures. We are, without realizing it, engaging in an exercise of genealogical identification which we have so often rejected. The defence of the cultures and distinctive characteristics of those belonging to minorities is an issue of the utmost importance and, no matter how sensitive it may be, UNESCO has to tackle it, since it is a significant source of misunderstanding, isolation, marginalization and violence.

Culture is not spread by retreating or by carving up territories. It is not by erecting frontiers that the rights of everybody and every culture can be respected. We are all, at one and the same time, unique and universal, but the future of humanity lies in intermingling, in the fruitful union of the most varied civilizations. We have to protect and foster all forms of diversity. We have to get history to lay down its arms. We teach our children the history of power but not of knowledge, the history of war but not of culture. The path of history is strewn with warlike acts, with the clash of arms as their only accompaniment.

Mr. President,

I think it can be said that, having succeeded in basing our relations on mutual trust, UNESCO has reached its cruising speed. The period with the priority focus on reform has come to an end. I shall now put into effect the recommendations of the advisory group I set up and shall continue to consult the Member States – in particular through groups of experts – on matters of management, administration, structure, etc.

But it would not be reasonable to concentrate too much on technical and institutional aspects, since this would mean running the risk of losing sight of the one thing that ultimately matters, namely where we are going, the objectives to be attained. Of course, there is still much room for improvement in the efficiency of the Secretariat; of course, there is room for improvement in the functioning of the National Commissions so that the impact of the resolutions adopted by the General Conference is felt in all spheres in the countries concerned; of course, we must be responsive to any suggestions in this regard.

But in order to succeed in refounding the United Nations system as it approaches its fiftieth anniversary, in 'reinventing' it, in the words of the President of the United States of America, what will be needed will be a firm common resolve to take the radical steps required, it being clearly understood that the performance of an organization that has undergone structural changes only would be like that of an actor wearing different make-up but incapable, on the stage, of playing anything but his old, outdated part.

And so what is to be made of UNESCO, what must the Director-General do to ensure that the Organization can rise to the challenges and convey its message both upstream and downstream, to the highest decision-making authorities but, at the same time, to all citizens? What standards, what approaches must he adopt?

There are two fundamental ones that should be mentioned – the global approach and the long-term view. I should like to refer in this connection to something that has become a haunting obsession with me – time as a moral issue. Knowing that, for the first time in history, the damage we can do if current consumption trends do not change may be irreversible, that our future is in our hands today and that this consideration must govern all decision-making processes.

The same goes for complexity. Faced with complex reality, we cannot be satisfied with perceptions that simplify it, because, if we really want to change reality, we must be able to see it in an overall perspective, with all its complexities, in order to be able to transform it. Complexity is one of the major tributaries that leads us to the mainstream of interdisciplinarity, in which alone we can trust. Disciplines and of course sectors are watertight compartments incapable of resolving problems which, by their very nature, go well beyond their conceptual and institutional bounds. I shall take the necessary steps to ensure that interdisciplinarity is guaranteed and, in doing so, I shall bring down the barriers between spheres of influence and established hierarchies so that the work will be done not only in a co-ordinated but in a synergetic manner.

What must be done urgently is submit to Member States transdisciplinary projects with a thematic rather than sectoral approach, grouping together various fields of knowledge capable of providing concrete solutions to development problems,

whose complexity calls for a holistic approach. Examples of such projects might be basic education, higher education, human rights, democracy and peace, and the environment.

Intellectual co-operation will need to be enlisted to the utmost. UNESCO must continue to rely on forums of reflection, the councils of the various international programmes and all sources of ideas and innovation in order to carry out its mission as effectively as possible. The key to the future lies in the spirit and not in technology. In a world which is, happily, moving in the direction of universal democracy, purely technical institutions will soon decay. The only ones to survive will be those capable of pointing out new paths, devising fresh approaches and shaping new patterns of daily behaviour.

At the same time, UNESCO must concentrate on three major priority groups: women, the least developed countries, and Africa. I should now like to make just a few additional observations on the subject of Africa: Africa as a solution and not a problem; Africa as a continent which possesses extraordinary cultural and natural wealth and which needs to have confidence in its potential and to map out its own future; Africa as an example of tolerance; Africa which has engendered so many new cultures in its Diaspora. That is the example to which we shall be paying tribute in 1995, the United Nations Year for Tolerance, as proposed by UNESCO, bringing all our contributions to the Gorée Memorial as an acknowledgement of the fact that we seek a future free of all discrimination based on the colour of one's skin or on one's beliefs or sex. At the 'Consultations for Africa', which are scheduled for the coming year, we shall be asking each African country to let us know, within the limits of the Organization's capacity, what are its most urgent needs and the medium- and long-term plans in connection with which it would like to obtain UNESCO's co-operation.

The obvious and moving examples of violence and terror should not lead us to forget the vast web of generosity and love on which history rests and daily life proceeds; or the examples and forms of understanding and harmony which Latin America and Asia offer us.

'I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance', said Swami Vivekananda at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893. There could be no happier coincidence than the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations at the same time as the International Year for Tolerance, which was proposed by UNESCO. Disagreement is natural; and there must be relevant action to strengthen the ethical pillars on which the future is to be built. But violence – never! On the proposal of the Executive Board, UNESCO will be honouring next year two great contemporary figures who bequeathed to all future generations the example of their convictions, their dreams, their attitudes and their dissenting voices, albeit in a vast context of non-violence, consideration for others and international solidarity – Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King. Both light our way, today. Both taught us the supreme lesson of the constant and non-violent defence of our ideals.

We must decentralize in order to see the whole picture, to deal with complexity and set to work on an interdisciplinary basis. The type of decentralization which is needed is expressed in terms of functional autonomy, granted in such a way as to

provide all the conditions for flexible and rapid action, at the right time, while simultaneously ensuring that all activities are conducted within the framework of the goals and objectives decided on by the General Conference, without decentralization leading to a weakening of interaction. I therefore propose to expand our facilities in the field so that, like most of the Specialized Agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, we can have a greater presence at national level. The Regional Offices provide suitable contexts for subregional and regional studies, analyses and approaches but their influence at national level, starting in the countries nearest to them, is usually limited.

In decentralization, as with the evaluation of the activities, the implementation and the monitoring of the Participation Programme, and in informing and mobilizing all the communities relating to our fields of competence, the National Commissions for co-operation with UNESCO have a leading role to play. I call upon all Member States to strengthen their National Commissions, to take them into consideration when dealing with topics of relevance to UNESCO and to promote exchanges with other National Commissions both within the region and from other regions. If we are to achieve our objectives it is absolutely vital that the National Commissions should be equal to the new challenges before us. There can be no efficient action in the field without efficient National Commissions.

In this formidable task we need new alliances. At the national level it is absolutely essential to have the help of parliamentarians, the media, private associations, non-governmental organizations and, above all, political will on the part of every Member State. Furthermore, with regard to intellectual co-operation, what counts, in the final analysis, is talent. For example, the fact that a small Caribbean country such as Saint Lucia was recently awarded two Nobel Prizes shows that there are no small States in UNESCO, since each and every one, whatever its size, can make a valuable contribution to the community of minds. It is not a question of exporting – even less of imposing – models, but of fostering the spread of values and knowledge that will enable each person, each country and each State to determine their own future. This is a great task in which UNESCO must make its effort not by providing a list of ready-made formulas and products, but by contributing, at the highest possible level, to the formulation of educational, scientific and cultural strategies.

As far as the governing bodies of UNESCO are concerned, it would also be advisable to review completely the methods of work and decision-making procedures. The 100 or more ministers of education who have spoken at this General Conference contributed very interesting ideas and proposals, but were unable to exchange ideas and examine together the future of the Organization. Furthermore, a good many of them will not be present when decisions are taken.

Would it not be possible, for example, to conceive of the General Conference beginning with technical meetings and then setting aside a few days at the end for statements by ministers, whose participation is essential in devising the main lines of emphasis of the programme and in allocating budgetary resources? Clearly, this is the exclusive right of the governing bodies, but I am willing – if they so wish – to make suggestions to improve operational procedures that now do not meet current requirements.

Mr. President,
Madam Chairperson of the Executive Board,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The time has come to thank you and to say how much I appreciate the honour that has been bestowed on me, an honour that goes beyond my person, because it is above all a tribute paid to UNESCO as a whole.

I should like to express my gratitude to the members of the Executive Board, who unanimously endorsed my nomination, and to all the delegations of the Member States who were present at this General Conference the day before yesterday and expressed an opinion on it.

I should like to convey my appreciation to the countries, institutions, colleagues and staff members, past and present, who have put forward proposals and ideas that have resulted in activities that are now particularly relevant to the Organization.

I should also like to say publicly how indebted I am to all those who have honoured the Organization by agreeing to take part in the different commissions, committees, boards, juries and working and advisory groups, to all who have given me their advice and, in particular, all who have been good enough to voice their disagreement and criticism, which is the surest sign of friendship.

I cannot fail to tender my best wishes to all the authorities and leading figures of the intellectual world and the media and to the people of the very many countries that have welcomed me on official visits. I have, as I have already said, learnt many lessons at every level during those visits, which gave me an opportunity of learning at first hand about the cultural realities and identities of many of the world's countries. In this connection, I should like to highlight, for obvious reasons, one of my recent visits – to Indonesia. I shall never forget the hospitality that Indonesia, starting with President Soeharto himself, showed me, and the fellow-feeling and affection lavished on me. This is yet another reason why today I want to convey my special esteem to all of them, and in particular to my colleague and friend, Makaminan Makagiansar, who used to be Assistant Director-General for Culture and Communication in this Organization and who was a candidate for the office of Director-General of UNESCO.

Over these past six years – and this is very important to me – I have continued to enjoy the affection of my closest friends, although we do not see each other all that often and have little time to talk. What is more, I have made new friends through the length and breadth of the world. This is our greatest source of enrichment. I shall not mention anybody in particular, with the sole exception of Marie-Annick Martin Sané, the prime mover, in spite of her serious illness, behind the team that promoted my nomination six years ago. How much I owed to her obstinate and unswerving determination that I would be the Director-General of UNESCO! How dearly I remember her today!

I cannot conclude these expressions of gratitude without mentioning those people, who are as important as they are invisible, working with UNESCO all over the world and sharing our ideals. To you, dear unknown friends of mine, a big 'thank you' for your support. My thanks likewise go to all the colleagues who, both at Head-

quarters and in the field units, cope with the less conspicuous tasks, to all those whom I do not know by name, whom I perhaps only know by their voices or their writings, those who look after our security, those who deal with servicing, cleaning and all kinds of ancillary duties. I shall not include my secretaries in this tribute, because that would call for a whole chapter to itself. But I still want to tell them again how deeply and warmly grateful I am to them.

Mr. President,

At a moment as moving as this, I cannot but remember my family and above all my mother, whom I lost not very long ago. The person who gave me life has died. The example she set me, her boundless generosity, her immense capacity for coping with the problems of others, have left an indelible impression upon me. My mother always used to say that we should not accept things that were unacceptable. She now lives in my memory. I still have my father, who is already advanced in years and who is still pressing on in the same dogged spirit that has always been his throughout his stay on this earth, with perseverance as the guiding thread of his everyday personal endeavours. Only a few months ago, when I went to see him, he asked me about UNESCO. 'How's UNESCO doing?', he said. I replied that things were getting better. 'Are they getting better, or are you becoming more easy-going?'

Just as it was six years ago, I have the good fortune to be surrounded by my family, which increased three years ago with the birth of my third granddaughter – Andrea, Maite and now Irene. Irene means 'peace' in Greek. To all of them, most of all to all of them, I want to say how much I appreciate the moderation of their criticisms, which is in inverse proportion to the stimulus they give to my work, work that accounts for my absences but not for distance separating me from them. I should very much like to tell them that I shall be travelling less, that I shall be at home more often, that I shall have more time to think and to write. But I do not say it. I shall say it when I manage to do so, if I do manage it.

From everything I have just said you will have gathered that I intend to devote myself personally, in the coming years, to the culture of peace, the peace of peoples and the peace of individuals, peace that is the prime condition for discharging our duties as men and women to the full, our mission as human beings. What better watchword, what better task, could there be? Montaigne already had the answer, when he said 'Rien n'est si beau que de bien faire l'homme'.

I shall take on this commitment with all the passionate intensity it calls for. The fact is that reacting reasonably is not enough. Reason can counsel us to give, but only passion and compassion can prompt us to give of ourselves and share, and this is the only urgent task in the times in which we are living, in which we have to decide whether we are going to build a new world together, whether we are going to invent a fairer future, whether we are to devise the future that the vast possibilities of knowledge enable us to conjure up. Moving minds is something that comes out of one's innermost convictions, out of the passionate feeling of giving one's all. Only the loss of all sense of proportion and, in these times of transition from a culture of war to a culture of peace, in which so very many impediments have to be overcome, only the determination to give of one's all will make possible the far-reaching social changes

that are bound to come to pass. The sea cannot be closed off; limits cannot be imposed on freedom, or conditions and impediments dictated to love. Because – and I should like to repeat it here and now – ‘The measure of loving is loving beyond measure’.

Thank you very much for your attention.

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Biographical note on the author

Fernando Valderrama, born in Melilla (Spain), is a Doctor of Philosophy and Letters, and author of many books and articles on education and Arab culture, in particular: *Método de Árabe Dialectal Marroquí* (Tetuan, 1952); *El Cancionero de al-Haik* (Tetuan, 1954); *Historia de la Acción Cultural de España en Marruecos* (1912–1956) (Tetuan, 1956); *Cómo planificar una campaña de alfabetización de adultos en árabe* (Tunis, 1959); *Alfabetización de adultos* (Quito, 1964); *La alfabetización como elemento de integración social y cultural* (Paris, 1966); *El Mundo Árabe en la UNESCO* (Madrid, 1975); *Glosario español-árabe y árabe-español de términos económicos, financieros y comerciales* (Madrid, 1986); *Glosario español-árabe y árabe-español de términos diplomáticos, políticos y de reuniones internacionales* (Madrid, 1988) and *Historia de la UNESCO* (Paris, UNESCO, 1991).

He worked for 26 years in Morocco as a teacher, professor and educational adviser. From 1957 to 1961, he conducted an adult literacy programme in Arabic in Tunis as a UNESCO expert, and then worked for 12 years at the Headquarters of the Organization as a staff member in the Education Sector, carrying out during this period short missions to various countries in Africa and Latin America, and one long one, for three years, in Ecuador.

In Madrid, he was Professor of Arabic in the University School of Business Studies and Secretary of the Spanish Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO until his retirement in 1982.

Fernando Valderrama is an honorary member of a number of institutions devoted to Arab culture, and has been awarded many decorations for his work, including the Grand Cross of Alfonso X the Wise (Spain).

Index of names

- Abad, Gonzalo 302
Abderrahman, Ahmed Abdallah 352
Abte-Wold, Akale-Work 134, 144, 145
Adam, Ronald 87, 278
Adiseshiah, Malcolm 65, 103, 139,
150, 191, 201
Alba, Pedro de 134
Alemán, Miguel 40
Alighieri, Dante 71, 166
Aliyu, Yahya 340, 353
Allende, Salvador 222
Amando Malet, Mr. 100
Amidjadja, Tisna 378
Ammoum, Charles 156
Appel, Karel 120, 122
Arafat, Yasser 371, 380
Arnaldo, Solomon V. 39
Arp, Jean 120
Atatürk, Mustafa Kemal 254
Attlee, Clement 24
Awad, Mohammed 134, 144, 145
- Ba, Amadou Hampate 352 .
Badran, Adnan 341, 366
Barón Castro, Rodolfo 158, 184, 312
Barrow, Errol W. 312
Basaldella, Afro 120, 122
Baudouin of Belgium, King 378
Bazaine, Jean 120
Bechara el-Juri, Sheikh 50
Beeby, C. Edward 65, 146
- Beethoven 252
Bello, Andrés 273
Benelli, Monsignor 223
Berger, Gaston 134
Bergson, Henri 2
Bernard-Meunier, Marie 362, 379
Berthoin, Jean 123, 134
Betancur Mejía, Gabriel 151, 163
Bey Frangié, Hamid 50
Bibby, Dr. 130
Bidault, Georges 28
Blat Gimeno, José 310
Blum, Léon 22, 29, 86, 241, 280, 355
Bodart, Nicolas 288
Boesch, Ernst 104
Bogomolov, G. 116
Bojer 16
Bolívar, Simón 256, 274
Bolla, Gérard 270, 288
Bonnecorse, Michel de 303
Bonnevie, Miss 10
Borch, Karl 67
Borel, Émile 15
Bouglé, Professor 10
Bourgeois, Léon 1
Bourquin, Maurice 8
Brahms, Johannes 331
Brandt, Willy 378
Brassai 120
Brayer, Herbert 36
Breuer, Marcel 120

- Broglie, Louis de 84, 167
 Butler, Richard A. 19, 21, 25
 Buzzati-Traverso, Adriano 191, 215

 Cabrera, Blas 11
 Cain, Julien 175
 Calder, Alexander 120
 Callison, E. H. 99
 Carneiro, Paulo E. de Berredo 79, 85,
 96, 124, 144, 156, 169, 223, 255,
 278
 Casares, Julio 6, 17
 Cassin, René 19, 20, 184, 235
 Chamant, Jean 108
 Chaton, Jeanne 175
 Chatti, Habib 267
 Chillida, Eduardo 196
 Chopin, Frederic 57
 Columbus, Christopher 197
 Comenius 113, 194
 Coombs, Philip H. 151, 177
 Copernicus 217
 Cornuejols 294
 Costa, Lucio 120
 Curie-Sklodowska, Mme. 10, 14

 Daladier, Mr. 2
 Darchambeau, Valère 39
 Dauk, Ahmed Bey 59
 Davis, Gardner 352
 De Castro, Professor 10
 de Klerk, Frederik 380
 De Reynold, G. 3
 Delavenay, Émile 65
 Deleon, Acher 270
 Delors, Jacques 366
 Derrayi, Mr. 223
 Destrée, Jules 14, 15
 Diene, Doudou 303
 Doré, Victor 29, 33
 Dorolle, Dr. 79

 Einaudi, Luigi 70
 Einstein 10, 16, 167, 247
 Elmandjara, Mahdi 163, 191, 215

 El-Wakil, Chams Eldine 253, 264
 Erchov, Pavel I. 139, 151
 Erofeev, Vladimir 191
 Establier, Angel 67
 Eteki-Mboumoua, William 184, 196
 Evans, Luther H. 91, 108, 123, 126,
 241, 278

 Fabiani, Mr. 71
 Fasi, Mohammed el 158, 169, 175, 378
 Faure, Edgar 203, 210, 331, 366
 Ferraris, Mr. 1
 Flexa Ribeiro, C. 163, 191
 Fobes, John E. 151, 202, 245
 Fournier, Francine 341
 Franz, H. 116
 Freud 16
 Fulbright, J. William 20

 Gabriel, Jacques 119
 Gandhi, Indira 295
 Gandhi, Mahatma 124, 186, 196, 390
 Garcia Morente, Manuel 15
 Gaulle, General Charles de 175, 279
 Gentile, Giovanni 15
 Giacometti, Alberto 196
 Giménez Caballero, Ernesto 15
 Giscard d'Estaing, Valéry 253
 Gjesdal, Tor 163, 191
 Glaser, Stefan 20
 Goethe 14
 Gomes Machado, Lourival 184
 Gonella, Mr. 71
 Gray, William Scott 93
 Greenaway, Emerson 35
 Gropius, Walter 120
 Gustav VI Adolf of Sweden, His
 Majesty King 132, 222

 Haber, Fritz 11
 Hafez 328
 Hagiwara, Toru 209, 221, 222
 Hailsham, Lord 208
 Hallet Dale, Henry 11
 Hammarskjöld, Dag 144

- Hammarskjöld, Knut 322
Hardman, David 28
Harrison, James Merrit 215
Havet, Jacques 257
Heisenberg, Werner 167
Hersh, Jeanne 182
Hildebrandt, Martha 229, 257
Hirohito, Emperor 331
Hoggart, Richard 191
Huizinga 16
Hummel, Charles 277
Huxley, Aldous 15, 16
Huxley, Julian 22, 29, 39, 85, 110, 127, 167, 235, 241
Huxley, Lady 241
Hymans, Mr. 1
- Ibrahim, Anwar 331, 352
Inayatullah, Attiya 390
Iouchkiavitchious, Henrikas Aalguirdas 341
- Jacini, Count Stefano 71, 79
Jiménez, Manual 252
Joburu, Magda 222, 234
John Paul I, Pope 252
John XXIII, Pope 156
Jonas, Franz 222
Juan Carlos of Spain, His Majesty King 247, 274, 280
Juárez, Benito 40
- Kabore, John B. 270, 288
Kaddoura, Abdul-Razzak 229
Kalam Azad, Maulana Abul 109, 123, 124
Kaw Swasdi Panich 378
Kefauver, Grayson N. 20
Kekkonene, Helena 273
Keller, Thomas 303, 342, 373
Kelly, Ellsworth 196
Kennedy, John F. 156
Kenyatta, Mzee Jomo 234, 243, 252
Kierkegaard 154
Kirpal, Prem N. 197, 210
- Knapp, Jean 257, 287, 303
Kochubey, Youri N. 303
Kuo Yu-Shou 34
Kuypers, Julien 184
- Labastida, Julio 288
Lambert, Jacques 66
Langevin, Paul 11, 14
Laves, Walter H. C. 39, 65
Le Corbusier, Charles-Édouard 15, 120
Leblanc, Napoléon 252, 264
Lehman, Otto 15
Lemaire, Professor 338
Lengrand, Paul 193
Leonard C. J. 253
Lhote, André 123
Lie, Trygve 79
Liu, Dr. 65
Llorens Artigas 120
Lopes, Henri 270, 288, 303
Lourié, Sylvain 321, 342
Luchaire, Julien 2
Luther, Martin 266
- MacBride, Sean 249, 262, 267, 331
MacLeish, Archibald 20, 24, 352
M'Bow, Amadou-Mahtar 191, 226, 235, 241, 247, 264, 267, 268, 310, 311, 313, 318
Macalintal, Dolores 352
Machel, Samora 312
Madariaga, Salvador de 8, 14, 15, 355
Maheu, René 92, 103, 128, 139, 144, 145, 149, 158, 169, 175, 188, 209, 210, 223, 235
Makagiansar, Makaminan 229, 270
Makarios, Archbishop 252
Maldonado, T 220
Manchan, James 241, 243
Mandela, Nelson 274, 380
Mann, Thomas 15
Margan, Ivo 263, 278, 301, 312
Maritain, Jacques 45, 47, 273
Markelius, Sven 120
Marquard, L. 22

- Marqués, Luis G. 341, 366
 Martin, Leonard C. J. 240, 312
 Martinez Trueba, Mr. 99
 Massaquoi, Mr. 145
 Massuh, Victor 268, 279
 Matta, Roberto 120
 Matveyev, Alexei 151
 Maud, Sir John 60
 Maurois, André 16
 Mayor Zaragoza, Federico 245, 268,
 269, 278, 311, 319, 321, 323, 329,
 332, 353, 355, 371, 376, 378, 390
 Michelmores, Mr. 176
 Mickiewicz, Adam 101
 Mijatovic, Cvijetin 264, 265
 Milhaud, Darius 176
 Millikan, Dr. 10
 Miró, Joan 120, 374
 Mitterrand, François 278, 280, 354
 Molière 122
 Montessori, Maria 192
 Moore, Henry 120
 Morellet, Mr. 79
 Muawad, René 352
 Mudaliar, Arcot L. 100, 222
 Mulatier, Mr. 79
 Murray, Gilbert 14, 16
 Musset, Alfred de 122
 Mylonas, Denis 19

 N'Kanza, Zala Lusibu 270, 288
 Naegelon, Marcel A. 28
 Najman, Dragoljub 229, 270
 Nasser, Gamal Abdel 196
 Ndadaye, Melchior 380
 Needham, Joseph 22
 Negulesco, Mr. 1
 Nehru, Jawaharlal 109, 156
 Nervi, Pier Luigi 120
 Nhouyvanisvong, Khamliene 367
 Noel-Baker, Philip 174
 Noguchi, Isamo 120

 Obligado, Alberto 191
 Ochs, René 310

 Ogot, Betwell Allan 352, 378
 Opocensky, Jan 22
 Oppenheimer, Robert 167
 Oro Maini, Attilio dell' 169, 170, 184,
 196, 209, 222
 Ortiz, Lucas 66, 74
 Ostberg, Ragnar 14
 Ouedraogo, Oumarou Clément 378

 Painlevé, Paul 10
 Palme, Olof 312
 Paribeni, Roberto 14
 Parra Pérez, Caracciolo 120, 156
 Pasquali, Antonio 288
 Patnaik, B. 67
 Paul VI, Pope 184, 208, 252
 Pazhawak, Abdul Rahman 175
 Péguy 175
 Pereira, Aristides Maria 280
 Peres, Shimon 371, 380
 Pérez de Cuéllar, Javier 323, 366
 Perón, Juan Domingo 222
 Pessoa, Fernando 328
 Piaget, Jean 65, 264
 Picasso, Pablo Ruiz 120, 267
 Pompei, Gian Franco 188, 197, 331
 Pompidou, Georges 195, 208, 222,
 279
 Portella, Eduardo 321, 366
 Poulet, Mr. 1
 Power, Colin Nelson 322
 Putzeys Alvarez 331
 Putzeys Alvarez, Guillermo 311, 331,
 341, 352

 Raadi, Gholam Ali 124
 Rabin, Yitzhak 371, 380
 Radhakrishnan, Sarvepalli 50, 86, 91,
 99, 123, 124, 127, 235
 Ramallo, Luis 366
 Rao, G. V. 245, 270
 Read, Herbert 120
 Reale, Eligio 124
 Rigaud, Jacques 229, 245
 Río y Canedo, Francisco del 50

- Robertson, Sir Malcolm 19
Rocco, Alfredo 13
Roche, Jean 175
Rogers, Ernesto 120
Romains, Jules 15
Romanovsky, S. K. 169
Roosevelt, Eleanor 145
Roselló, Pedro 35, 66
Roseman, Alvin 139
Roussy, Gustave 28
- Saarinen, Eero 120
Saba, H. 65
Saddler, George F. 270, 288
Salles, Georges 120, 122
Sankara, Thomas 312
Sargeant, Howland 79, 86
Sarruf, Fuad 210, 222
Sasson, Albert 367
Sayyad, Ahmed Saleh 378
Schiller 252
Seaborg, Glenn T. 272
Seddoh, Patrick K. 286, 296
Senghor, Léopold Sédar 354
Severi, Francesco 11
Shahinshah of Iran 175
Shakespeare 154
Sharma, Chaman Lal 321, 366
Shaw, Alexander 66, 75
Shils, Edward A. 37
Sibelius, Jean 184
Simson, Otto von 378
Sina, Abu'Ali ibn Abdallah ibn 254
Sissakian, Norair Martirossovitch 156, 169
Sofia, Queen 280
Sommerfelt, Alf 20, 22
Soto 196
Stavenhagen, Rodolfo 257, 270
Studebaker, John 20
Suhrawady, Shahid 120
Sundberg, Nils-Ivar 271
- Tagore, Rabindranath 16, 142
Tamayo, Ruffino 120
- Tanguiane, Sema 229
Taylor, John W. 65, 89, 91, 92
Teilhard de Chardin 167, 266, 273
Tell, Said M. 278, 295
Teresa of Calcutta, Mother 368
Thajeb, Sharif 352
Thiam, Iba Der 277
Thomas, Jean 35, 103, 137, 142, 278
Thomas, Sir Ben Bowen 124, 134
Thompson, Mildred 20
Tito, Josip Broz 264
Todorov, Nikolai 295, 311
Torres Bodet, Jaime 22, 50, 89, 108, 110, 127, 175, 222
Torres Quevedo, Professor 10
Toure, Ahmed Sekou 295
Toweett, Taaitta 234, 242, 252
Toynbee, Arnold G. 8
Tuncel, Bedrettin 168, 175, 184, 264
- U Thant 175
Ul-Haq, Zia 331
Unamuno, Miguel de 15
- Valéry, Paul 14, 15, 355
Vargas, José Israel 319, 332
Vaucher, Paul 20
Vera, Oscar 116
Veronese, Vittorino 110, 126, 128, 138, 139, 140, 145, 149, 223, 241, 312
Vianu, Tudor 156
Vidal, Manuel Gual 40
Vieux, S. 303
Vieyra Méndez, Luz 209
- Waiyaki, Munyua 242
Walker, Ronald 40, 60, 70, 241, 331
Wilkinson, Ellen 22, 24, 26, 28
Winspeare Guicciardi, Vittorio 210
Wynter, Hector 228, 235, 242
- Young, T. C. 270
- Zaldumbide, Gonzalo 15

Zavala Muniz, Justino 99, 100

Zehrfuss, Bernard 120, 149, 168, 195,
294

Zhaochun Xu 303

Zhivkov, Todor 295, 296

Zilahy, Lajos 15

Zimmern, Sir Alfred 22, 26

Zweig, Stefan 16

Index of subjects

- Abu Simbel 166, 176, 180, 194
Acropolis 239, 249, 260
adult education 42, 56, 140, 224, 240,
246, 265, 271, 288, 304
adult literacy 271
Africa 341
Africa region 382, 384
African Council of Social and Human
Sciences 346
African Languages – Horizon 2000
292
African Training and Research Centre
in Administration for Development
154, 166, 205
Agenda 21 370
AIDS 305, 323, 335, 359, 381
Amerindia 92 348
Angkor Wat 348, 360, 373, 388
apartheid 210, 213, 248, 291, 295, 307,
318, 346, 347
Arab culture 220
Arab refugees in Palestine 141
Arab States Fundamental Education
Centre (ASFEC) 92, 104, 116, 129,
185, 198, 211, 271
Arabic 138, 174, 189, 228, 240, 257,
286, 391
architecture and town planning 257,
338
archives 389
arms race 283, 295, 299
Asia Pacific Information Network in
Social Sciences 326
Asian Physics Education Network
324
Associated Schools 93, 129, 141, 246,
283, 289, 305, 314, 323, 338, 359,
387
astronautics 153
Aswan 194, 260
asymptotic stability 324
Athens 249
atomic energy 105, 198
audiovisual archives 329, 330
Auroville 173, 181, 188, 284, 377
Bagerhat 291
Bamiyan 206
basic education 367, 368, 382
biodiversity 345
bioethics 346, 372
biosphere reserves 325, 384
biotechnology 306
Biotechnology Action Council 345
Bolshoi Theatre 374
Book Coupon Scheme 36
Borobudur 206, 219, 232, 248, 260,
274, 284
Braille 93
brain 153
Bureau for Co-ordination of Field
Units 322

- Bureau for the Co-ordination of Environmental Programmes 341
- Bureau for the Co-ordination of Operational Action (BAO) 322
- Cairo 260
- calendar of anniversaries of great personalities and events 103, 319
- Carthage 219, 248, 260, 291
- cavalry barracks at Fontenoy 119
- cell research 153
- centenary of films 389
- centenary of radio 389
- Central Statistical Office 35
- Centre for Book Development in Latin America 206
- Charles Darwin Research Station 153
- Château du Bois-du-Rocher 108, 143
- Chernobyl (children of) 356
- China 208
- Chinese 228, 319
- Chinguitti 274
- cinema 327
- Clearing House and Information Centre 30
- Clubs of Friends of UNESCO 103
- Colloquium on Culture – Democracy and Development 372
- Committee on Intellectual Co-operation 2
- Common Communication Format 339
- communication 262, 267, 329
- Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe 268, 286
- Consultative Committee on Adult Education 104
- continuing education 165, 334
- Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab and European States Bordering on the Mediterranean 230
- copyright 208, 263, 285, 359, 373
- Council for Education in World Citizenship 19
- craftsmanship 338
- CREFAL 93, 116, 129, 185, 198, 211, 216, 271
- cultural and natural heritage 219
- Cultural Commission of the Arab League 50
- cultural heritage of mankind 81
- cultural property 202, 241
- cultural tourism 180
- culture and democracy 359
- culture of peace 371
- Czechoslovakia 91
- Declaration of the Rights of the Child 133
- Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice 252, 316
- democratic culture and governance 359
- Desert Route 348
- development of communication 339
- development of physical education and sport 335
- disabled 335
- discrimination 386
- Documentation and Study Centre for the History of the Art and Civilization of Ancient Egypt 106, 160
- Doo-Plé 373
- doping 356, 387
- drug abuse 356
- drugs 335
- Dubrovnik 348, 374
- earth sciences 357
- East Africa 249
- economic system of Latin America 345
- ecosystem 345
- education 211
- education and informatics 323
- education and the future 382
- Education for All 335, 343, 368, 383
- education for international understanding in schools 37

- education for international
 understanding, co-operation and
 peace 228
- education of children 334
- education of girls 368
- education relating to human rights and
 fundamental freedoms 228
- educational documentation centres 5
- educational statistics 257
- educational television 206
- energy agency 384
- engineering sciences 357
- environment 304, 341, 345, 357
- environment and development 384
- environment and population education
 386
- environmental education 345, 346
- Esperanto 101, 300
- Ethiopia 232, 327
- European Centre for Higher Education
 (CEPES) 198, 297, 356
- European Centre for Nuclear Research
 75
- European Co-ordination Centre for
 Research and Documentation in
 the Social Sciences (Vienna) 153,
 205
- European universities 356
- Executive Board 29, 40, 50, 110, 124,
 134, 158, 188, 197, 210, 228, 240,
 253, 268, 286, 301, 340, 362, 390
- Experimental World Literacy
 Programme 163, 173
- Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize
 371
- Fez 219, 232, 249, 260, 348
- Field Centre for South-East Asia 80
- Field Science Co-operation Offices 49
- fifth building 149, 161, 168, 188, 195,
 202
- fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO 390
- Five-Hundredth Anniversary of the
 Encounter between Two Worlds
 360, 373, 376
- FLACSO 205
- Florence 200, 206
- Fontenoy premises 220
- forum for women from the
 Mediterranean 371
- Forum of Reflection 379
- fourth building 138, 161
- Fourth World 379
- free circulation of books 388
- freedom of expression 350
- functional literacy 203
- fundamental education 35, 41, 66, 92
- fundamental rights of women 326
- Galápagos Islands (Ecuador) 44, 129
- General Information Programme (PGI)
 276, 308, 340, 390
- geological sciences 290
- Gift Coupon Programme 107
- Gorée 260, 291, 348, 387
- Gorée-Almadias 360
- Guatemala 249, 291
- Hague Academy of International Law
 371
- Haiti 260
- Harare Declaration 271, 282
- Havana 291
- Hegira 255
- Herat 232, 249
- higher education 177, 344, 367, 382,
 383
- Horizon 2000 Project 255
- Hotel Majestic 26
- Hué 274
- human coexistence 372
- human genome 325, 370, 372, 386,
 387
- human resources 337, 371
- human rights 186, 266, 283, 299, 307,
 314, 318, 326, 338, 346, 347, 359,
 372, 386
- human rights and democracy 368
- Human Rights Day 58
- humid tropics programme 345

- Hungary 86, 91
hydrology 369
- ICSU 324
- illicit export, import and transfer of
ownership of cultural property 162
- illiteracy 25, 30, 42, 140, 146, 158,
163, 167, 169, 210, 236, 253, 257,
265, 269, 270, 282, 288, 297, 298,
314, 322, 323, 334, 343, 367, 368,
380
- illiterate women 288
- illiterates 140, 246, 288, 367
- immigrants 338
- immovable cultural heritage 300
- importation of educational, scientific
and cultural materials 241
- independent and pluralistic African
press 361
- Indonesia 168
- INFORMAFRICA 374, 389
- informatics 247, 289, 306, 325, 340,
345, 357, 370, 374, 389
- information 226, 239, 339, 350
- Inspectorate-General 229
- Institute for Education in Hamburg
335
- Intellectual Co-operation Organization
3
- Inter-American Development Bank
345
- Intergovernmental Informatics
Programme 336, 337, 358
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission (IOC) 130, 135, 159,
170, 211, 231, 238, 247, 254, 259,
283, 315, 336, 357, 370, 384
- International Advisory Committee on
Scientific Research in the Natural
Sciences 94
- International Biological Programme
186, 198
- International Book Year 206, 209, 210
- International Brain Research
Organization (IBRO) 204
- International Bureau of Education 21,
35, 50, 51, 185, 230, 258, 298, 335,
355, 382
- International Cell Research
Organization (ICRO) 141, 205,
247, 344
- International Centre for Higher
Education in Journalism 118
- International Centre for Pure and
Applied Mathematics 324, 344
- International Centre for the Study of
the Preservation and Restoration of
Cultural Property 160
- International Centre for Theoretical
Physics 198, 324, 384
- International Centre for University
Documentation 5
- International Children's Emergency
Fund 45
- International Commission for the Study
of Communication Problems 249
- International Commission on
Education for the Twenty-First
Century 366, 379
- International Commission on the
Development of Education 203,
210, 211, 366
- International Committee of Experts on
Literacy 152, 164
- International Committee on Intellectual
Co-operation 3, 11, 12, 13
- International Computation Centre 75,
80, 141
- International Conference on Population
and Development 386
- International Congress of Historical
Sciences 6
- International Council for Philosophy
and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS)
48, 57, 326
- International Council of Museums 38,
73, 76
- International Council of Scientific
Unions 11, 68
- International Council on Archives 46

- International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction 336
- International Development Strategy 337
- International Education Year 178, 192, 196, 198
- International Educational Cinematographic Institute 13
- International Environmental Education Programme 299, 316
- International Federation of Astronautics 130
- International Fund for the Promotion of Culture 226, 232, 317, 328, 339
- International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP) 204, 218, 231, 238, 259, 290, 298, 305, 315, 325, 336, 357, 370, 384
- International Geophysical Year 129
- International Hydrological Decade 141, 153, 159, 165, 179, 193, 198, 204, 211, 217, 231
- International Hydrological Programme (IHP) 217, 231, 238, 247, 254, 259, 272, 283, 290, 298, 305, 315, 325, 336, 345, 357, 384, 386
- International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) 146, 151, 177, 236, 298, 335, 356, 368, 382
- International Institute of Child Study (Bangkok) 104, 135
- International Institute of the Arid Zone 52, 56
- International Institute of the Hylean Amazon 44, 49, 56, 61
- International Literacy Day 170, 178, 203, 230, 373
- International Literacy Year 298, 304, 313, 323, 334, 335, 342, 356
- International Monuments and Sites Day 284
- International Music Council 57, 76
- International Music Institute 42, 48
- International Oceanographic Commission 193, 290, 306
- International Organization for Chemistry for Development (IOCD) 272
- International Peace Research Institute 291
- International PEN Club 118
- International Pool of Literature 48
- International Press Freedom Day 361, 389
- International Programme for the Development of Communication 292, 308, 318, 329, 361, 374, 389
- International Refugee Organization 45
- international safeguarding campaigns 327
- International Simón Bolívar Prize 256, 274
- International Social Science Council 337
- International Teachers' Day 367
- International Theatre Institute 38, 42, 48, 76
- International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources 283
- International Union of Biological Sciences 345
- International Universities Bureau 66
- International Women's Year 217, 222
- International Year for Sport and the Olympic Movement 387
- International Year of Disabled Persons 262
- International Year of Peace 306
- International Year of Shelter 299, 307
- International Year of the Child 256, 258, 260, 262, 263
- International Year of the Family 319, 358, 370, 377, 389
- International Year of the Ocean 386
- International Youth Year 302, 314
- intolerance 283
- Islam today 267
- Islamic culture 328
- island of Philae 194

- islands of education for peace 368
 Israel 228, 240
 Istanbul 274
- Jerusalem 255, 284, 317, 338, 360, 374, 388
 Jesuit missions of the Guaranís 327
 John XXIII Peace Prize 223
 Jomtien Conference 341
- Kalinga Prize 67, 84
 Karachi Plan 129
 Kathmandu 232, 249, 255, 260, 327
 Kenya 232
 Kuala Lumpur Declaration 368
- largest developing countries 368
 Latin American Educational Film Institute (ILCE) 143, 164, 178, 185
 Latin American Regional Fundamental Education Centre (CREFAL) 104
 Latin American Social Science Faculty (FLACSO) 113, 117, 125, 166, 290, 326
 Latin American Social Sciences Council (CLACSO) 306
 League of Nations 1
 least developed countries 341, 344, 359, 382, 384, 390
 libraries 41, 389
 Library of Alexandria 328, 340, 348, 376, 389
 life-long education 170, 177, 203, 224
 literacy 170, 177, 178, 185, 191, 198, 203, 211, 216, 224, 230, 265, 288, 334, 343, 350, 355, 356, 367
 London International Assembly 19
- MAB 272, 298, 306, 370
 Madrid 268
 Mahaweli Community Radio Project 351
 Major Project for the Expansion of Primary Education in Latin America 124
 Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean 282, 288, 314, 323, 383
 Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values 132, 137, 142, 160, 166, 180
 Major Project on Scientific Research on Arid Lands 125, 130, 136
 Major Project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America 128, 135, 140, 152, 164
 Malta 260
 Man and the Biosphere (MAB) 179, 204, 211, 218, 231, 238, 254, 259, 283, 290, 316, 325, 336, 345, 357, 369, 384, 386
 Man in his Environment – Human Settlements 219, 226
 management of social transformations 387
 Marbial pilot project (Haiti) 66, 80
 marine biodiversity 345
 maritime route 348
 mass media 328
 media 329, 350
 mediator 229
 medium-term outline plan 201
 medium-term plan 228, 245, 257, 269, 277, 280, 298, 303, 312, 319, 322, 331, 332, 338, 340, 341, 359
 Memory of the World Programme 374
 Mexico City 39
 Micro-DARE 346
 migrant women 371
 migrant workers 217
 migrations 386
 Moenjodaro 200, 206, 219, 232, 248, 260, 291, 327
 Mohammed Reza Pahlevi Prize 178
 Montenegro 260
 monuments of Nubia 132, 136, 138, 142, 148, 154, 160, 166, 173, 180, 187, 194, 206, 260, 267, 274
 movable cultural property 257

- Multiple Encounters 348
museums 338
Museum of Tolerance 365
mutual appreciation of eastern and western cultural values 113, 117
- National Centre for Educational Development and Research (CENIDE) 204
National Commissions 23, 54, 103, 168, 340
national educational documentation centres 5
National Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo 266
National Museum of Egyptian Civilization 274, 308, 339, 388
natural disasters 357
Nessim Habib Fund 144
New Delhi Declaration 368
new international economic order 235, 240, 285
new world information and communication order 300, 308, 329
nonaligned news agencies pool 330
non-governmental organizations (NGOs) 65
Nubia Museum 266, 274, 308, 339, 388
- ocean exploration 238
Operation Congo 128, 140
Ouadane 274
Oualata 274
- Paharpur Vihara 291
Palestine 362, 391
Palestine refugees 236
Palestinian Open University 297
Paris Statement 369
Participation Programme 338
Pax Christi International 273
Peace Conference 1
Peace Forum 260
Peace in the Minds of Men, Congress on 325
- peoples' rights 347
Performance Evaluation Monitoring System (PEMS) 269
Periolibros 348, 373
perishable cultural heritage 388
Pestalozzi Village 46
PGI Documentation Centre 276
Philae 200, 248, 255, 260, 266
physical education and sport 253, 289, 356, 387
Place de Fontenoy 108
Plan of Action for the Elimination of Illiteracy by the Year 2000 335
Plaza Vieja, Havana 274
Poland 86, 91
population 383
Portugal 208, 221
preservation and restoration of cultural property 118
Press Freedom Prize 1993 376
primary education 322, 368
Priority: Africa 322
Programme of Participation in the Activities of Member States 103
Project 2000+ 370
protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict 96, 181
protection of the world cultural and natural heritage 327, 336, 388
Provisional International Social Science Council 95
publications 41
- Quartier de Fontenoy 89, 108
- racism 205, 213, 283, 291
racism and racial discrimination 218
Reader's Year 327
Reading for All 367
recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education 217, 304, 390
Recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education in Asia and the Pacific 271, 289

- Recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education in the states of the Europe Region 258
 Regional Centre for Adult Education and Functional Literacy 216
 Regional Centre for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CRESALC) 258
 Regional Centre for Higher Studies in Journalism 133
 Regional Centre for Science and Technology in Africa 165
 Regional Centre for the Study of Caribbean Cultures 255
 regional co-ordinators 322
 Regional Fundamental Education Centre for Latin America 74
 Regional Informatics Network for Africa 374
 Regional Office for Education in the Arab States 216
 Regional Research Centre 125
 Regional School Building Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City) 211
 Regional Seismological Centre for South America 165
 Republic of South Africa 108
 rights of man 38, 326
 rights of peoples 307
 rights of the child 326, 359
 Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Environment and Development 369
 Russian 256, 286

 San Francisco Conference 20
 San Francisco de Lima 307
 Sana'a 291, 327, 348
 Sarajevo 366, 389, 390
 satellite telecommunications 292
 science and technology 324
 Science and Technology Policies Information System (SPINES) 218
 Science Co-operation Offices 100
 science, technology and society 384

 scientific and technological education 344
 Scientific Co-ordinating Committee 345
 scientific research on arid lands 141
 Second United Nations Development Decade 201
 seismology 179
 seventh building 286, 294
 Shibam 291
 Sidi bou Said 260, 291
 Silk Roads 339, 348, 360, 374, 389
 Sinai, 114
 Singapore 294
 sixth building 220, 250, 256, 263
 Slave Route 389
 social science centres 218
 space communication 195
 Spanish 73
 SPINES 231, 247
 sports 387, 390
 Sri Lanka 260, 348
 Statement on Race and Racial Prejudice 180
 statistics on radio and television 241
 statistics on science and technology 257
 statistics on the public financing of cultural activities 268
 statistics relating to book production and periodicals 162
 status of the artist 327
 Steppe Route 348
 Stockholm Dance Museum 373
 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute 273
 Subregional Education Adviser for Central America and Panama 270
 Subregional Education Adviser for the Andean Countries 270
 Sukhothai 232, 255, 260
 sustainable development 346, 347, 365

 technical and vocational education 150, 229, 340, 355, 356

- Teheran Declaration 373
telecommunications 340
television 327
Temporary International Council for Educational Reconstruction 34
1000th anniversary of the Spanish language 250
Tichitt 274
Toledo 276
tolerance 365
Tunis 219
Tunis-Carthage 232
Tyre 266, 284, 292
- Uganda 232
UNESCO Art Pocket Series 167
UNESCO Chairs 387
UNESCO Clubs 250, 283
UNESCO Collection of Representative Works 348, 376
UNESCO Collection of Traditional Music 348
UNESCO Coupon Scheme 78, 107
UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE) 104, 135, 236, 292, 347, 356, 382
UNESCO Library 376
UNESCO Prize for Peace Education 273, 368
UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts 373
UNESCO Publishing Office 376
UNESCO Social Science Institute in Cologne 130
UNESCO Travel Coupon Scheme 85
UNISIST 212, 218, 219, 224, 231, 232, 239, 250, 285, 300, 318
UNISIST II 259
United Kingdom 294
United Nations Decade for Women 248, 262, 294
United Nations Development Decade 150, 197, 269
United Nations Development Programme 163, 201
United Nations Educational and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 22
United Nations Educational and Cultural Reconstruction Organization (UNECREC) 22
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 23
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) 218, 283, 336
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) 104
United Nations Technical Assistance Programme 67
United Nations University 221, 224, 253, 282
United Nations Year for Tolerance 358, 365, 387, 389
United Republic of Tanzania 232
United States of America 294, 295
UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs 368, 382, 383
Universal Copyright Convention 78, 85, 106, 286, 301, 373
Universal Declaration of Human Rights 54, 172, 176, 220, 248, 252, 329
Universal Exhibition in Seville 373
universal primary education 380
UNRWA 100, 129, 192, 210, 216
urban marginality 386
- Valley of Wadi Hadramaut 291
Venice 200, 206, 232, 248, 260, 274, 291
violence 372
- Windhoek Declaration 361
women 192, 273, 284, 290, 298, 301, 304, 315, 316, 326, 328, 329, 334, 337, 341, 346, 358, 359, 361, 362, 367, 371
women and peace 390
World Campaign for Universal Literacy 151

- World Climate Research Programme 290
- World Commission on Culture and Development 360, 366, 379
- World Conference on Adult Education 128
- World Conference on Education for All 342, 367
- World Conference on Human Rights 371
- World Conference on Women 389
- World Congress of Newspaper Publishers 249, 377
- World Congress on Books 276
- world cultural and natural heritage 213, 291, 327, 357, 372
- World Day for Cultural Development 360, 373
- World Decade for Cultural Development 284, 300, 307, 317, 318, 327, 338, 339, 351, 360, 388
- World Disarmament Campaign 299
- World Federation of UNESCO Clubs 277, 302
- world literacy campaign 158
- World Organization of the Scout Movement 273
- World Population Conference 225
- World Press Freedom Day 376
- World Science Information System (UNISIST) 204
- Yamoussoukro Declaration 325, 337, 347, 359
- young child and the family environment 355, 361, 382
- young people 218, 254, 359
- youth 152, 260, 273, 347, 371, 390

Index of publications

- The ABC of Copyright* 292
Abstracts and Bibliography 56
Apartheid: Its Effects on Education, Science, Culture and Communication 180
- Birthright of Man* 182, 292
- Catalogue of Colour Reproductions of Paintings prior to 1860* 70
The Child and Play 258
Commentary by Federico Mayor (monthly column in the *UNESCO Courier*) 376
Contemporary Political Science 68
Copyright Bulletin 47, 81, 318
Cultures 206, 219, 249
- Diogenes* 106, 154, 248, 326
Directory of National Commissions 78
- Education Abstracts* 93
Egyptian Sculptures 167
Etruscan Sculptures 167
The Experimental World Literacy Programme: A Critical Assessment 258
- Fundamental and Adult Education* 93
Fundamental Education: Common Ground for all Peoples 47
- Fundamental Education: Definition and Programme* 47
- General History of Africa* 160, 173, 194, 200, 205, 232, 248, 262, 308, 317, 328, 348, 374
General History of Latin America 308, 317, 328, 389
General History of the Caribbean 308, 317, 328, 389
Goya 167
- Handbook of National Commissions* 59
Henry Moore 167
History of the Civilizations of Central Asia 308, 317, 328, 374
History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind 126, 143, 161, 167, 181, 255, 308, 317, 328, 338, 348
- ICOM News* 68
Impact 80, 318
Impact of Educational Television on Young Children 258
Impact of Science on Society 68, 75, 170, 186, 357
In the Minds of Men 208
Index Translationum 54, 62, 70, 73, 81, 173, 249
International Directory of Adult Education 56

- International Education Year Bulletin* 193
- International Review of Education* 347
- International Social Science Bulletin* 57, 68, 84, 85, 130
- International Social Science Journal* 136, 154, 318, 346, 358
- An Introduction to Life-long Education* 193
- Islam, Philosophy and Science* 292
- Journal of World History* 96, 172, 194, 206
- Latin America through its Architecture* 233
- Latin America through its Culture* (series) 219
- Latin America through its Literature* 233
- Learning to Be* 203, 216, 366
- Manual of Educational Statistics* 130
- Many Voices, One World* 262
- Modigliani* 167
- Museum* 47, 54, 62, 68, 73, 81, 85, 173, 200, 206, 212, 318, 328, 374
- Nature and Resources* 318
- A New Concept of Development* 294
- Oslobodenje* 372
- Peace on Earth* 259
- Poverty, Progress and Development* 326
- Prospects* 314, 318
- Prospects in Education* 204
- Quarterly Bulletin of Fundamental Education* 56
- Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind* 72, 85
- SPINES Thesaurus* 247, 259
- Study Abroad* 58, 187, 213, 276
- Suicide or Survival? The Challenge of the Year 2000* 249
- The Teacher and The Post-war Child* 34
- Teaching Science without Equipment* 34
- Thinking Ahead – UNESCO and the Challenges of Today and Tomorrow* 245
- Toulouse-Lautrec* 167
- UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries* 34, 36, 70, 81
- UNESCO Chronicle* 195
- UNESCO Courier* 47, 82, 98, 107, 133, 143, 155, 173, 182, 195, 206, 213, 220, 233, 276, 292, 301, 310, 318, 327, 330, 376
- UNESCO Features* 58, 82, 107
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