

Records of the General Conference

Fourteenth Session

Paris, 1966

Resolutions



United Nations Educational,
Scientific and
Cultural Organization

20. It is also desirable to make use of possible voluntary contributions, to achieve a given objective, or to undertake campaigns whose purposes are consistent with the aims of Unesco; such funds should be administered in accordance with rules approved by the Executive Board.

V. EVALUATION METHODS

21. Evaluation should be something more than a mere checking of first initiatives, results achieved and methods employed; it should bear upon the very conception of programme activities and upon the use of the right means in their co-ordination and execution.

VI. WORK OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

22. Experience has proved the need for closer co-operation between the Organization and National Commissions. It is desirable that they be organized, according to the particular conditions prevailing in each Member State, so as to cover national activities relating to the aims and operating methods of Unesco. They need and deserve adequate financial support to facilitate, expand and improve their work. Unesco's action, in order to be fully effective, makes it desirable that Member States accept the broad lines of its programme and adapt it to their particular conditions.

VII. THE NORMATIVE ACTION OF UNESCO

23. The conventions and recommendations adopted by Unesco are an essential part of the effective mutual co-operation between its Member States and represent an excellent means for disseminating and putting into practice the principles it upholds. The Organization should, therefore, pay constant and special attention to the ratification of such conventions and to the incorporation of the ideas and aims propounded in such recommendations in the national legislation of its Member States.

24. The possibility and advisability should be studied of extending the elaboration of legal instruments to other essential sectors of the Organization's Programme.

VIII. COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

25. The problem of the composition of the Executive Board should be reviewed so as to ensure an equitable, balanced representation of the various cultures and geographical regions, bearing in mind that members elected to the Board should also be persons with experience and competence in the fields proper to Unesco, in accordance with the spirit and letter of Article V.A.2 of the Constitution. Bearing in mind, further, that half the number of Member States have never been elected to membership of the Executive Board, the latter should be invited to address itself to this problem during the ensuing biennium and submit a report thereon to the General Conference at its fifteenth session.

8 Principles of international cultural co-operation

Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation ¹

8.1 *The General Conference* of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Programme Commission at the sixteenth plenary meeting, on 4 November 1966.

met in Paris for its fourteenth session, this fourth day of November 1966 being the twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the Organization,

Recalling that the Constitution of the Organization declares that 'since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed' and that peace must be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind,

Recalling that the Constitution also states 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,

Considering that the Organization's Member States, believing in the pursuit of truth and the free exchange of ideas and knowledge, have agreed and determined to develop and to increase the means of communication between their peoples,

Considering that, despite the technical advances which facilitate the development and dissemination of knowledge and ideas, ignorance of the way of life and customs of peoples still presents an obstacle to friendship among the nations, to peaceful co-operation and to the progress of mankind,

Taking account of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, and the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of their Independence and Sovereignty, proclaimed successively by the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Convinced by the experience of the Organization's first twenty years that, if international cultural co-operation is to be strengthened, its principles require to be affirmed,

Proclaims this Declaration of the principles of international cultural co-operation, to the end that governments, authorities, organizations associations and institutions responsible for cultural activities may constantly be guided by these principles; and for the purpose, as set out in the Constitution of the Organization, of advancing, through the educational, scientific and cultural relations of the peoples of the world, the objectives of peace and welfare that are defined in the Charter of the United Nations:

Article I

1. Each culture has a dignity and value which must be respected and preserved.
2. Every people has the right and the duty to develop its culture.
3. In their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all mankind.

Article II

Nations shall endeavour to develop the various branches of culture side by side and, as far as possible, simultaneously, so as to establish a harmonious balance between technical progress and the intellectual and moral advancement of mankind.

Article III

International cultural co-operation shall cover all aspects of intellectual and creative activities relating to education, science and culture.

Article IV

The aims of international cultural co-operation in its various forms, bilateral or multilateral, regional or universal, shall be:

1. To spread knowledge, to stimulate talent and to enrich cultures ;
2. To develop peaceful relations and friendship among the peoples and bring about a better understanding of each other's way of life;
3. To contribute to the application of the principles set out in the United Nations Declarations that are recalled in the Preamble to this Declaration;
4. To enable everyone to have access to knowledge, to enjoy the arts and literature of all peoples, to share in advances made in science in all parts of the world and in the resulting benefits, and to contribute to the enrichment of cultural life;
5. To raise the level of the spiritual and material life of man in all parts of the world.

Article V

Cultural co-operation is a right and a duty for all peoples and all nations, which should share with one another their knowledge and skills.

Article VI

International co-operation, while promoting the enrichment of all cultures through its beneficent action, shall respect the distinctive character of each.

Article VII

1. Broad dissemination of ideas and knowledge, based on the freest exchange and discussion, is essential to creative activity, the pursuit of truth and the development of the personality.

2. In cultural co-operation, stress shall be laid on ideas and values conducive to the creation of a climate of friendship and peace. Any mark of hostility in attitudes and in expression of opinion shall be avoided. Every effort shall be made, in presenting and disseminating information, to ensure its authenticity.

Article VIII

Cultural co-operation shall be carried on for the mutual benefit of all the nations practising it. Exchanges to which it gives rise shall be arranged in a spirit of broad reciprocity.

Article IX

Cultural co-operation shall contribute to the establishment of stable, long-term relations between peoples, which should be subjected as little as possible to the strains which may arise in international life.

Article X

Cultural co-operation shall be specially concerned with the moral and intellectual education of young people in a spirit of friendship, international understanding and peace and shall

foster awareness among States of the need to stimulate talent and promote the training of the rising generations in the most varied sectors.

Article XI

1. In their cultural relations, States shall bear in mind the principles of the United Nations. In seeking to achieve international co-operation, they shall respect the sovereign equality of States and shall refrain from intervention in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State.

2. The principles of this Declaration shall be applied with due regard for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Implementation of the Declaration

8.2

The General Conference,

Recalling resolution 4.313 which it adopted at its thirteenth session, inviting the Director-General to pursue the elaboration of a declaration of the principles of international cultural co-operation with the assistance of the Executive Board and Member States,

Noting with deep satisfaction the way in which the Executive Board, with the help of the Director-General, has accomplished its task,

Having proclaimed the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation,

1. *Recommends* this Declaration to the attention of Member States and Associate Members and invites them to publish the text of it in their respective languages and to ensure that it is distributed, displayed, read and commented on;
2. *Requests* Member States to use their best efforts to implement the provisions of this Declaration, so that it may serve the cause of peace and the well-being of mankind;
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to arrange for the widest possible circulation of the text of the Declaration in Member States and among Associate Members and international organizations, and to study ways and means of giving effect to the principles it enunciates.

9

Unesco's contribution to the promotion of the aims and objects of the United Nations Development Decade ¹

9.1

The General Conference,

Recalling resolution 1710 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sixteenth session (1961) stating that the present decade would be the United Nations Development Decade, and resolution 2084 of the twentieth session (1965) recalling the inadequacy of the action taken at the international level and the urgent need to achieve all the targets set out in the first resolution,

Considering that, despite the encouraging results achieved through the sustained and common efforts of the developing and the developed countries, the great majority of the developing countries have not yet attained independent growth and that the gap between the developed countries and the developing countries is still widening and creating greater social, political and economic tensions,

Believing that the delay in achieving the targets of the Development Decade in the field of investment has adversely affected pre-investment, particularly as regards education and science, which are in the fields of Unesco's competence,

1. Resolution adopted at the thirty-sixth plenary meeting on 28 November 1966.