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RECENT DECISIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATIONS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF RELEVANCE TO THE WORK OF UNESCO

SUMMARY

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of decisions 6.1-6.2 adopted by the Board at its 103rd session and those of decision 6.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 124th session, the Director-General informs the Executive Board of decisions and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system of interest to Unesco that have been adopted or have taken place since the 132nd session of the Board.

In accordance with paragraph 4(b) of the same decision, the Director-General decided to include in the agenda of the Board the item referred to in the introduction to this document. This item is described in Part I of the document, while Part II deals with other decisions and activities of interest to Unesco.

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INTRODUCTION

This document contains information on decisions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during its forty-fourth session (New York, 19 September-29 December 1989).

It also contains information on changes in institutional arrangements, membership of the United Nations system and major appointments.

In accordance with paragraph 4(b) of 103 EX/Decisions 6.1-6.2, the Director-General has decided to present the following item, which was the subject of a General Assembly resolution and which, in his opinion, should be discussed by the Board so that the Board may, if appropriate, adopt a decision and give instructions regarding Unesco's contribution to its implementation:

Second United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries.

This item is dealt with in Part I, while Part II of the document reports on the decisions that the Director-General considers should be brought to the attention of the Board. In pursuance of decision 5.1.4 relating to the reduction of the volume of documentation, adopted by the Executive Board at its 116th session, the Director-General submits observations on 'relevant Unesco action' only in cases where genuinely new developments have occurred since the previous report.

For the same reasons, the following questions, covered by other items and documents or by the Director-General's oral report to the Executive Board at this session, have not been dealt with or have been mentioned only briefly in the document:

World Conference on Education for All (item 4.2.6 of the provisional agenda, document 134 EX/29);

World Decade for Cultural Development (item 4.3.2 of the provisional agenda, document 134 EX/13);

Questions relating to the environment and to the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development (oral report: item 4.1.1 of the provisional agenda);

International Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (oral report).

PART I

DECISIONS AND ACTIVITIES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD

SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

1. The General Assembly, expressing deep concern at the continuing deterioration in the overall socio-economic situation of the least-developed countries, emphasized the crucial importance of adequate preparation for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries, taking into account the priorities to be put forward by the least-developed countries themselves.

2. Accordingly, in resolution 44/220, the General Assembly called upon all governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions and others concerned to take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate preparations were made for the Conference and to participate effectively in the meeting of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least-Developed Countries, as well as in the Conference itself, and to support the least-developed countries in making their own preparations. It therefore requested all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned to submit, if they had not already done so, reports containing a review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least-Developed Countries within their fields of competence and proposals for further action as an input to the preparations for the Conference. This will be held at Unesco Headquarters in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990.

Relevant Unesco action

3. As a contribution to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries (LDCs) and in compliance with the request of the General Assembly, Unesco has submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development a report¹ describing the situation in the LDCs and the problems they are facing in implementing their development policies in the fields of education, science and technology, the social sciences, culture and communication. The report also describes measures taken by Unesco to implement the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the 1980s for the LDCs as well as the broad outlines of activities planned for the future. The Director-General is deeply concerned by the fact that the situation in the LDCs, particularly as regards literacy and primary education, is not improving but is in some cases deteriorating, and considers that there is an urgent need for the world community to contribute more significantly to these countries' recovery. The World Conference on Education for All (Thailand, March 1990), organized jointly by Unesco, the World Bank, UNICEF and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), also stressed the importance of mobilizing additional resources for the development of basic education in the LDCs.

4. The Director-General will address the Second United Nations Conference on the LDCs with specific proposals for the strengthening of Unesco's co-operation with the LDCs within its fields of competence, collaborating closely with other United Nations organizations and bodies and in particular with UNDP. Unesco's strategy in this respect will be fully reflected in the programme and budget for the next biennium.

5. The Board may wish to consider, for adoption, the following draft decision:

1. This document, in English and French, is available upon request.

The Executive Board,

Having been informed of resolution 44/220 adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session,

1. Notes with satisfaction that the Secretariat has submitted, in compliance with the request of the General Assembly, a report containing a review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least-Developed Countries within Unesco's fields of competence;
2. Requests the Director-General to ensure the active participation of Unesco in the Second United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries;
3. Further requests the Director-General to take all possible steps to continue and to reinforce Unesco's activities in favour of the least-developed countries, and to ensure that these countries are granted adequate priority in the preparation of the forthcoming programme and budget.

PART II

OTHER DECISIONS AND ACTIVITIES

I. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF A GENERAL CHARACTER

1. Composition of the organs of the United Nations system

6. Security Council: Since 1 January 1990, the Security Council has been composed of the following 15 Member States: Canada, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Malaysia, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America and Zaire.

7. Economic and Social Council: The General Assembly re-elected eight members and elected 10 new Member States for a three-year term starting on 1 January 1990. In 1990, the Council is consequently composed of the following 54 Member States: Algeria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia.

8. Committee for Programme and Co-operation: The General Assembly elected seven members for a three-year term starting on 1 January 1990. The Committee is consequently composed of the following 34 Member States: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Federal Republic of Germany, France, India, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

9. International Civil Service Commission: The General Assembly reappointed Mr Bardoux, Mr Fonseca Pimentel, Mr Stephanou, Mr Tashiro and Ms Cooley. Mr Smid replaces Mr Houska who has resigned. In 1990, the Commission is consequently composed of: Richard Akwei (Ghana), Chairman, Carlos S. Vegega (Argentina), Vice-Chairman, Amjad Ali (Pakistan), Michel Jean Bardoux (France), Claudia Cooley (United States of America), Turkia Daddah (Mauritania), Francesca Yetunde Emanuel (Nigeria), Antonio Fonseca Pimentel (Brazil), André Xavier Pirson (Belgium), Omar Sirry (Egypt), Ladislav Smid (Czechoslovakia), Alexis Stephanou (Greece), Ku Tashiro (Japan), Vladislav P. Terekhov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and M.A. Vellodi (India).

2. Elections and appointments to posts within the United Nations system

10. United Nations: Mr Ronald I. Spiers (United States of America) was appointed Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs.

11. Economic and Social Council: Mr Chinmaya Rajaninath Gharekhan (India) was elected President of the Economic and Social Council for 1990.

12. United Nations Development Programme: The General Assembly extended the term of office of the Administrator of UNDP, Mr William H. Draper III, for a further four years.

13. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: Following the resignation of Mr Jean Pierre Hocké on 26 October 1989, the General Assembly appointed Mr Thorvald Stoltenberg (Norway) for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

14. Joint Inspection Unit: Mr Tunsala (Zaire) and Mr Abraszewski (Poland) were appointed for a term to run from 1 January 1991 to 31 December 1995. The United States of America and Greece were requested to propose candidates for appointment to the Joint Inspection Unit after the customary consultations.

15. International Labour Office: Ms Mary Chinery-Hesse (Ghana) was appointed to the post of Deputy Director-General for Technical Co-operation and Field Programmes of ILO as of 1 November 1989.

16. International Telecommunication Union: Mr Pekka J. Tarjanne (Finland) was elected Secretary-General of the Union by the 13th Plenipotentiary Conference in May 1989. He took up his duties on 1 November 1989.

17. World Meteorological Organization: Mr David Norman Axford (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) was appointed Deputy Secretary-General of the organization and took up his duties on 2 October 1989.

18. International Maritime Organization: The Assembly approved the appointment of Mr William A. O'Neil (Canada) to the post of Secretary-General of the organization for a four-year term starting on 1 January 1990.

19. United Nations Industrial Development Organization: The General Conference reappointed Mr Domingo L. Siazon Jr. as Director-General for a four-year term starting on 1 December 1989.

20. International Atomic Energy Agency: The General Conference approved the appointment of Mr Hans Bliz as Director-General for a further term of four years starting on 1 December 1989.

21. World Tourism Organization: The General Assembly, meeting in Paris in August-September 1989, appointed Mr Antonio Enriquez Savignac (Mexico) to the post of Secretary-General of the organization for the period 1990-1993.

3. Main conferences

The main conferences already held or to be organized in the United Nations system are as follows:

22. Special session of the General Assembly devoted to the question of international co-operation against the illicit production and supply of, demand for, sale of and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, New York, 22-23 February 1990 (resolutions 44/16, 44/39, 44/141 and 44/142).

23. Special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, New York, 23-27 April 1990 (decision 43/460).

24. Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana (Cuba), 27 August-7 September 1990.

25. Second United Nations Conference on the Least-Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990.

26. Second World Climate Conference, Geneva, 29 October-7 November 1990.

4. International years, anniversaries, decades and days

27. International Literacy Year (resolution 42/104) will be observed in 1990; International Space Year (resolution 44/46) will be observed in 1992, and 1994 has been proclaimed International Year of the Family (resolution 44/82).

28. The Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples will be marked by a commemorative plenary meeting of the General Assembly to be held early in October 1990 (resolution 44/100).

29. The General Assembly officially proclaimed 1990-1999 International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (resolution 44/236).

30. It also proclaimed 1990-1999 the United Nations Decade of International Law (resolution 44/23), and, finally, 1991-2000 the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (resolution 44/237).

31. The General Assembly decided to designate the second Wednesday of October as an International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction, to be observed annually during the Decade, and 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day.

5. Institutional arrangements

32. The United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI), established in Rome in 1968, became the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) with a new statute (Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/56 of 24 May 1989).

33. The General Assembly decided to change the name of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, to the 'Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories' (resolution 44/48).

(a) Co-operation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

34. In resolution 44/4, the General Assembly, recalling resolution 43/5 of 17 October 1988 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System and considering that the Latin American Economic System was co-operating in joint activities with United Nations bodies, organizations and programmes and the Specialized Agencies, including Unesco, urged these Specialized Agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for and co-operation with the activities of the Latin American Economic System.

Relevant Unesco action

35. The agreement for co-operation between the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and Unesco was signed in 1988. SELA makes its regional information infrastructure (data bank) and its network of committees specializing in various socio-economic sectors available to Unesco. For its part, Unesco has invited SELA to attend important meetings held in the region as an observer, viz. the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education (Guatemala City, 26-30 June 1989) and preparatory regional meetings for the World Conference on Education for All

(Quito and Kingston, 1989). It will be invited to the International Congress on the Planning and Management of Educational Development (Mexico City, 1990).

36. In education, co-operation has developed in recent years through the Unesco Subregional Office for Central America and Panama, based in San José, Costa Rica, and the SELA Action Committee in Support of the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA). In the field of culture, Unesco promotes both studies and action relating to the cultural dimension of development, in particular through the programme of the World Decade for Cultural Development. The cultural dimension of development was examined at a regional seminar-workshop on the incorporation of cultural issues into development planning, organized by Unesco in Havana in 1988 through its Regional Office for Culture, and then at a joint meeting, organized in Caracas in 1989, on indicators and methods for the integration of the cultural dimension into planning. The social sciences have been a key sector in SELA-Unesco co-operation. Activities carried out jointly in 1988 and 1989 were co-ordinated, in particular, by the Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Caracas, in close collaboration with SELA correspondents. Studies already carried out on integrated social policies will now make it possible for a multi-agency initiative to be launched in this field. With the participation of the United Nations Development Programme's Special Unit for TCDC, preparatory work was undertaken in 1989 for a TCDC supply-and-demand exercise. This kind of exercise, relating to technical education in Ecuador, may provide useful inputs to other similar projects in the region.

37. In the matter of prospective studies, SELA has been ensuring inter-agency co-ordination following an initial meeting held in 1989 (Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) - Latin American and the Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)). Eighteen agencies were invited to a second meeting held in Caracas in March 1990 concerning the carrying out of prospective studies in co-operation with the network established by Unesco and the training of key personnel.

(b) Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

38. In resolution 44/7, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations. It called upon the Specialized Agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, inter alia, to inform the Secretary-General, not later than 15 May 1990, of the progress of their co-operation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations.

Relevant Unesco action

39. Unesco co-operates closely with the League of Arab States, in particular with the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO). The co-operation programme agreed between Unesco and ALECSO for the 1990-1991 biennium contains the following provisions: reactivation of the Joint Committee of the two organizations; ALECSO will specify the programmes for which it requests Unesco's co-operation as soon as it has studied Unesco's Programme and Budget for 1990-1991 (25 C/5); Unesco will in turn identify areas of co-operation on the basis of the activities planned by ALECSO; ALECSO will submit requests under the Participation Programme for 1990-1991, chiefly in respect of regional and interregional activities; contracts for the implementation by ALECSO of regional activities; planning and execution of the 'Arabia' project designed, inter alia, to highlight Arab culture.

(c) Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)

40. In resolution 44/8, the General Assembly encouraged the Specialized Agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their co-operation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It recommended that a meeting of the focal points of the lead agencies of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions should be organized in 1990 to review the progress in the implementation of the plan of action adopted at the co-ordination meeting held between the two organizations in 1989, and that that meeting should be followed by a general meeting in 1991 between representatives of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Relevant Unesco action

41. During the last biennium (1988-1989), co-operation between Unesco and ISESCO (Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), a specialized agency of OIC, included active participation by the latter in two meetings: a Subregional Workshop on the Validation of a Methodological Guide on Administrative and Educational Management for Primary-School Principals, Rabat, Morocco, March 1989, and a meeting on schooling for the children of migrants and former migrants, Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, June 1989. During the present biennium, ISESCO is prepared to: organize jointly with the Regional Office for Education in Arab States (UNEDBAS) a workshop on the validation of the Arabic version of the methodological guide on administrative and educational management for primary-school principals; carry out a study of the factors influencing school attendance by girls in the three regions (Africa, Asia and the Pacific and the Arab States) to which its member states belong. Within the context of mutual co-operation between Unesco and ISESCO the Office of Statistics of Unesco will: continue to exchange statistical data on education, science, culture and communication between Unesco and OIC; will seek the collaboration of the Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC) and ISESCO in organizing statistical regional and national training seminars in the field of education, science, culture and communication in OIC member countries; will explore the interest of the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB) in co-operating with Unesco to: (a) establish a list of educational, scientific and cultural indicators to be measured in OIC member countries; (b) study the modalities of co-operation between the Office and ISDB to carry out specialized field surveys to measure specific changes in the field of education, science, culture and communication.

(d) Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

42. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/17, reaffirmed that the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, was the responsibility of the international community as a whole, and commended the efforts undertaken by African countries in spite of the effects of the adverse international economic environment. It endorsed the agreement reached between the organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of African Unity for the convening of a meeting between the secretariats of those organizations, to be held at the headquarters of the Organization of African Unity from 2 to 5 April 1990 in order to discuss ways and means of expanding and strengthening areas of co-operation in the social and economic sectors.

Relevant Unesco action

43. An intersectoral team from Unesco Headquarters consisting of representatives of various sectors (Education, Natural Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Culture and Communication) and from field offices, visited Addis Ababa from 13 to 19 January 1990 to discuss with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) secretariat and its specialized agencies about specific programmes and projects for joint co-operation between the two organizations. A certain number of activities were identified for joint co-operation in 1990-1991 including: in education, the organization in 1991 of the sixth Conference of Ministers of Education; in science, the follow-up of the second Conference of Ministers responsible for Application of Science and Technology for Development in Africa (CASTAFRICA II) including the Special Programme of Assistance to Africa in the fields of scientific and technological research and development (SPAA); in culture, several activities to be carried out in co-operation with OAU will be implemented in connection with the World Decade for Cultural Development as well as the development of a regional network of interconnected cultural data banks. The Director-General of Unesco and the Secretary-General of OAU will jointly broadcast a message in 1990 highlighting the importance of International Literacy Year to stimulate literacy activities in the region.

6. Decolonization

44. By its resolution 44/85, the General Assembly requests the Specialized Agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to render or continue to render, as a matter of urgency, all possible moral and material assistance to the colonial peoples, bearing in mind that such assistance should not only meet their immediate needs but also create conditions for development after they have exercised their right to self-determination and independence, and to render concrete assistance to the people of Namibia, in particular during the period of transition to and immediately after independence. The General Assembly invites the Specialized Agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid Fund established by the non-aligned countries, with the common objective of providing emergency assistance to the front-line States and national liberation movements in southern Africa in their struggle against the apartheid regime.

45. Moreover, by its resolution 44/86, the General Assembly appeals to all States, institutions, organizations and individuals to offer greater financial support to the Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa in order to secure its continuation and steady expansion.

Relevant Unesco action

46. During 1989, Unesco held a small working group on apartheid and the economy in Namibia. A working group was also held in Harare from 8 to 9 January 1990 on the question of networking research facilities in southern Africa in order to study the impact of the policies of South Africa on the surrounding independent States.

47. In document 25 C/4 under Programme I.3, paragraph 71, careful attention will be given to measures to meet the educational needs of, inter alia, African national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity. In document 25 C/5 under Programme I.3, in paragraph 01311 support will be given to the educational programmes of African national liberation movements recognized by OAU, through in-service training activities for educational personnel, fellowships and the provision of educational materials and equipment. For this biennium, a sum of \$124,000 has been approved for the above activities.

7. Question of Palestine

Assistance to the Palestinian people

48. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/47D, strongly appealed to all States, Specialized Agencies and non-governmental organizations to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and also invited them to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students. Furthermore, the General Assembly appealed to all States, Specialized Agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem 'Al-Quds' for Palestine refugees, and to contribute towards the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees.

Relevant Unesco action

49. In document 25 C/4 under Programme I.3, paragraph 71, it is planned that action in favour of educational and cultural institutions in Palestine will be strengthened and also in document 25 C/5, under Programme I.3, paragraph 01310, co-operation with UNRWA will be continued through support to the UNRWA/Unesco Department of Education. Under paragraph 01311, efforts to monitor the functioning of educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the General Conference, will be pursued. For the biennium, a sum of \$91,000 has been approved for activities aiming at supporting the UNRWA/Unesco Department of Education, in addition to the continued loan of 15 Unesco experts to the above-mentioned department. In the same budget, a sum of \$208,000 is also approved for the support of educational institutions in the occupied Arab territories; \$160,000 of this will be used for scholarships. The Director-General will report on the situation of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories under item 4.2.1 of the provisional agenda (134 EX/7).

50. The General Assembly expressed its appreciation to the States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that had provided assistance to the Palestinian people and, by resolution 44/235, requested the international community, the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to sustain and increase their assistance to the Palestinian people, in close co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Relevant Unesco action

51. As regards assistance to the Palestinian people, the Director-General was invited by the Executive Board, in 129 EX/Decision 8.11, to undertake a comprehensive study of the needs of the Palestinian people within Unesco's fields of competence, and by the General Conference, in 25 C/Resolution 0.62, to provide for the closest possible participation of Palestine in the action of Unesco, in particular through its various programmes. Accordingly, the governing bodies of Unesco have already adopted decisions that are equivalent in content to resolution A/44/235 mentioned above. Provision is made in the agenda of the 134th session of the Executive Board for the above-mentioned questions to be dealt with under item 4.1.2, entitled 'Study of the needs of the Palestinian people in the fields of competence of Unesco'. The Director-General's report (134 EX/6) bears the same title. During the 1988-1989 biennium, Unesco granted \$70,000 in financial assistance to Palestine.

8. Assistance programme

Special assistance to certain developing countries

52. The General Assembly in resolution 44/15 renewed its appeal to all States and national and international organizations to continue to extend humanitarian relief assistance with a view to alleviating the hardship of the Afghan refugees, in co-ordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Relevant Unesco action

53. Unesco's activities for the educational and cultural rehabilitation of Afghanistan were elaborated during the past year. The Office of the Co-ordinator for the United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programme (UNOCA) provided Unesco with US \$1 million out of the Afghanistan Emergency Trust Fund to enable the immediate implementation of educational and cultural activities. A Unesco consultant was appointed to Islamabad, Pakistan, in August 1989 to initiate Unesco's educational activities in the field, and an education adviser based in Kabul assumed his functions in September 1989. In addition, Unesco will be co-operating with the United Nations Development Programme in the country. Regarding cultural activities, UNOCA made funds available to Unesco to initiate surveys of major cultural monuments and assistance for the traditional craft economy.

54. By resolutions 44/176, 44/177 and 44/180, the General Assembly appealed to the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to help the following countries in their reconstruction and development efforts, and to intensify their programmes of assistance and to expand them in response to their needs: Chad, Djibouti and Lebanon.

55. By resolution 44/181, the General Assembly requested the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to respond to such requests for assistance as might be forthcoming from certain States or organizations of front-line States. Furthermore, the General Assembly, by resolution 44/182, urged the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, taking into account the emergency situation faced by the Central American countries, to participate actively and to adopt immediate measures for the implementation of the activities in support of the goals and objectives of the Special Plan.

56. By resolution 44/239, the General Assembly urged the organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as a matter of urgency, to offer generous humanitarian assistance to Romania.

Relevant Unesco action

57. Owing to the situation of Chad as one of the least-developed countries with the lowest per capita income in the region, Unesco will continue to assist this Member State in various areas such as education policies, planning, management and administration, and in assistance for the secondary teacher training. The Organization will also study very favourably requests received from Chad for assistance under the 'Priority: Africa' programme. As a new member in the Organization, Djibouti has not benefited much from its programmes besides the participation of their education planners in the annual advanced training programme of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP). If requested, an intersectoral mission could be sent to Djibouti this year under 'Priority: Africa', in order to identify educational or other projects for future co-operation. Although the deteriorating situation in Lebanon has limited United Nations activities to the emergency

action of United Nations organs engaged in relief activities, Unesco is continuing its Task Force meetings and preparing projects in co-operation with the Lebanese authorities for future implementation. These programmes include: training for out-of-school youth; overall assistance to the educational system: an International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) project for radio and a non-governmental organization workshop on education for peace and reconstruction.

58. With regard to resolution 44/181, 'Special assistance to front-line States', Unesco has actively participated in the elaboration of the document 'South African destabilization - the economic cost of front-line resistance to apartheid' which was produced by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the follow-up of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UNPAAERD). Unesco is also co-operating with the Africa Fund in identifying projects in its areas of competence that could be implemented in the front-line States during this biennium.

59. Concerning resolution 44/182, 'Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America', Unesco, through its Subregional Office in San José, Costa Rica, has participated actively in the implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 42/231 of 12 May 1988 and 43/210 of 20 December 1988, thus responding to the appeal made by the international community to increase the efforts being made to assist and extend bilateral and multilateral co-operation to the Central American countries. The Office of the Adviser for Education for Latin America and Panama has identified and prepared a series of projects (18 in all) within the framework of the programmes for socio-economic reactivation proposed in the Special Plan (these projects include the eradication of illiteracy and the improvement of primary and secondary education). In addition, they take into account the problems raised by the displacement of rural populations as a result of armed conflict in the region, the difficulties involved in the integration of indigenous minorities and the status of women in rural areas. The projects were submitted to the meeting of donors held by the United Nations Development Programme in July 1989 and to governments that might be interested in providing financing through funds-in-trust arrangements.

60. Pursuant to resolution 44/239, 'Emergency humanitarian assistance to Romania', Unesco undertook a series of actions. Regarding the immediate phase, the former Assistant Director-General of the Science Sector undertook a mission on 8-11 January 1990 as the personal representative of the Director-General to meet with Romanian officials and to have a preliminary assessment of the immediate and long-term needs of the country in the areas of Unesco's competence. Currently at Unesco Headquarters, an Emergency Task Force on Romania has been established on an intersectoral basis to identify priorities for Romania and to prepare for an intersectoral mission. The Task Force has met several times and has identified broad areas of potential action. Simultaneously, the Director-General called a meeting of 20 non-governmental organizations on 19 January 1990, to identify immediate and long-term actions for follow-up. As a gesture of goodwill, Unesco sponsored a book drive for Romania 'portes ouvertes', 20-21 January 1990 and invited publishers and private citizens to donate appropriate books at Unesco Headquarters. Approximately, 100,000 books in all fields of knowledge were received and immediately dispatched to Romania. As preliminary actions in preparation, Unesco is prepared to assist Romania in the following areas, after discussions with the Romanian authorities: the computerization of the educational system; modernizing the Bucharest library; restoration of cultural heritage and cultural exchanges; environmental problems; review educational curriculum and system; technical development of communications; development of rural areas; science and technology. An intersectoral mission was dispatched in March 1990 to continue the discussions on specific priorities and programmes with the Romanian authorities and ways and means of implementation.

9. Development and international economic co-operation

(a) Development of human resources

61. Believing that internationally supported structural adjustment programmes should be designed and formulated in order to have, inter alia, a positive impact on human resources development in developing countries, the General Assembly in resolution 44/213 requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-fifth session a report on human resources development, including an assessment of the negative impact of the current economic situation facing developing countries in their efforts for human resources development, recommendations for policy measures to promote human resources development in developing countries and ways and means of increasing the support of the international community, in particular, developed countries, for human resources development in developing countries, taking into account, inter alia, the report requested by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1989/120 and the results of the World Conference on Education for All, held at Bangkok in March 1990.

Relevant Unesco action

62. This is an extremely important resolution in connection with which Unesco is making a significant contribution. In this regard, Unesco's Major Programme Area VI, Programme VI.1 'The human dimension of development' is concerned with: the role of human resources and 'sustainable development' in socio-economic development processes (clarifying the concepts, promoting participation and information exchange); structural adjustment (its impact on Unesco's fields of competence); the needs, aspirations and potential contribution of women, youth and underprivileged groups in the context of development; devising and improving methods and instruments for human resources development strategies and plans linked to 'sustainable development'. In addition, Subprogramme VI.1.2 'The cultural dimension of development' is also related to A/RES/44/213 in the sense that certain actions of this subprogramme are aimed at reinforcing human capacities for analysing and planning the integration of culture in development planning by clarifying interrelations between culture and key sectors of economic and social development, devising and adapting methods and instruments for integrating cultural components in development plans and assessing results, and strengthening national capacities for incorporating socio-cultural factors in integrated development planning. Through these programme activities, Unesco contributed directly to the World Conference on Education for All held in Jomtien (Thailand) in March 1990 and is contributing to the realization of the present resolution. The Conference adopted a World Declaration on Education for All and a framework for action to meet basic learning needs. The co-sponsors, Unesco, the World Bank, UNDP and UNICEF have agreed to increase their support to basic education within each of their own planning frameworks. A small Secretariat will be established in Unesco Headquarters to ensure the follow-up of the Conference.

(b) Economic and technical co-operation between developing countries

63. In resolution 44/222, the General Assembly urged all Member States, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to give high priority in their particular fields of activity to the support and promotion of activities in technical co-operation among developing countries.

Relevant Unesco action

64. One of Unesco's major targets is to devise ways and means of promoting jointly with the national authorities and with the United Nations Development Programme technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) in all its fields of competence. Within the framework of the Approved Programme and Budget for 1990-1991, the Director-General is invited, in particular, under Programme II.1, to support the international and regional university training networks and encourage TCDC; under Subprogramme IV.1.2, to reinforce the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), by strengthening international technical co-operation, in particular TCDC, and also to provide support to projects approved by IPDC, stressing international technical co-operation among developing countries for activities in the Africa region. Major Programme Area VI, 'Unesco's contribution to prospective studies and to strategies concerned with development' is aimed at promoting the human dimension of development and encouraging TCDC.

10. Questions relating to womenImprovement of the situation of women in rural areas

65. The General Assembly, by resolution 44/78, requested the organizations and funds of the United Nations system, donor organizations and countries to promote the realization of programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of the situation of rural women, and to provide, on request, training opportunities for national machineries in order to increase their effectiveness.

Relevant Unesco action

66. In the field of education, Unesco has initiated, encouraged and supported formal and non-formal educational activities benefiting rural girls and women in several Member States, particularly in developing countries. Such activities include the following three major fields: improvement of girls' enrolment in primary education; reduction of premature school drop-out; functional literacy and civic education for women. Moreover, in the field of the social sciences, Unesco has carried out research on the causes of women's exclusion from land ownership in Cameroon. This study has contributed to a better understanding of the mechanisms involved in exclusion and the justification of these.

II. RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION

1. Disabled persons

67. With regard to the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, the General Assembly, by resolution 44/70, reiterated that, for the second half of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, special emphasis should be placed on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, and accordingly requested the Secretary-General to encourage all organs and bodies of the United Nations, including regional commissions, international organizations and Specialized Agencies, to take into account in their programmes and operational activities the specific needs of disabled persons.

Relevant Unesco action

68. Unesco is fully associated with the above resolution through close collaboration with the United Nations inter-agency committee for the United

Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. The Medium-Term Plan highlights common concerns for future initiatives particularly as they relate to promotion of greater public awareness, exchange and dissemination of information, and elaboration of policies for planning and management of educational provision for disabled persons. The thrust of document 25 C/5 is on training of teachers for integrated education in line with the Tallinn guidelines. Unesco will also participate in the global event to mark the end of the Decade.

2. Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

69. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/233, requested the Secretary-General, in view of the potentially serious implications of the AIDS pandemic for socio-economic development in some developing countries, to intensify his efforts, in collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, all other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and the World Health Organization/United Nations Development Programme Alliance to Combat AIDS, to mobilize the technical and other relevant resources of the United Nations system through co-ordinated research and programmes to deal with this aspect of the problem.

Relevant Unesco action

70. According to the terms of paragraph 01212 of document 25 C/5, Unesco will continue, in co-operation with the World Health Organization, to promote education for the prevention of AIDS; to launch and follow up pilot projects and organize regional and international meetings to sensitize policy-makers; to promote and reinforce national projects; to set up and implement such projects internationally, regionally and nationally and to produce, disseminate and collect teaching materials for AIDS prevention.

3. International fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking in narcotics

71. The General Assembly, deeply concerned that the evolving drug problem was assuming new dimensions and was threatening the economic, social and political structures of affected countries, through acts of violence perpetrated against their democratic institutions and the extensive economic power of illicit drug organizations, resolved that action against drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking in narcotics should, as a collective responsibility, be accorded the highest possible priority by the international community and that the United Nations should be the main focus for concerted action against illicit drugs. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/141, therefore requested the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), to co-ordinate, at the inter-agency level, the development of a United Nations system-wide action plan on drug abuse control aimed at the full implementation of all existing mandates and subsequent decisions of intergovernmental bodies throughout the United Nations system. It requested, inter alia, that the executive heads of United Nations bodies report annually to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the progress made in implementing the action plan and that the Administrative Committee include the same information in its annual report, so as to enable the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council to consider it, within their respective mandates, and to make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly.

Relevant Unesco action

72. In accordance with the objectives of the Medium-Term Plan (1990-1995) (25 C/4), Unesco, in conjunction with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse

Control (UNFDAC), the World Health Organization and specialized non-governmental organizations, will continue to take steps to ensure that matters relating to drug abuse form part of the content of education and of study programmes. Moreover, the Programme and Budget for 1990-1991 (25 C/5) provides for the execution of activities, in co-operation with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC), aimed at implementing the recommendations of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: training workshops and dissemination of information to Member States to encourage policy-makers to include content dealing with drug abuse prevention in education programmes; continuing the promotion and reinforcement of national projects; technical support to set up and implement such projects internationally, regionally and nationally.

73. By decision 44/410, the General Assembly decided to organize a special session of the General Assembly to consider the question of international co-operation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs with a view to expanding the scope and increasing the effectiveness of such co-operation which was held from 20 to 23 February 1990, and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the preparatory committee at its second session and to the Assembly at its special session on: ongoing work towards the development of a United Nations system-wide plan of action on drug abuse control, taking into account the recommendations of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and existing United Nations programmes and other activities at the international and regional levels; progress towards the allocation of sufficient resources within the United Nations system to ensure that adequate priority is given to narcotic issues.

Relevant Unesco action

74. Participants in the inter-agency meeting held at Unesco Headquarters (4-6 September 1989) agreed to join efforts to fight drug abuse through a system-wide plan of action; this was endorsed by the ACC/CPC meeting in October 1989. Consequently, Unesco contributed to the elaboration of this plan and to the progress report presented at the Ad Hoc Committee which comprises a statement of overall objectives, a summary of action, which takes into account the recommendations of the International Conference on Drug Abuse Control, Vienna, 1987, ICDAIT (International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking) as regards prevention and reduction of the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and indications of resources needed to implement such an action. Given the recent concern of the international community to give more emphasis to the reduction of demand for drugs and Unesco's mandate in that field, Unesco's delegation participated in the preparatory Ad Hoc Committee of the seventeenth special session of the General Assembly and attended the special session. An oral contribution was made by Unesco's representative stressing the importance of a preventive education programme against drug abuse, presenting the Organization's activities in that field and reaffirming its will to improve co-ordination and co-operation with the other United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies in the war against drug abuse.

4. International Literacy Year

75. In resolution 44/127, the General Assembly, considering that the eradication of illiteracy is one of the paramount objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and should become one of the objectives of the strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, notes with satisfaction the commendable work done by Unesco and by its Director-General to ensure adequate preparation

for International Literacy Year, expresses its appreciation to the Specialized Agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system for their contribution to the preparation of International Literacy Year; welcomes the convening of the World Conference on Education for All (Jomtien, March 1990) and invites Member States, Specialized Agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures with a view to achieving the objectives of International Literacy Year. It also requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to give wide publicity to the activities and measures to be undertaken during the Year and to submit to it at its forty-sixth session (1991), through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the programme for International Literacy Year.

Relevant Unesco action

76. In document 25 C/4, Major Programme Area I calls for 'basic education for all' (Programme I.1) and Mobilizing Project 1 calls for a 'fight against illiteracy' (resolution 25 C/4/116). Document 25 C/5, Major Programme Area I, under the title 'Basic education for all', Subprogramme I.1.1 Massive reduction of illiteracy, includes ILY as well as literacy and post-literacy and adult education. Subprogramme I.1.2, Universal primary education, includes the promotion of the generalization and democratization of primary education, the improvement of primary-school performance and achievement and a special project on the young child and the family. The Director-General will prepare the required report for the General Assembly in 1991.

III. RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING THE NATURAL SCIENCES

1. Protection of global climate

77. By resolution 44/207, the General Assembly emphasized that it emerged from the conclusions of various important international meetings that the question of climate change should be addressed with urgency and, consequently, reaffirmed that the United Nations system, through the General Assembly, owing to its universal character, was the appropriate forum for adopting concerted action and policies on environmental problems. It therefore encouraged governments and relevant international organizations to establish other international funding mechanisms, taking account of proposals for a climate fund and other innovative ideas, bearing in mind the need to provide new and additional financial resources to support developing countries in identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems.

Relevant Unesco action

78. The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) has been actively participating in the World Climate Programme since 1979 in co-operation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the Scientific Committee for Oceanic Research (SCOR), particularly in the oceanographic components of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP). For co-ordination of these activities among scientists, the joint SCOR-IOC Committee on Climate Changes and the Oceans was established in 1979. At its 15th session, the IOC Assembly took a decision on IOC contribution to the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) in co-operation with ICSU. IOC co-operates with WMO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the activities of the WMO-UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Changes (IPCC) and preparations for the

second World Climate Conference, which will take place in Geneva from 29 October to 7 November 1990 under the co-sponsorship of WMO, Unesco, UNEP and ICSU.

79. In 1989, the IOC Assembly decided to develop a global integrated ocean observing system, to be based on existing observation systems, IGOSS (Integrated Global Ocean Services System), GLOSS (Global Sea-level Observing System), Drifting buoy programme and new technology for observations (satellites, etc.). This system is required for understanding, monitoring and predicting the state of and changes in the physical and chemical ocean environment and large-scale biological systems and related processes involved in climate change and large-scale ocean-atmosphere interaction. In accordance with resolution XV-4, the Chairman of IOC should present statements to the United Nations, IPCC and interested United Nations Specialized Agencies on the importance of the ocean in global environment change and the consequent need to expand and modernize the global integrated ocean observing system as part of a global system for monitoring and predicting environmental change. The preparation of the review of the role of the oceans in climate change and the need for adequate observations to enable improved prediction, and the formulation of a plan and implementation strategy for a global integrated ocean observing system have all been initiated. Progress was reported to the twenty-third session of the IOC Executive Council, Paris, 7-14 March 1990.

Sea-level rise

80. By resolution 44/206, the General Assembly urged the international community to provide effective and timely support to countries affected by sea-level rise, particularly developing countries, in their efforts to develop and implement strategies to protect themselves and their vulnerable natural marine ecosystems from the particular threats of sea-level rise caused by climate change.

Relevant Unesco action

81. Unesco, in co-operation with the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), has prepared a 'critical evaluation of the relative mean sea level change' and its potential consequences for the future of the coastal areas, in particular for the low-lying coasts. This work represents a first critical evaluation of the status of scientific knowledge on the subject with some recommendations regarding needs of future research. Besides representing a contribution to the International Council of Scientific Unions ICSU-IGBP programme, the work also represents a basic source material for the field projects concerning the management and sustainable development of the coastal zone developed in co-operation with the Member States and through regional projects. The report on the work is presently in a draft form and will be published in the Unesco Reports in Marine Science Series. It is expected that this work could be further developed should the co-operation under the Memorandum of Understanding between Unesco and ICSU/IGBP be extended towards the present biennium.

2. Law of the sea

82. By resolution 44/26, the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to prepare reports for presentation at its forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions (1990 and 1991). It refers to an analysis of Member States' requirements for assistance so that they can make better use of marine resources, including indication of the international organizations that might lend such assistance, leading to a concrete plan of action for the 1990s. Paragraph 17 requires an updating of previous reports on the protection and

preservation of the marine environment. Paragraph 19 refers to a report on marine scientific research under the new ocean regime and paragraph 20 to a report on new trends regarding the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Relevant Unesco action

83. As in the past, these reports will be prepared by the United Nations Office on Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (OALOS), in close co-operation with the Member Organization of the Inter-secretariat Committee on Scientific Programmes Relating to Oceanography (ICSPRO), for which Unesco's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) provides the secretariat. Discussion as to working methods and draft contributions will be included on the agenda of the 28th session of ICSPRO, scheduled to be held in May 1990 at the United Nations Office in Geneva. IOC will assume general responsibility for marine scientific research aspects and will also propose a mechanism for identification of Member State requirements through the IOC Committee on Training, Education and Mutual Assistance and within the framework of the Unesco-IOC Comprehensive Plan for a Major Assistance Programme to Enhance the Marine Scientific Capabilities of Developing Countries.

3. Question of Antarctica

84. By resolution 44/124B, the General Assembly urged all members of the international community to support all efforts to ban prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica and to ensure that all activities were exclusively used for the purpose of peaceful scientific investigation and that all such activities ensured the maintenance of international peace and security and the protection of the environment and were for the benefit of humanity as a whole.

Relevant Unesco action

85. This resolution is relevant to the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in the field of the co-operative study of the Southern Ocean (activities of the IOC Regional Committee for the Southern Ocean) as well as other activities of IOC related to marine pollution research and monitoring; ocean science and living resources; ocean and climate; ocean mapping; ocean observing systems and data management. Those activities in the Southern Ocean are developed in co-operation with the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Scientific Committee for Oceanic Research (SCOR), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and are included in documents 25 C/4, Major Programme Area II (paras. 129, 130, 131) and 25 C/5, Programme II.2 (paras. 02270, 02271, 02272, 02273, 02274, 02277). The sixth session of the IOC Regional Committee for the Southern Ocean is scheduled to be held in Paris, in June 1991. IOC participated as an observer at the XVth Consultative Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty (October 1989). IOC will participate in the Antarctic Science Conference, to be held in Bremen (23-28 September 1991). Actions are also under way to initiate the baseline studies in the Southern Ocean in co-operation with SCAR and UNEP.

4. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space

86. By its resolution 44/46, the General Assembly reaffirmed its approval of the recommendation of the Conference regarding the establishment and strengthening of regional mechanisms of co-operation and their promotion and creation through the United Nations system, and requested all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other

intergovernmental organizations working in the field of outer space or on space-related matters to co-operate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference. It endorsed the initiative of international scientific organizations and bodies to designate 1992 as International Space Year. It also requested the Specialized Agencies and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, enhance their co-operation with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and to provide it with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space.

Relevant Unesco action

87. Unesco actively participates in the inter-agency meetings on outer space activities where programmes requiring co-ordination are reviewed in order to avoid duplication. The latest meeting was held at the Headquarters of the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva from 27 to 29 September 1989, and focused on an in-depth review of co-operation by organizations of the United Nations system in remote-sensing activities.

5. Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

88. By its resolution 44/237, the General Assembly proclaimed the period 1991-2000 the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, for the purpose of mobilizing the commitment of the international community to the industrialization of Africa. It requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the relevant subregional and regional economic groupings in Africa and the United Nations bodies concerned, to undertake the necessary preparations for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on those preparations to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Relevant Unesco action

89. Unesco co-operated actively with UNIDO and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in the activities of the First Industrial Decade for Africa. In particular the Unesco Regional Office for Science and Technology for Africa (ROSTA), maintained close liaison with ECA. Unesco's areas of interest and contribution were: the education and training of engineers and technicians for industrial development; the continuing education of engineers and technicians; and collaboration between university and polytechnic training institutions and local industries towards the promotion of industrial manpower. Collaboration will be pursued in these areas during the proposed Second Industrial Development Decade (1991-2000).

6. Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development

90. By resolution 44/14B, the General Assembly called upon the Specialized Agencies 'to devote increased attention to national capacity-building in science and technology, in accordance with the development objectives, priorities and plans of developing countries, and to enable them to take effective measures to build better and more sustainable institutions, strengthen human resource capacities and develop and adapt technology'. It also called, in resolution 44/14C, upon 'the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development, to enhance co-ordination and harmonization at the country level, including the inter-agency missions, at the request of interested developing countries, through the office of the resident co-ordinator, in order to increase coherence and efficiency in responding adequately to the priorities in science and technology established by each developing country'.

Relevant Unesco action

91. Programme II.1, 'Science and technology for development', both in documents 25 C/4 and 25 C/5, has as its main objective and purpose to develop science and technology capacities in developing countries, and therefore fully responds to the call of the United Nations General Assembly resolution. Co-ordination is being reinforced at Unesco level by strengthening the working relations with the resident co-ordinators (RCs) in compliance with the instructions of the Director-General and his recent correspondence with all RCs.

IV. QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

92. After examining questions relating to information, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/50.¹ Part II of the resolution which is primarily concerned with the activities of the United Nations Department of Public Information, takes note of the report of the Committee on Information, emphasizing co-operation within the United Nations system in the field of information. This part of the resolution underlines the Department of Public Information's collaboration with the News Agencies Pool of Non-Aligned Countries and specifies particularly important areas and methods of the Department's work, including its co-ordination of the United Nations information centres. More regular co-operation with Unesco, especially at the operational level, is emphasized. Part I of the resolution addresses the role of information in the service of humanity, emphasizing the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, and underlines international co-operation to improve media infrastructures and communication technology in the developing countries. The General Assembly reaffirms the central role of Unesco in this regard.

93. Aware of the important potential of the mass media, the General Assembly encourages the mass media to give wider coverage to the efforts of the international community and urges all countries to assure journalists the free and effective performance of their profession. The United Nations system, and in particular Unesco, is urged to co-operate with the developing countries to strengthen communication infrastructures and promote access to advanced technology, including the continuation of practical training programmes for journalists from the developing countries. Full support is also given to Unesco's International Programme for the Development of Communication, and the need for IPDC to render assistance to both private and public media is emphasized.

Relevant Unesco action

94. In accordance with resolution 43/60B of the United Nations General Assembly and decision 7.4.2 adopted by the Executive Board at its 131st session, the Director-General submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a detailed report on the application of Unesco's International Programme for the Development of Communication, as well as on the social, economic and cultural effects of the accelerated development of

1. Resolution 44/50 was adopted by 128 votes in favour, 2 against (Israel and United States) and 21 abstentions (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

communication technologies. This report stressed in particular: (i) the results of the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Council of IPDC, including the completion of the World Communication Report and the awarding of the IPDC-Unesco Prize for Rural Communication and its renewed appeal to Member States, international organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and professional associations, to strengthen by means of voluntary contributions the financial resources of the Special Account of IPDC; (ii) activities related to the effects of the accelerated development of communication technologies on societies and cultures.

95. Resolution 44/50, Parts I and II, and especially the paragraphs which address the role of Unesco, reflect the new strategy for Major Programme Area IV, 'Communication in the service of humanity', which was adopted by the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference in October and November 1989. The resolution does not, as on previous occasions, ask the Director-General to submit to the General Assembly's next session a report on the International Programme for the Development of Communication and on the social, economic and cultural effects of the accelerated developments of communication technologies.

V. RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

1. Human rights and the elimination of all forms of discrimination

96. By resolution 44/61, the General Assembly called upon the Department of Public Information, which has primary responsibility for public information activities, to co-ordinate the public information activities of the World Campaign and, in its responsibility as secretariat to the Joint United Nations Information Committee, to promote co-ordinated system-wide information activities in the field of human rights. The General Assembly also stressed the need for the United Nations to harmonize its activities in the field of human rights with those of other organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law and, with regard to education for human rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Relevant Unesco action

97. Unesco organized an international training seminar on the handling of documentation on human rights, in co-operation with the United Nations University at its headquarters in Tokyo, from 22 to 24 November 1988. The participants examined the different designs and methods of establishing documentation centres on human rights, the choice of technologies and the ways and means of information exchange. The recommendations formulated at that seminar dealt with the setting up of information and documentation networks; the participants defined the specific role of intergovernmental organizations and the responsibilities of non-governmental organizations. It was recommended that Unesco publish regularly an updated version of 'Human Rights Documentation, Data Bases and Bibliographies' and broaden the scope of the World Directory of Human Rights Teaching and Research Institutions so as to include the results of research activities and the publications and documentation of each institution listed in the Directory. In this way Unesco would prepare the ground for the establishment of its own data base in the future.

98. By resolution 44/155, the General Assembly, bearing in mind the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organization and the importance of the task carried out in connection with migrant workers and their families in other Specialized Agencies and in various organs of the United Nations, took note with satisfaction of the two most recent reports of the Working Group on the drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Immigrant Workers and their Families, and decided that the Working Group should hold a meeting of two weeks' duration in New York, immediately after the first regular session of 1990 of the Economic and Social Council, with a view to completing the remaining articles and considering the results of the technical revision of the draft Convention. The General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to transmit the above-mentioned documents to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the international organizations concerned, for their information, so as to enable them to continue their co-operation with the Working Group.

Relevant Unesco action

99. Research on the socio-cultural situation of migrant workers and their families and of immigrants (first, second and third generations) has, since the early years of Unesco's existence, been part of its social science study programme on ethnic group relations. Research teams in France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom have conducted studies on the State's reactions to migrations to Western Europe. The authors examined inter alia the official texts governing the entry, departure and presence of migrant workers and their dependants and considered the degree to which they were granted or refused access to economic and social resources. Other studies were conducted on local education, housing and health policies and their impact on the situation of immigrants. The different ways in which migrant workers and immigrants contribute to culture in the society of the host countries, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, have been analysed. Unesco has also financed research on the changing nature of the kinship structure in immigrant populations and the different ways in which it affects social mobility rates, as well as a study on the obstacles created by the use of the host countries' languages, particularly with regard to equality of access by second generation migrants to the various levels of education. The findings of these studies are to be published.

(a) The right of peoples to peace

100. The General Assembly, by resolution 44/28, took note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, and expressed its appreciation to Unesco for its participation in the Programme, in particular for the efforts it has made to support the teaching of international law. The General Assembly urged all governments to encourage the inclusion of courses on international law in the programme of legal studies offered at institutions of higher learning and requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the Programme during 1990 and 1991.

Relevant Unesco action

101. Under Major Programme XIII, 'Peace, international understanding, human rights and the rights of peoples', Subprogramme XIII.1.1, 'Reflection on the factors contributing to peace': 24 C/5, paragraph 13106, the activities undertaken by Unesco have been aimed at developing the Organization's role in teaching and research in international law, including humanitarian law. They focus essentially on the following: (i) at the invitation of the Tunisian

Government and in collaboration with the Association of International Studies of Tunis, Unesco organized from 4 to 8 September 1989 an international meeting of experts on trends, in evaluation of and future prospects for the study and teaching of international relations. That meeting, which was held under the aegis of the Multidisciplinary Chair of International Relations of Tunis, brought together experts and observers to study, on the one hand, trends in, evaluation of and future prospects for the study and teaching of international relations, and, on the other, the contribution of other disciplines such as anthropology, political science, economics and public international law to the development of the study and teaching of international relations; (ii) in the sphere of international law, Unesco has already produced the following publications: 'The international dimensions of humanitarian law', Pedone, Henry Dunant Institute, 1986 and 'No distant millennium. The International Law of Human Rights', John Humphrey, 1989. As regards forthcoming publications, Unesco will publish an 'Introductory handbook on public international law', which will, as far as possible, provide an overall view of the field covered by international law and will attempt to reflect currents and schools of thought in this field. It will also publish the second edition of the 'World Directory of Research and Teaching Institutions in Public International Law' and the seventh edition of the 'World Directory of Peace Research and Training Institutions'.

(b) Achievements of the International Year of Peace

102. The General Assembly, by resolution 44/11, urged Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the world community to persevere in these efforts, developing initiatives conducive to the objectives of the Year, and to join the United Nations in its noble purpose of ensuring that humanity reaches the threshold of the twenty-first century in the full enjoyment of a stable and lasting peace. It also urged the Secretary-General to invite Member States and interested organizations to inform the Secretariat of their activities and initiatives in pursuit of those ends and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, under an item entitled 'Programmes and activities to promote peace in the world', a report on the development of relevant programmes and activities.

Relevant Unesco action

103. In pursuance of resolution 23 (Promotion of contacts and co-operation among specialists in education, science and culture in order to contribute to the attainment of Unesco's objectives) adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session (1987), the Director-General decided to organize a major meeting on 'peace in the minds of men'. The purpose of the meeting was to highlight the factors favouring the construction of peace and the contribution that Unesco could make in view of its fields of competence and the tasks assigned to it by its Constitution. President Félix Houphouët-Boigny showed a keen interest in this project, and accordingly the International Congress was held in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, from 26 June to 1 July 1989, in collaboration with the Houphouët-Boigny International Foundation for Peace. At the close of its deliberations, the International Congress adopted unanimously and by acclamation the 'Yamoussoukro Declaration on Peace in the Minds of Men'. The Director-General informed the General Conference at its twenty-fifth session of the outcome of the Congress and of its proposals for following up the recommendations. On that basis the General Conference adopted resolutions 22 and 23 entitled respectively: 'Follow-up to the International Congress on Peace in the Minds of Men: Yamoussoukro Declaration; Seville Statement on Violence' and 'Establishment of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize'.

(c) International covenants on human rights

104. The General Assembly, by resolutions 44/129 and 44/130, urged States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Specialized Agencies and other relevant United Nations bodies to extend their full support and co-operation to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and also to pay equal attention to economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights in the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights.

Relevant Unesco action

105. In order to step up Unesco's contribution to the implementation of the international covenants on human rights, Unesco organized an International Meeting of Experts on the Implementation in Unesco's Fields of Competence of the International Covenants on Human Rights, which was held in Ottawa, Canada, from 4 to 7 December 1989. The participants stressed how important it was that those States which had not yet done so should ratify the two International Covenants on Human Rights and the optional Protocol. The meeting affirmed the indivisibility and interdependence of the human rights enshrined in the international covenants, while taking note of the specific requirements for the implementation of the provisions of each of them. Emphasis was also placed on the need for co-operation with the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations system and the other intergovernmental organizations responsible for the application of regional instruments on human rights. Unesco was also asked to encourage the initiatives taken by international, regional and national non-governmental organizations for the promotion, defence and protection of human rights and to apply to those organizations for information from independent sources.

(d) Human rights and scientific and technological developments

106. The General Assembly, by resolution 44/133, called upon all States, appropriate United Nations bodies, the Specialized Agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to take the necessary measures to ensure that the results of scientific and technological progress and human material and intellectual potential were used for the benefit of humankind and for promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Relevant Unesco action

107. Unesco requested the International Social Science Council (ISSC) to draft a study mapping the fields in which clinical and biomedical sciences had an impact on human rights. It has also requested the World Federation of Mental Health (WFMH) to set up an interdisciplinary international working group to study the impact of new reproductive technologies on the rights of women. These two studies were examined at the international symposium held in Barcelona (November-December 1987) and the following four areas were identified for further research: impact on human rights of mandatory or voluntary screening; commercialization of and traffic in human parts, including organ transplant and foetus trade; surrogate motherhood and its impact on women's rights and rights of the child; and the potential impact on human rights of the growing biotechnical industry. Therefore, in 1988, Unesco requested WFMH to set up a working group to study more particularly item (b). In addition, Unesco concluded a contract with ISSC to publish the research results accumulated so far by Unesco. Within the framework of the Approved Programme and Budget for 1990-1991 (25 C/5), an international meeting on bioethics and the social consequences of biomedical research will be organized

in 1990 and will discuss three main themes: genetic manipulations and engineering; experimentation with new medicine and education and information related to bioethics.

(e) Scientific and technological progress in social and economic development

108. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/65, reaffirmed the validity of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future as an appropriate framework for future action in the field of social welfare and development and urged the Secretary-General and all organizations of the United Nations system concerned to include the implementation of the Guiding Principles in their respective programmes of work and to assist governments, particularly those of the developing countries, in formulating appropriate social welfare policies and in setting up effective programmes according to their needs.

Relevant Unesco action

109. In the framework of the programme for the effective exercise of human rights in specific social and economic conditions, a pilot project was implemented in 1989 in conjunction with the Association of Senegalese Researchers (ACS) aimed at overcoming obstacles to the effective exercise of human rights by the most disadvantaged communities living on the border between Senegal and Gambia. A leaflet in French, Wolof, Poular and Mandingo, a cassette and a video-tape adapted to the needs of rural groups will be used as aids for information activities (meetings, public lectures, radio and television broadcasts, articles in local newspapers, etc.) on the basic principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the two international conventions on human rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

(f) Second decade to combat racism and racial discrimination (1983-1993)

110. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/52 dealing with the Programme of Action for the second decade to combat racism and racial discrimination, renewed its invitation to Unesco to expedite the preparation of teaching materials and teaching aids to promote teaching, training and educational activities on human rights and against racism and racial discrimination, with particular emphasis on activities at the primary and secondary levels of education, and invited the other Specialized Agencies to participate fully in the implementation of the plans of activities for the periods 1985 to 1989 and 1990 to 1993 by intensifying and broadening their efforts to bring about the speedy elimination of apartheid and all forms of racism and racial discrimination.

Relevant Unesco action

111. A number of activities were undertaken by Unesco during the second decade against racial discrimination. They included the sponsoring of theoretical work through the International Sociological Association and its working group on minority relations; the sponsoring of a meeting on the plural society; work on slavery and its aftermath in the English-speaking Caribbean; indigenous populations in the Philippines and Australia; the culture of immigrants in Western Europe; the effect of family structure on social mobility and second generation immigrants' opportunities for access to education, culture, science and technology in Western Europe; a workshop on the impact of cultural exchanges and exchanges of teachers on prejudice and attitudes towards 'race', religion and 'ethnicity' which was held in Manila in November 1988; the impact

of Channel 4 in the United Kingdom on changing stereotypes of immigrants. Work was also undertaken on apartheid, including the establishment of working groups on the economy, women's education and culture; scholarships for women in the area of the analysis of educational institutions (in co-operation with the University of Essex); the establishment of a world repertory of South Africa holdings in libraries, unpublished theses and research in progress; the elaboration of a selected number of statements made by religions on apartheid; the analysis of the effects of censorship on news within South Africa and coming out of South Africa; the establishment of a report on the effect of the emergency measures in education, science, culture and information over the period 1986-1989.

2. Disarmament questions

112. In resolution 44/117A, the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-fifth session a report covering both the implementation of the programme of activities of the World Disarmament Campaign and the programme of activities contemplated by the system for 1991.

Relevant Unesco action

113. The IXth volume of the Unesco Yearbook on Peace and Conflict Studies (1988) will provide an up-to-date overview of research on disarmament along the following lines: The Impact of the Arms Race on Education, Science and Technology, and Culture and Communication; The Arms Race, the Arms Trade, and Technology Transfer in Developing Countries; The Arms Race and the Process of National Reconstruction in Developing Countries; From the Concept of General and Complete Disarmament to the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament. This Yearbook, which aims to promote peace and disarmament research, will be published in 1990.

3. Youth programmes

114. In resolution 44/59, the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to encourage United Nations bodies and the Specialized Agencies to include in their programmes youth-related projects and activities, specifically on such themes as communication, health, housing, culture, youth employment and education, drug abuse and the environment.

Relevant Unesco action

115. Unesco continues to assign a high priority to questions concerning youth. At the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference, it adopted resolution 110 dealing with the Transverse Theme: Youth. As such, youth issues receive particular attention in all major programme areas of the Organization. The General Conference also adopted a mobilizing project on 'Youth shaping the future' which will complement activities foreseen under the transverse theme. Two major actions are planned in this context: the setting up of an international information service to increase and improve knowledge about youth concerns and issues and enhancement of the capacity of networks of youth institutions to exchange information on the constant and changing concerns of young people. These two complementary programmes for youth at Unesco reflect the Organization's firm commitment to involving young people more directly in the preparation of their own future. Thus, during the current biennial exercise and bearing in mind the requirement of General Assembly resolution 44/59 Unesco will continue to co-operate with the United Nations system as a whole and with other appropriate intergovernmental organizations in order to ensure a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to youth policies

and programmes; consult regional and international non-governmental youth organizations to a greater extent and to expand the dialogue with young people who are competent in the organizations' spheres of activity in order to associate young people and their organization more close with Unesco and with its action; assist interested Member States in developing and implementing innovative and dynamic youth policies and programmes in the Organization's fields of competence and in preparing operational projects concerning young people that may receive financial contribution from UNDP, UNFPA and other extra-budgetary sources.

4. International Year of the Family

116. Taking note with interest and appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General prepared in pursuance of its resolution 43/135, the General Assembly, in resolution 44/82, proclaims 1994 as International Year of the Family and invites all governments, Specialized Agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to co-operate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year.

Relevant Unesco action

117. Unesco took a growing interest in the family over the period covered by the second Medium-Term Plan. Seminars and symposiums looked into various complementary aspects of the question, such as the family in the development process, the role of women in the family, and the development of the child in the family environment. The main themes of Unesco's reflection in this sphere are: the family as the focal point of moral and civic education and the guarantor of identity, the family and human rights, women's rights and the rights of the child, and the family and population change. Under the third Medium-Term Plan and the Programme for 1990-1991, Unesco will continue research and study activities and activities to create awareness among decision-makers about the role of the family in social change. And, as stated in paragraph 332 of document 25 C/4, under Major Programme Area V, 'The results of this research will be discussed and disseminated during the second and third phases of the plan. By way of preparation for the International Year of the Family, Unesco will help Member States, within its fields of competence, to determine the conditions of the success of their policies concerning the family'. The Unesco Secretariat will co-operate with the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, respectively the preparatory body and the co-ordinating body of the Year. For its part, Unesco could celebrate the Year by working on the themes: 'Families as custodians of human values, cultural identity and historical continuity' and 'Upbringing'.

5. Convention on the Rights of the Child

118. In resolution 44/25, the General Assembly adopts the Convention on the Rights of the Child and invites United Nations agencies and organizations, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on the Convention and to promoting its understanding. It requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-fifth session (1990) a report on the status of the Convention.

Relevant Unesco action

119. The main lines of Unesco's action under the Medium-Term Plan (25 C/4) and its Programme for 1990-1991 (25 C/5), particularly through the Plan of Action

to Eradicate Illiteracy by the Year 2000 and the major activities relating to International Literacy Year, the World Conference on Education for All, the International Conference on Education, etc. have all been designed to provide, among other things, appropriate responses to the concerns reflected in the various articles of the Convention. In addition, the activities of the intersectoral and inter-agency co-operation project 'The young child and the family environment' fully reflect the spirit and thrust of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The first objective of the project indicates that it is designed to 'promote the dissemination and use of existing knowledge on the development of the young child, and of information on successful policies, programmes and activities' (para. 34, 25 C/4). In this respect, document 25 C/5 makes provision for the development and wide dissemination of a newsletter. Within the context of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, Unesco has foreseen an activity concerning children and educational buildings. Subprogramme I.3.2, 'Improvement and management of physical resources for education' (25 C/5, para. 01330; 25 C/4, para. 75) deals with the development of techniques and guidelines for the design of safer educational buildings to better withstand natural disasters and to serve as refuge and relief centres before, during and after disaster strikes. This activity is aimed at providing optimal safety for children occupying the educational buildings as well as developing low-cost buildings and furniture for all educational levels adapted to local conditions and cultural values aimed at assisting Member States in their efforts to provide appropriate and adequate student places.

6. Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000

120. In resolution 44/173, the General Assembly urges the organizations of the United Nations system, and particularly the United Nations Development Programme, and other multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide financial and other support to the implementation of the Strategy's Plan of Action.

Relevant Unesco action

121. Some activities included in Major Programme Area V (Subprogramme V.2.1, 25 C/5) are directly connected with the Strategy. They concern projects for the rehabilitation of shanty towns currently being carried out in urban areas of the Dominican Republic and Cameroon, with the participation of the population concerned. These projects place special emphasis on the improvement of infrastructures and the provision of socio-educational facilities.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

(a) Report of the International Civil Service Commission

122. The General Assembly adopted resolution 44/198 which concerns in particular the comprehensive review of the conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories conducted by the International Civil Service Commission in 1989 and contains the decision granting a 5 per cent across-the-board increase in salaries as of 1 July 1990.

Relevant Unesco action

123. The resolution will be dealt with by the Board under item 6.5 of the provisional agenda (134 EX/25).

(b) United Nations pension scheme

124. The General Assembly, by its resolution 44/199, approved the following measures:

INCREASE IN THE RATE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

With effect from 1 January 1990, the rate of contributions payable to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund will be increased from 22.5 per cent to 23.7 per cent of pensionable remuneration, of which the employing organization shall pay 15.8 per cent and the participant 7.9 per cent.

INCREASE IN THE NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE UNDER THE FUND'S REGULATIONS

Effective 1 January 1990, the normal retirement age under the Fund's Regulations will be increased from age 60 to 62 for participants who enter or re-enter the Fund on or after 1 January 1990.

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR DEFERRED RETIREMENT BENEFITS

For participants who separate from service on or after 31 December 1989 and who elect a deferred retirement benefit, adjustments of the benefit, in accordance with the pension adjustment system, shall commence only when the separated participant reaches age 55, instead of 50 as at present.

This new measure will apply to all deferred retirement benefits where the last day of contributory service was 31 December 1989 or later. In other words, only the deferred retirement benefits where the last day of contributory service is 30 December 1989 or earlier will receive cost-of-living adjustments as from the former participant's 50th birthday. Separating staff members are thus advised that a deferred retirement benefit with day of separation on or after 31 December 1989 would not be adjusted until the separated participant reaches age 55.

EARLY RETIREMENT

For participants who enter or re-enter the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund on or after 1 January 1990, and who take early retirement before reaching age 57, the reduction factors applicable for ages 55 and 56 shall be 6 per cent for each year.

PENSIONABLE REMUNERATION FOR PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES

A new and restructured scale of pensionable remuneration will be introduced effective 1 July 1990, corresponding to the revised salary structure, including salary increases, which would enter into effect on that date.