

Indicative Plan of Selective Action of UNESCO Chairs on Human Rights, Democracy, Peace and Tolerance

We, the representatives of UNESCO Chairs in Human Rights, Democracy, Peace and Tolerance, gathered at Stadtschlaining, Austria, from 10 to 13 May 2000, for our second meeting,

Have agreed that, in compliance with and supplementing the relevant provisions made in the Stadtschlaining Declaration and the Agreement of Co-operation, the following activities be undertaken in order to promote human rights, democracy, peace, tolerance, social justice and non-discrimination and to contribute to the elaboration, adoption and implementation of national plans for education for human rights in conformity with the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004):

Elaboration of human rights training programmes and organization of training courses for teachers in pre-school, primary and secondary schools and other professionals involved in formal and non-formal education, with a view to ensuring a multiplier effect in the promotion of human rights education;

Promotion and eventual integration of human rights courses in formal and informal education at all levels;

Elaboration of appropriate human rights training programmes and methodology designed for public officials having special responsibilities in the field of human rights, in particular judges, lawyers, parliamentarians, the army, immigration, security and law enforcement officials, as well as mass media professionals and traditional or indigenous leaders;

Wide dissemination and clarification of the content of human rights standard-setting instruments, in national and local languages, in particular, the texts of recent instruments such as:

- The International Labour Organisation Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999);
- The Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1999);
- The United Nations Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace (1999);
- The resolutions concerning the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (2001); the World Conference on this subject (South Africa, 2001);
- The resolution concerning the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations (2001);
- Preparation, in close co-operation, of educational materials on human rights, democracy, social justice, peace and tolerance, adapted to national realities and to the practical needs of various target groups. Special attention should be paid to the preparation of innovative materials including audio-visual material, games, etc. in order to reach the largest possible audience. Existing educational

materials and documentation on human rights in national and local languages and in different forms, should be disseminated;

Strengthening of the anti-discrimination component in curricula and educational materials on human rights, in order to forge attitudes and behavioural patterns based on the principles of non-discrimination - political, religious, racial, sexual or other -, mutual respect and tolerance, and to eliminate prejudices and negative stereotypes which, in many cases, are the source of discrimination, hatred and violence;

Active involvement in national, regional and international activities undertaken to promote human rights, peace, democracy, tolerance and international understanding, in particular those related to the International Women's Day (8 March), World Press Freedom Day (3 May), the International Day of the Rights of the Child (10 November), the International Day for Tolerance (16 November) and Human Rights Day (10 December);

Sensitization of public opinion on violations of human rights as well as on recourse procedures and mechanisms against such violations, at the national, regional and international levels. This information should be easily available, in particular, to persons belonging to or dealing with vulnerable groups;

Organization of competitions, olympiads, cultural and sporting events, festivals, days of solidarity, summer schools, distant or extra mural courses, etc. in order to make young people aware of issues concerning human rights, peace, democracy, tolerance and international understanding;

Joint preparation of an academic volume containing scientific views and research results on major challenges and issues in the field of human rights, democracy, peace and tolerance, as agreed at the First International Meeting of the Representatives of UNESCO Chairs (1998);

Carrying out, individually and jointly, of research on measures aimed at eradicating causes of tensions and conflicts in order to build values of tolerance, mutual respect and understanding among peoples and cultures. Publication and dissemination of the results of such research;

Encouraging research and analysis in the field of human rights in institutions of higher learning and in inter-disciplinary research centres;

Strengthening of co-operation with mass media to encourage their more active involvement in the promotion of the ideals of human rights, peace, democracy, social justice, tolerance and international understanding;

Strengthening of co-operation with various organizations and bodies, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations University for Peace, Costa Rica, as well as with non-governmental organizations, human rights institutions and other partners, in developing and implementing programmes and activities towards accomplishing the objectives of the UNESCO Chairs in Human Rights, Democracy, Peace and Tolerance.