



## Conférence générale

30e session  
Projet de résolution

## Генеральная конференция

30-я сессия  
Проект резолюции

# dr

Paris 1999

## General Conference

30th Session  
Draft resolution

## المؤتمر العام

الدورة الثلاثون  
مشروعات القرارات

## Conferencia General

30ª reunión  
Proyecto de resolución

## 大会

第三十届会议  
决议草案

30 C/DR.34 Rev.\*  
(COM.II, III, IV, V)  
11 November 1999  
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### Item 3 of the provisional agenda

#### **Amendment to the Draft Programme and Budget for 2000-2001 (30 C/5)**

submitted by GEORGIA, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN

supported by BELARUS, RUSSIAN FEDERATION

#### **Part II.A - Major Programmes, Transdisciplinary Project and Transverse Activities**

Major Programmes I	- Education for all throughout life
II	- The sciences in the service of development
III	- Cultural development: the heritage and creativity
IV	- Towards a communication and information society for all
Transdisciplinary project	- Towards a culture of peace
Main line of action	- 30 C/5, paragraphs 01902, 02902, 03902, 05003, 05100, 0530
Estimated budgetary increase	- \$300,000
Proposed source of financing	-

The General Conference,

Recognizing that promotion of a culture of peace remains the major task of UNESCO as set forth in its Constitution,

Recalling 29 C/Resolution 38 concerning culture of peace and adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 29th session (1997),

Recalling further the importance of the initiatives of the Member States towards a culture of peace as envisaged by paragraph 5 of 28 C/Resolution 5.12 concerning the programme of

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\* This draft resolution was received by the Secretariat on 9 September 1999, and was revised on 11 November 1999.

culture of peace and adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 28th session (1995),

Invites the Director-General to undertake, within the framework of the interdisciplinary project "Culture of peace" for the years 2000-2001, the intersectoral subregional project "Caucasus" (a justification of the project is attached);

Requests the Director-General with this aim to provide technical and intellectual support for the development and implementation of projects, in particular to facilitate the organization in 2000, under the guidance of UNESCO, of a series of subregional preparatory meetings on the following topics:

- (i) development of a strategy of coordination at the subregional level of the "Caucasus" project, which aims at securing peace and stability (Tbilissi, Georgia);
- (ii) mutual cooperation of mass media of the countries of the subregion aiming at the promotion of the "Caucasus" project within the framework of the UNESCO Programme "Culture of Peace" (Baku, Azerbaijan);
- (iii) UNESCO's cooperation with other international organizations, in particular, with the European organizations for promotion of the "Culture of peace" programme and of the International Year of the Culture of Peace, declared by the United Nations (Yerevan, Armenia).

These meetings will be organized with a view:

to discuss the conditions of sustainable development of society, ways and means of promotion of common values of a culture of peace within the subregion;

to define the problems to be studied and resolved within the framework of the project, including the issues of ecology, global warming and seismic conditions of the subregion;

to develop the plan of action for stage-by-stage implementation of the intersectoral subregional project "Caucasus";

Requests also that the Director-General supports the organization of an international conference to be held in 2001 under the patronage of the Presidents of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia with the view to assessing the initial stage of the project and work out a strategy of its further development.

### **Intersectoral subregional UNESCO project "CAUCASUS"**

#### Justification

This proposal is based on the following realities of the modern world:

1. Balanced and steady development of any State or region increasingly requires extended integration into global processes, stimulating international cooperation, development of new principles and forms of cooperation, which should justifiably take into account the interests of large and small nations, countries which are at different levels of economic development and

political culture, countries with different historical backgrounds and with cultural differences, with different ethnic composition and, finally, with different potential for development. Historical experience testifies that any inequality will lead, sooner or later, to a conflict.

2. At the same time, at the dawn of the third millennium, we witness in a number of regions of the world several disintegration processes, hotbeds of inter-ethnic conflicts arise, relations between different nationalities and religions deteriorate. The gap between industrially developed and developing countries continues to widen and threatens to become an unbridgeable gulf. At the same time, the existing mechanisms of cooperation and diplomatic settlements turned out to be not sufficiently effective to solve these problems. Inadequate coordination of efforts of the existing international political organizations does not facilitate the solution of conflicts through political means.

3. Taking the above into account, and under existing circumstances it is necessary to stimulate international cooperation first of all in those areas, which are most unifying and least represent possible sources of disagreement and conflict. Education, science and culture are precisely the very areas of human activity that unite the people who least of all are inclined to use force for resolving conflict. Communication, for its part, and in all existing forms as well as in those which are emerging, should become an effective tool to promote cooperation in the above areas and a powerful instrument for achieving mutual understanding. In this context, the role of an international organization such as UNESCO increases immeasurably. The UNESCO programme for a culture of peace and its interdisciplinary project "Towards a culture of peace" are obtaining greater understanding, prove their vital importance and their role will continue to increase. Penetrating further into all areas of UNESCO's activities they nourish them with their moral and ethical substance.

4. In the light of the above, it is proposed to develop and subsequently implement, stage by stage, a wide-reaching UNESCO project embracing all areas of the Organization's activities within the framework of a single subregion. Such a subregional project could become a valuable experiment in terms of working out a new concept and new forms of cooperation responding to new realities. It could facilitate to comprehend new tendencies of global development and define the terms of harmonized development of twenty-first-century civilization.

5. In the capacity of such subregion, it is proposed that the first phase of the project consider the South Caucasus which includes Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia with possible extension of the project to the whole Caucasus in the following stage. The positive experience of the project could be expanded in the future to other regions with appropriate modifications depending on the specific conditions of those regions. The South Caucasus represents the right choice for such an experiment in view of the following conditions:

- It is a compact subregion comprising countries with long-lasting historical, cultural and scientific ties.
- The countries of this subregion are comparable in terms of their geographical dimensions and population.
- They are also comparable in terms of their level of economic development, infrastructure, educational qualification and intellectual potential.

- This is a multinational subregion with diversity of historical roots, national traditions and religion.
- This is a subregion where, in recent years, anxious seats of national, ethnic and religious conflicts have occurred.
- This is a subregion which, due to its comparatively small size and population of its countries, especially needs to develop international ties and to be integrated into the international community.
- This is a subregion which historically has been a crossroad of many civilizations, cultures and trade; in particular a famous “Silk Road” used to pass through the subregion.
- This subregion is adjacent to Europe and Asia and due to its geographical situation presents a natural bridge for cooperation between these subcontinents.
- This subregion naturally integrates into an association of Mediterranean countries as well as those neighbouring the Caspian Sea bridging the boundary between Europe and Asia.
- This subregion technologically lags behind the industrially developed countries, but it possesses sufficient cultural and intellectual potential to share its knowledge and experience with other countries and peoples.

### The concept

The proposed concept of the project envisages intensive development and use of all means of communication (press, radio, television, computer networks, personal contacts between scientists, educators, artists, journalists, ties between governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, professional societies, modern communication technologies) to energize cooperation in all the areas embraced by this project.

The project should develop through intra-subregional cooperation as well as through increasing participation of subregional cooperation structures in international and interregional programmes and projects.

In all the areas of this elaborate project the specific projects should be developed, and participating institutions as well as internal and external funding sources are to be identified.

### Contents

Within the framework of this project it is proposed to develop and implement a series of specialized projects in the following areas:

1. Education and science
  - Mutual consultations, exchange of experience and coordination of reforms of education systems of the countries of the subregion with the aim to achieve maximum effectiveness, mutual adaptability and to meet the highest international standards. In this regard, UNESCO’s experience in studies and

comparative analyses of different education systems should be utilized to the maximum extent

- Development of cooperative research and development programmes in priority areas, establishment of joint research teams and laboratories, as well as joint participation in international scientific programmes
- Cooperation within the UNESCO Associated Schools Project in view to consolidating a national network of associated schools, to strengthen subregional and intensify interregional cooperation
- Establishment of data banks of modern technologies for common use
- Establishment of a subregional scientific and educational virtual centre and development of links with other virtual centres of global access
- Development of new forms and programmes of cooperation between the academies of science of the countries of the subregion
- Development and implementation of joint projects in the area of renewable energy sources, joint research and development in the field of new ecologically sound ways of obtaining energy
- Participation in the UNESCO programme on social rehabilitation (distance education, including obtaining qualifications and sanitary enlightenment in penitentiary houses, using modern information technologies)
- In the framework of this project, the development of new projects aimed at establishing the priority of education and of knowledge in the increasingly competitive environment of the twenty-first century

## 2. Culture

- Cooperation in the field of preservation, restoration and promotion of historical monuments and objects of cultural heritage
- Preservation and further development of the national and native languages, as well as encouragement of studying and improving knowledge of foreign languages for communication between the nationalities of the subregion and those with the rest of the world
- Cultural exchange (exchange of exhibitions, performances of national arts and national handicraft skills, translation and publication of works of classics and contemporary writers), joint production of cinematographic and video movies, joint staging of plays and other cultural projects

## 3. Communications

- Expansion of cooperation between public and independent mass media of the countries of the subregion (exchange of radio and television programmes,

consideration of possibilities of exchange of direct broadcasts, organization of joint forums, conferences, seminars of mass-media professionals)

- Cooperation in the intensive development of communication infrastructure, expansion of access to the Internet, development and utilization of modern information technologies and common use of communication networks and data banks
- Establishment of joint mass-media bodies and corresponding infrastructure, including satellite television, for more objective presentation of world events
- Communication and information support of all areas of cooperation

#### 4. Ecology

- Cooperation in the field of environmental protection, rational use of natural resources, joint monitoring of the subregion's ecosystems and establishment of national parks
- Development of a joint project on protection and rational use of the basin of the Kura river, which crosses all three countries of the subregion

#### 5. Culture of peace and youth

- The ideals and principles of a culture of peace should be wholly integrated with all the cooperation projects with the view to forging these principles into the spirit of mankind. A special role, in this respect, should be played by mass media and enlightenment activity in general
- This activity should be targeted first of all towards youth who, in turn, should become a moving force for cooperation
- Special attention is to be paid to the inclusion of women and girls in this cooperation
- Cooperation in jointly solving problems of refugees and facilitating their cultural and social adaptation
- Cooperation in sports in view to stimulating contacts between youth of the countries of the subregion and facilitate mutual understanding among them
- The ideals of a culture of peace coupled with other universally recognized moral and ethical values should become a basis for a new humanistic programme of the twenty-first century.